Summary of Board Minutes
July 28, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative ("FMEC") took place at FMEC's headquarters office, located at 3366 Bridge Avenue, Albert Lea, MN 56007, on Tuesday, July 28, 2026. All board members were present at this meeting.

All board members were present for this meeting:

Dennis Anderson, Vice Chair	District 1
John Penkava	District 2
Steve Garbisch, Treasurer	District 3
Richard Schaufler	District 4
Frank Fryer, Secretary	District 5
Matt Maras	District 6
Jack Korman, Chair	District 7
Bill Trygstad	District 8
Larry Irvine	District 9

Also Present: Jim Krueger, President & CEO
Jessica Phelps, Executive Assistant
The Executive Team joined the meeting at 9:22 a.m. (Al, Judy, and Angie were absent)

Call To Order: Jack Korman, Chair of the FMEC Board, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Approval: Chair Korman asked if there were any suggestions or modifications to the proposed agenda. A motion was carried to approve the agenda as presented.

Safety Share: John Penkava provided the safety share on proper gas storage, noting the cans are color coded for gasoline (red), diesel (yellow), kerosene (blue), and mixed gas (green). He emphasized that gasoline and other fuels should not be stored inside a house or attached building due to the risk of low-hanging vapors being ignited by pilot lights or engine ignition sources. Metal cans are recommended for fuel storage, and fuel should be stored at least 50 feet away from buildings.

Governance Discussion: Jessica Phelps, Executive Assistant, led a discussion around the importance of board education. The key takeaways were that an educated Board is one that members can trust, and that ongoing education strengthens governance and helps mitigate governance risk. She also introduced a plan to be implemented in 2027 to encourage and support continuing education for Board members.

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:40 a.m.

During the executive session, Jim updated the board on an acquisition opportunity for Heartland Security Services, which required a resolution of approval and signature.
In addition, Bill Trygstad also provided the board with an update on a confidential Dairyland matter. There was a suggestion made to remove the "check those that are present" line in July's Executive Session minutes, and a motion was made to approve the minutes with that revision and the motion was carried.

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 9:14 a.m.

The group took a recess at the conclusion of the Executive Session and Executive Team joined at 9:22 a.m.

General Discussion:
Jim Krueger provided the board an update on the Alliant true-up complaint that has been made with FERC and shared the intent to file a reply to their response. In addition, there was a motion made and carried to continue our support of the Freeborn and Mower County Fair Ribbon auction. The Board also discussed the possibility of transitioning to electronic director election ballots for members who receive their electric bills electronically. This was presented as an opportunity to reduce costs associated with the election process. The general sentiment among Board members was positive toward moving in a more electronic direction. Jim Krueger entertained discussion on if it would be valuable for the board to have an in-person Maribell update with the board. Ultimately, the board decided it was not necessary.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: The motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented was passed. This approval includes the following items:

- Minutes from the previous monthly board meeting
- Approval of new members
- Authorization for payments to estates
- Acceptance of the Audit Committee and Treasurer's Reports
- Safety Committee Report
- Executive Team Report

Director Reports: Bill Trygstad, FMEC's representative on the DPC Board of Directors, provided a short recap of the DPC Board Summary and Highlights.
He also gave the highlights of recent meetings he has attended.

Meetings and Events: Jim Krueger, President and CEO, provided an overview of upcoming events, which included:

- NRECA District 5 & 6 Meeting (There was a motion to approve up to three board members attending and the motion was carried.)
- Energy Issue Summit, August 5 & 6
- BLC Course 978.1 |The State of Nuclear Energy
- FMEC 90th Annual Meeting on April 5, 2027

FMEC Financials: Jim Krueger, President and CEO, reviewed the FMEC financial reports in Angie Kolker's (Director of Finance) absence for May 2026 and the C & I Usage report. Krueger also reviewed all subsidiary reports.

Operation Round Up: Operation Round Up Q2 disbursements were reviewed and the next meeting will be held on October 12, 2026.

Policy Number: Several policies were reviewed including:

- 5.001 Residential Single Phased (Amend)
- 5.006 Peak Alert Service (Amend)
- 5.007 Irrigation Service (Amend)
- 5.023 Time of Use Peak Alert-POET (Amend)
- 5.025 Time-of-Use Peak Alert Service (Amend)
- 4.003 Resale of Power by Member (Review)
- 4.005 Meter Socket & Meter Loop Installations (Amend)
- 4.010 Charges for Meter Tests (Amend)
- 4.011 Neutral to Earth Voltage (stray voltage) (Review)
- 4.012 Construction Standards (Amend)
- 4.014 Meter Tampering or Fraudulent Use (Review)
- 5.007 Irrigation Service (Amend)

A single motion was made to approve of all amendments to the above policies. The motion was carried.

Work Order(s) # 990626 and #1315 along with Special Equipment #636 were presented to the Treasurer for his signature.

A motion was carried out to adjourn this meeting at 12 :33p.m.