

# Board Meets Matt, Tours Dispatch, Property



*Team SEMO's Loyd Rice (right) introduces new team member Matt Kimball to the SEMO Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors. Kimball, who joined the Cooperative in November 2023 as a senior fiber technician, participated in the full board meeting as part of the Cooperative's new employee onboarding process. During the meeting, he provided the Board with an overview of his background and described a recent fiber training event he attended.*



*SEMO Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors tours the Cooperative's dispatch office, where they were introduced to the Live Wall Media display. This advanced system visualizes the distribution network in real time, providing a comprehensive overview of day-to-day operations and communications, and enhancing the management of outage events. The strategic initiative to implement the Live Wall display began with research in March 2017, culminating in its installation in March 2024.*



*SEMO Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors stand on an 11-acre site located south of the Cooperative's Sikeston campus. The acquisition of this property was driven by the need to alleviate traffic congestion on Larcel Drive, north of the Sikeston office. This new site will serve as a crucial outlet for trucks and trailers transporting 40-foot poles and accommodate the Cooperative's future expansion plans.*

The Board of Directors of SEMO Electric Cooperative, Inc. convened for a regular meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024, at the Cooperative's office in Sikeston, Missouri. The meeting commenced at 12:50 p.m., presided over by President Rick Faulkner, with all directors present. Also in attendance were CEO/General Manager Sean Vanslyke, Cooperative Attorney Megan McCord, and various staff members.

After an invocation led by Vanslyke, the agenda was unanimously approved. The consent agenda was reviewed, including the minutes of the previous meeting, membership applications and cancellations, and initial reviews of Policy 406 – Line Extension to Non-Permanent Services, and Policy 409 – Meter or Equipment Tampering. Ron Montgomery delivered the monthly safety report, emphasizing the importance of skin protection from ultraviolet (UV) light.

Under old business, the board confirmed the meeting schedule and attendance registrations, approved Policy 402 – Memberships, revisited Policy 409 – Line Extension to New Permanent Services, and considered revisions to Policy 103 as proposed by Attorney McCord. In new business, updates on district activities were discussed, and Vanslyke outlined the timeline for the 2024 annual meeting and addressed a donation request from the Cooperative Family Fund, which was approved for \$1,000.

Matt Kimball, a new employee, was introduced and shared insights into his role and recent training. Angie Byford presented a recording from a member's call, and the board members also toured the new dispatch room. Prior to the meeting, a tour was conducted of the land recently acquired by the Cooperative.

Amanda Burnett presented the financial summary for March 2024, noting that revenue was slightly below budget by 4.43%, expenses were reduced by 4.76%, and power costs decreased by 0.69%. The board accepted the financial report following a motion that was passed.

Carl Eftink reported on the recent M&A Electric Power Cooperative meeting, covering topics such as generation, construction, and reliability. Keith Haynes discussed matters from the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives' meeting, including committee updates and insurance program developments.

The Board moved into an Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters, excusing the remaining staff members. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m., with no further business.