



Solutions for the Future

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Board of Directors Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

800 Kenny Wren Road

Nushagak Cooperative Conference Room

MINUTES

Call to Order: Board President Pete Andrew called the Regular Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting to order on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, in the Nushagak Cooperative Board Room. The time was 6:00 p.m.

Directors Present: *(Quorum Established)*

Pete Andrew, President	Sue Flensburg, Director
Henry Strub, Vice President	Bruce Baltar, Director <Zoom>
Annie Fritze, Secretary	Mark Lisac, Director
Wanda Wahl, Treasurer	Cade Woods, Director <6:01>

Directors Absent: Jean Barrett, Director

Following Roll Call, Mr. Andrew requested that Board Vice President, Henry Strub, chair the remainder of the meeting.

Staff Present: Will Chaney, CEO/GM
Deon Lopez, Comptroller
Michael Timmerman, Telecom Operations Manager
Angela Thames, Business Office Manager
Angela Lopez, HR Generalist/Executive Director

Guests: Chad Cox <Zoom>, Community Member

Approval of Agenda: Annie Fritze motioned, and Sue Flensburg seconded the motion to approve the October 21, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Agenda with the following addition:

X. Director Items:

- D. Executive Session. AS 10.25.175 Board Meetings Open; Exceptions; Remedy. (C1) matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the cooperative; to discuss Broadband Internet Package Pricing.

The motion carried 8-0

Approval of Minutes: Sue Flensburg motioned, and Wanda Wahl seconded the motion to approve the September 16, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes as submitted.

The motion carried 8-0

Guests and Member Comments: Mr. Cox made no comments during the meeting.

Reports:

- A. Will Chaney, CEO/GM – Cade Woods reported attending a UTBB meeting in Anchorage, where he encountered some misinformation about the Nuyakuk Hydro Concept. Mr. Chaney shared that he had received an email from Dan Schindler regarding Nushagak's response to a letter from UTBB. Mr. Schindler plans to provide an additional follow-up to correct inaccuracies in the migration timing data.

Sue Flensburg inquired about the staffing update on Mr. Chaney's written report. Mr. Chaney confirmed that the following full-time positions have been filled: two Power Plant Operators, the Facilities/Vehicle Maintenance Technician, the Network Service Supervisor, as well as two on-call/temporary Power Plant Operators.

Mr. Chaney went on to update that the scheduled fall fuel delivery of 1.3 million gallons is confirmed for Friday, October 24th, evening tide, and that having the power plant fully staffed is extremely valuable. Mark Lisac asked whether the fuel tanks were in proper condition, and Mr. Chaney confirmed that they are fully prepared and ready for use. Mr. Chaney added that, given the extensive repairs and protective coating, the tanks are expected to remain in operational condition for more than 10 years.

Sue Flensburg requested additional information regarding an upcoming meeting, specifically asking who will be visiting at the end of the month. Mr. Chaney confirmed that a site visit is tentatively scheduled for October 27–29, 2025, to be conducted by NTIA.

- B. Michael Timmerman, Telecom Operations – No questions at this time.
- C. Electric Operations Manager (vacant) – No questions at this time.
- D. Deon Lopez, Comptroller – Annie Fritze requested clarification regarding the bullet point on audits, noting that the written report indicated they were incomplete. Mr. Lopez explained that this was a typographical error and confirmed that the audits have been completed.
- E. Angela Thames, Business Office Manager – No questions at this time.

Safety Moment: Work Safe – Winter Hazards: Slips, Trips & Falls was read by Will Chaney. Mr. Chaney mentioned that the main office has begun preparing for winter hazards by ensuring two buckets of sand are already in place.

Mr. Chaney also noted that he is in discussions with Southwest Region School District regarding a potential snow removal agreement.

Discussion/Review:

- A. **General Board Discussion** – Mark Lisac addressed issues with the NTIA agenda; management and the board discussed the upcoming visit, focusing on its purpose: evaluating the current broadband infrastructure, assessing implementation progress against grant milestones, reviewing community impact, and discussing future funding opportunities.

Mark Lisac reported on key takeaways from the recent APA meeting in Cordova. Mr. Lisac attended specialized training focused on legislative and legal history impacting rural utilities. Discussions highlighted that many cooperatives face similar workforce challenges, including limited qualified applicant pools in remote areas, housing shortages for new hires, and difficulties offering competitive compensation compared to urban employers. Cordova showcased several innovative strategies that could be relevant for NETC, such as utilizing stranded power through data centers during low-demand periods.

Mr. Lisac provided an extensive overview of the proposed Rural Cooperative Caucus, explaining that the concept originated after identifying common challenges faced by rural utilities that are not adequately addressed in broader industry forums. Preliminary outreach to other rural cooperatives has received positive feedback. A meeting is scheduled with Crystal and Michael from APA on Thursday, October 23, to discuss the formal structure, governance model, initial policy priorities, and advocacy strategy. Sue Flensburg expressed strong support for the initiative, emphasizing its potential for collective advocacy on rural-specific regulatory issues. The caucus would focus on key areas such as infrastructure funding mechanisms for low-population-density regions and regulatory compliance challenges unique to remote operations. Additionally, the initiative

could serve as a platform to address PCE calculation adjustments and other regulatory reforms. Mr. Lisac requested an analysis on how exempting supplemental heat & tank lease income will benefit members' PCE subsidy.

- B. General CEO Discussion** – Will Chaney reiterated his commitment to sharing the complete NTIA agenda with board members via email once it is finalized and noted that a board meeting with NTIA representatives will also be organized, focusing on the strategic vision for rural connectivity, challenges unique to the service area, and community feedback on broadband implementation.

APA will be hosting NRECA Credential Cooperative Director (CCD) Training in Anchorage, AK, November 3-7, 2025. Jean Barrett is scheduled to attend.

Will Chaney spoke about a new telecom infrastructure mapping approach that includes implementing a dedicated telecom module within the Mapwise software to integrate seamlessly with existing GIS systems. The process involves systematic GPS mapping during routine locate requests, capturing precise coordinates and documenting connection points, junction boxes, and terminal locations. Additionally, the approach includes cataloging infrastructure details such as type, installation date, and maintenance history to ensure comprehensive and accurate records.

Mark Lisac asked Mr. Chaney to give an update on the draft license agreement (DLA). The DLA is due to McMillen by mid-December 2025 to allow submission before the holidays and to initiate the 90-day comment period. Concerns were raised regarding discrepancies in salmon count data. Pete Andrew requested that Will and Mark coordinate a meeting with Corey to address issues related to migration data.

Action Items: None at this time.

Director Items:

- A. Future Board Items/New Business – None at this time.
- B. Unfinished Business – None at this time.
- C. Future Meetings & Conference Dates:
1. ATA Broadband Tech Showcase, October 29 – 30, 2025, Anchorage, AK
 2. APA December Meetings, December 2025, Anchorage, AK
 3. APA State Legislative Conference January/February 2026, Juneau, AK
 4. ATA Winter Conference, January 25 – 28, 2026, Poipu, Kauai
 5. AK Sustainable Energy Conference, May 19 – 21, 2026, Anchorage, AK
 6. ATA Annual Meeting, May 19 – 21, 2026, Valdez, AK
 7. AK Rural Energy Conference, October 27 – 29, 2026, Fairbanks, AK

E. D. **Call for executive session.** Executive Session. AS 10.25.175 Board Meetings Open; Exceptions; Remedy. (C1) matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the cooperative; to discuss Broadband Internet Package Pricing.

Sue Flensburg motioned, and Annie Fritze seconded the motion to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 8-0. The time was 7:05 pm.

Annie Fritze motioned, and Wanda Wahl seconded the motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion passed 8-0. The time was 9:09 pm.

Adjournment: Annie Fritze motioned, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion to adjourn, and with no further business to come before the board, Board Vice President Henry Strub adjourned the October 21, 2025, Regular Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting. The time was 9:09 pm.

The motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Angela Lopez, Executive Secretary/HR Generalist 11/18/2025
Date

Approved By:



Annie Fritze, Secretary 11/18/2025
Date

