Solutions for the Future
557 Kenny Wren Road • P.O. Box 350 • Dillingham, AK 99576
Ph: 907-842-5251 • Fx: 907-842-2799
www.nushtel.com

Board of Directors Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 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, July 21, 2026, in the Nushagak Cooperative Board Room. The time was 6:01 p.m.

Directors Present: (***Quorum Established)***

Pete Andrew, President
Mark Lisac, Vice President
Annie Fritze, Secretary
Wanda Wahl, Treasurer
Henry Strub, Director
Chris Napoli, Director
Sue Flensburg, Director <ZOOM 6:02 pm>
Cade Woods, Director <6:06 pm>
Kyle Hardin, Director

Directors Absent:

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

Guests: Chris Hladick

Approval of Agenda: Mark Lisac motioned, and Chris Napoli seconded the motion to approve the July 21, 2026, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Agenda with the following additions:

Action Items:

E. Resolution 2026-07 Approval of Cybersecurity Policy

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.

Approval of Minutes: Annie Fritze motioned, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion to approve the June 16, 2026, Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Minutes with the following correction:

Director Items:
C. Future Meetings & Conference Dates:
4. ATA Broadband Tech Showcase, Oct. 28 – 29, 2026, Anchorage, AK

The motion carried 8-0

Guests and Member Comments: None at this time.

Reports:

A. **Will Chaney, CEO/GM** – The Board discussed the transition from Steigers as the cooperative's emissions monitoring provider. Mr. Chaney reported that Steigers' final invoice had been paid and that a new provider had been selected. He noted that the new provider is a smaller, single-operator firm that will provide the required services at a significantly lower cost. Mr. Lisac noted that Steigers had previously charged as much as $400,000 annually and had billed additional fees for revisions to a report that had not been completed. Mr. Chris Hladick shared that requests from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for supplemental information are routine in the reporting process. Mr. Chaney will provide the Board with the new provider's cost information for reference and comparison.

Ms. Wahl requested clarification regarding the fuel purchase referenced in Mr. Chaney's written report. Mr. Chaney explained that NETC had secured the purchase of 700,000 gallons of fuel at a fixed price of $3.759 per gallon. He further noted that a decision regarding the remaining 500,000 gallons must be made by the end of July. If the remaining fuel is not locked in by that time, the cooperative will pay the average price for the month of July.

B. **Michael Timmerman, Telecom Operations Manager** – The board reviewed and discussed the cybersecurity policy document and suggested legal or expert review. Mr. Napoli raised concerns about the volume of responsibility the policy places on both staff and the board. Mr. Timmerman explained that the policy is an attachment to the BEAD grant application, which has a submission deadline of August 21. The Nushagak Cooperative Enterprise Cybersecurity Governance Manual will be reviewed annually for any necessary updates or modifications.

Mr. Napoli requested clarification regarding the SHiNE proposal included in Mr. Timmerman's report. Mr. Timmerman stated that the proposal was presented for informational purposes and that he was seeking direction from the Board. During the discussion, Board members emphasized the importance of maintaining the ability to update website pages internally without depending on an outside contractor, as well as a structured, data-compatible careers/jobs page for Google job search indexing. The Board requested that management provide a recommendation on the appropriate service tier before bringing the matter forward for formal approval.

Ms. Wahl inquired about the uncompleted fiber drop associated with the Middle Mile Project, as referenced in Mr. Timmerman's report. The issue occurred at a member's property, where the gate was locked when Alaska Directional (AKD) arrived on site. Additionally, the necessary easement information had not been secured. Mr. Timmerman noted that the fiber drop was included in the engineered design; however, AKD billed for the work despite it not being completed. Board members discussed the matter and expressed the opinion that AKD should have contacted the cooperative to obtain access through the gate. It was also noted that the installation could have potentially been completed.

C. **Electric Operations Manager (vacant)** – No questions at this time.

D. **Deon Lopez, Comptroller** – Mr. Lisac asked for an update on the FY 2026 Operating Budget; Mr. Napoli indicated that the budget will be up for discussion and approval at the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting in August.

In addition to Mr. Lopez's written report, he noted that the PCE rate has decreased from $0.2053 to $0.1914, effective July 1, 2026.

Ms. Wahl requested a status update on the application for the Bank of America credit card(s). Mr. Lopez explained that the resolution approved in June authorized the organization to apply for the Bank of America credit card(s); however, approval of the application and issuance of a card are not guaranteed and is still in progress.

E. **Angela Thames, Business Office Manager** – Ms. Wahl questioned whether members are sent to collections if they are unable to pay their bills. Ms. Thames explained that members are generally not referred to collections unless the outstanding balance is large enough to justify pursuing recovery through the small claims process. Ms. Thames further explained that when a member's balance is written off, the debt is not forgiven. The amount remains due and may still be collected. The balance is simply transferred from accounts receivable to uncollectible within the accounting system. Additionally, when Capital Credits are distributed, any outstanding balance owed by a member will be applied against the Capital Credit payment before any remaining amount is paid to the member. Mr. Andrew noted that the Cooperative's disconnection policy and procedures for nonpayment have changed and that much of the outstanding debt was incurred before those changes were implemented. He stated that, going forward, the revised policy is expected to reduce the number of similar situations and help minimize the accumulation of unpaid balances.

   Mr. Lisac expressed his appreciation to Ms. Thames for her prompt update to the employment section of the Cooperative's website.

Safety Moment: Work Safe – Load Securement was self-read.

Discussion/Review:

A. **General Board Discussion** – Mrs. Fritze shared her positive experience as a member utilizing the upgraded fiber internet service at her residence. She reported that, during a one-month period of increased usage due to summer guests, the service remained reliable and consistent. Despite multiple users and devices being connected simultaneously, she experienced no noticeable lag or buffering, and all devices maintained stable internet connectivity.

B. **General CEO Discussion** – Mr. Chaney reported that the summer peak load occurred on July 6th, at 6.4 MW, which appears to be a decrease from last year. Additionally, the peak flow at the Nuyakuk Falls site was 13,700 CFS, also below average, which is usually about 20,000 CFS.

   AKD notified NETC that a Polaris XP 1000 side-by-side, which had been secured during the Middle Mile project, was inadvertently moved to a different project location. Upon discovering the error, AKD promptly notified NETC and coordinated the return of the vehicle to NETC's possession.

Mr. Chaney explained that he intended to prepare a resolution seeking Board approval for a $150,000 meter purchase needed to complete the transition to an RF metering system and discussed the benefits of the conversion. He further noted that, under his purchasing authority, the CEO/GM is limited to expenditures of $20,000, and any amount exceeding that limit requires Board approval. Mr. Chaney then asked the Board whether they preferred that a formal resolution be drafted for consideration at a future meeting or if they wished to approve the purchase without a separate resolution.

MOTION: Wanda Wahl made a motion to approve the expenditure of $150,000 to place the meter order, and Chris Napoli seconded the motion.

The motion carried 9-0

Mr. Chaney was informed that the requested one-hour presentation slot at the UTBB Sustainable Summit, scheduled for September 29-30, 2026, was not approved. Instead, he was allotted a 20-minute presentation slot. Mrs. Flensburg noted that concise handouts would be critical given the limited time; she also confirmed that she will be in attendance.

Submitted the Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan (ODPCP) application to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Mr. Lisac suggested that NETC host a Town Hall either before or after the UTBB Sustainable Summit. The Board discussed the proposal, including potential timing, logistics, and opportunities for community engagement, and offered additional suggestions for consideration.

Action Items:

A. **Approve 2026 Scholarship Recommendations**. Annie Fritze motioned to approve the Scholarship Recommendations, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion.

The motion carried 9-0

Approve 2026 Scholarship Policy Recommended Changes. Annie Fritze motioned to approve the Scholarship Policy Recommended changes, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion. The Board discussed the recommended changes and suggested the following additional changes:

D. Deadline:
1) replace "www.nushtel.com" with NETC's official website;
2) Deadline time changed from 5:00 pm to 11:59 pm; and

III. Responsibility
E. removal of "each spring"

The motion carried 9-0

B. **Elect an Alternate as a Representative to the APA Board of Directors.** Mark Lisac was nominated as Alternate Representative by Wanda Wahl. The nomination was seconded by Chris Napoli. Hearing no further nominations, nominations were closed. Mark Lisac was elected Alternate Representative by unanimous vote.

C. **Elect Designee and Alternate as Representatives to the ARECA Board of Trustees.** Henry Strub was nominated as designee, and Mark Lisac was nominated as the Alternate Representative by Wanda Wahl. The nomination was seconded by Chris Napoli. Hearing no further nominations, nominations were closed. Henry Strub was elected as Designee, and Mark Lisac was elected Alternate Representative by unanimous vote.

D. **Resolution 2026–06 Electric & Telephone Uncollectible Accounts Write-Off/Customer Accounts Receivable**. Wanda Wahl motioned to approve Resolution 2026-06, and Chris Napoli seconded the motion.

The motion carried 9-0

E. **Resolution 2026–07 Approval of Cybersecurity Policy.** Wanda Wahl motioned to approve Resolution 2026-07, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion.

The motion carried 9-0

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. UTBB Bristol Bay Sustainability Summit, Sept. 29 – 30, 2026, Dillingham, AK
2. APA 75th Annual Meeting, September 29 – October 2, 2026, Anchorage, AK
3. AK Rural Energy Conference, October 27 – 29, 2026, Fairbanks, AK
4. ATA Broadband Tech Showcase, Oct. 28 – 29, 2026, Anchorage, AK
5. ATA Winter Conference, Jan 24 – 27, 2027, Kona, HI
6. APA State Legislative Conference, Feb 3 – 4, 2027, Juneau, AK

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.

Wanda Wahl motioned, and Chris Napoli seconded the motion to move into Executive Session. The motion passed 9-0. The time was 7:24 pm.

Annie Fritze motioned, and Sue Flensburg seconded the motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion passed 8-0. The time was 8:58 pm.

Action Item:

A. Annie Fritze motioned to approve the open letter to the Community regarding Nuyakuk, and Sue Flensburg seconded the motion.

The motion carried 8-0

Adjournment: Wanda Wahl motioned, and Mark Lisac seconded the motion to adjourn. With no further business to come before the board, Board President Pete Andrew adjourned the July 21, 2026, Regular Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting. The time was 8:59 pm.

The motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Angela Lopez — 8/18/2026

Angela Lopez, Executive Secretary/HR Generalist — Date

Approved By:

Annie Fritze — 8/18/2026

Annie Fritze, Secretary — Date

NUSHAGAK ELECTRIC & TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. CORPORATE SEAL ALASKA