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GENERAL MANAGER'S BOARD MEETING BULLETIN



Virginia Harman

Complete system inspection will improve reliability

Forest fire prevention will also be a benefit of this grant-supported initiative

MPE will have its entire overhead distribution system inspected with the latest drone technology thanks to a grant from the Colorado Energy Office through the Department of Energy.

Manager of Operations Adam Paulson shared with the Board that Surveying and Mapping, LLC (SAM), of Denver, had the strongest response to MPE's request for proposals and was selected as the contractor to complete the work.

The comprehensive visual inspection/aerial field survey will cover MPE's approximately 21,600 poles and 1,300 miles of the overhead

distribution system. It will identify vegetation threats and damage to pole structures and other equipment that may have failing components that could eventually impact the reliability of a specific circuit or feeder.

"Three or four crews will complete the system inspection in around 8 weeks this summer. In the end, it will help us by improving reliability, safety, and with wildfire prevention," said Paulson. "This grant is paying for 75% of the costs, which makes this exciting opportunity affordable."

The federal funding for this grant is currently pending a review by the new administration.

Other Board Meeting Items

- In an annual review of Public Board Policy C-4 – Scholarship Program, the Board approved an amendment to the policy requiring scholarship recipients to attend the MPE Annual Meeting, during which scholarship recipients are recognized. If a scholarship recipient is unable to attend the Annual Meeting, they may alternatively attend a regularly-scheduled MPE Board Meeting during Member Comments. The 2025 Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 26, and Board Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month.
- The Board was updated on plans for this year's Annual Meeting, which will be MPE's 75th Annual Meeting. The theme will be "Honoring our Linemen," and there will be linemen activity stations for children where they can learn and complete tasks to be eligible for prizes. A special member gift is in the works to commemorate the 75th anniversary – custom cast iron skillet – with 150 available on a first-come, first-served basis. Vendor sponsorships are helping cover meeting expenses and member gifts.