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# GENERAL MANAGER'S BOARD MEETING BULLETIN



Virginia Harman

## Technology and training minimize outage times

*Despite heavy, wet snow this spring, response times are minimizing outage durations*

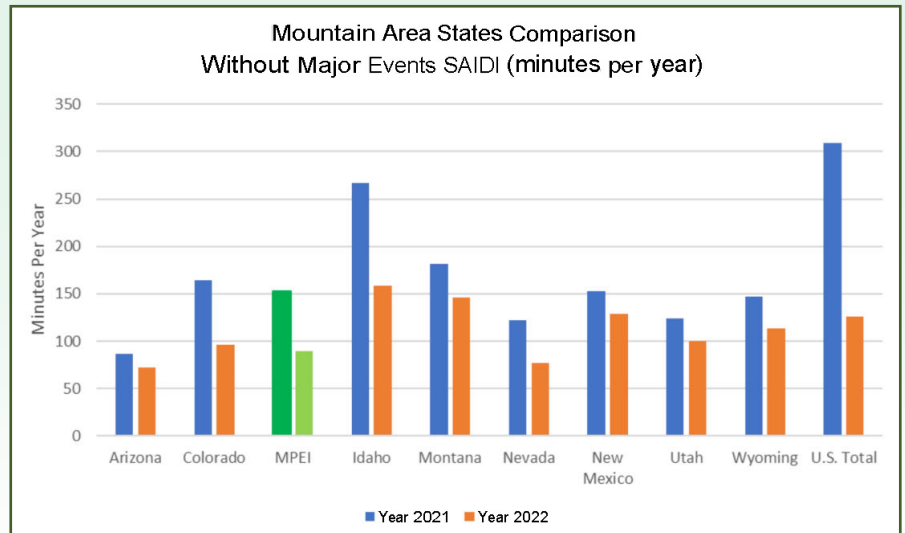
The wet, heavy snow that has fallen at just the right temperature to stick to the power lines, along with seasonal bird migrations and commercial heavy equipment incidents, have caused quite a few power outages this spring.

“It was a busy month of April, but our response times have been really good,” Manager of Operations Adam Paulson shared with the Board.

Paulson pointed to new technology that can pinpoint exact locations of outages as a key factor in what is keeping MPE’s outage stats so good. He cited an outage on May 8 in which he and the responding linemen were immediately given the exact location, whereas in the past it might have taken hours to locate.

He added that although the MPE line crew is young, they are quick learners and each have thousands of hours of training. “They know what to do,” he said.

As they respond to outages, they are also adding bird protection to poles, where needed, and are identifying future Work Plan opportunities to continue to improve system reliability.



This SAIDI graph, shared by Paulson, is one metric MPE uses to see how our co-op compares with other utilities in regions such as ours. (2023 data was not yet available)

## Other Board Meeting Items

- The Board gave staff the go-ahead to reopen the application process for the two new MPE scholarship categories – Trade School and Electric Industry. The applications, located online at [www.mpei.com/scholarships](http://www.mpei.com/scholarships), will be open year-round, as long as funding is available. The Board previously authorized up to \$25,000 for each category. There were three Trade School Scholarship awards given earlier this year, leaving up to \$17,000 still up for grabs. The total \$25,000 for the Electric Industry category is still available for individual awards of up to \$10,000. The Board also gave staff the authority to review and provide recommendations for awards in these categories.
  - The Board held officer elections for the MPE Board and for MPE Services, and appointments remained the same in both, as follows:
    - MPE Board:** President, Liz McIntyre; Vice President, Justin Fosha; Secretary/Treasurer, Cray Healy.
    - MPE Services:** President, Justin Fosha; Vice President, Cray Healy; Secretary, Mark Volt.
- MPE Board Committee assignments also remained unchanged, with Liz McIntyre as Chair of the Executive Committee, Ryan Zorn as chair of the Finance Committee, and Mark Volt as chair of the Member Relations Committee.

**The Board Meeting Bulletin summarizes highlights from the recent MPE Board Meeting. MPE Board Meetings are open to the public, and agendas, minutes, and more information can be found at [www.mpei.com/board-meetings](http://www.mpei.com/board-meetings) or by contacting [memberrelations@mpei.com](mailto:memberrelations@mpei.com).**