



July 11, 2024



# GENERAL MANAGER'S BOARD MEETING BULLETIN



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## Donations support senior care and electric buses

*Board approves two community funding requests from unclaimed capital credits*

The MPE Board reviewed and approved two donation requests to support the Mountain Family Center's (MFC) senior programming and West Grand School District's (WGSD) school bus electrification.

MFC intends to expand its senior program support, which includes its Senior Bountiful Basket Program and Helping Hand exploration, to "provide older adults the opportunity to 'age in place' with the support needed to do so," said MFC Executive Director Stacy Starr in the donation request. The growing senior population will benefit from the funding of \$15,000 through weekly delivery

and well-check visits. These provide social engagement as well as access to healthy foods they might not otherwise receive. MFC will also explore services for these seniors, including "handyman" maintenance, lawn care, and snow removal.

WGSD in Kremmling is looking to add two electric buses and charging infrastructure to its fleet. The district is receiving state and federal funding for the buses, but the MPE donation of up to \$15,400 will support the charging infrastructure needed for the additional buses. The funding will be contingent on WGSD working with MPE to allow the charging devices to

be scheduled/controlled by the co-op to maximize efficiency and minimize system impacts. WGSD is partnering with Highland Electric Fleets for project implementation. MPE and Tri-State Generation and Transmission previously provided support for WGSD to become one of the first school districts in the state to add an electric school bus to its fleet in 2020.

The Board's final review of donation requests for 2024 is scheduled for the November 14 Board Meeting. The deadline to submit donation requests for this review is October 24. See [www.mpei.com/donation-request](http://www.mpei.com/donation-request) for the application form.

## Other Board Meeting Items

- Representatives from CoBank and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) presented the Board with lending options for the upcoming contract termination payment (CTP) to Tri-State. Both of MPE's major lenders have offered to provide lending for the CTP, which is a credit to MPE's financial strength and illustrates the confidence and support the financial institutions have for this transition.
- Department managers provided an update to the Board on the large outage in Fraser and Winter Park on Sunday, July 7. An investigation into the

cause found that it was a bird that touched two circuits simultaneously. This unique situation close to a substation and impacting two circuits caused a transformer at the substation to trip offline. MPE's system and equipment worked effectively in protecting the infrastructure at the substation. MPE's system is also designed at substations for redundancy and loop feeds; therefore, crews were able to restore power in less than 2 hours. MPE continues to encourage members to utilize SmartHub's outage notification options. Also, because of MPE's advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) technology, MPE dispatchers now know instantaneously when and where outages occur, doing away with what used to be the necessity for all affected members to call in to report outages.

*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).*