

Meeting Agenda

Q2 Board of Directors

June 15, 2023

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Central

Hybrid Meeting: St. Paul, MN & Webex



**MIDWEST
RELIABILITY
ORGANIZATION**

380 St. Peter St, Suite 800
Saint Paul, MN 55102

651-855-1760

www.MRO.net



AGENDA

Agenda Item	Time
1. <u>Call to Order and Determination of Quorum</u> <i>Brad Cox, Board Chair</i>	1:00 p.m.
2. <u>Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines</u> <i>Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary</i>	---
3. <u>Consent Agenda</u> <i>Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary</i>	---
4. <u>President’s Report</u> <i>Sara Patrick, President and CEO</i>	1:10 p.m.
5. <u>Chair’s Remarks</u> <i>Brad Cox, Board Chair</i>	1:20 p.m.
6. <u>The Energy Transition</u> <i>Aubrey Johnson, Vice President of System Planning and Competitive Transmission, MISO</i>	1:30 p.m.
Break	2:15 p.m.
7. <u>Assessing Reliability Performance</u> <i>Jake Bernhagen, Manager, Reliability Performance, MRO</i>	2:25 p.m.
8. <u>Finance and Audit Committee Report</u> <i>Dr. Dana Born, FAC Chair</i>	2:55 p.m.
9. <u>Governance and Personnel Committee Report</u> <i>Thomas Graham, GPC Chair</i>	3:05 p.m.
10. <u>Organizational Group Oversight Committee Report</u> <i>JoAnn Thompson, OGOC Chair</i>	3:15 p.m.
Written Reports	3:25 p.m.
11. <u>MRO Operational Activities (Written Report)</u> <i>Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer</i>	---
12. <u>MRO External Affairs Report (Written Report)</u> <i>Tasha Ward, Director of Enforcement and External Affairs</i>	---
13. <u>MRO Outreach Report (Written Report)</u> <i>Cris Zimmerman, Manager of Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement</i>	---
14. <u>Other Business and Adjourn</u> <i>Brad Cox, Board Chair</i>	3:30 p.m.

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum
Brad Cox, Chair

A current roster for the MRO Board of Directors is posted on MRO's public website [here](#). The board will follow these guiding principles during the conduct of its work:

Highly effective and reliable board members:

1. Support the MRO mission and its values, and understand the role of the board.
2. Exercise their fiduciary duty of care by preparing for, attending, and participating in board and assigned committee meetings. Absent compelling and stated reasons, directors should be present at meetings.
3. Are objective decision makers and avoid participation in board issues that are self-serving or may be perceived as a conflict of interest.
4. Read the materials before board meetings and come prepared with questions.
5. Advocate why MRO is important and why it needs our support.
6. Take leadership roles by chairing a committee and knowing what the committee's responsibilities are, and initiate, as necessary.
7. Respect the different roles of staff and the board.
8. Collaborate and cooperate with other board members.

Standards of Conduct and Antitrust Guidelines
Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Standards of Conduct Reminder:

Standards of Conduct prohibit MRO staff, committee, subcommittee, and task force members from sharing non-public transmission sensitive information with anyone who is either an affiliate merchant or could be a conduit of information to an affiliate merchant.

Antitrust Reminder:

Participants in Midwest Reliability Organization meeting activities must refrain from the following when acting in their capacity as participants in Midwest Reliability Organization activities (i.e. meetings, conference calls, and informal discussions):

- Discussions involving pricing information; and
- Discussions of a participants marketing strategies; and
- Discussions regarding how customers and geographical areas are to be divided among competitors; and
- Discussions concerning the exclusion of competitors from markets; and
- Discussions concerning boycotting or group refusals to deal with competitors, vendors, or suppliers.

Consent Agenda

Julie Peterson, Vice President General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Action

Review and approve the consent agenda, which includes the draft minutes from the open board meeting held on April 13, 2023.

Report

The draft minutes from the meeting held on April 13, 2023, are available for your review on [MRO's website](#). Please provide any edits or comments to carolina.margaria@mro.net.

President's Report
Sara Patrick, President and CEO

Action

Discussion

Report

I will provide an oral report at the meeting.

Chair's Remarks
Brad Cox, Board Chair

Action

Discussion

Report

I will provide an oral report at the meeting.

The Energy Transition

Aubrey Johnson, Vice President of System Planning and Competitive Transmission, MISO

Action

Discussion

Report



Aubrey Johnson is Vice President of System Planning and Competitive Transmission for the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO). Johnson oversees all aspects of transmission plan development to meet MISO's future system needs. He is responsible for the planning process that yields the annual MISO Transmission Expansion Plan, including reliability and expansion planning, transmission cost allocation, and the competitive transmission developer selection and monitoring process. Johnson also oversees MISO's interregional planning efforts.

Johnson's background spans more than 25 years in the energy industry. Prior to joining MISO, he was vice president of New Mexico Operations for Public Service Company of New Mexico. He has also held leadership positions at GE Energy Services and Southern Company. Johnson earned his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Tuskegee University.

Johnson is also very active in community activities. He is a graduate of Leadership New Mexico Class of 2014, and an active volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, Second Harvest Heartland, Feed My Starving Children, and March of Dimes. He is a member of the American Association of Blacks in Energy and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Assessing Reliability Performance
Jake Bernhagen, Manager, Reliability Performance, MRO

Action

Discussion

Report

In pursuit of its vision of a highly reliable and secure North American bulk power system, MRO works closely with the ERO Enterprise (collectively NERC and the Regional Entities) and industry to assess the operational performance and overall reliability and resiliency of the bulk power system (BPS) within MRO's regional footprint. One of the main functions of MRO's Reliability Analysis department is regional Performance Analysis. The purpose of this program is to evaluate reliability performance of the BPS and to identify areas of concern regarding trends and risks to the electricity industry in MRO's footprint. The Reliability Analysis department applies subject-matter expertise to support reliability performance data collection and analysis of information provided by NERC-registered entities. This is accomplished through coordinating with relevant technical stakeholder groups to enhance performance analysis, data collection, tools, information/reports and metrics, developing appropriate reliability performance benchmarks for the bulk power system, and supporting reports on MRO's bulk power system performance trends and top risk issues.

I will provide a presentation on MRO's Performance Analysis program at the meeting.

Finance and Audit Committee Report
Dr. Dana Born, Finance and Audit Committee Chair

Action

- Approve Resolution 23-003 to approve re-appointment of Baker Tilly to conduct the 2023 independent financial audit of MRO.
- Approve Resolution 23-004 to approve the Post-Retirement Medical Fund, 2024 Reserves, and the 2024 MRO Business Plan and Budget.

Report

The Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) met on May 4, 2023. The following is a summary of items discussed and actions taken by the committee at this meeting. The full meeting agenda is on Boardvantage [here](#).

Review Year-to-Date Financials

The FAC reviewed the first quarter treasurer's report. Unaudited expenses are 10.3 percent under budget, primarily driven by timing of expenditures. At present, expenditures are projected to be on budget by year-end.

[Click here to view the 2023 Q1 Treasurer's Report and Unaudited Statement of Activities.](#)

Independent Financial Auditor

MRO staff reviewed with the committee its favorable evaluation of Baker Tilly as an independent audit firm. There have been three audit partner rotations, which follows best practices. During its second quarter meeting on May 4, 2023, the FAC voted to recommend the Board of Directors approve a resolution to re-appoint Baker Tilly to conduct an independent financial audit of MRO for 2023. Accordingly, [Resolution 23-003](#) is presented to the board for approval.

2024 Business Plan and Budget Schedule

MRO staff reviewed key updates to its 2024 budget presentation including a comparison of budget requests per region. The FAC also reviewed key data illustrating ways in which MRO evaluated its current budget proposal. During the second quarter meeting on May 4, 2023, the FAC recommended the Board of Directors approve a resolution to approve the Post-retirement Medical Funding, 2024 Reserves, and the MRO 2024 Business Plan and Budget. Accordingly, [Resolution 23-004](#) is presented to the board for approval.

[Click here to view the Budget Presentation](#)

Review of MRO Business Insurance

The FAC performed its annual review of MRO's business insurance. Current coverage is satisfactory but it is anticipated there will be noted increases in premiums as a result of current economic conditions and increasing cybersecurity risks.

Quarterly Governance Task List Status Report

The FAC reviewed the governance task list with staff; all tasks are up to date. The key tasks for the FAC in the second quarter are conducting a review of the external auditor, recommending the 2024 business plan and budget, and conducting a review of MRO's business insurance.

[Click here to view the FAC governance task list.](#)

FAC Members

For your reference, the FAC consists of the following board members:

- Dr. Dana Born (Chair), Independent Director
- Jennifer Flandermeyer, Regional Director Sector
- JP Brummond, Investor Owned Utility Sector
- Lloyd Linke, Federal Power Marketing Agency Sector
- Priti Patel, Cooperative Sector
- Scott Nickels, Municipal Utility Sector
- Thomas Graham, Independent Director

RESOLUTION 23-003
MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Resolution Regarding Reappointment of Independent Audit Firm

WHEREAS, the regional delegation agreement between the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) and Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) requires that MRO submit audited financial statements to NERC annually; and

WHEREAS, the MRO Finance and Audit Committee (MRO FAC) has reviewed the qualifications and performance of MRO's existing independent audit firm Baker Tilly, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the MRO FAC recommends the MRO Board of Directors reappoint Baker Tilly, LLC to audit MRO's 2023 financial statements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MRO Board of Directors finds that the above recommendation to reappoint Baker Tilly LLC allows MRO to meet its delegated obligations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MRO staff is directed to engage Baker Tilly, LLC as the independent audit firm to audit MRO's 2023 financial statements.

MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION

Sara E. Patrick, President and CEO
Julie Peterson, Corporate Secretary

Corporate Secretary Signature

Dated

RESOLUTION 23-004
MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resolution Approving the Post-Retirement Medical Funding, 2024 Reserves, and 2024 Business Plan and Budget

WHEREAS, the Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO) Finance and Audit Committee (MRO FAC) has reviewed the proposed MRO Post-Retirement Medical Plan funding and recommends that the MRO Board of Directors approve the funding as part of the 2024 Business Plan and Budget; and

WHEREAS, the MRO Board of Directors approved the currently effective MRO Reserve Policy; and

WHEREAS, the MRO FAC has reviewed the targeted operating reserves requirements necessary to satisfy the projected annual cash flow and cash balance requirements, and determined that a \$1 Million cash requirement is sufficient and meets the requirements of the Reserve Policy; and

WHEREAS, the MRO FAC has reviewed the proposed 2024 Business Plan and Budget and believes that the proposed 2024 Business Plan and Budget is sufficient for MRO to meet its responsibilities under the delegation agreement and fulfill its statutory obligations; and

WHEREAS, the MRO FAC recommends that the MRO Board of Directors approve the proposed 2024 Business Plan and Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MRO Board of Directors finds that the proposed 2024 Business Plan and Budget, including the funding for the MRO Post-Retirement Medical Plan and the targeted operating reserve, which meet the requirements of the Reserve Policy, is sufficient for MRO to meet its responsibilities under the delegation agreement and fulfill its statutory obligations;

AND THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the MRO Board of Directors approves the proposed 2024 Business Plan and Budget; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that MRO staff is directed to take all necessary and appropriate steps to ensure that the budget as approved by the MRO Board of Directors is submitted to and approved by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Board of Trustees and the applicable regulatory agencies.

MIDWEST RELIABILITY ORGANIZATION

Sara E. Patrick, President and CEO

Julie Peterson, Corporate Secretary

Corporate Secretary Signature

Dated

Governance and Personnel Committee Report
Thomas Graham, Governance and Personnel Committee Chair

Action

Discussion

Report

The Governance and Personnel Committee (GPC) held its quarterly meeting via Webex on May 15, 2023. The following is a summary of the items discussed and actions taken by the committee during the meeting. Board members may review the full meeting agenda on Boardvantage [here](#).

Quarterly Human Resources Report

The updated Employee Handbook was introduced and distributed to staff effective March 31, 2023. All staff have completed an attestation confirming they have reviewed, understand, and are bound by the policies.

Growth and development continues to be a focus for MRO, and the organization has re-engaged with Dr. Paul Erdahl, Principal and Founder of Global Talent Strategies, LLC to facilitate 360 reviews for members of Team Connect in the third quarter of 2023.

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee continues to be active and hosted Neurodiversity Awareness Week at the end of March 2023. This provided staff opportunities to learn about neurodiversity by watching webinars and participating in discussions with colleagues. MRO's DEI committee also hosted a well-attended ERO-wide information sharing meeting on April 26, 2023. This event provided DEI committee members from across the ERO an opportunity to gain awareness of activities and events other regions are hosting, as well as identify potential areas to collaborate on future DEI focused efforts. In June, the committee plans to focus on volunteer and educational opportunities surrounding the Twin Cities Pride events.

MRO welcomed and successfully on-boarded four new team members to the organization in the second quarter of 2023, plus an internal position transfer. Staffing activities continue to be a top priority for the human resources team with MRO's current headcount at 74 of the 78 budgeted FTEs for 2023.

MRO Employee Engagement Survey

MRO engaged MRA, a local independent HR services organization, to assist with the Employee Engagement survey. Similar to the survey that was conducted in March 2021, the intent was to gain a better understanding of employee morale, satisfaction, and engagement. The survey included MRA's benchmark questionnaire as well as MRO-customized questions specific to director-level leadership (Team Curious), and specific questions related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. MRA compared results to professional benchmarks for satisfaction and engagement. Although MRO's partnership with MRA is not new, a comparison between the two surveys was not available due to MRA's change in methodology since 2021.

The committee received a detailed presentation on the 2023 Employee Engagement Survey results from Mike Kopczynski, Custom Surveys & Business Research Lead, MRA, and the board will receive a high level overview of the results during executive session.

MRO Board of Directors Self-Assessment

The GPC presented the proposed 2023 Board Performance Self-Assessment and Supplementary Survey Questions at the MRO Board of Directors first quarter meeting on April 13, 2023, and solicited feedback from the board members. No feedback was received, and no changes were made to the survey. The committee approved the Board of Directors Self-Assessment questions and directed staff to execute the survey between August 25 - September 18, 2023.

Quarterly Report on Ethics Hotline Activity

Lighthouse provides third-party hotline services for anonymous reports related to the investigation of suspected violations of law, MRO's policies and procedures, and external regulations. The Chief Compliance Officer receives monthly reports on any use of the hotline as well as any actions taken on any reported issues and reports them quarterly to the GPC. As of today's report, there has been no activity.

GPC Roster

For your reference, the GPC consists of the following board members:

- Thomas Graham (Chair), Independent Director
- Dr. Dana Born, Independent Director
- Eric Schmitt, Independent Director
- Jeanne Tisinger, Independent Director
- John Rhea, Generator Power Marketer Sector
- Michael Lamb, Investor Owned Utility Sector
- Thomas Finco, Transmission System Operator Sector

Organizational Group Oversight Committee Report
JoAnn Thompson, Organizational Group Oversight Committee Chair

Action

Discussion

Report

The Organizational Group Oversight Committee (OGOC) will hold a hybrid meeting on June 14, 2023, the day before this board meeting. Topics on the agenda for this meeting include:

- Reports from the Advisory Councils (i.e., CMEPAC, RAC, SAC)
- Review and approval of new MRO organizational group members
- Quarterly Report on NERC Organizational Groups
- Organizational Group Membership Openings

I will provide an oral report on the recent activities of the OGOC at the board meeting.

For your reference, the OGOC consists of the following board members:

- JoAnn Thompson (Chair), Investor Owned Utility Sector
- Daryl Maxwell (Vice Chair), Canadian Utility Sector
- Ben Porath, Cooperative Sector
- Charles Marshall, Transmission System Operator Sector
- Darcy Neigum, Investor Owned Utility Sector
- Dehn Stevens, Investor Owned Utility Sector
- Eric Schmitt, Independent Director
- Iqbal Dhmi, Canadian Sector
- Jeanne Tisinger, Independent Director
- Maurice Moss, Municipal Utility Sector

MRO Operational Activities Report
Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Action

Information (Written Report)

Report

MRO played an important role in a major ERO Enterprise milestone on May 22 when Saskatchewan entities switched over to Align from webCDMS, the first Canadian province to do so. Significant effort was undertaken by staff to work with Canadian entities in testing and training for this milestone, in addition to verifying data transferred from webCDMS and testing software functionality. MRO Director of Enforcement and External Affairs, Tasha Ward, is currently coordinating with NERC, Manitoba entities, and provincial authorities on further customization needed to transition Manitoba to Align. This is anticipated to occur in July, which will complete the transition of all MRO registered entities to the new ERO-wide system.

MRO Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program (CMEP) staff had the opportunity to join their peers from across the ERO Enterprise for training and team building as part of the annual ERO CMEP Workshop. The event was held in-person for the first time in 4 years and over 30 MRO employees attended – the most ever – thanks to significant effort by NERC staff to coordinate the event around regional audit schedules over a year in advance of the workshop. Two members of MRO's Compliance Monitoring department were selected to deliver training to the ERO Enterprise – Principal Engineer Sam Zewdie and Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) Manager Jess Syring.

On May 15, the ERO Enterprise issued its first ever [Level 3 Alert](#). The alert is related to cold weather preparations, and is in response to grid performance during Winter Storm Elliot in 2022, Winter Storm Uri in 2021, and the 2018 South Central US Cold Weather Event, all of which triggered joint inquiries by FERC and the ERO Enterprise. Level 3 Alerts require essential actions to be performed by industry, with this Alert containing eight essential actions related to winterization plans, generator capabilities, and operating plans that incorporate load shed in response to extreme cold weather conditions. Staff in MRO's Reliability Analysis department are the point of contact for registered entities across the region regarding this Alert, and will be conducting a risk-based evaluation of entity responses to the Alert in the coming months.

MRO Principal Technical Advisor, Mark Tiemeier and Principal System Protection Engineer, John Grimm are representing MRO on the inquiry team for Winter Storm Elliot and are actively involved in the analysis of last winter's event. The Inquiry team aims to provide recommendations prior to this upcoming winter. Tiemeier is also representing MRO on a team consisting of FERC and ERO Enterprise staff that is evaluating modern Blackstart capability, a noted concern in the 2021 Inquiry Report. In the second quarter, Grimm and Tiemeier visited numerous generating facilities and control centers across the United States as part of this collaborative work with FERC.

MRO established a Generator Winterization Program (GWP) in 2021, in response to the performance of generators within the MRO footprint during the 2018 South Central US Cold Weather Event. The GWP is a voluntary program led by MRO's Reliability Analysis department and includes surveys, site visits, data analysis, and reporting. To provide benefit to the entire region, this year MRO developed a General Findings report that shares themes from these site visits and analysis, in addition to the individualized custom reports that program participants receive. The [MRO GWP 2021-2022 General Findings Report](#) was

released on April 17, 2023 and includes anonymized statistics, thematic opportunities for improvement, and best practices identified by MRO staff as part of GWP site visits.

The MRO Regional Summer Assessment will be published in early June. This seasonal assessment highlights the four Planning Coordinators in the MRO region and reliability risks they face based on forecasted demand and resources. The report also covers reliability performance from the previous year based on Event Analysis, Situational Awareness and Performance Analysis data. A webinar to provide more information on the key findings is scheduled for [June 29, 2023 at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Central](#).

External Affairs Report
Tasha Ward, Director of Enforcement and External Affairs

Action

Information (Written Report)

Report

Webinars, Conferences, and Industry Engagement

On March 23, 2023, Steen Fjalstad, Director of Security attended NERC’s Joint Security Group meeting held in Clearwater, Florida. Presenters included professionals from the Idaho National Laboratory, NERC and the US Department of Energy.

On April 23, 2023, I, along with MRO’s executive team, Sara Patrick, President and CEO, Richard Burt, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Lam Chung, Vice President and Engineer for Strategy, Innovation, and Finance, and Julie Peterson, Vice President and General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, met with the E-ISAC at the E-ISAC offices in Washington D.C. Topics discussed included MRO’s participation, both staff’s and through the Security Advisory Council, in E-ISAC activities and the upcoming Grid-Ex exercise. Subsequently, on April 24, 2023, the same MRO team met with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) staff from the Office of Electric Reliability, Office of Enforcement, and Office of the General Counsel, at the FERC offices in Washington D.C. to discuss MRO’s 2023 Regional Risk Assessment. The MRO team also met with Kal Ayoub, Critical Infrastructure and Resilience Advisor to FERC Chairman Phillips, to discuss the MRO Regional Risk Assessment and future engagements on which MRO can partner with FERC to educate MRO stakeholders. In July, FERC staff will be presenting at the 2023 Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Program Advisory Council (CMEPAC) conference on the recently released Cybersecurity Investment Incentives order.

On May 24, 2023, the MRO Director of Compliance, presented as part of a panel discussion at the ERO Enterprise sponsored webinar focused on the recently released “Themes and Best Practices for Sustaining Accurate Facility Ratings.”

Looking ahead, on July 27, 2023, Burt, along with representatives from NERC, SERC Reliability Corporation, and ReliabilityFirst will be meeting on-site at the MISO offices in Carmel, Indiana, to discuss a number of initiatives that MISO is working to implement. This meeting was requested by MISO following the presentation from Patrick and Mark Lauby, NERC’s Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer, to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (noted below).

ERO Enterprise State Outreach Initiative

The ERO Enterprise State Outreach Initiative continues to strengthen relationships and become a valuable and trusted resource for state and federal regulatory agencies. MRO continues to communicate and meet with state regulators to provide education on MRO and ERO reports, and provide information about outreach opportunities. On April 4, 2023, Patrick, and Mark Lauby, NERC’s Senior Vice President and Chief Engineer, presented an education session on grid reliability and security to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. Additionally, on May 2, 2023, Bryan Clark, Director of Reliability Analysis, and Mark Tiemeier, Principal Technical Advisor, joined in a discussion about blackstart resources, led by staff from ReliabilityFirst, with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission staff. On May 19, 2023, Tiemeier and I

presented an education session to the Nebraska Power Review Board on resource adequacy, recently released assessments, and regional risk.

MRO will continue to communicate MRO and ERO reports and outreach opportunities to state commissioners and commission staff. MRO continues to coordinate with the ERO Enterprise State and Provincial Outreach Collaboration Group on outreach opportunities in states within multiple regional footprints. Updates will continue to be provided in quarterly board reports.

Canadian Affairs

On May 7, 2023, Sara Patrick joined five members of the NERC Board of Trustees and the Regional CEOs from NPCC and WECC at the annual Canadian regulators' meeting with more than 20 utility regulators from eight Canadian provinces and Canada's federal government. Representing the MRO region were Robert Gabor, Chair of the Manitoba Public Utilities Board, and Shawn Schmidt, newly appointed to the Saskatchewan Electric Reliability Authority. The meeting took place in Toronto, ON, in conjunction with the annual CAMPUT conference. This meeting has historically taken place prior to the August NERC Board meeting held in Canada each year. In addition to the date change of the meeting, the format was changed to center around roundtable discussions rather than formal presentations. Kristine Bienert, from the British Columbia Utilities Commission, introduced the four topics to be discussed among participants. The four topics included: Enhancing access to relevant security information managed by the E-ISAC; Promoting understanding of legal parameters and context in Canada; Regulator engagement in NERC bodies, activities, and processes; and Collaboration for enhanced standards adoption information. These changes to the meeting resulted in greater levels of participation and engagement from the Canadian regulators.

After the NERC Canadian regulators meeting, Patrick and I attended the remainder of the CAMPUT Conference 2023. The agenda featured speakers and regulators which highlighted the theme of the conference, "*Ambitious & Agile: New Regulatory Pathways for a Just Energy Transition.*"

On May 24, 2023, I attended a "NERC briefing on the 2023 Summer Reliability Assessment" webinar that NERC hosted for Canadian regulators.

Outreach Report

Cris Zimmerman, Manager of Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement

Action

Information (Written Report)

Report

One of MRO's long-term strategic objectives is to "be a trusted leader in providing premier and cutting edge outreach to our stakeholders." This report highlights work done in the second quarter of 2023 to improve and expand MRO's outreach and stakeholder engagement efforts.

Key outreach department highlights for this quarter include:

- MRO's Outreach team developed, and has begun implementing, a five-year outreach strategy for the organization. The strategy emphasizes the importance of people, processes, and tools and technology.
- Efforts this quarter have focused on assessing new outreach tools that will improve and enhance the event registration process, as well as the experience and engagement for in-person and virtual event participants.
- Shawn Keller started as MRO's new Outreach Coordinator on May 1 and the Outreach department is now fully staffed.
- MRO Outreach staff continues to participate on the ERO Enterprise Outreach and Training Collaboration Group, which is focused on sharing information and lessons learned related to outreach events. This group is currently collaborating to collect ERO-specific data on training programs and courses that have been developed across the ERO enterprise. The goal of this effort is to share and highlight the many training efforts taking place across the ERO, share best practices, and prevent duplication of efforts.

Summary of 2023 Q2 Outreach Events:

- MRO's Annual Reliability Conference (sponsored by the Reliability Advisory Council) was held on May 17, 2023, at MRO's office and via Webex. This one-day conference focused on reliability topics across the industry and specific to the MRO region. We had great engagement from the 396 total attendees, which included 80 in-person and 316 virtual.
- The CMEP Advisory Council continues to host monthly calls with an average of 57 attendees per call. This forum allows registered entities to share best practices, discuss compliance issues, and provide input to outreach opportunities that would best assist entities in the MRO footprint.
- The MRO Security Advisory Council Threat Forum (SACTF) continues its weekly threat calls, completing 19 thus far in 2023, 7 of which have been in Q2. The SACTF weekly calls have had an average of 68 attendees that represent an average of 34 entities attending.
- MRO will host the CMEP Conference on July 26 at MRO's offices in St. Paul and via Webex.
- MRO will host the following webinars in June:
 - June 8: Security Advisory Council will host a one-hour "Network Exposure Analysis" webinar. Registration link [here](#).
 - June 12: CMEP Advisory Council will host a one-hour "Good Catch Program" webinar. Registration link [here](#).

Meeting Agenda – MRO Board of Directors – June 15, 2023

- June 29: Reliability Advisory Council will host a one-hour “Regional Summer Assessment” webinar. Registration link [here](#).

Other Business and Adjourn

Action

Discussion

Report

Future meetings of the MRO Board of Directors are listed below.

2023 Board Meeting Dates

- Sept 13-14, 2023 Q3 MRO Board of Director & OGOC Meetings
- Dec 13-14, 2023 Q4 MRO Board of Director & OGOC Meetings

2024 Board Meeting Dates

- January 23, 2024 Board Orientation (Webex Only)
- February 8, 2024 Q1 MRO Board of Director Meetings (Webex Only)
- April 11, 2024 Business Plan & Budget Review Meeting (Webex Only)
- May 22-23, 2024 Q2 MRO Board of Director & OGOC Meetings (Hybrid)
- June 20, 2024 Final Budget Meeting (Webex Only)
- August 21-22, 2024 Q3 MRO Board of Director & OGOC Meetings (Hybrid)
- November 6-7, 2024 Q4 MRO Board of Director & OGOC Meetings (Hybrid)
- TBD Strategic Planning Meeting