

T0: The Editor, El Defensor Chieftain

Re: "Feud" (sub headline pg. 7) "Wagner made to pay back expenses" 7/30/2011

<http://www.dchieftain.com/dc/index.php/news/3626-a-long-drawn-out-feud-continues..html>

The choice of the sub headline above misleads the reader and obscures the crime some board members are attempting. Except for being completely fooled by the alleged expense issue, your reporter did a splendid job as usual of covering the SEC board meeting. A more accurate sub headline would have been "Board members attempt to extort money from Wagner's \$10,000 annual expense allowance."

[Merriam Webster's "extort: to obtain from a person by force, intimidation, or undue or illegal power:]

During the February 24, 2010 meeting of the SEC Board I, at the behest of Kevin Groenewold, made the motion to approve expense advances for all trustees who wanted to attend the March 1, 2010 Environmental Improvement Board (EIB) hearing in Santa Fe. The motion passed. Kevin requested that as many co-op managers and trustees as possible attend the hearing. SEC had 11 trustees at the time and I was one of only three SEC trustees who actually attended the hearing. Since there is no requirement for trustees to furnish receipts to verify that the money advanced was spent on business as intended, others may have been advanced money and chose to keep it and not attend the meeting.

The EIB minutes show that I was the only SEC trustee to address the hearing and identified myself as a trustee of SEC's 5th district. No other trustee incurring expenses to attend the "hearing" offered his voice in support of anything. The transcript also shows that I did not say that I was the chairman, spokesperson or that I represented the official views of any others. Nor were the comments I made intended to conflict with or oppose views expressed by Kevin Groenewold, NMRECA's GM. My views were in keeping with those expressed by the NRECA, NMRECA, most of the REC industry and most major electric utilities in the country. They were intended to dispel the fallacious argument "that you must accept dirty air if you want affordable electricity." The U.S. Constitution assures my right to speak.

Every Corporate CEO, Scientist, Politician, Mother and Father wants clean air and affordable electric power. Who would be so stupid as to say he wants to breathe polluted air that causes disease. The goal of all nations and industries should be to achieve adequate, reliable, safe electric energy with efficient affordable costs.

None of the trustee who voted to extort money from my account even knows what I said to the EIB. The trustee who made the motion has engaged with others in a pattern of character assassination and other unfounded allegations to do something they think will hurt me. Like the false LULAC letter there is no shred of truth behind their charges. These guys seem to hate democracy and free speech.

Mr. Ullibari's motion to extort the expenses advanced to me to attend the hearing, from my account was not done in a safe way. It failed to pass by a two thirds majority vote as required by "Robert's Rules of Order" and the "OMA". Wagner will not be made to pay back expenses.

Sincerely,

Charlie Wagner, Trustee, Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.