

## **TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

St. Matthews, South Carolina  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
October 22, 2000

Pursuant to due notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter called the "Cooperative") was held on October 22, 2020 at the Cooperative's headquarters office in St. Matthews, South Carolina. In order to comply with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's guidance of social distancing due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreaks, the meeting took place in the Auditorium.

The following trustees were present: Ida L. Dixon, Barbara F. Weston, S. George Wilson (via telephone), Gary F. Geiger, F. Joe Strickland, Jr., Willie E. Jeffries, William Robinson, James R. Dantzer, and Jacqueline S. Shaw, these being all of the trustees of the Cooperative. Also present were Frank Furtick, COO, Michael Weeks, CAE, Chad T. Lowder, CEO, John G. Felder, Sr., General Counsel, and Cindy Sarratt, who recorded the minutes of the meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER – INVOCATION**

The meeting was called to order by President Barbara F. Weston at 4:00 p.m. Following the Call to Order, Jackie Shaw gave the Invocation.

### **MEMBER COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no members present during the Member Comment Period.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF September 24, 2020**

On motion by William Robinson, seconded by Willie Jeffries and carried, the minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting of September 24, 2020 were approved with one correction.

### **REPORTS**

#### **SYSTEM SUMMARY REPORTS**

The System Summary Reports were approved as presented by the CEO.

#### **MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Monthly Financial Statements were approved as presented by the CEO.

#### **NEW MEMBER REPORT**

The CEO reported that from September 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 80 new members made application for service and those new members are now actively receiving electric service from the Cooperative. Thereafter, on motion by Joe Strickland, seconded by Jim Dantzer, and carried, the following resolution was approved:

RESOLVED, the applications of new members are hereby accepted and approved.

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### **SAFETY REPORT**

The CEO reported that there were no lost time accidents, no hours lost, no OSHA Recordable accidents, and no employee injuries, no vehicle accidents, and no consumer damage claims reported in August or September 2020. The Tri-County employees returned from storm restoration assistance in Louisiana.

### **REPORT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Barbara Weston reported that the Committee met at 3:30 p.m. and reviewed the expense reports and credit card invoices for the Board, CEO, and Attorney for the period September 1-30, 2020. All accounts were approved by the Audit Committee.

### **UPDATES**

#### **CENTRAL UPDATE**

The CEO reported that a Central board meeting is scheduled for next month. Also, the Central Nominating Committee has asked Chad Lowder to serve on the Executive Committee.

#### **STATEWIDE UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder informed the board that the highlights of the Statewide board meeting and the November magazine pages are posted on BoardPaq.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **TRICO GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL SITE UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder reported that 4 projects are looking at the site. The Contract for natural gas was signed today.

#### **RICHLAND DISTRICT OFFICE REMODEL STATUS**

The CEO reported that the Richland District Office remodeling project is almost complete and is within budget. The furniture is being delivered tomorrow. TriCoLink employees will be working out of there soon.

#### **FIBER TO THE HOME PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder reported that construction is underway and everything is on target. He anticipates the first test customers will be installed in November and that we will go commercial in January.

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### **TRICOLINK BOARD MEETING**

A TriCoLink Board Meeting was scheduled for Friday, November 20, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss policies, benefits, management agreement, and fiber lease contract.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2021 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS DISCUSSION**

The CEO presented the employee and retiree insurance plans, the employee retirement plan, and the 401K defined benefit plan for 2021.

#### **APPROVAL OF 2021 BOARD PER DIEM**

On motion by Jim Dantzler, seconded by Jackie Shaw, and carried, the board voted to maintain the same per diem of \$453.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING DISCUSSION**

Mr. Lowder discussed the planned topics that will be covered on both days of the Strategic Planning Meeting. The first day is scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2020 and the second day will be Thursday, November 12, 2020.

#### **BUDGET MEETING**

A Budget Meeting for Tri-County and TriCoLink was scheduled for November 30, 2020 at 4pm.

#### **CEO COMMENTS**

##### **2020 ANNUAL MEETING PLANS**

Mr. Lowder announced the following plans for the 2020 Annual Meeting: Drive-thru registration will be from 9am-2pm, a flash light and a bottle of hand sanitizer will be given out to all who register, along with a \$20 bill credit. A You Tube channel has been set up to broadcast the 2pm Business Meeting in the Auditorium. Following the close of the Business Meeting, the prize drawings will be held with winners being announced online. Winners will also be notified by telephone the following week.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Willie Jeffries, seconded by William Robinson, and carried, the board entered executive session to receive legal advice. Then, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Joe Strickland and carried, the board returned to regular session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion by William Robinson, seconded by Gary Geiger, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Jacqueline S. Shaw  
Jacqueline S. Shaw, Secretary

APPROVED:

Barbara Weston  
Barbara F. Weston, President