

REGULAR MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

March 27, 2023

A regular meeting of the members of the Board of Trustees of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. at the cooperative headquarters in Blythewood, South Carolina. The following board members were present:

Mitchell D. Rabon	Robert Entzminger	Peggy D. Swearingen
Timothy L. Hopkins	Cynthia Able	Derial L. Ogburn
John E. Roberts, III	Donald Keith Lewis	Robert K. Miles
Michael Good	Bruce E. Honeycutt	

Attorney John DuBose was present.

Chairman Mitchell Rabon called the meeting to order. Robert Entzminger gave the invocation.

Upon motion made by John E. Roberts, III, seconded by Robert Entzminger, motion carried, the minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2023 were approved as presented.

Upon motion made by Donald Keith Lewis, seconded by Bruce E. Honeycutt, motion carried, 209 new consumers for the month of February were accepted as members of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A list of delinquent accounts totaling \$3,762.98 for the month of February was presented for consideration for write off as uncollectible. Upon motion made by Timothy L. Hopkins, seconded by Robert Entzminger, motion carried, authorization was granted to write these off against the cooperative's reserve for uncollectible accounts.

A list of deceased patron's estates requesting payment of their capital credits was presented for consideration. After discussion and upon motion made by John E. Roberts, III, seconded by Michael Good, motion carried, the following resolution was adopted:

The estates of 25 deceased members have requested the Board of Directors give consideration to approving the retirement of \$14,840.98 as an administrative convenience to the estates. After reviewing the Cooperative's financial statements and determining such retirement will not adversely impact the Cooperative's financial condition, management recommends capital credits totaling \$14,840.98 be approved for payment. In addition, it should be noted that such approval does not obligate this Board or any future Board to retire the capital credits of the estates of deceased members presented at any future date.

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Bruce Bacon, Chief Executive Officer, reviewed and discussed the monthly financial reports. Mr. Bacon reported on Operation Roundup. At its February 20, 2023 meeting, donations were made to six organizations. The next meeting will be held on April 17th, 2023 and board appointments will need to be updated. Mr. Bacon reported that the Round Up Board will need to fill two vacancies, Paul Dove and John Hancock. Mr. Lewis nominated Eric “Yogi” Gill to fill one of the vacancies. Mr. Roberts nominated Jaime Wright to fill one of the vacancies.

Mr. Bacon provided an update on the security system activity, the Volkswagen SCOUT industrial facility locating in Blythewood, the broadband feasibility study, and the Nominating Committee Meetings. Mr. Bacon announced the Spring Member Advisory Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Chairman Mitch Rabon recommended that a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado be given away as the grand prize at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Upon motion made by Derial L. Ogburn, seconded by Cynthia Able, motion carried, authorization was granted to give the vehicle as the annual meeting grand prize.

President Rabon reviewed and discussed the proposed 2023 Bylaw amendments. Copies of the proposed Bylaw amendments were previously approved at the last board meeting. Attorney Jay Bender reviewed and approved the final proposed 2023 Bylaw Amendments. Mr. Honeycutt reported that there were some very minor scrivener and formatting errors. After discussion and upon motion made by Bruce Honeycutt, seconded by Derial Ogburn, motion carried, the Bylaw Amendments were approved by the Board of Trustees for presentation to the membership at the 2023 Annual Meeting subject to correction of typographical errors, scrivener’s error, and formatting.

Chairman Rabon reported on the upcoming ECSC Summer Conference to be held at Wild Dunes on June 4–7, 2023. Upon motion made by John E Roberts, III, seconded by Michael Good, motion carried, attendance for the following trustees was approved:

Robert Entzminger	Peggy D. Swearingen	Derial L. Ogburn
Timothy L. Hopkins	Cynthia Able	

Keith Lewis reported on the progress of the Winnsboro Office. The inside and outside are 99% complete. The following need to be completed: cubicle installation, IT infrastructure, and security. Mr. Lewis reported that a bullet proof glass for the drive-thru window has been ordered and will be installed when the bullet proof glass is received. An inspection of the building is set for March 27, 2023. Mr. Lewis reported that the Winnsboro office should at least have the drive-thru window up and running until completion of the building. Mr. Lewis suggested that the Board consider holding a ribbon cutting event.

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Bruce Bacon provided an update on Central Electric Power Cooperative (CEPC). Mr. Bacon reported that mediation in the CEPC lawsuit is set for March 30, 2023. Mr. DuBose reported that mediation is required for the case. A Scheduling Order is in place setting a mediation deadline of March 31, 2023. Mr. DuBose reported that a potential CEPC bylaw amendment will be suggested to CEPC by FEC at mediation and that the suggested language or a variation of the suggestion, if acceptable by CEPC, might resolve the lawsuit.

Derial Ogburn provided an update on The Electric Cooperatives of SC. Mr. Ogburn reported that the quarterly meeting will be held next week. Mr. Ogburn provided an update on Broadband. He reported that there will be a huge fiber tied into the substations. There would be a rental fee for attaching to FEC poles. It was brought up on whether or not broadband is worth the investment.

Robert Entzminger provided an update on CEEUS. There has been no change.

John Roberts provided an update on the upcoming Trustee Association conference. Mr. Roberts reported that there will be no Trustee meeting for the Summer Conference. The next Trustee Association conference will be held on May 1-3, 2023 at the Hyatt on Bay Street in Charleston.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Robert Entzminger, seconded by Michael Good, motion carried and approved, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed: _____

Robert K. Miles, Secretary
APPROVED

ATTEST: _____
Mitchell D. Rabon, President