

REGULAR MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

April 29, 2024

A regular meeting of the members of the Board of Trustees of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at 12:30 p.m. at the cooperative headquarters in Blythewood, South Carolina. The following board members were present:

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

John E. Roberts was not present.

Attorney John DuBose was present.

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

Upon motion made by Derial L. Ogburn, seconded by Bruce E. Honeycutt, motion carried, the **minutes of the meeting held on March 25, 2024** were approved as presented.

Upon motion made by Cynthia Able, seconded by Robert Entzminger, motion carried, **216 new consumers for the month of March** were accepted as members of Fairfield Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A list of **delinquent accounts totaling \$3,037.41 for the month of March** was presented for consideration for write off as uncollectible. Upon motion made by Timothy L. Hopkins, seconded by Keith Lewis, 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 Bruce Honeycutt, seconded by Michael Good, motion carried, the following resolution was adopted:

The estates of 22 deceased members have requested the Board of Directors consider approving the retirement of \$11,928.78 as an administrative convenience to the estates. After reviewing the Cooperative's financial statements and determining whether such retirement will not adversely impact the Cooperative's financial condition, management recommends capital credits totaling \$11,928.78 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, updated and discussed the following:

- monthly financial report
- 1st quarter (January – March) Controllable Expenses.
 - Distribution and operations expenses are in good shape.
 - Revenues are down due to the mild weather in March.
 - Line maintenance costs are up due to the impact of storms.
 - 1st quarter finances are in good shape.
- Operation Roundup Meeting – at the April 15, 2024, meeting, a donation was made to an individual. The next meeting will be on June 17, 2024.
- Security system activity
- Rate Change Communication Plan:
 - The method of contacting members was discussed in the form of the S.C. Living magazine, bill inserts, or possibly social media.
 - Request from a member regarding qualifications of current and prospective candidates and requesting biographies of current FEC Trustees.
 - The requesting member was referred to the Bylaws. Bylaws are posted on the FEC page as to the process of being nominated for a trustee position and available information.
- General retirement of Capital Credits – Capital credit checks will be dated and mailed on May 3, 2024. The number of checks being mailed is 15,147 for a total of \$1,762,496.80. Bill credits of \$74.99 or less will be applied to 17,866 active accounts for a total of \$207,982.03. The total amount of capital credits being refunded is \$2,009,972.71. This amount includes: \$11,135.73 in gains; \$24,363.04 in bad debt recovered; and \$3,995.11 for final bills deducted.
- Review of the Annual Meeting dates
- Trustee Association Conference
- Upcoming Events – ECSC Summer Conference

Mitch Rabon reported that the review of the **2023 990 Tax Return** was completed by Elliott Davis. The review of the tax returns consisted of board member compensation and benefits, review of the website, board meetings, and board minutes. There was nothing out of the ordinary and there were no issues. Upon motion made by Keith Lewis, seconded by Derial Ogburn, motion carried, the IRS Form 990 was accepted as presented.

Appointment of positions on the Board of Trustees for Fairfield Electric's Trust Corporation/Operation Round Up for 2024-2027 were discussed. Upon motion made by Cynthia Able, seconded by Peggy Swearingen, motion carried, the following appointments were made:

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- Leo Scott nominated by Timothy Hopkins
- Jack Watts nominated by Mitch Radon
- Nancy Smith nominated by Derial Ogburn

Mitch Rabon and Bruce Bacon provided an update on **Central Electric Power Cooperative (CEPC)**.

- Westinghouse settlement fund
 - Qualifying criteria for receipt of funds is income at or below 200% of poverty guidelines and Energy Share criteria are met.
 - Settlement funds will be provided to one Energy Service up to \$1,500.00 per calendar year.
 - No energy deposit.
- FEC is discussing CEPC diversification of resources with FEC's consultant.
- Proposed state legislation was discussed.
- Structure and Opt-In/Opt-Out of SCPSA shared resource discussed.
- Data center impacts on power needs discussed.
- Solar component of energy portfolio was discussed.

Upon motion made by Derial Ogburn, seconded by Robert Entzminger, motion carried, the meeting between Mitch Rabon and Bruce Bacon and FEC consultants was approved.

Derial Ogburn provided an update on **The Electric Cooperatives of SC**.

- Had a meeting the week before last.
- Not much to report by way of update

Robert Entzminger provided an update on **CEE US**.

- Putting together CEE US director list for VA entity.
- Virginia warehouse is being stocked.
- Continues abstaining from votes on budget due to lack of salary information for leadership of CEE US being disclosed.

John E. Roberts was not present. No update to report on **Trustee Association**.

- Upon motion made by Bruce Honeycutt, seconded by Perry Swearingen, motion carried, Tim Hopkins was designated as proxy vote for FEC at meeting if John E. Roberts is unavailable.

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Upon motion made by Derial Ogburn, seconded by Michael Good, motion carried, the Board entered Executive Session.

Upon motion made by Timothy Hopkins, seconded by Robert Entzminger, motion carried, the Board exited Executive Session

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed: _____

Robert K. Miles, Secretary
APPROVED

ATTEST: _____
Mitchell D. Rabon, President