

8BUTLER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**BOARD OF TRUSTEES****January 27, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Butler Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the Cooperative office at 3888 Stillwell Beckett Road, Oxford, Ohio on January 27, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Tom McQuiston at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were: Tom McQuiston, Bob Hoelle, David Evans, Jay Hasbrook, Ron Kolb, Mike Tilton, Butch Foster, Jim Meador and Bob Spaeth. Others present were: Lee Geiger, Attorney; Thomas Wolfenbarger, General Manager; Charlie Young, Manager of Engineering & Planning; Greg Phillips, Director of Corporate Services; Mike Murray, Director of Operations; Judie Persinger, Director of Accounting & Finance; Lisa Staggs Herrmann, Director of Member & Community Relations; Adam Osborn, Manager of Safety & Compliance and Julie Abbott, Director of Administration. The meeting was opened with an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance by Ron Kolb.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mike Tilton, seconded by Jim Meador that the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 30, 2020 be approved as submitted. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT**REVIEW STATEMENTS AND CHECKS WRITTEN**

The unaudited financial statements were presented by Judie Persinger. Bob Hoelle reviewed a summary of the checks written for the month of December. A motion was made by Ron Kolb, seconded by Bob Spaeth, that the past payment of bills be approved and the unaudited financial statements be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2015 - 2020 & RUS Form 7

Judie Persinger presented RUS Form 7 and reviewed the year-end Financial Report. A motion was made by Bob Spaeth, seconded by Butch Foster, to accept RUS Form 7 as presented. Motion carried.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Charlie Young reviewed the distribution construction standards which are used in engineering and construction of new and replacement distribution lines and services, as well as in the development of the Construction Work Plan. He requested action to adopt these standards as a necessary step in supporting the ability to seek reimbursement in the event of significant system damage. A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, with a second from Butch Foster, to adopt the standards as presented. Motion carried.

Charlie reported on the fiber progress with Cincinnati Bell and on two new net metering systems. He provided graphs of the monthly community solar production and reliability graphs, highlighting SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI.

SAFETY & COMPLIANCE REPORT

Adam Osborn reported on Safety and Compliance activities and training for the month of December including the annual tabletop exercise and virtual meetings attended. He reported on the field visits and safety information totals for 2020.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Mike Murray reviewed the activities of the internal crews which included several pole replacements, substation switching, security light replacements and new services connected for the month. He presented the outage report for the month of December.

MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

Lisa Herrmann shared member issues and concerns. She reviewed on the Institute of Environment and Sustainability (IES) \$1,000 Scholarship winners: Will McCown, Blake Gardiner, and Blair Hassett. Lisa reported on the upcoming Member Satisfaction Survey in March. She provided year end totals for paperless billing and automatic payments. Lisa provided an update on the board election and 2021 Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting \$50 Bill Credit Winners:

Mary K. Stamper

Krista Parsley

Rakeshkumar Patel

David T. Clay

Ellen G. Skaggs

CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Greg Phillips reported on phishing tests, Verifone life expectancy, and the upcoming replacement of virtual hosts and storage units.

NEW & VOIDED MEMBERSHIPS

A motion was made by Ron Kolb, seconded by Bob Hoelle, that 69 memberships be accepted into the membership of the Cooperative for December. There was one voided membership. Motion carried.

CAPITAL CREDITS

A motion was made Bob Spaeth, seconded by Butch Foster, that the past payment of capital credits for 12 estates, totaling \$36,132 be approved. Motion carried.

CAPITAL CREDITS SETOFFS

A motion was made by Bob Hoelle, seconded by Jim Meador, to approve 19 capital credits setoffs totaling \$10,255.26. Motion carried.

BAD DEBTS WRITE-OFF

A total of \$4,705.16 was submitted to the Board to be written-off for December. A motion was made by Bob Spaeth, seconded by Bob Hoelle, to write off bad debts. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S EXPENSE REPORT

A motion was made by Ron Kolb, seconded by Bob Spaeth, that the Manager's expense report for December in the amount of \$10.64 be approved. Motion carried.

LEGAL UPDATE

Lee Geiger and Tom Humbach reviewed the ten recommended policy changes and had no further guidance.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BUCKEYE POWER INC.

There was no monthly board meeting held by the Buckeye Power, Inc. Board of Trustees.

STATEWIDE REPORT

There was no monthly board meeting held by the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

DISTRIBUTE ATTORNEY'S EVALUATION

The annual Attorney's evaluation was distributed to all trustees. These are to be completed and returned for compilation by February 12, 2021.

ACRE

Tom McQuiston reviewed the annual ACRE program with the Trustees for 2021.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Julie Abbott shared member survey comments for January. She provided a staffing update which included two retirements and one new employee in January. Julie reviewed training for January and upcoming meetings in February. Butch Foster motioned, with a second by Ron Kolb, to approve the attendance of Trustees for the virtual PowerXchange/TechAdvantage and the Winter Conference in February. Motion carried. A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, seconded by Jim Meador to approve attendance of the virtual Directors Conference in March of 2021. Motion carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom Wolfenbarger reviewed strategic planning action items and timeline. He provided a rolling twelve-month board compensation report for the Board's review.

Tom reported on suggested changes to ten policies reviewed by the policy committee earlier in the month. He highlighted Policy E-205. Tom requested board approval for the cooperative to move to a Short-Term-Disability insurance plan with NRECA to increase the maximum weekly benefit from \$800 to \$1,200. A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, with a second by Bob Spaeth, to approve the request as proposed. Motion carried.

Tom submitted an electronic copy of an activity report of past and future activities.

CORRESPONDENCE

Various items of correspondence were shared with the trustees.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES EVALUATION

The trustees conducted the annual self-evaluation of the Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT

Tom McQuiston adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



David Evans, Secretary-Treasurer