

BUTLER RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**BOARD OF TRUSTEES****April 29, 2020**

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 April 29, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Tom McQuiston at 9:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present were: Tom McQuiston, David Evans, Butch Foster, Ron Kolb, Jay Hasbrook, and Jim Meador. Bob Hoelle, Bob Spaeth, and Michael Tilton were present by teleconference due to COVID-19. Others present were: Thomas Humbach, Attorney; Tom Wolfenbarger, Director of Engineering & Planning; and Julie Abbott, Director of Administration. Others presenting during the meeting were: Greg Phillips, Director of Corporate Services; Judie Persinger, Director of Accounting & Finance; Michael Murray, Director of Operations; Lisa Staggs Herrmann, Director of Member and Community Relations; and Adam Osborn, Manager of Safety and Compliance. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and an invocation by David Evans.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented electronically prior the meeting. A motion was made by Butch Foster, seconded by Jay Hasbrook that the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 25, 2020 be approved. Motion carried.

Special meeting minutes were provided electronically prior to the meeting for March 27, 2020. Butch Foster motioned, with a second by Ron Kolb, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT**REVIEW STATEMENTS AND CHECKS WRITTEN**

The unaudited financial statements were presented to the Board by Judie Persinger. David Evans reviewed the checks written for the month of March. A motion was made by Jim Meador, seconded by Butch Foster, that the past payment of bills be approved and the unaudited financial statements be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

2014 – 2019 PROPERTY TAX REPORT

Judie Persinger presented a report on the 2014 – 2019 Property Tax. (See Attached Copy)

INSURANCE RE-RATE

Judie Persinger presented an adjustment to the rate of the second year of a two-year policy with Federated Rural Insurance Exchange.

FORM 990 and 990T

Judie Persinger presented the Form 990 and 990T. A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, with a second from Butch Foster, to approve the 990 and 990T as presented. (See form attached). Motion carried.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Tom Wolfenbarger provided an update on the Frontier Communications bankruptcy. He presented information on the electric vehicle (EV) charging station fees. A motion was made by Jim Meador, with a second from Ron Kolb for approval of adding the EV charging fees to the Line Extension and Miscellaneous Rates. Motion carried. Tom reported on availability of approximately thirty solar panels at Midwest Electric Cooperative that are available to our members. Bob Spaeth motioned, with a second from Jim Meador, to ratify the decision to participate in the reallocation of solar panels at Midwest. Motion carried. He reported on the roof lawsuit, the fiber progress, and net metering systems. Tom reviewed monthly community solar production, SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI reliability reports.

SAFETY & COMPLIANCE REPORT

Adam Osborn reviewed March Safety & Compliance activities which included field observations and one follow-up with a member. He provided an update on conference calls related to COVID-19 and the Pandemic Mutual Aid Best Practice.

OPERATIONS

Mike Murray reported on the activities of the internal BREC crews for the month which included a variety of installations, removal of poles, replacement of equipment, and substation work. He provided an update on upcoming padmount equipment inspections. Mike presented new logos for the fleet of cooperative vehicles. Butch Foster made a motion, with a second from David Evans to proceed with the new vinyl logos for vehicles. Motion carried. He reported on outages for the month of March.

MEMBER SERVICES UPDATE

Lisa Staggs Herrmann reviewed member issues and concerns with the Board. She announced the 2020 Children of Members Scholarship winner, Isabella Saylor, Ross High School (\$1,800). Lisa provided an update on communications to the members regarding the fiber project and COVID-19. She announced the Community Connection grants awarded in March and event cancellations for the summer.

\$50 BILL CREDIT WINNERS:

Clarence R. Payne
David Carter

Harrison Twp. Trustees
Jenny Lee

Paige Gabbard

CORPORATE SERVICES UPDATE

Greg Phillips reported on a couple of red flags and issues with personal computers. He updated the board on network configurations and the enhancing of processes to utilize electronic form handling.

VOIDED & NEW MEMBERSHIPS

A motion was made by Ron Kolb, seconded by Jim Meador, that 43 members be accepted into the membership of the Cooperative for March. There were no voided memberships for March. Motion carried.

CAPITAL CREDITS

A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, seconded by David Evans, that the past payment of capital credits for 15 estates, totaling \$42,905.25 be approved. Motion carried.

CAPITAL CREDITS SETOFFS

A motion was made by Jim Meador, seconded by Bob Spaeth, to approve 11 capital credits setoffs totaling \$2,576.56. Motion carried.

BAD DEBTS WRITE-OFF

A total of \$333.50 was submitted to the Board to be written-off for March. A motion was made by Bob Hoelle, seconded by Ron Kolb, to write-off bad debts. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S EXPENSE REPORT

It was moved by Butch Foster, seconded by Jim Meador, that the Manager's expense report for March in the amount of \$2,406.20 be approved. Motion carried.

LEGAL UPDATE

Tom Humbach reported on Frontier bankruptcy and on a settlement with the HVAC contractor, Synergy, in favor of the cooperative. A motion was made by Bob Spaeth, seconded by Jim Meador to authorize a co-interim manager to enter into the settlement agreement as presented by Tom. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT**BUCKEYE POWER INC.**

An electronic report was submitted to the Trustees prior to the meeting. Tom Wolfenbarger commented on Buckeye's sales status in lieu of the COVID pandemic.

STATEWIDE REPORT

Tom McQuiston reported on the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc. regular monthly meeting. An electronic report was submitted to the Trustees prior to the meeting.

Tom McQuiston appointed Tom Wolfenbarger on April 10 to represent Butler as Buckeye Power Trustee. A motion was made by Mike Tilton, seconded by Butch Foster to ratify the appointment. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tom McQuiston provided an update on NRECA during COVID-19 pandemic. Tom McQuiston and Tom Humbach will be recording the board election results to be viewed on April 30, 2020 on the cooperative website and Facebook, in lieu of the Annual Meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Julie Abbott provided an update on COVID-19 at the cooperative. She provided an update on training cancelled and when training/meetings will resume scheduling. Julie provided the opportunity for Trustees to tour the Cardinal Plant in September. Five Trustees are interested in touring the plant. A motion was made by Ron Kolb, with a second by Butch Foster, to approve the Trustees attendance. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Tom Wolfenbarger provided an update on the Paycheck Protection Program and the Small Business Administration (SBA) loans.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jay Hasbrook motioned, with a second from Jim Meador, to enter-into an executive session at 12:35 p.m.. Motion carried. Leigh Taylor joined the meeting by teleconference to discuss the General Manager search. A motion was made by Jay Hasbrook, seconded by David Evans, to come out of executive session at 12:55. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Items of correspondence were received and reviewed by the Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT

Butch Foster motioned, with a second by Ron Kolb, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



David Evans, Secretary/Treasurer