

MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Western Cooperative Electric Association, Inc. met at the office of the Cooperative for the monthly meeting on March 19, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Crossland. The following trustees were present: Crossland, Hobbs, Joy, Rohleder, Luetters, Heier, Schaus, Keller and Weinhold. Also present were Tom Ruth, General Manager; Stacey Malsam and E. Jay Deines, Attorney, who kept the minutes of the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held February 20, 2020 were presented. The minutes were approved as presented. The agenda was approved as presented.

Phillip Golden joined the meeting by phone to discuss the STR-20 rate for Messer and the relationship that his company and Western Cooperative Electric has and his approval of the STR-20 rate. It was moved by Hobbs and seconded by Schaus to approve the STR-20 rate. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

Tom Ruth, Manager, presented articles and notices in the Country Living magazine.

The upcoming annual meeting was discussed. At the end of the discussion, it was moved by Joy and seconded by Luetters to cancel the annual meeting due to the concerns surrounding the spread and transmission of the coronavirus and the election of Trustees shall continue as set forth in the By-Laws. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

Tom led a discussion on the upcoming CoBank Shared Success Program applications.

Valerie Schneider, Manager HR, was introduced and she briefed the board on the coronavirus risk assessment and steps Western Cooperative Electric is taking to avoid the virus.

Tom reviewed the new proposed Net Metering / Parallel Generation agreements.

Ron Bixenman, Ed Goetz, Tyler Goetz, and Dennis Deines entered the meeting and addressed the board on their concerns about the demand charges on their electric bill. Bixenman, E. Goetz, T. Goetz and D. Deines left the meeting.

Manager Ruth addressed the board on the proposed Master Services Agreement for contract services. At the end of the discussion, it was moved by Joy and seconded by Luetters that the proposed Master Services Agreement be approved. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

Tom discussed a near-miss incident in the Gove Substation. It was noted that no injury was sustained by an employee.

The athletic and recreation field lighting was discussed. It was moved by Weinhold to adopt the proposed rate. It dies on lacy of a 2nd. Additional discussion was held by the Board. It was moved by Hobbs and seconded by Schaus to adopt the proposed rate for field lighting. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

Tom Ruth gave the Manager's report and financial report using charts and graphs.

Stacey reported on the financial and regulatory matters.

A list of delinquent accounts to be written off the books, a list of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes was presented. It was moved by Joy and seconded by Schaus to approve the write-offs. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

Joy reported on Sunflower activities for the last month.

Checks numbered 63337 through 63517 were reviewed and discussed. It was moved by Rohleder and seconded by Keller that the checks be accepted as printed. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

A list of members requesting a refund or transfer patronage capital credits, which list is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes was presented. It was moved by Luetters and seconded by Hobbs to approve the request for refund or transfer of patronage capital credits. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

The CoBank loans, RUS and CFC reports, as well as Federated, NRTC and CRC activities, were reviewed.

The KEC report was given by Hobbs.

The NRECA board meeting report was given by Weinhold.

The minutes of the February 14, 2020 safety meeting were reviewed and discussed.

A list of contracts for electrical service, a list of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes was presented. It was moved by Heier and seconded by Keller to execute the contracts listed and attached hereto on behalf of the Cooperative. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.

A list of applicants for membership, a list of which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes was presented. It was moved by Weinhold and seconded by Schaus that the applicants be approved for membership. Upon vote taken, the motion carried.


Weinhold gave a report on the CoBank meeting he attended in Wichita.

Weinhold suggested that Western Cooperative Electric sponsor a local Ellsworth community event for \$500.00. No action was taken at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting will be April 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Approved by:


Secretary


President