

Minutes  
Meeting of Trustees of the Arab Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Monday, February 27, 2023, at 6:00 pm  
Arab Electric Cooperative, Inc. Auditorium

1. Roll Call—Trustees Present: Janet Bright-District 1; Jordan Stewart-District 2 (present by telephone conference), Dianne Prestridge-District 3; Tyler Barnes-District 5; Jeff Warren-District 6; Nathan Clark-District 7; Charles W Whisenant-District 8; and Ty Smith-District 9. Bill Stricklend-District 4 was absent. Also present were Stacey White-General Manager; Clint Maze-Board Attorney, Cooperative Employees, and other members of the public.
2. Invocation (Agenda Item #2)—Jeff Warren
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Agenda Item #3)—Nathan Clark
4. Approval of the Agenda (Agenda Item #4)—Prior to the approval of the agenda, the President called for an amendment to consider approval of the NRECA release dealing with the receipt of Jack Willis’s retirement funds to be credited towards the restitution owes to the Cooperative. Dianne Prestridge made a motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Nathan Clark. Motion passed with 7 ayes and 0 nays. Nathan Clark then made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Tyler Barnes. The motion passed with 7 ayes and 0 nays.
5. Approval of the Minutes (Agenda Items #5)—There was a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Trustees made by Dianne Prestridge, seconded by Jeff Warren. Motion passed with 7 ayes and 0 nays.
6. NRECA Release (Amended Agenda Item)—The Board Attorney updated the Board on NRECA’s request that the Cooperative execute a release and hold harmless in favor of NRECA regarding the retirement and 401(k) funds of Jack Willis. The Board Attorney, based on the consents of Mr. and Dr. Willis, recommended that the Board approve the release and hold harmless and authorize the General Manager to execute the same. Jeff Warren made the motion, seconded by Tyler Barnes. The motion passed with 7 yeas and 0 nays.
7. Management Update (Agenda Item #6)— The General Manager presented the Three-Month Cash/Investment Accounts Balances Report, the Monthly Report to TVA, the Monthly Operational Budget Report and the Monthly Collection and Meter Department Report for January 2023. The reports were emailed out to the Board prior to the meeting and are made a part of the minutes. The net income for January 2023 was \$655,459.71. The General Manager reported that the mapping system is 85% complete and remains on schedule. The received and installed the 2SE AMI meters have.

8. Personnel Committee<sup>1</sup> Update (Agenda Item #7)—The Personnel Committee had no report.
9. Finance Committee<sup>2</sup> Update (Agenda Item #8)—The Finance Committee had no report.
10. Right of Way Committee<sup>3</sup> Update (Agenda Item #9)—The Right of Way Committee had no report.
11. Old Business (Agenda Item #10)—Mrs. White informed the Board the TVA virtual open house for the supplying of 161 kV power to the Sundown Substation ends today. There has been no other information received from TVA and it may be months before the Cooperative receives anything further. Fisher Arnold is planning a site visit to the Sundown Substation in May 2023.
12. Discussion Item: SCADA System (Agenda Item #11)—TVA’s emergency power supply issues which occurred over the Christmas holiday has brought to the forefront the Cooperative’s inability to effectively manage TVA required power reductions. In order to effectively manage power reductions, a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA), or other peak shaving system will be required. There are upgrades which would be required at all substations. The total cost for upgrading all the stations to made them SCADA capable would be an estimated at \$1,768,000. The implementation of the SCADA system would take approximately 8 months from the issuance of the purchase order. The Board requested a presentation on the benefits and cost of the SCADA system in the upcoming months.
13. Action Item: Kiosk (Agenda Item # 12)—The General Manager and the Board have discussed the placement of a payment kiosk somewhere in town to accept payments from members after hours. A kiosk would provide immediate payment credit for anyone using the kiosk. After considering the possibility of locations, it has been determined that the most logical place would be where the current night drop box is presently located. The total cost of the building modifications and the purchase of the kiosk is expected to cost \$35,000 or less. After lengthy discussions Dianne Prestridge made a motion to approve the purchase and installation of the kiosk with the price not to exceed \$35,000, seconded by Nathan Clark. The motion passed with 7 yeas and 0 nays.
14. Declaration of Surplus Items: (Agenda Item # 13)—The General Manager that the ROW bucket truck, truck # 15, which is a 2002 Freightliner truck with 176,885 miles be declared as surplus. Nathan Clark made a motion to declare the bucket truck and list the same for sale on GovDeals.com, seconded by Tyler Barnes. The motion passed with 7 yeas and 0 nays.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Personnel Committee is comprised of Tyler Barnes—Chairman, Janet Bright, Dianne Prestridge, and Jeff Warren. The General Manager—*Ex Officio*, Kellie Garrett, Wayne Mahathey and Mike King are employee representatives on the Personnel Committee.

<sup>2</sup> The Finance Committee is comprised of Bill Stricklend—Chairman, Dianne Prestridge, Nathan Clark, and the General Manager—*Ex Officio*.

<sup>3</sup> The Right of Way Committee is comprised of Nathan Clark—Chairman, Janet Bright, Tyler Barnes, Ty Smith, the General Manager—*Ex Officio*, and the Right of Way Supervisor, Brett Barnard—*Ex Officio*.

15. Member comments (Agenda Item #14)—There was an opportunity given for member comments and none were received.

16. There was an announcement that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees would be held on March 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the Cooperative Headquarters Auditorium.

17. Adjourn—There was a motion by Jeff Warren, seconded by Jordan Stewart, to adjourn. Motion passed with 7 ayes and 0 nays.