

# MINUTES



**Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Board of Trustees  
October Board Meeting  
Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 6:15 pm - 9:53 pm  
Hartford**

## **In Attendance**

Danny McNeil; David Winstead; Debra Baxley; Donald Ray Wilks; Donna Parrish; Greg McCullough; John Clark, Jr.; Kip Justice; Tracy Reeder

### **I. Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on October 20, 2020, at the Headquarters Office of the Cooperative in Geneva County, Alabama.

### **II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation was given by Kip Justice and Debra Baxley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **III. Those Absent**

### **IV. Introduction of Guests**

### **V. Business of the Membership**

Business of the Membership was discussed. Letters of thanks were received from Cindy Scott from Jackson Thornton.

### **VI. Action Items-Agenda**

#### **A. Approve Consent Agenda**

Items included in the Consent Agenda include the review and approval of the Safety Report and Hours Worked Report; the Approval of Minutes from September 22, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting and to Vote on 238 persons who have requested membership in the Cooperative in September and who have complied with requirements of the By-Laws, and who are now receiving service. Vote off 204 members who have ceased to receive electric service in September, and who have requested to withdraw their membership.

Move: Debra Baxley Second: David Winstead Status: Passed

#### **B. Approve Fleet Budget - 2021**

Jason Thrash, Vice President of Engineering & Operations, presented the proposed 2021 fleet budget. WEC has a Fleet Plan that has been in place for several years. This plan helps with the rotation of the fleet and the determination of specs for future purchases. The plan is designed to keep our fleet more consistent so that parts and maintenance costs are managed. To determine what trucks should be purchased for 2021, Robbie Daniels reviews the fleet plan as well as the records (and Jerry Goodson, Mechanic) for trucks up for replacement. For the upcoming year, management has determined that the following vehicles should be replaced during 2021: 1 digger, 2 service buckets, 1 pick-up truck, 1 large bucket and 1 cargo trailer. Total proposed vehicle budget for 2021 is \$1,013,732.00. A motion and a second were made to approve the proposed fleet budget. Donald Ray Wilks was opposed. Motion passed.

Move: Kip Justice Second: Danny McNeil Status: Passed

C. Accept Financial/Operating Report for September

Lisa LeNoir, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Financial and Operating Report for September. A motion was made to accept the operating report as presented and a second. Motion passed.

Move: Donald Ray Wilks Second: Greg McCullough Status: Passed

D. Approve Spec Building Proposal for Abatement Offer

The Geneva County Commission has been approached by a prospective business (Company X) regarding the spec building in construction at the Geneva County Industrial Park. With the assistance of Matt Parker, Toby Seay with the Geneva County Commission is putting together a proposal for Company X as part of the recruiting process. PowerSouth offers a Business Development Loan Program which WEC entered into on behalf of Geneva County Commission in May 2020. In the recruiting proposal to Company X, based on 4 years of benchmarks, the Geneva County Commission has been able to secure funds of up to \$350,000 from various cities and counties to reduce the cost of the spec building to Company X. The Geneva County Commission requests WEC to willingly forgive up to \$150,000 of the loan for the spec building as part of the aforementioned proposal. It was the consensus of the Board to allow the proposal to be presented to include the loan forgiveness stipulations as stated.

Move: Kip Justice Second: David Winstead Status: Passed

E. Approve 2021 Youth Tour - Scholarships

Each year, WEC accepts applications for Youth Tour which is typically held in Montgomery during March of each year. After Youth Tour, there is an interview process that those students go through where independent judges choose delegates to attend the Washington DC Youth Tour typically held in June. Due to COVID-19, it has become evident that these experiences will not occur for 2021. As these students will not be eligible to participate in the 2022 Youth Tour, management requested that WEC use the budgeted funds for Youth Tour as scholarship funds. After a brief discussion, the board approved providing 10, individual, \$1,500 scholarships to total \$15,000.

Move: Donald Ray Wilks Second: Donna Parrish Status: Passed

VII. Jason Thrash- Vice President of Engineering & Operations

VIII. COO's Report- Brad Kimbro

IX. CEO's Report- Les Moreland

X. Attorney's Report- Russ Parrish

XI. Executive Session

The meeting was concluded in executive session.

XII. Board Committee Reports- PSE/AREA

Power South's Board of Trustees Meeting was held on September 25, 2020; discussion was held concerning the same, led by Power South Trustee representative, Danny McNeil. The next Power South Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on October 23, 2020.

Alabama Rural Electric Association Board of Trustees Meeting was held on September 24, 2020 via Conference Call, and discussion was held concerning the same, led by AREA Trustee representative, Greg McCullough. The next AREA Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on December 03, 2020.

XIII. Next Board Meeting

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at the Hartford office of the Cooperative at 6:15 p. m.

XIV. Adjourn

A motion and second was made to conclude this meeting of the Cooperative Board of Trustees.

Move: Kip Justice Second: John Clark, Jr. Status: Passed



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President

Secretary

SEAL