

# MINUTES

**Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Board of Trustees December Board Meeting**

**Thursday, December 19th, 2024,**

**6:15 pm - 8:15 pm Hartford**

In-Person Attendance

Danny McNeil; David Winstead; Debra Eubanks Baxley; Donald Ray Wilks; Kip Justice; John Clark, Jr.; Randy Odom; Russ Parrish; Sandy Morris; Tracy Reeder

I. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wiregrass Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on December 19th, 2024, 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

VI. Action Items-Agenda

Approve Consent Agenda

Items included in the Consent Agenda include the review and approval of the Hours Worked Report; the Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2024 of Trustees Meeting and to Vote on 185 persons who have requested membership in the Cooperative in November and who have complied with requirements of the By-Laws, and who are now receiving service. Vote off 173 members who have ceased to receive electric

service in November, and who have requested to withdraw their membership.

Move: Randy Odom      Second: Debra Baxley      Status: Passed

VII. Brad Kimbro- Chief Executive Officer

VIII. Consider Approval – Credit Card Transaction Fee

Management recommends implementing Meridian's Convenience Service Fee platform designed to remain revenue neutral. This platform assesses a 2.45% fee on all credit card transactions, with two exceptions: auto-pay transactions and credit card payments made at the register. For other payment methods, such as IVR and Quick Pay, service fee notifications will be integrated to ensure compliance. Kiosk transactions, which are handled by US Payments rather than Meridian, offers a different pay structure. A passthrough fee of 2.75% applies, with a \$3.50 maximum fee for transactions up to \$300. Transactions over \$300 incur an additional \$3.50 fee. This is also a revenue-neutral process, as the fee is collected directly at the point of sale, and we do not handle fee management or remittance. These fees will apply uniformly to all customers utilizing credit cards for payment and align with industry practices.

Move: John Clark Jr      Second: Donald Ray Wilks  
Status: Passed

IX. Consider Approval – Line Extension Policy

Management recommends increasing the Line Extension policy to 15% of costs incurred, effective January 1, 2025. This adjustment reflects current economic conditions and supports the organization's goal of balancing affordability and cost recovery.

Move: Donald Ray Wilks      Second: Randy Odom  
Status: Passed

X. Approve CRC Voting Delegate

This is a mail ballot only. There was a consensus of the Board to maintain Brad Kimbro, CEO as authorized to complete mail ballot for CRC.

Move: Tracy Reeder          Second: David Winstead          Status:  
Passed

XI. Approve NRTC Voting Delegate

NRTC utilizes an electronic voting system to be completed online by WEC's appointed delegate. Selected delegate/alternate will receive a voting link via email. It was the consensus of the Board to re-confirm our previous designation as: Voting Delegate: Brad Kimbro, CEO. No changes needed.

Move: Tracy Reeder          Second: Randy Odom          Status:  
Passed

XII. VIII. Report from Audit & Finance Committee

XIII. Misti Dixon - VP of Finance & Accounting

Misti Dixon, VP of Finance & Accounting, presented the Financial and Operating Report for November. A motion was made to accept the operating report as presented, to include the 01-2025 PCA recommendation of 0 followed by a second. Motion passed.

Move: Tracy Reeder          Second: Donald Ray Wilks  
Status: Passed

XIV. Consider Approval – Revenue Deferral

Management recommends a revenue deferral not to exceed \$500,000 to offset future costs associated with WEC purchased power from PowerSouth Energy Cooperative who have notified WEC of the increase in 2025 to average and excess demand power costs.

Move: Tracy Reeder          Second: Donald Ray Wilks  
Status: Passed

XV. Report from Corporate Planning and E&O Committee

Management recommends to accept the bid from Jerdan Services for 303 total miles off of Bay Springs, Murphy Mill, Brannon Stand and Rehobeth Substations s well as accept the bid from Southern Crop Services for 291 total miles off of Fadette and Limestone Substations.

Move: David Winstead      Second: John Clark Jr.      Status:  
Passed

XVI. Report of Legal Activities- Russ Parrish

XVII. Report from AREA (Debra Eubanks Baxley, AREA Representative)

Alabama Rural Electric Association Board of Trustees Meeting was held on December 5th, 2024, and discussion was held concerning the same, led by AREA Trustee representative, Debra Eubanks Baxley. The next AREA Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on January 30th, 2025.

XVIII. Report from PowerSouth (Kip Justice, PSE Representative)

PowerSouth's Board of Trustees Meeting was held on November 22nd, 2024; discussion was held concerning the same, led by Power South Trustee representative, Kip Justice. The next PowerSouth Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on December 20, 2024.

XIX. Next Board Meeting

The next regular Board Meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2025 at the Hartford office of the Cooperative at 6:15pm

XX. Adjourn

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

Move: Tracy Reeder      Second: Randy Odom      Status: Passed



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Secretary



President