

Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
August 22, 2024
Greenville, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the office of Southwestern Electric Cooperative headquarters in Greenville, IL pursuant to notice given. President Jerry Gaffner called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following directors were present constituting a quorum:

Jerry Gaffner
Sandy Grapperhaus
Annette Hartlieb
Bill Jennings
Brad Lurkins
Jared Stine
Marvin Warner (joined meeting at 6:44 p.m. via video conference)
Ted Willman

Director Ann Schwarm was absent. Staff members present were Chief Executive Officer Bobby Williams, Chief Operating Officer Vic Buehler, Chief Financial Officer Nathan Taylor, and Executive Assistant Brooke Scott.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the regular board meeting held on July 25, 2024, were considered. On a motion made by Hartlieb, seconded by Lurkins and carried, the minutes were approved as presented.

Executive Session:

At 6:32 p.m., Stine made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Jennings seconded; motion carried. At 6:39 p.m., Grapperhaus made a motion to leave executive session. Jennings seconded; motion carried.

Staff Reports & Presentations

Report of Operations and Construction:

CFO Nathan Taylor's report included:

- Bitcoin economics
 - Price
 - Supply
 - Cost
 - Construction charges
 - Annual return on load
- Financial Summary as of July 31, 2024 (month, year-to-date, and outlook)
 - Revenue
 - Total Costs
 - Net Operating Margins
 - Non-Operating Income
 - Net Margins.
- Year-to-date and Year-end Cash flow statement
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio
 - KRTA data
 - Short-term and long-term targets
- Rate discussion
- Report information

VP of Member Services Susan File entered the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Operating Report and Work Order Summary Approval:

Grapperhaus made a motion to approve the Operating Report and Work Order Summary in the amount of \$716,071.68 for July 2024. Willman seconded; motion carried.

Report from the Credentials & Election Committee Meeting/Annual Meeting Discussion:

One committee member was absent from tonight's meeting. Steven Laesch was elected chairperson and Ron Jarrett was elected secretary for the 2024 committee. File highlighted the layout and details for the annual meeting. File left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

CEO's Report:

CEO Bobby Williams's report included:

- Freedom update
- Site tour
- Safety Day

COO's Report:

COO Vic Buehler's report included:

- Update on workplan projects
 - Maple Grove to Edwardsville Transmission project
 - Smithboro Substation
- Member matters
- Potential loads
- Software conversion
- Topics from Staff Reports

Membership Applications and Terminations

A motion was made by Hartlieb, seconded by Stine, and carried to accept 87 applications for membership for July 2024, in accordance with Section 2 of the bylaws.

A motion was made by Jennings, seconded by Lurkins, and carried to formally acknowledge the termination of 13 memberships for August 2024, effective as of the date on which the cooperative ceased furnishing services, and the release of capital credits to members and members' estates totaling to \$23,231.79.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee:

The scholarship committee met on September 18 to discuss changes to the application, memorial scholarships, 501c3, and ways to promote the scholarship program. Taylor has agreed to fill the vacancy left from Russ Gilbert's retirement.

AIEC Board Meeting Report:

Gaffner attended the AIEC Board Meeting on August 15. He gave a verbal report to the board. The topics of discussion included AIEC's Annual Meeting and scholarships.

Report on Director Training:

Lurkins attended NRECA CCD 2600: Director Duties and Liabilities course through AIEC. He gave a verbal report to the board. Some of the topics discussed were rolling blackouts, generational expectations, and representing the membership as a whole.

Warner and Schwarm attended AIEC's Annual Meeting. They gave written reports to the board. Warner gave a verbal report. Some of the topics discussed were MISO, mindset, Public Service Award winners, and legislation.

Jennings, Schwarm, and Warner attended NRECA's BLC 961.1: The Evolution of Electric Cooperative Power Supply through AIEC. They gave verbal and written reports to the board. Some of the topics discussed were regulations, affordability, renewables, fracking, and legislation.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business:

The board will hold a special board meeting in September to discuss integrated resource planning (IRP).

A motion was made by Stine, seconded by Lurkins, and carried to raise the Service Availability Charge for residential rates to \$44 per month.

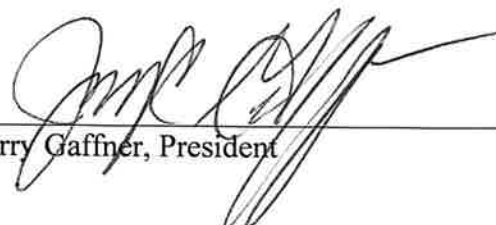
Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.



Annette Hartlieb, Secretary

Attest:



Jerry Gaffner, President