

Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 23, 2025
Greenville, IL

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:00 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
Bill Jennings
Brad Lurkins
Ann Schwarm (via video conference)
Jared Stine
Marvin Warner (via video conference)
Ted Willman

Secretary Annette Hartlieb, absent during roll call, arrived at the meeting at 6:18 p.m. 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 budget and regular board meeting held on December 19, 2024, were considered. On a motion made by Lurkins, seconded by Jennings and carried, the minutes were approved as presented.

Minutes of the executive session of the board meeting held on December 19, 2024, were considered. On a motion made by Jennings, seconded by Grapperhaus and carried, the minutes were approved as presented.

Executive Session:

At 6:03 p.m., Willman made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Schwarm seconded; motion carried. Hartlieb entered the meeting at 6:18 p.m. At 6:23 p.m. Lurkins made a motion to leave executive session. Hartlieb seconded; motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Policy & Bylaws Committee:

The Policy & Bylaws Committee met on January 15, to discuss several policies. The committee gave a report to the board.

A motion was made by Jennings, seconded by Schwarm, and carried to adopt the *Employer-Provided Benefits for Non-Union Employees* policy as presented.

A motion was made by Hartlieb, seconded by Jennings, and carried to rescind the *Operations Round-Up* policy.

A motion was made by Lurkins, seconded by Grapperhaus, and carried to rescind the *Charitable, Social, Community, Educational and Civic Contributions and Donations* policy.

A motion was made by Jennings, seconded by Hartlieb, and carried to adopt the *Community Engagement* policy as presented.

Warner left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Staff Reports & Presentations

Report of Operations and Construction:

CFO Nathan Taylor's report included:

- Financial Summary as of December 31, 2024 (month and year-to-date)
 - Revenue
 - Total Costs
 - Net Operating Margins
 - Non-Operating Income
 - Net Margins.
- Year-to-date cash flow statement
 - Near term costs

- Opportunities not forecasted
- DSCR
- Debt Service projection through 2039
- Strategic Planning preparation
- Write-offs through December
- Member update
- Software conversion for billing
- AIEC survey on capital credits

Operating Report and Work Order Summary Approval:

Grapperrhaus made a motion to approve the Operating Report and Work Order Summary in the amount of \$344,507.03 for December 2024. Willman seconded; motion carried.

CEO's Report:

CEO Bobby Williams's report included:

- Potential load
- Member matters
- New hires and retirements
- Substation preventative maintenance program update

A motion was made by Hartlieb, seconded by Stine and carried to grant the following payment arrangement for member 92142; 50% of the aid-to-construction fee must be paid prior to construction and the remainder will be divided evenly between a 12-month or 24-month period which will be determined by management, and a non-revocable letter of credit shall be provided for the portion of the fee that has not been paid until all payments have been satisfied.

COO's Report:

COO Vic Buehler's report included:

- Apprenticeship program update
- Kudos
- Update on projects

Membership Applications and Terminations

A motion was made by Hartlieb, seconded by Jennings, and carried to accept 67 applications for membership for December 2024, in accordance with Section 2 of the bylaws.

A motion was made by Hartlieb, seconded by Jennings, and carried to formally acknowledge the termination of 2 memberships for January 2025, 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 \$2,055.28.

AIEC Board Meeting Report:

Schwarm attended the AIEC Board Meeting on January 16. She gave a verbal report to the board. The topics of discussion included AIEC's Annual Meeting details, mutual aid, data centers, and training.

Unfinished Business:

The board discussed the strategic planning meetings including the premeeting survey results.

The communications department created a scholarship flyer to help promote the scholarship program.


New Business:

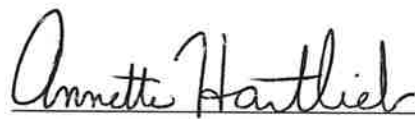
The 1099s will be both mailed and emailed to the directors once completed.

Adjournment:

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Attest:


Jerry Gaffner, President


Annette Hartlieb, Secretary