

## **TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

St. Matthews, South Carolina  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
April 23, 2026

Pursuant to due notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter called the "Cooperative") was held on April 23, 2026 in the Boardroom at the Headquarters Office in St. Matthews, South Carolina.

The following trustees were present: Barbara Weston, Ida L. Dixon, S. George Wilson, William Robinson, James R. Dantzler, Willie Jeffries (via telephone), Joe Strickland, Gary Geiger, and Jacqueline S. Shaw. Also present were Chad T. Lowder, CEO, John Felder, General Council, Tina Turnage, VP of Finance, Kristen Zeigler, VP of Human Resources, Louis Arsenault, VP of Technology and TriCoLink Services, and Executive Assistant, Cindy Sarratt, who recorded the minutes of the meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER – INVOCATION**

President Barbara Weston called the meeting to order at 1:46 p.m. Following the Call to Order, George Wilson gave the Invocation.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 26, 2026**

On motion by William Robinson, seconded by Jackie Shaw, and carried, the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting of March 26, 2026 were approved.

### **REPORTS**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Financial Reports for the Cooperative and TriCo Development were approved as presented by the CEO.

#### **NEW MEMBER REPORT**

The CEO reported that 135 new members made application for service in March 2026. Those members are now actively receiving electric service from the Cooperative. On motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Joe Strickland, and carried, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED, that the applications of new members for March 2026 are hereby accepted and approved.

There were 202 Final Bills sent out for the month of March 2026. Those members are no longer receiving electric service from the Cooperative.

#### **SAFETY REPORT**

Mr. Lowder reported that there were no Lost Time Accidents, No Hours Lost, No OSHA Recordable Accidents, no Employee Injuries, no consumer damage claims, no vehicle accidents, and no miscellaneous accidents reported in March 2026.

## **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Barbara Weston reported that the Audit Committee met on April 23, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. and reviewed expenses for March. All accounts were found to be in order and were accepted by the Audit Committee.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **CEO COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

No report. This Committee is dissolved and the duties will be transferred to the Executive Committee

### **ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **POLICY AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES**

### **CENTRAL UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder reported that Central will meet next month.

### **STATEWIDE UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder reported that John Frick was named CEO of the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina, effective May 1, 2026. Chris Koon was named Executive Vice President.

The groundbreaking for the new training center will be held on May 27, 2026. Those planning to attend should let Cindy Sarratt know so that she can respond to the invitation.

### **CEEUS UPDATE**

No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

#### **Executive Session**

On motion by Jim Dantzler, seconded by William Robinson, and carried the board entered executive session to discuss confidential information regarding economic development. Then, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by George Wilson, and carried, the board returned to regular session after having taken no action in executive session.

**FIBER PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder announced that the contract with Conexon will be cancelled in August and the services will then be provided by NRTC. There will be a TriCoLink Board Meeting following the May Co-op Board Meeting.

**MONTHLY OUTAGE REPORT**

No report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**REVIEW OF BOARD COMPENSATION REPORT FOR WEBSITE**

Following a thorough review of the Board Compensation Report for the Website, on motion by William Robinson, seconded by Jackie Shaw, and carried, the Report was accepted. As required by ORS, the Report will be posted to the company website by May 15, 2026.

**LINEMAN WAGE REVIEW**

After much discussion, in order to remain competitive with neighboring utilities, on motion by Jim Dantzler, seconded by William Robinson, and carried, the line workers received a \$4 per hour mid-year pay adjustment, effective May 1, 2026.

**APPROVAL OF RENEWABLE GENERATION VALUE**

After some discussion regarding the Renewable Generation Value, on motion by William Robinson, seconded by George Wilson, and carried, the surplus generation credit was reduced from 6.50 cents/kWh to 4.18 cents/kWh, effective January 1, 2027.

**CEO COMMENTS**

**IRRIGATION RATES DISCUSSION**

The CEO reported that a request was made to evaluate the irrigation rate meter charge. After much discussion, a motion was made by William Robinson and seconded by Jim Dantzler to reduce the daily meter charge on 3-phase irrigation accounts 20 percent. George Wilson made a motion to table the motion. The board voted 5 to 4 to table the motion.

**2026 LINEMAN RODEO**

Mr. Lowder presented images of the Cooperative personnel who participated in the 2026 Lineman Rodeo.

**MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY**

Mr. Lowder announced that the Member Satisfaction Survey is included in the April edition of the *South Carolina Living* magazine and shared a positive comment received online from a member.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by William Robinson, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

---

Jacqueline S. Shaw, Secretary

APPROVED

---

Barbara F. Weston, President