

TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

St. Matthews, South Carolina
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
May 28, 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 May 28, 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, Joe Strickland (via telephone), Gary Geiger, and Jacqueline S. Shaw. Also present were Chad T. Lowder, CEO, John Felder, General Council, Tina Turnage, VP of Finance, Frank Furtick, VP of Engineering and Operations, Louis Arsenault, VP of Technology and TriCoLink Services, Keith Scharf, VP of Safety and Loss Control, Wilford Thompson, VP of Member 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 1:56 p.m. Following the Call to Order, Willie Jeffries gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 23, 2026

On motion by Jim Dantzler, seconded by George Wilson, and carried, the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting of April 23, 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 107 new members made application for service in April 2026. Those members are now actively receiving electric service from the Cooperative. On motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Willie Jeffries, and carried, the following resolution was passed: RESOLVED, that the applications of new members for April 2026 are hereby accepted and approved.

There were 93 Final Bills sent out for the month of April 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 April 2026. Mr. Lowder also presented the safety performance record over the past five years. In addition, Mr. Lowder announced that Tri-County is currently tied for 1st Place with Black River and Edisto Co-ops in Category III of the President's Safety Contest.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Barbara Weston reported that the Audit Committee met on May 28, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. and reviewed expenses for April 2026. All accounts were found to be in order and were accepted by the Audit Committee.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No report.

ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY & BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Barbara Weston reported that the Executive Committee met today regarding the CEO Annual Review process.

UPDATES

CENTRAL UPDATE

No report.

STATEWIDE UPDATE

The CEO reminded those scheduled to attend, that the ECSC Summer Conference will be held at Wild Dunes June 1-3, 2026. Also, Mr. Lowder reported that he, Ida Dixon, and Gary Geiger attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new ECSC Training Center yesterday.

CEEUS UPDATE

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Executive Session

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

FIBER PROJECT UPDATE

The Fiber Project update was given at the TriCoLink Board Meeting which followed the Cooperative Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION - TRUSTEE ATTENDANCE AT ECSC SUMMER CONFERENCE

On motion by William Robinson, seconded by Willie Jeffries, and carried, the following Resolution was approved:

WHEREAS, the Cooperative Trustees are encouraged to attend and represent the Cooperative at regional, national, and statewide meetings;

AND WHEREAS, the following Trustees have requested permission to attend the 2026 ECSC Summer Conference at Wild Dunes Resort May 31 – June 3, 2026: Barbara Weston, Ida Dixon, Jacqueline Shaw, Gary Geiger, George Wilson, Willie Jeffries, Jim Dantzler, and Joe Strickland;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Trustees' request to attend the 2026 ECSC Summer Conference.

IMPLEMENTATION OF CREDIT CARD FEES

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the implementation of credit card fees, upon the recommendation of the Staff, the Board approved the charging of a tiered fixed fee of \$3.95 on the first \$300 and an additional \$3.95 on charges above \$300 for all transactions paid by credit card, other than auto pay and face-to-face payments. Members will be notified in the July edition of *South Carolina Living* and the charges will start in August 2026. An explanation will be printed on the back of bills.

CEO COMMENTS

Santee Payment Kiosk Update

Mr. Lowder announced that the installation of the Santee Payment Kiosk is scheduled for the week of July 6, 2026.

New Horizon Membership Update

Mr. Lowder reported that he and Tina Turnage attended a New Horizon Board Meeting. He then explained the process and time line for becoming a member of New Horizon Electric Cooperative.

2026 ACSI Member Satisfaction Survey

Mr. Lowder reported that the Cooperative achieved an ACSI score of 86%, which results in meeting one of the corporate annual strategic goals for 2026.

Organizational Update

Mr. Lowder presented an updated organization chart and gave an update of Staff and Employees.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Jacqueline S. Shaw, Secretary

APPROVED

Barbara F. Weston, President