

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

St. Matthews, South Carolina  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
August 28, 2025

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 August 28, 2025 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 (Via Webex), James R. Dantzler, Willie Jeffries, Joe Strickland (Via Webex), Gary Geiger, and Jacqueline S. Shaw. Also present were Chad T. Lowder, CEO, John Felder, General Council, Frank Furtick, VP of Engineering and Operations, Keith Scharf, VP of Safety and Loss Control, Wilford Thompson, VP of Member Services, Tina Turnage, VP of Finance, Kristen Zeigler, VP of Human Resources, and Executive Assistant, Cindy Sarratt, who recorded the minutes of the meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER – INVOCATION**

President Ida Dixon called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. Following the Call to Order, George Wilson gave the Invocation.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF July 30, 2025**

On motion by Barbara Weston, seconded by Willie Jeffries and carried, the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting of July 30, 2025 were approved.

### **REPORTS**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The System Summary Reports and Monthly Financial Statements for July 2025 for the Cooperative and TriCo Development were approved as presented by the CEO.

#### **NEW MEMBER REPORT**

The CEO reported that 105 new members made application for service in July 2025. Those members are now actively receiving electric service from the Cooperative. On motion by Jim Dantzler, seconded by Barbara Weston, and carried, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED, that the application of new members for July 2025 is hereby accepted and approved.

There were 131 Final Bills sent out for the month of July. Those members are no longer receiving electric service from the Cooperative.

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### **SAFETY REPORT**

Mr. Lowder reported that there were no Lost Time Accidents, No Hours Lost, No OSHA Recordable Accidents, no Employee Injuries, no Vehicle Accidents, and no miscellaneous accidents reported in July 2025. One Consumer Damage Claim was filed due to a neutral not connected.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Ida Dixon reported that the Audit Committee met on August 28, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. and reviewed expense accounts for July 2025. All accounts were found to be in order and the report of the Audit Committee was accepted.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

No report.

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

No report.

#### **ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **POLICY AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES**

#### **CENTRAL UPDATE**

Chad Lowder reported that Central approved looking at merging with the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina.

#### **STATEWIDE UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder reported that Mary Sheridan was elected to the NRECA Board. Also, the ECSC Board approved a study to look at merging with Central Electric Power Cooperative. Mr. Lowder met with Calhoun County Council on Monday regarding the construction of the new training center. Construction should begin in Fall 2026, with move in scheduled for some time in 2027.

#### **CEEUS UPDATE**

No Report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Executive Session: On motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Willie Jeffries, and carried, the board entered executive session to discuss confidential information. Then, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Barbara Weston, and carried, the board returned to regular session after having taken no action in executive session.

### **FIBER TO THE HOME PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Lowder gave the board an update on the Fiber to the Home Project. The \$2 E Bill and Bank Draft credit began in August. The 2021-2024 bad debts were turned over to Online Collections. The TriCoLink board will meet in September.

### **MONTHLY OUTAGE REPORT**

The CEO gave a report of severe outages that occurred in Richland County.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

On motion by Willie Jeffries, seconded by Gary Geiger, and carried, the following members were appointed to the Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the Board of Trustees to be elected at the Annual Meeting on November 15, 2025: David Clarkson, Sara Webber, Justin Conley, Gilbert Strock, Fred Stabler, Mark Smith, and Shirley King.

### **APPOINTMENT OF CREDENTIALS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE**

On motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Jim Dantzler, and carried, the following members were appointed to the Credentials and Election Committee: Bonnie Martin, Rosena Brown, Mary Randolph, Marsha Bull, Beatrice Sumter, and Henry Herlong.

### **APPOINTMENT OF OPERATION ROUNDUP BOARD MEMBERS**

The following individuals were appointed to serve on the Operation RoundUp Board:

Gary Geiger	Sheila Shanklin
Ida Dixon	Brenda Myers
Jackie Shaw	Rev. Ralph Brown
Joe Strickland	Gail Stabler
Barbara Weston	Latonia Williams

## **CEO COMMENTS**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

The CEO reminded the board of the dates for the Strategic Planning Meeting:

September 30, 2025 8:30am-3:30pm

October 1, 2025 8:30-1:00pm

**SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING**

The Audit Committee will not meet in September. The September board meeting will begin at 1:00 pm and will include a presentation of 2025 employee insurance benefits and results of the Wage and Salary Study. After the TriCoLink Board Meeting, the board will be able to tour the new Operations and Engineering Building.

**OCTOBER BOARD MEETING**

The October board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion by Barbara Weston, seconded by Willie Jeffries, and carried, the board entered executive session to receive confidential information and legal advice. Then, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by Jackie Shaw, and carried, the board returned to regular session after having taken no action in executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on motion by Gary Geiger, seconded by George Wilson, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

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Jacqueline S. Shaw, Secretary

APPROVED:

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Ida L. Dixon, President