

Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc.
October 22, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the cooperative office in Hooker, Oklahoma and virtually via Teams beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 22, 2021.

Business Items:

Presentations

Earl Ridlen III, CPA & Partner with London Witte Group LLC presented the 990 tax return via Teams.

Minutes

Minutes, and the Summary Minutes, from the Board Meeting on September 24, 2021, amended to reflect that the President of the Board did not vote on the CEO's salary increase which changed the vote numbers from "7 yes and 2 no" to "6 yes and 2 no", were approved with this change.

Executive Session

The Board adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss a potential succession plan for the corporate attorney with only the Board and Zac Perkins invited to stay.

Committee Reports:

Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) – Ronny White

Ronny White reported that the OAEC Board met on October 12. Following the Board meeting they held a Deep Dive in an effort to unite the voices for all 27 of the coops in Oklahoma.

Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC) – Larry Dunn

Larry Dunn reported that the KEC Board met on October 14 with cyber security presentations that Zac Perkins participated in, voting on a salary increase for the CEO. They are currently searching for a new Director of Safety with the impending retirement of Larry Detwiler.

Golden Spread Electric Cooperative (GSEC) – Shawn Martinez

Shawn Martinez reported that he and Zac Perkins attended the GSEC Strategic Planning Session from October 4 thru the 6, with the meetings held in San Antonio. The Board members approved strategic plan for load growth, and discussions on hedging gas supply next year.

Zac Perkins also reported on the October meeting of Group V, which consists of the original Texas Cooperatives and TCEC in TEC. Zac Perkins will represent Group V in future TEC Board Meetings.

Accounting Review Committee – Larry Dunn

Larry Dunn reported that the Accounting Review Committee met today just prior to the Board meeting to review the Account 923's - Professional Services and Trustee Expenses through September.

Motion to accept the 923 Accounts and the Trustee Expenses, both approved as presented.

Motion to continue Accounting Review Committee quarterly meetings for committee approval of the 923 Accounts and Trustee Expenses for Board approval and was approved.

Ad Hoc Benefits Committee – Ronny White

Ronny White reported that the Benefits Committee did not meet in October

Discussion Items:

CEO Update

Zac Perkins reported on the following topics:

- Attending the Region 8 meeting this week which was held in Dallas, Texas.
- OAEC “Shoot the Nations” fundraiser for the International raised \$44k. CFC discussed the economy, inflation and interest rate questions, projecting interest rate increases but not before 4th quarter of 2022 or 1st quarter of 2023.
- OAEC held a special session with Jim Matheson, NRECA CEO and he commented on cooperatives having a high opinion among legislators, along with the \$3.5T spending bill being very polarizing, and the creation of a cybersecurity dashboard to share cyber events anonymously among cooperatives to keep everyone advised.
- Sid Sperry has created a task force that includes TCEC to work toward getting the State of Oklahoma to pay the storm damages occurring over the last five or six years from the COVID funds available.

Updates were provided to the Departmental Reports posted in the Board Book.

Legal Update

Jim Fletcher provided a referral as legal counsel for TCEC.

Member Contacts

Member contacts received by the Trustees in August reported on:

A reported phone call with questions regarding the potential substation in the Felt area. Staff will contact the member with additional information.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be for the Cost-of-Service Study on Thursday, November 11 at 10:00 with additional staff attending for training purposes.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Friday, November 19, 2021.

Old Business

None to discuss.

New Business

Funeral services for Larry Hodges, a former TCEC Trustee serving 50-years from 1968 through 2018, will be held at the United Methodist Church of Forgan on Saturday, October 30 at 2:00.

In response to a question on the status of the Oklahoma Round Up (ORU) efforts it was provided that GridLiance will be making a one-time gift of \$5k.

In addition, ORU is retaining \$5k from each quarter to accumulate additional funds from which the ORU Directors could provide a larger assistance award. Staff commended the TCEC Board on their selection of ORU Directors, providing good diversity.

Zac Perkins provided an update on the realignment effort that went into effect on Monday, October 4.

Zac Perkins responded to questions from the Collegiate Delegates regarding the differences between not-for-profit vs non-profit business models and comparing them to investor-owned utilities.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, the meeting was adjourned.