

**CHOCTAW ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC**  
**P.O. Box 758 – Hugo, Oklahoma 74743**

**Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees**

The regular meeting of the board of trustees of Choctaw Electric Cooperative was held in the board room of the cooperative in Hugo, Oklahoma, May 28, 2024.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

President Brent Franks called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

The following trustees were present:

Brent Franks, District G	Jackson Ferguson, District H	Ken Autry, District I
Debbie Cody, District F	Jarred Campbell, District A	Stacy Nichols, District C
Perry Thompson, Jr., District E	Bill Woolsey, District D	

Jana Burris, District B, participated remotely.

Council for the cooperative, J. Frank Wolf, III was present. Choctaw Electric Cooperative staff present: Kooney Duncan, CEO General Manager, Tanya Roebuck, Executive Assistant, Rickey Bowen, System Administrator, and Michael Melton, Accounting/Finance Supervisor.

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Upon call from President Franks, Stacy Nichols gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Introduction of Guests**

No guests were present.

**4. Consent Items**

- a. Approval of April 30, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Authorization to Write Off April 2023 Uncollected Accounts

Motion by Stacy Nichols  
Seconded by Debbie Cody

To approve the April 30, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, and authorization to Write Off the April 2023 Uncollected Accounts in the amount of \$2,045.76.

Approved without discussion. The motion carried.

**5. Department Reports**

Kooney Duncan gave an account of department activities.

- a. Service and Construction:
  - Worked with the county to clear right-of-way for Nolia Loop Bridge Project.
  - Submitted designs for line relocation for Hwy. 70 bridge project east of Eagletown.
  - Evaluated blinking issues in Smithville area.
  - Operations and Maintenance service crews completed 419 cases.

- East and West Construction crews completed 13 cases each.
  - Staking crews completed 67 appointments system wide.
  - Staking department released 37 jobs for construction.
- b. Right of Way and Service Quality
- In-house crew cleared 7 miles in April.
  - Contract crews cleared 10.8 miles during the month of April.
  - Right of Way clearing is being hindered by the amount of rain the area has received.
- c. Safety and Technical Operations
- No lost time accidents were reported in April.
  - Hands-on-training received with Wired Up for Safety demonstration.
- d. IT System Report
- FirstNet Cellular private network is configured.
  - All substations currently on cellular communications have been converted to the private network.
  - Working with NISC on fixing missing map locations and creating city boundaries.
  - Looking at replacing all Repeaters as they are outdated to improve radio communications.
- e. Customer Service and Billing
- 1,443 service orders made in April.
  - Average wait time on incoming calls was 10 seconds.
  - 1,087 contact tracking cases created.
  - Looking at incentives to promote paperless billing.
- f. Member Services
- Buddy Ball game rescheduled for September 14, 2024.
  - Helped promote Wired Up for Safety event/video.
  - Donations given in May to the Kerbi Davis Scholarship, Ft. Towson Homecoming, Raymond Gary Lake Association, and Special Olympics.
  - 101 active Storm Shelter loans with a YTD balance of \$221,319.03.
  - Annual meeting scheduled for September 28, 2024, in Idabel at the McCurtain County Fairgrounds, Larry Brinkley Center.
  - Hosted a blood drive onsite.

**6. Raymond James Financial Review**

President Franks asked for a motion to move to the next agenda item and return to the financial review later when Craven Green arrived.

Motion by Bill Woolsey

Seconded by Jackson Ferguson

To move item 6, Raymond James Financial Review to later in the meeting.

Approved without discussion. The motion carried.

## 7. Financial Report

Michael Melton gave the April 2024 Financial report.

- April Revenue \$3,903,084, YTD revenue \$19,355,596
- April Cost of Power \$2,362,861, YTD Cost of Power \$11,849,580
- April Total Cost of Electric Service \$3,675,596, YTD Total Cost of Electric Service \$17,216,668.
- April 2024 kWh Sales 37,594,502, April 2023 kWh Sales 37,048,450
- Revenue from Electric Sales, April 2024 \$3,868,363, April 2023 \$3,856,816
- April 2024 WFEC kWh Purchased, 35,111,939, April 2023 kWh Purchased, 34,680,190
- April 2024 WFEC Average Cost per kWh \$0.0644, April 2023 WFEC Average Cost per kWh \$0.0625.

## 8. Attorney's Report

Frank Wolf reported he is working with Michael Melton to get a final opinion on loan documents to Co-Bank.

## 9. CEO Report

Mr. Duncan reported on several topics and meetings he attended.

- WFEC Committee and Board meeting
  - Cost of power is projected in the 31-32 mill range.
  - Renewed the Coal contract for the Hugo plant.
  - Hugo plant continues to be committed and running in the SPP market.
- Choctaw Electric Cooperative
  - Bids were received for the Hochatown to Bethel-477 Project.
  - Attended the grand opening for Choctaw Landing in Hochatown.
  - Allgeier, Martin and Associates continue their review of our system's substations with a meeting planned in mid-June.
  - CEC has filled three positions that were recently opened.
  - Estate capital credits paid out in April 2024 totaled \$5,422.30.

Mr. Duncan turned the floor over to Guy Dale, Supervisor of Operations and Safety and Loss, along with Jia Johnson, Director of Member Services to speak about the Wired Up for Safety Video they helped coordinate. Guy Dale stated the purpose of the video/demonstration was to help Emergency Services be more aware of the dangers they face when dealing with powerlines. Jia Johnson stated the entities involved have asked us to possibly do this type of training every year. The finished video that OAEC put together from the CEC Wired Up for Safety demonstration was shown to the board.

A short video was also shown from the Special Olympics. Choctaw Electric had two volunteers that helped out this year: Bart Tedder and Jana Burris.

## **10. Executive Session**

President Franks announced the board would convene in Executive Session to discuss personnel, contracts, and legal matters.

Motion by Ken Autry at 10:25 a.m.

Seconded by Bill Woolsey to enter Executive Session. The motion carried.

Motion by Debbie Cody at 11:05 a.m.

Seconded by Ken Autry to reconvene in regular session. The motion carried.

The meeting reconvened in regular session.

President Franks introduced Craven Green, Financial Services Auditor. Mr. Green gave an update on the Raymond James Financial accounts and the status of current investments. CEC's total portfolio is currently at \$3.5 million which is up 6.5% YTD.

## **11. Action Items**

### **a. Hochatown Workplan Conversion, WO #203245 & WO #203246**

Motion by Bill Woolsey

Seconded by Ken Autry

To give approval for CEC to move forward with JCL Power, LLC on this project based on work order estimates, and labor bids from the contractor.

The motion was approved. Motion carried.

### **b. Cooperative Family Fund**

Motion by Jackson Ferguson

Seconded by Debbie Cody

To approve the donation of \$1,000 to the Cooperative Family Fund.

The motion was approved without discussion. Motion carried.

## **12. WFEC Report**

Ken Autry gave a short report about the WFEC meeting. He reported on the difference between wind generation production at 223,000 MW and solar generation at 16,000 MW for the previous month. He stated that coal storage has been increased even more at the Hugo plant. He also reported that the WFEC board voted to increase the WFEC Fuel bank.

## **13. Other Business**


There was no other business to discuss.

14. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be discussed, upon motion made by Jarred Campbell and seconded by Perry Thompson, Jr. The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Board Expenses Reported for May 1-30, 2024.

Bill Woolsey	\$590.20
Ken Autry	\$1183.82
Stacy Nichols	\$654.52
Brent Franks	\$668.32
Debbie Cody	\$609.36
Perry Thompson, Jr.	\$547.97
Jarred Campbell	\$610.30
Jana Burris	\$1171.34
Jackson Ferguson	\$617.42

  
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President

  
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Secretary/Treasurer

6-25-24  
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Date

6-25-24  
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Date

