

****DRAFT – These minutes will be approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on March 19, 2019****

**MINUTES OF THE 81st ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERS
OF EAU CLAIRE ENERGY COOPERATIVE
MARCH 13, 2018**

The 81st regular annual meeting of the members of the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative (ECEC) was called to order by the Chair of the Board of Directors, Mr. Clarence Boettcher, at 6:00 p.m. at The Florian Gardens at 2340 Lorch Avenue in Eau Claire, WI on March 13, 2018.

WELCOME

Mr. Boettcher welcomed everyone to the annual meeting. He reminded the members to wait to complete their ballot until after each director candidate addresses the membership.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ANTHEM

Mr. Boettcher introduced Cassie Guse from Wildlands Charter School, for the singing of the National Anthem. He asked that everyone remain standing while Youth Ambassadors, Amanda Eyerly and Jordan Gilles, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS & SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The membership was introduced to the Board of Directors, as well as CEO Lynn Thompson, Attorney John Hibbard, Technology Manager Rob Weber, and Chief Administrative Officer Monica Obrycki.

Mr. Boettcher stated that Director David Myren is retiring from the Board of Directors. He asked Mr. Myren to join him at the podium where he was presented with a plaque recognizing his 42 years of service. Mr. Myren thanked the Board, Staff and membership for their support. Dana Kelroy, Editor of the WEC News magazine was invited to the podium to recognize ECEC employee Mary Kay Brevig on winning the N. F. Leifer Memorial Journalism award. This award is presented to individual cooperatives for excellence in presenting their local news.

Guests at the meeting included Dana Kelroy, Editor of the WEC News magazine and Jeff Springer, Manager of Energy Efficiency and Technical Services at Dairyland Power Cooperative.

Mr. Boettcher introduced the recipients of the \$750 Federated Youth Foundation scholarships and asked that they stand and be recognized. Mr. Boettcher asked the participants in the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative Youth Ambassadors program to stand and be recognized. Mr. Boettcher also asked the members of the Member Advisory Council to stand and be recognized.

MEETING AGENDA AND MEETING RULES

Mr. Boettcher went through housekeeping items noting that the meeting agenda and rules were published in the March, 2018 issue of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News magazine

(WEC News), and are also available on tables in the room tonight. He also noted that the Notice of the Annual Meeting was published in the same issue of the WEC News magazine. The Affidavit of Mailing was posted at the registration table. Mr. Boettcher also stated that member questions will be taken after completing the business portion of this meeting.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

The reports of the Chair, CEO, and Secretary-Treasurer were published in the March, 2018 WEC News magazine and are also available on tables in the room tonight.

QUORUM

Mr. Boettcher was informed that at least 50 members had registered, which constituted a quorum. Mr. Boettcher then declared the meeting open for business.

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mr. Boettcher appointed Attorney John Hibbard act as parliamentarian for this meeting.

CALL AND NOTICE, AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING, MINUTES

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the Notice of Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing and the Minutes, and to approve them as published in the 2018 Annual Report. Motion was seconded and carried.

VOTING

There was an explanation of the ballots and it was requested that the membership wait to vote until all director candidates have an opportunity to speak. Mr. Boettcher thanked the nominating committee, the attorney, and Cooperative staff for operating in accordance with the Bylaws in performing their work in determining the slate of candidates for this year's election.

The nominating committee is comprised of one member for each Cooperative district that is up for election. The following individuals served on the nominating committee for this year's election: Larry Sturz, Wilson Lund and Mona Mathews.

TELLERS

Mr. Boettcher called the roll of the tellers and the following were present: Doris Bremness, Larry Anderson, Jeanne Anderson, Lila Chamberlain, Noble Larson, Larry Natzke, Ron Horlacher, Rhonda Kelly and Jim Odness. The tellers had met prior to the meeting and selected Jim Odness as Chairperson. The tellers were instructed to take charge of the ballot boxes.

DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

Mr. Boettcher then turned the meeting over to the attorney, Mr. John Hibbard, to introduce each of the Director candidates for Districts 2, 4 and 6, as follows;

District #2 Robert J. Gadwill – Incumbent; unopposed

District #4 Judith Anibas – Incumbent; Kenneth Holm

District #6 Frank Neibauer; unopposed

Each candidate present was given the opportunity to address the membership for three minutes, which each candidate did. Mr. Hibbard then offered the membership the chance to speak on behalf of any candidates for a time period of up to three minutes each, with a maximum time of ten minutes. No members spoke.

CLOSE BALLOT BOX

The tellers were instructed by Mr. Hibbard to collect all ballots. A motion was made, seconded and carried to close the ballot box at 6:45 p.m., with instructions to the tellers to count absentee ballots after the close of the ballot box.

At this time, the attorney turned the meeting back over to the Chair. The Chair requested that the tellers report the voting results to him as soon as they are available. The results will be reported tonight at the meeting, on our website, and in our WEC News magazine. The Chair also stated that the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for April 4, 2018 at the Cooperative headquarters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Boettcher reminded the members of the rules of the meeting, which were published in the March 2018 issue of the WEC News magazine as part of the 2018 Annual Report. The rules of the meeting were also available to members in the meeting room tonight. He asked the members if there was any unfinished business. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Boettcher introduced and recognized the Concern for Community Award recipient, Dean Solie. Mr. Solie is an active community member serving on the following organizations: Town of Bridge Creek Town Board, Fall Creek Mutual Insurance Board, Farm Service Agency, County Land and Water Commission, Augusta Bridge Creek Fire Department Board, Augusta Lions Club, Augusta FFA and Augusta FFA Alumni. Mr. Solie also serves on ECEC's Member Advisory Council. ECEC thanked Mr. Solie for his time and dedication to his community!

Mr. Boettcher then introduced the guest speaker Jeff Springer, Manager of Energy Efficiency and Technical Services at Dairyland Power Cooperative. Mr. Springer presented on electric vehicles including the types of cars available in the market, how electric vehicle charging works and the impact on electric cooperative. He took several questions from the membership regarding electric vehicles.

Mr. Boettcher then asked if there was any new business to come before the membership.

Hearing none, he declared the business session closed and turned the floor over to CEO Thompson to hear any questions from the members.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Mr. Thompson then explained that he would first answer signed questions that had been deposited in the question box. He and other ECEC staff answered written and oral questions regarding the following topics: vegetation management and spraying program, broadband internet to rural areas, LED light usage and grid security. He also encouraged all members to contact him, or any of the management staff, if they have any questions in the future.

CHAIR'S THANK YOU

Mr. Boettcher thanked the members, the Cooperative employees, The Florian Gardens staff, the scholarship winners, the Youth Ambassadors, the Member Advisory Council, and the guests in attendance for making the 81st annual meeting of the Cooperative a success. He announced that the 82nd annual meeting of the Cooperative will be held on March 19, 2019 at The Florian Gardens.

ADJOURN

Mr. Boettcher requested a motion to adjourn the 81st Annual Meeting. That motion was made, seconded and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

PRIZES AWARDED

Mr. Thompson invited the members to stay for dinner after announcement of the prize winner names. Ten winners received \$100.00 in cash. The cash prize winners are listed as follows: Ernest Vogler, Beverly Hardy, Jason Boyarski, Raymond Francis, Sandra Wathke, Frank Neibauer, Margot Bouchard, Edward Insteness, Dale Petersilka and Donna Johnson.

TELLERS' REPORT

Mr. Boettcher read the results of the Director election, as reported by the chairperson of the tellers. The following voting results were reported to the membership:

District No. 2 Robert J. Gadwill was elected with 189 votes

District No. 4 Judith Anibas was elected with 130 votes over Kenneth Holm with 63 votes

District No. 6 Frank Neibauer was elected with 188 votes

Each of these directors will serve for three (3) years. The original teller report is affixed to these minutes. A signed copy of the teller report is in the 2018 Annual Meeting File.

Judith Anibas, Secretary