# MINUTES OF THE 82<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF EAU CLAIRE ENERGY COOPERATIVE MARCH 19, 2019

The 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 19, 2019.

#### **WELCOME**

Mr. Boettcher welcomed everyone to the annual meeting.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ANTHEM

Mr. Boettcher introduced Taylor Staves. Staves is the son of co-op employee and member, Randy Staves. Taylor Staves sang the National Anthem. Mr. Boettcher asked that everyone remain standing while Youth Ambassadors Jordan Gilles, Amanda Eyerly, Iris Adams, Connor Camleck, Shaylee Beckfield, Sawyer Frieburg and Tim Campbell, 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.

Guests at the meeting included Mary Erickson, Associate Editor of the WEC News magazine and Representative Warren Petryk of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District.

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, 2019 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, 2019 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 2019 Annual Report. Motion was seconded and carried.

#### **VOTING**

There was an explanation of the ballots. 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: Jeanne Chromey, Dean Solie, and Anne Volbrecht.

#### **TELLERS**

Mr. Boettcher called the roll of the tellers and the following were present: Linda Goss, Larry Anderson, Jeanne Anderson, Lila Chamberlain, Bonnie Isaacson, Wilson Lund, Thomas Lindgren, Rhonda Kelly and James Odness. The tellers had met prior to the meeting and selected James 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. Mr. Hibbard explained that it is unusual not to have opposition for any of the incumbents. He explained the efforts that are made to seek out candidates. He introduced each of the Director candidates for Districts 3, 7 and 9, as follows;

<u>District #3</u> Mike Schummer – Incumbent; unopposed

District #7 Andrew Bourget – Incumbent; unopposed

District #9 Clarence Boettcher – Incumbent; 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 Ms. Anibas 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 March 20, 2019 at the Cooperative headquarters.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mr. Boettcher reminded the members of the rules of the meeting, which were published in the March 2019 issue of the WEC News magazine as part of the 2019 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, Ken King. Ken King is a retired nursing home administrator and is heavily involved in the local Cleghorn Lions Club. He has held various leadership positions and has been recognized on the national level for his positive actions with the Lions. He is deeply committed to his church and is active in the Member Advisory Council at Eau Claire Energy Cooperative. Congratulations, Mr. King!

Mr. Boettcher then introduced a safety video produced by ECEC employees and Valley Media Works. The video was shown.

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, miles of line on

ECEC's system, line safety with fishing lures, and electric vehicle and broadband plans. 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 82<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Cooperative a success. He announced that the 83<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting of the Cooperative will be held on March 17, 2020 at The Florian Gardens.

#### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Boettcher requested a motion to adjourn the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting. That motion was made, seconded and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 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: Tammy Johnson, David Seanor, Ken King, Angela Kent, Gary R. Johnson, Ed Risler, Randy Sands, Lila Chamberlain, Jim Lau, and Carol Sessions

#### 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. 3 Michael Schummer was elected with 176 votes

District No. 7 Andrew Bourget was elected with 180 votes

District No. 9 Clarence Boettcher was elected with 175 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 2019 Annual Meeting File.

Judith Anibas, Secretary