

****DRAFT – These minutes will be approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on March 15, 2022****

**MINUTES OF THE 84TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERS
OF EAU CLAIRE ENERGY COOPERATIVE
MARCH 16, 2021**

The 84th regular annual meeting of the members of the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative (ECEC) was a virtual electronic meeting called to order by the Chair of the Board of Directors, Mr. Clarence Boettcher, at 6:02 p.m. via the virtual meeting platform, Perigon, at WIN Technology at 4955 Bullis Farm Road in Eau Claire, WI on March 16, 2021.

WELCOME

Mr. Boettcher welcomed everyone to the annual meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Boettcher introduced students from Altoona High School, Nick Engen, Brianna Lima, Shaylee Beckfield and Ashley Kaszubowski who led the pledge of allegiance.

OVERVIEW OF MEETING FORMAT

The membership was introduced to the Board of Directors, as well as CEO Lynn Thompson and Attorney John Hibbard. Mr. Boettcher stated that the Notice of the Annual Meeting, meeting agenda and rules were published in the March 2021 issue of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News magazine (WEC News). He explained that he will give the membership an overview of how the cooperative handled the events of 2020, show videos of the candidates up for election and answer member questions that were submitted before the meeting.

REVIEW OF 2020

Mr. Boettcher reviewed the events of 2020 and how the cooperative handled them, explaining that ECEC did not hold an annual meeting in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that since the 2019 Annual Meeting there were no bylaw changes, no significant business items to address to the membership and all three candidates up for election in 2020 were unopposed.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

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

BUSINESS REPORTS

Mr. Boettcher stated the business reports were published in the WEC News magazine in March 2021 including a combined Board Chair and CEO report, summary of the Cooperative's

financials and minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting. The Notice of the Annual Meeting was placed in the Annual Report and the Affidavit of Mailing was posted at the Cooperative headquarters. He also reported that no questions or comments about these matters had been submitted by members.

ELECTION PROCEDURES AND BALLOTS

The election was taking place via mail-in ballots and members were encouraged to send their ballots in immediately following this meeting. Mr. Boettcher explained how ECEC's attorney, Mr. John Hibbard, and the Cooperative staff operated in accordance with the Bylaws working with the Nomination Committee 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, Mona Mathews and Wilson Lund. Mr. Boettcher thanked them for their service on the nominating committee.

CANDIDATE PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Boettcher then introduced each of the Director candidates for Districts 2, 4 and 6. He explained the candidates in Districts 4 and 6 prepared pre-recorded remarks to share with the membership and noted that District 2 was unopposed and therefore there is no video or ballot for that district.

<u>District #2</u>	Michael Golat – Incumbent; unopposed
<u>District #4</u>	Judith Anibas – Incumbent; Kenneth Holm
<u>District #6</u>	Frank Neibauer – Incumbent; Christopher Becker

The membership watched the videos of the candidate presentations.

Mr. Boettcher reminded the membership to mail the ballots in immediately as they need to be received by the accounting firm that is counting the returned ballots no later than 4:00 PM on March 24th.

Mr. Boettcher explained that the results of the election will be published on the Cooperative's Facebook page, the website and at the Cooperative headquarters by Friday, March 26th. The results will also be published in the May issue of the WEC News magazine.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Boettcher reiterated that a repeat of the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes were in the March 2021 WEC News magazine and that the Cooperative received no additions or corrections. He explained that in the February issue of the WEC News magazine were the published

amendments to the Bylaws effective in December of 2020. The members had the opportunity to repeal or amend the changes. No motions or request for amendment or repeal of those changes have been received.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Mr. Boettcher recognized the 2020 recipient of the Concern for Community Award, Mark Zuber. He was nominated for his extensive service to the community. He is the clerk for the Town of Drammen and serves on two Eau Claire County committees. He performs maintenance for the Drammen Lutheran Church and is the secretary of the Fall Creek Mutual Insurance Board. Mr. Boettcher, on behalf of the Cooperative, thanked him for his Concern for Community.

Mr. Boettcher then turned the floor over to CEO Thompson to answer the pre-submitted questions from members.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Mr. Thompson thanked the members who submitted questions prior to the Annual meeting. He reminded the membership that if a question should ever arise to please call the Cooperative office. Mr. Thompson answered questions regarding broadband and political contributions.

PRIZES AWARDED

Mr. Boettcher named the 10 winners who will receive \$100. He explained the names were drawn randomly from those who were registered and in attendance. The prize winners are as follows: William Kraft, Wayne Janusiak, Ken King, Brian Pederson, Daniel Brandner, Melissa Petz, Bandi Henke, Robert Morse, Gregory Sieg, Linda Goss.

ADJOURN

Mr. Boettcher thanked the members for attending the virtual Annual Meeting. He announced that the 85th annual meeting of the Cooperative will be held on March 15, 2022 at The Florian Gardens.

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Judith Anibas, Secretary