

**MINUTES OF THE 86th ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE MEMBERS  
OF EAU CLAIRE ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
MARCH 21, 2023**

The 86th 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 21, 2023.

WELCOME

Mr. Boettcher welcomed everyone to the annual meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ANTHEM

Mr. Boettcher introduced Addison Engstrom. Ms. Engstrom sang the National Anthem. Mr. Boettcher asked that everyone remain standing while Youth Ambassador, Nora Camlek led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS & SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Board of Directors, CEO Monica Obrycki, Attorney John Hibbard, and Corporate Secretary Jeni Thorpe were introduced to those attending the meeting.

Mr. Boettcher introduced the recipients of the \$1,000 Federated Youth Foundation scholarships and asked that they 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 2023 issue of the WEC News magazine mailed to all members and 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 behind the registration tables. 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 Board Chair, CEO, and Secretary-Treasurer were published in the March 2023 WEC News magazine and are also available on tables in the room tonight.

QUORUM

To constitute a quorum, at least 50 members must register and attend. Mr. Boettcher was informed that there were 171 voting members registered and in attendance, which constituted a quorum. Mr. Boettcher then declared the meeting open for business.

## PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mr. Boettcher appointed Attorney John Hibbard to act as the 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 2023 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 from each Cooperative district that is up for election. The following individuals served on the nominating committee for this year's election: Larry Marquardt, Bonnie Issacson, and Rhonda Kelly

## TELLERS

Mr. Boettcher called the roll of the tellers and the following were present: Linda Goss, Jeff Schmid, Ben Thompson, Mona Mathews, George Isaacson, Wilson Lund, Lawrence Roeder, Deb Short, and Jim Odness. The tellers met prior to the meeting and selected Jim Odness as their 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 1, 5, and 8, as follows;

<u>District No. 1</u>	Thomas Schwartz (Incumbent); unopposed
<u>District No. 5</u>	Joseph Becker (Incumbent); Charlene Warner
<u>District No. 8</u>	Jeffrey Frieburg (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 the WEC News magazine. The Chair also stated that the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for March 29, 2023 at the Cooperative headquarters.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Boettcher reminded the members of the rules of the meeting, which were published in the March 2023 issue of the WEC News magazine as part of the 2023 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, Joe, “Dudley” Smith. Mr. Smith has extensive dedication to the community, serving on the Augusta School Board for 21 years, been involved in the Farm Service Agency and a strong advocate for the agriculture community. Mr. Smith’s granddaughter, Addison Engstrom accepted the award on his behalf as he was unable to attend the annual meeting.

Mr. Boettcher turned the floor over to CEO Monica Obrycki to discuss how Eau Claire Energy Cooperative has served and provided excellent service to its members through the Seven Cooperative Principles. Ms. Obrycki discussed near record growth, member engagement, community service, and more.

Mr. Boettcher then addressed the membership and asked if there was any new business to come before the membership. Hearing none, he declared the business session closed and turned the floor to Ms. Obrycki for the question and answer session of the meeting.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Ms. Obrycki explained that she would first answer signed questions that had been deposited in the question box. She was informed there was one written question regarding the WEC News magazine monthly symbol search. Ms. Obrycki also encouraged all members to contact her, 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 recipients, the Youth Ambassadors and the Member Advisory Council in attendance for making the 86th annual meeting of the Cooperative a success. He announced that

the 87th annual meeting of the Cooperative will be held on March 19, 2024 at The Florian Gardens.

#### ADJOURN

Mr. Boettcher requested a motion to adjourn the 86th Annual Meeting. That motion was made, seconded, and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

#### PRIZES AWARDED

Ms. Obrycki invited the members to stay for dinner after announcement of the prize winners. Winners received \$100.00 in cash. The cash prize winners are listed as follows: Adam Wehling, J Todd Berg, Nancy Spehle, Maureen Ziemann, Lorenz Dekan, Bonnie Jackson, Bonnie Peterson, Patrick Kline, Suzanna Mayer.

#### TELLERS' REPORT

Ms. Anibas 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. 1 Thomas Schwartz was elected with 167 votes

District No. 5 Joseph Becker was elected with 134 votes; Charlene Warner had 37 votes

District No. 8 Jeffrey Frieburg was elected with 164 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 2023 Annual Meeting file.

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Judith Anibas, Secretary