

****DRAFT – These minutes will be approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on March 16, 2027****

**MINUTES OF THE 89th ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERS
OF EAU CLAIRE ENERGY COOPERATIVE
MARCH 17, 2026**

The 89th regular annual meeting of the members of the Eau Claire Energy Cooperative (ECEC) was called to order by the Board Chair Andrew Bourget, at 5:30 p.m. at The Florian Gardens at 2340 Lorch Avenue in Eau Claire, WI on March 17, 2026. All cooperative directors were present except for John Zmuda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ANTHEM

Mr. Bourget introduced Braylee Unser to sing the national anthem. He asked those in the audience who were able to stand for the singing of the National Anthem and remain standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAFETY MOMENT

Mr. Bourget provided several key safety messages that included emergency routes in case of severe weather or fire and the location of an A.E.D. in case of a medical emergency.

INTRODUCTIONS & SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Board of Directors, CEO Monica Obrycki, Attorney Dustin Von Ruden, Corporate Secretary, Executive Assistant and Human Resources Administrator Jeni Thorpe, and Technology & Member Services Manager Rob Weber along with the additional members of the leadership team CFO Kyle Rasmussen, Operations Manager Lee Alberson, Engineering Manager Ben Krambeer, and Marketing and Communications Coordinator Taylor Skibba were introduced to those attending the meeting.

Mr. Bourget introduced the special guests in attendance that evening including, Rob Richards, CEO of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA), Wendy Fassbind Director of Education and Events at WECA, Beth Alesch, Associate Editor at WECA and ECEC's official photographer for the meeting, and local legislators in attendance.

Mr. Bourget introduced the recipients of the \$1,000 Federated Youth Foundation scholarships in attendance and asked that they stand and be recognized. Mr. Bourget also asked the members of the Member Advisory Council to stand and be recognized.

MEETING AGENDA AND MEETING RULES

Mr. Bourget discussed housekeeping items noting that the meeting agenda and rules were

published in the March 2026 issue of the WEC News magazine mailed to all members and available on each table. 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. Bourget also stated that members' questions will be taken after completing the business portion of this meeting.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

The reports of the Board Chair, CEO, and finances were published in the March 2026 WEC News magazine and are also available on tables in the room.

QUORUM

To constitute a quorum, at least 50 members must register and attend. Mr. Bourget was informed that there were 119 voting members registered and 209 in attendance, which constituted a quorum. Mr. Bourget then declared the meeting open for business.

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Mr. Bourget appointed Mr. Von Ruden to act as the parliamentarian for the 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 2026 Annual Report. Motion seconded and carried.

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: Josh Isaacson, Rhonda Kelly, and Mike Newby.

DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

Mr. Bourget then turned the meeting over to Mr. Von Ruden. Mr. Von Ruden explained the Cooperative's nomination process. He explained the efforts that are made to seek out candidates and stated that in the Cooperative's best efforts along with the nominating committee's efforts. This year, due to a late withdrawal of candidacy, there was no opposition to any candidate in any district. Since there was no opposition, based on the Cooperative Bylaws, there will be no vote, and all directors are elected by acclamation.

Mr. Von Ruden introduced each of the Director candidates for Districts 1, 5, and 7, as follows:

<u>District No. 1</u>	Thomas Schwartz (Incumbent); unopposed
<u>District No. 5</u>	Joseph Becker (Incumbent); unopposed
<u>District No. 7</u>	Jeffrey Frieburg (Incumbent); unopposed

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

At this time, the attorney turned the meeting over to the Chair. The Chair stated that the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for March 25, 2026 at the Cooperative headquarters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Bourget reminded the members of the rules of the meeting, which were published in the March 2026 issue of the WEC News magazine as part of the 2026 Annual Report. The rules of the meeting were also available to members at their tables. He asked the members if there was any unfinished business. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bourget stated there were no bylaw changes since the last annual meeting. Additionally, there were no requests for new business items.

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY RECIPIENT

Mr. Bourget explained that a selection committee was formed for the Concern for Community award to review and select the nominee. This year's committee consisted of Ken Bolton, Pat Murphy, and Deb Fischer. Mr. Bourget introduced and recognized the 12th annual Concern for Community Award recipient, Patty George. Ms. George was nominated as a dedicated member of the Mondovi community through her impact and commitment to youth and agriculture, specifically in 4-H.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Bourget turned the floor over to CEO Monica Obrycki. Ms. Obrycki explained that the presentation this year will focus on the employees of ECEC and their commitment to the cooperative and the membership. Ms. Obrycki welcomed a panel of employees up to the stage: Beth West, Billing Coordinator; Adam Westaby, Member services Associate; Arik Arnevik, Operations technician; Josh Vaningan, Line Superintendent. The panel provided insight in the day-to-day operations of ECEC on topics such as member interactions, outage response specific to their roles, and their favorite part about ECEC.

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Ms. Obrycki explained that she would first answer signed questions that had been deposited in the

question box. She reintroduced the leadership team. Member questions consisted of capital credits received from other organizations, tax and licensing fees, data centers, outage causes, rates specifically associated with large users, and criteria on whether ECEC builds overhead or underground lines. Ms. Obrycki also encouraged all members to contact her, or any of the management staff, if they ever have questions regarding the cooperative or the energy industry.

PRIZES AWARDED

Winners received \$100.00 in cash. The cash prize winners are listed as follows: Michele Komp, Paul Nelsetuen, Janet Westphal, Hal Swanstrom, Sadie Remington, Patty George, Carlotta King, Allen Strey, Rhonda Kelly, and Scott Sye.

CHAIR'S THANK YOU

Mr. Bourget thanked the employees at ECEC, members, The Florian Garden staff, and all those in attendance for making this year's annual meeting of the Cooperative a success. He announced that the 90th annual meeting of the Cooperative will be held on March 16, 2027 at The Florian Gardens.

ADJOURN

Mr. Bourget requested a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting. That motion was made, seconded, and carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Frank Neibauer, Secretary