

Berkeley Electric Cooperative  
Board Meeting  
October 26, 2020  
Minutes

The Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustee's meeting was held **Monday, October 26, 2020 at 1:00 P.M.** at the Headquarters in Moncks Corner Room.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brunson, Mr. Gourdine gave the invocation.

The following Trustees were present:

<b>Harry A. Brunson</b>	<b>Connie Shuler</b>	<b>Henry H. Chavis, Sr.</b>
<b>Willis Sanders</b>	<b>George McFadden</b>	<b>H. Wayne DeWitt</b>
<b>Sam Gourdine</b>	<b>Robert Vandross</b>	<b>Carol Caddell</b>

President & CEO Michael Fuller, Executive Administrator Ashley Edens and the following staff; VP of Finance Joel Stevens and the VP of Engineering and Operations Tim Mobley and General Counsel John B. Williams were in attendance as well.

Chairman Brunson called for approval of minutes from September's board meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Mr. Chavis, and unanimously passed; it was **RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the minutes of the September 28, 2020 Board Meeting as presented.**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Central Meeting Report – Wayne DeWitt**

Mr. DeWitt reviewed the topics that were discussed at the Central Board Meeting this month.

#### **Audit Committee-Ms. Caddell**

Ms. Caddell stated that the Committee had reviewed expenses for Board and staff and recommend board approval. Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. DeWitt and unanimously passed; it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the expense reports that were submitted during the audit committee.**

**ECSC Board Report-Mr. Sanders**

Mr. Sanders presented information from ECSC and there was no action necessary.

**2020 Virtual NRECA Regional Update-Mr. Sanders**

Mr. Sanders gave up an update on what information was covered during the virtual NRECA Regional meeting.

**Financial Reports- Mr. Stevens**

Mr. Stevens reviewed the financial reports from August 2020. There was some discussion, but no decisions were made.

**President/CEO Reports-**

**2021 Strategic Plan -Mr. Fuller**

Mr. Fuller discussed bringing in Brian Singletary to set up a 2021 Strategic Plan Meeting for the Board and Staff. Mr. Fuller asked if the week of February 15<sup>th</sup> would work for everyone? The Board agreed that Thursday and Friday of that week would work best.

**Annual Meeting Update-Mr. Plowden**

Mr. Plowden reviewed the details for the 2020 Annual Meeting plans, including the details for the early voting registrations and drive-thru maps.

**Johns Island Task Force and Transmission Line-Mr. Mobley**

The Johns Island Task Force is a coalition of community members, landowners and nonprofit organizations dedicated to promoting the welfare of the diverse and vibrant community of Johns Island by providing places dedicated to traditional land uses including culture, history, agriculture, forestry and outdoor recreation.

The Chairman then called for an Executive session and upon motion by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Mr. McFadden and unanimously passed, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss several contract bids. Upon a motion, second and unanimously passed the Board came out of Executive session, no action was taken in the Executive Session. The following items were approved by the board: Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles Contract, Underground Line Inspection and Testing Contract and Annual Overhead Line Patrol Contract.

**Underground Line Inspection and Testing Contract-Mr. Mobley**

Mr. Mobley reviewed the bids. McLean Engineering Company and has been doing this work for us since 2016, when they were the lowest bid out of four (4) bidders. Their increases have been no more than the cost of living each year since then and they have continued to do a great job for us. Mr. Mobley stated that they are recommending that we award our Underground and Testing Contract for January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022 to McLean for \$360, 000 (approximately \$180,000 per year). Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine and unanimously passed; it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves awarding the contract to McLean Engineering the 2021-2022 Underground Line Inspection and Testing Contract. This labor only contract total amount is \$360,000 (approximately \$180,000 per calendar year). The materials are to be furnished by Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles Contract-Mr. Mobley**

Mr. Mobley is recommending that we award our Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles Contract to Osmose for January 2021-December 2022 for \$248,000 (approximately \$124,000 per year). Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine and unanimously passed; it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves awarding the contract to Osmose Utilities Services, Inc., the January 2021- December, 2022 Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles. This labor only contract total amount is \$248,000 (approximately \$124,000 per calendar year). The materials are to be furnished by Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Annual Overhead Line Patrol-Mr. Mobley**

Mr. Mobley is recommending that we award our Overhead Line Patrol Contract to McCall-Thomas for January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for \$110,750. This is a 4.7% increase over 2020 but still under our budget for 2021 for this service. Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine and unanimously passed; it was

**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves awarding the contract to McCall-Thomas Engineering Company, Inc. the January 1, 2021-December 31, 2021 Annual Overhead Line Patrol Contract. This labor only contract total amount is \$110,750. The materials are to be furnished by Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Attorney Report-Mr. Williams**

Chairman Brunson called for the Attorney's Report, and Mr. Williams informed the Board of several cases which did not require any action by the Board.

**Review of Lease on Property Occupied by Propane-Mr. Williams**

Mr. Williams discussed that the Propane company has a lease on the building they are occupying. The lease agreement was for three years 2017-2020. Mr. Williams recommending extending the lease to March of 2021. Upon motion by Mr. Gourdine and seconded by Mrs. Shuler.


**RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby approves extending the lease agreement to March 2021 for the property occupied by Propane.**

**New Business-**

The Chairman then called for new business. The next board meeting will be held on November 30, 2020.

**Old Business – None.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harry A. Brunson", written over a horizontal line.

Harry A. Brunson, Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Wayne Dewitt", written over a horizontal line.

H. Wayne Dewitt, Secretary