# Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board Meeting December 16, 2022 Minutes

The Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustee's meeting was held Friday,

December 16, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. at the Wampee Conference Center.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman DeWitt, Mr. Sanders gave the invocation and we stood to honor the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Trustees were present:

Connie Shuler	Henry H. Chavis, Sr.	Robert Vandross
Willis Sanders	H. Wayne DeWitt	Lee Clayton
Sam Gourdine	Sheila Powell	Bob Jenkins

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

Chairman DeWitt called for approval of minutes from the November board meeting which was held on November 28, 2022. Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Chavis, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the minutes of the November 28, 2022, as presented.

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **ECSC Board Report-Willis Sanders**

Mr. Sanders stated that the ECSC board meeting was held at Winter Conference in Greenville on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sanders discussed several topics that were discussed at the board meeting.

## Central Meeting Report – Mr. DeWitt

Mr. DeWitt stated there was no Central meeting this month.

## **CEEUS Meeting Report-Mr. Gourdine**

Mr. Gourdine stated that CEEUS had their board meeting in Greenville at Winter Conference on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gourdine briefly went over the year end auditor's report. The CEEUS Equipment Tradeshow will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Financial Reports- Mr. Stevens**

Mr. Stevens reviewed the financial reports from October 2022. Mr. Stevens reviewed over portions of the statement of operations and the balance on the Form 7.

#### President/CEO Reports-Mr. Fuller

## 2023 Budget Approval-

Chairman DeWitt then turned the meeting over to Mr. Fuller. Mr. Fuller then asked Mr. Stevens to present the 2023 Budget to the Board. After a thorough discussion and questions for clarification, upon a motion by Mr. Clayton, seconded by Mr. Chavis and unanimously passed; it was

#### **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the 2023 Budget as presented.

#### 2022 Utility Tax Credit Resolution-Mr. Fuller

Mr. Fuller requested that we provide \$100,000 to Dorchester County. We had originally proposed that we provide this money to Berkeley County, but the project did not meet the infrastructure qualifications. Upon motion by Mr. Chavis, seconded by Mr. Sanders and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves that Berkeley Electric Cooperative will pay \$100,000.00 in utility tax credits to Dorchester County pending it meets eligible infrastructure qualifications for 2022.

### 2021 Write Offs-Mrs. Langdon

Mrs. Langdon discussed the 2021 write off information to the board. This year we need approval to write off \$260,833.35. Upon motion by Mr. Clayton, seconded by Mr. Vandross and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approve the write-offs for 2021 in the amount of \$260,833.35.

### Attorney Report-Mr. Williams

Mr. Williams then advised the Chairman that the election of officers for 2023 needed to be held. The election of officers and delegates for CEE-US, CENTRAL, STATEWIDE, NRECA, NRUCFC, NRTC, and SC TRUSTEE ASSOCIATION would be by secret ballot. The election was conducted by secret ballot and the results were as follows: Chairman – H. Wayne DeWitt

Vice Chairman – Willis Sanders

Secretary/Treasurer – Connie Shuler

**Cee-us/Line Equipment** – Sam Gourdine

Central – Wayne DeWitt

Statewide - Willis Sanders

NRECA – Sheila Powell

NRUCFC – Sam Gourdine

NRTC – Robert Vandross

SC Trustee Assn. – Connie Shuler

Touchstone – Henry Chavis

Mr. Michael Fuller will serve as the alternate delegate for all statewide and national organizations for Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Upon motion by Mr. DeWitt, seconded by Mr. Gourdine and unanimously passed; it was

## **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby confirms the appointments listed above.

Mr. Williams advised the Chairman that the appointments for the Berkeley Electric Trust Board members also needed to be addressed.

All Board members elected to retain their current members on the Trust Board with the exception of District 5. Mr. Clayton elected Mr. Mavon Jernigan for District 5.

DISTRICT NO. 1 -Robert Vandross	Queen Wilson
DISTRICT NO. 2 –Sheila Powell	Barbara Singleton
DISTRICT NO. 3-H. Wayne DeWitt	William Jones
DISTRICT NO. 4- Sam Gourdine	Alton Rudy Hood
<b>DISTRICT NO. 5-</b> Denver Clayton	Mavon Jernigan Jr.
DISTRICT NO. 6- Willis Sanders	Latonia Brothers
DISTRICT NO. 7-Connie Shuler	James Donald Graham
<b>DISTRICT NO. 8-Robert Jenkins</b>	William Smoak

DISTRICT NO. 9- Henry H. Chavis, Sr. Samuel Brownlee Jr.

Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, and seconded by Mr. Clayton, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has approved the proposed list of members for the Trust Board.

Mr. Williams discussed a few legal cases that he is working on.

## **New Business-**

The Chairman then called for new business. There was none.

## **Old Business – None.**

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

## **Resolutions Presented to the Retirees-Mr. Fuller**

Resolution for Suzanne Hill-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Suzanne Hill has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during her tenure as a valued employee from July 1991 until December 2022; and WHEREAS, Ms. Hill has exhibited exemplary dedication to Cooperative activities during her tenure of service as a Work Order Clerk from 1991 until 1998, Billing Clerk from 1998 until 2013, Billing Specialist from 2013 until 2022; and

WHEREAS, her many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative and its membership during her tenure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Suzanne Hill, for her many years of service to the membership of the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to her. ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO.

Resolution for Janet Lewis-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Janet Lewis has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during her tenure as a valued employee from November 1999 to December 2022; and WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis has exhibited exemplary enthusiasm and dedication to Cooperative activities during her tenure of service as a Customer Service Representative C from 1999 to 2001, Customer Service Representative B from 2001 to 2008, Call Center Representative from 2008 to 2010, Call Center Representative A from 2010 to 2013, System Controller B from 2013 to 2019, System Controller A from 2019 to 2022; and

WHEREAS, her many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative during her tenure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Janet Lewis, for her many years of service to the membership of the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to her.

ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO. Resolution for Tony Simmons-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Tony Simmons has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during his tenure as Goose Creek District Line Superintendent and a valued employee from October 1984 to December 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Simmons has exhibited exemplary leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication to Cooperative activities during his tenure of service as a Lineman Helper from 1984 to 1986, Lineman Apprentice from 1986 to 1989, Second Class Lineman from 1989 to 1991, First Class Lineman from 1991 to 1997, Crew Leader from 1997 to 2007, District Line Superintendent in the cooperative's largest district from 2007 to 2022, and has contributed to the advancement of the Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, his many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, as a Goose Creek District Line Superintendent, he has provided outstanding leadership and guidance to his colleagues and has given generously of his energy and many talents to Berkeley Electric Cooperative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Tony Simmons, for his thirtyeight years of service to the membership of the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to him.

ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO. Resolution for Paul Elsey-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Paul Elsey has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during his tenure as a valued employee from January 1993 to December 2022; and WHEREAS, Mr. Elsey has exhibited exemplary enthusiasm and dedication to Cooperative activities during his tenure of service as a Meter Reader/Collector B from 1993 to 1995, Meter Reader/Collector A from 1995 to 1998, Service Planner B from 1998 to 2001, Service Planner A from 2001 to 2022; and

WHEREAS, his many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative during his tenure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Paul Elsey, for his many years of service to the membership of the Cooperative. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to him.

ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO. Resolution for Bouvia Rembert-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Bouvia Rembert has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during his tenure as a valued employee from August 1986 to December 2022; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rembert has exhibited exemplary leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication to Cooperative activities during his tenure of service as a System Controller/Drafter B from 1986 to 1993, System Controller/Drafter A from 1993 to 2000, Supervisor of System Control from 2000 to 2022, and has contributed to the advancement of the Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, his many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative during his tenure;

WHEREAS, as Supervisor of System Control, he has provided outstanding leadership and guidance to his colleagues and has given generously of his energy and talents to Berkeley Electric Cooperative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Bouvia Rembert, for his thirty-six years of service to the membership of the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to him.

ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO.

Resolution for Harry Brunson-Mr. Fuller

WHEREAS, Harry A. Brunson has given distinguished service to Berkeley Electric Cooperative during his tenure as a valued trustee from 1989 to December 2022; and WHEREAS, Mr. Brunson has exhibited exemplary dedication to the guidance of the cooperative during his tenure as a Board Trustee and serving as Chairman from 2004-2021, and as a Certified and Credentialed Board Member; and

WHEREAS, his many contributions have been of especial value in the development and enhancement of the Cooperative and its membership which doubled in size under his tenure; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Electric Cooperative President and CEO and Board of Trustees formally acknowledge and express profound appreciation, high commendation, and sincere best wishes to Harry Brunson, for his many years of service to the membership of the Cooperative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread up on the records of the minutes of the Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and that a copy thereof be duly executed and transmitted to him.

ADOPTED BY THE BERKELEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, TWENTY-THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO.

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H. Wayne DeWitt, Chairman

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Connie Shuler, Secretary