

Berkeley Electric Cooperative
Board Meeting
November 28, 2022
Minutes

The Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustee's meeting was held **Monday, November 28, 2022, at 1:00 P.M.** at the Moncks Corner Headquarters.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman DeWitt, Mr. Gourdine 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 Marketing and Government Affairs Tony Vincent, Manager of Key Accounts and Economic Development Bert Walling, Director of Engineering and Technical Services Chris Rutledge, Manager of Vegetation Operations Adam Bradshaw as well as General Counsel John B. Williams were in attendance.

Chairman DeWitt called for approval of minutes from the October board meeting which was held on October 24, 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 October 24, 2022, as presented.

2022 Utility Tax Credit Request -Mr. Vincent and Mr. Walling

Mr. Walling stated that as of March 31, 2022, SC legislation increased the maximum annual license tax credit from \$400,000 to \$600,000. Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc. now has \$600,000 utility tax credit annually for eligible infrastructure projects. First request is to provide \$500,000 to Dorchester County, Collette Industrial Development Site to improve water and sewer to attract new projects. The second request is to provide \$100,000 to an existing member and commercial load, Gerber Childrenswear in Berkeley County. Gerber is expanding with 71 new jobs and 10.5 million investments, pending qualifications. The third request is for (2023) for \$600,000 to Berkeley County for Project Drift that will bring 3.5 billion capital investment and 1,800 new jobs.

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 \$500,000.00 in utility tax credits to Dorchester County and \$100,000.00 to Berkeley County, pending it meets eligible infrastructure qualifications for 2022. The third request was for the Board to approve \$600,000 to Berkeley County for Project Drift in 2023.

Community Room Access-

Mr. Fuller discussed several concerns with the community room access. The Board asked several questions for clarifications and there was no action taken.

Committee Reports

ECSC Board Report-Willis Sanders

Mr. Sanders stated there was no meeting this month. Winter Conference is scheduled for next week in Greenville. There is an app that you can download for the conference to get any updates.

Central Meeting Report – Mr. DeWitt

Mr. DeWitt reviewed over several items that were discussed at the last Central board meeting. There was no legal report from Mr. Tiencken. Mr. Brantley will be retiring at the end of the year and has been with Central for 20 years.

CEEUS Meeting Report-Mr. Gourdine

Mr. Gourdine stated there was no CEEUS board meeting this month. They will meet in Greenville at Winter Conference.

Financial Reports- Mr. Stevens

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

President/CEO Reports-Mr. Fuller

Executive Session

The Chairman then called for an Executive session and upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine and unanimously passed, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. Upon a motion by Mr. Gourdine, seconded by Mr. Chavis and unanimously passed the Board came out of Executive session.

Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles Contract-Mr. Rutledge

Mr. Rutledge stated we are making a recommendation to award the Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles Contract in the amount of \$292,000 for a two-year contract to Osmose Utilities Services. Upon motion by Mrs. Powell, seconded by Mr. Chavis, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has awarded to Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. the January 2023-December 2024 Inspection and Maintenance of Standing Wood Poles. This labor only contract total amount is \$292,000 (approximately \$146,000 per calendar year). The materials are to be furnished by Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Underground Inspection and Testing Contract-Mr. Rutledge

Mr. Rutledge stated we are making a recommendation to award the Underground Inspection and Testing Contract to McLean Engineering. We are proposing a two-year contract in the amount of \$336,000. Upon motion by Mrs. Powell, seconded by Mr. Chavis, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has awarded to McLean Engineering Company, Inc. the January 1, 2023-December 31, 2024, Underground Equipment Inspection and Testing Contract. This labor only contract total amount is \$336,000 (approximately \$168,000 per calendar year). The materials are to be furnished by Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

ROW Maintenance Unit Contract-Mr. Bradshaw

Mr. Bradshaw stated that they are seeking approval to establish contracts with Lewis, Right Way, and Xylem for the next two years 2023-2024, with total expenditures for each year to be limited to the approved annual budget (\$4.3 million for 2023). Upon motion by Mrs. Powell, seconded by Mr. Gourdine, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has awarded to Lewis Tree, Right Way, and Xylem the 2023-2024 ROW Maintenance Unit Contract. The contract total amount for 2023 is \$4,300,000.00.

ROW Time and Equipment Contract- Mr. Bradshaw

Mr. Bradshaw said they are seeking your approval to award this contract to Right Way for the next two years, 2023-2024, in the amount of \$2 million. Upon motion by Mrs. Powell, seconded by Mr. Gourdine, and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has awarded to Right Way the 2023-2024 ROW Time & Equipment Contract. The contract total amount is \$2,000,000.00.

Work Order Inspection Contract-Mr. Stevens

Mr. Stevens made a recommendation to award McCall Thomas with the Work Order Inspection Contract. It will be a four-year contract in the amount of \$60,000. Upon a motion by Mr. Sanders, seconded by Mr. Vandross and unanimously passed; it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc., has awarded to McCall Thomas the Work Order Inspection Contract for a four-year contract in the amount of \$60,000.

Attorney Report-Mr. Williams


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.



H. Wayne DeWitt, Chairman



Connie Shuler, Secretary