

Berkeley Electric Cooperative  
Board Meeting  
January 26, 2026  
Minutes

The Berkeley Electric Cooperative Board of Trustee's meeting was held **Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 1 P.M.** at the Moncks Corner Headquarters.

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

The following Trustees were present:

<b>H. Wayne DeWitt</b>	<b>Connie Shuler</b>	<b>Henry Chavis</b>
<b>Willis Sanders</b>	<b>Robert C. Jenkins</b>	<b>Robert Vandross</b>
<b>Sam Gourdine</b>	<b>Deborah C. Bryant</b>	<b>Donald C. Helms</b>

President & CEO Michael S. Fuller, Executive Administrator Ashley Edens, General Counsel, John (Jack) Williams, and the following staff: VP of Finance Joel Stevens, VP of Operations Tommy Harvey, VP of Engineering Chris Rutledge, VP of Information Technology Amy Langdon, VP of Public Relations Tony Vincent, Director of Marketing and Communications Libby Roerig, Public Relations Specialist Brianna Johnson and Trust Board Chairman Jeffrey Homeier.

Chairman DeWitt called for approval of minutes from the December's board meeting which was held on December 16, 2025. Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine, and unanimously passed; it was

**RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the minutes of the December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, board meeting as presented.**

## **Leadership Program Certificate Presentation-Ms. Halverson and Mrs. Kent**

Four employees were recognized for earning their BEC Leadership Certificates: VP of Engineering Chris Rutledge, GIS Technician II, Christina Fulton, Training Specialist Hallie Perkins, and Loss Prevention Administrator Kim Mims. Additionally, two employees, Materials Management Specialist II Otto Wilson and Distribution Design Supervisor Chase Gainey received their Supervisory Certificates through the statewide program.

## **Trust Board Bylaws Amendment Proposal-**

On October 16, 2025, the Trust Board voted to recommend to the Board of Trustees that the maximum donation amount for an individual/family be increased to \$6,000 due to rising costs, effective February 1, 2026 (. For reference, 52% of projects approved in 2024 exceeded \$5,000 and that percentage rose to 55% in 2025. Listed below are all sections of the BE Trust Bylaws that will be amended if this recommendation is accepted by the Board of Trustees.

### **ARTICLE XXIV: EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE**

**The Executive Committee of the TRUST by a vote of at least three (3) of its members may from time to time make expenditures on an emergency basis, in accordance with these By-Laws and policies adopted by the Board of Trustees of the TRUST; and in accordance with the purpose of this TRUST, in an amount not exceeding SIX THOUSAND and NO/100THS (\$6,000.00) DOLLARS, to any individual, family, group, or organization.**

**Such emergency expenditure shall be fully disclosed by the Executive Committee at the next regularly called meeting of the Board of Trustees of the TRUST.**

### **ARTICLE XXV: AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURES**

**A. Not more than SIX THOUSAND AND NO/100THS (\$6,000.00) DOLLARS every four years to any individual or family unit who is a member of the Cooperative. Members of the Cooperative are limited to one approved application within a four-year period, regardless of the amount funded by the TRUST for the project. However, the board holds**

**CEE-US Report-Mr. Gourdine**

Mr. Gourdine stated there was no CEEUS board meeting this month.

**ECSC Report-Mr. Sanders**

Mr. Sanders said there was no Statewide board meeting this month.

**Financial Report-Mr. Stevens**

Mr. Stevens reviewed the financial reports from November 2025. Mr. Stevens reviewed portions of the statement of operations and the balance on the Form 7.

**2025 Deferred Revenue Plan-Mr. Stevens**

Mr. Stevens proposed that we defer \$15,000,000 from 2025 to 2028. This would leave projected 2025 margin of \$31.9 million and help ease impact of power cost increases. This would not have a cash impact, only help margins. We will need a Board Resolution approved and RUS approval is required. Mrs. Shuler made a motion, and Mr. Chavis seconded the motion to approve the 2025 Deferred Revenue Plan.

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative approves the 2025 Deferred Revenue Plan.**

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

Mr. Fuller gave a brief update on the ORS audit report. Coop Day at the State House will be on February 19<sup>th</sup> and we have arranged for transportation to be here at the headquarters for pickup at 8am.

**Amendment to October's Minutes-Mr. Fuller**

Mr. Fuller stated that we needed to amend the minutes from October's board meeting to remove the approval of discontinuing retiree healthcare benefits for anyone hired after January 1, 2026, Upon a motion by Mr. Chavis seconded by Mrs. Shuler unanimously passed it was

**the discretion to reduce the time period between donations to an individual in dire circumstances.**

**Disbursements annually to individuals are limited to \$6,000.00, said individuals must be members of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc, and \$10,000.00 to organizations.**

**This statement may be modified from time to time by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Trustees of Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

Upon motion by Mrs. Shuler, seconded by Mr. Gourdine, and unanimously passed; it was **RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposed changes to the Trust Board Bylaws.**

### **Committee Reports**

**Audit Committee Report-** Mr. Vandross stated that the committee met and reviewed over the last 3 months of board expenses and credit card statements and there were no issues.

**Annual Meeting Committee-**Mr. Jenkins stated that the committee met prior to the board meeting and is proposing the following dates for the 2026 Annual Meeting. The dates are November 12<sup>th</sup> in Johns Island District, November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the Moncks Corner Headquarters and November 19<sup>th</sup> in Awendaw District and it was proposed to take to the full board. Upon motion by Mr. Chavis, seconded by Mrs. Shuler, and unanimously passed; it was **RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves the proposed dates for the 2026 Annual Meeting.**

### **Central Report-Mr. Dewitt**

Mr. DeWitt briefed the Board on what was covered at Central's board meeting that was held on January 7<sup>th</sup>..

**RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby approves to amend the minutes and remove the approval of discontinuing retiree healthcare benefits for anyone hired after January 1, 2026.**

**Executive Session-**

The Chairman then called for an Executive session and upon motion by Mr. Chavis, seconded by Mr. Jenkins and unanimously passed by the Board went into Executive Session. The board entered executive session to discuss the proposed acquisition of real property. Upon a motion duly made by Mrs. Bryant, seconded by Mr. Vandross, the Board authorized the purchase of real property as discussed in executive session to execute a purchase agreement for the property under the terms reviewed in executive session. Upon a motion by Mr. Chavis, seconded Mr. Sanders and unanimously passed the Board came out of Executive Session.

**Attorney Report-Mr. Williams**

Mr. Williams discussed a few legal cases that he is working on and there was no action needed.

Mr. Williams advised the Chairman that the appointments for the Berkeley Electric Trust Board members also needed to be addressed. Upon a motion by Mr. Chavis, seconded Mr. Sanders and unanimously passed it was

**RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby elected to approve the current Trust Board Members.**

**District 1-Queen Wilson**

**District 7-James Donald Graham**

**District 2-Barbara Singleton**

**District 8-Jeffrey D. Homeier**

**District 3- William Jones**

**District 9-Samuel Brownlee**

**District 4-Gregory Greene**

**District 5-Mavon Jernigan, Jr.**

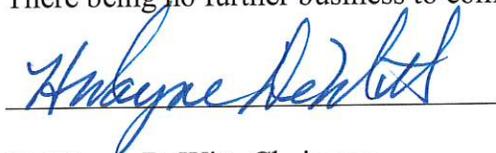
**District 6-LaTonia Brothers**

**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