

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TOMBIGBEE ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION HELD JUNE 1, 2023.

The Board of Directors of the Tombigbee Electric Power Association met at the Tupelo Headquarters Office, Tupelo, MS, on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The following directors were present:

Class of 2024

Jim Gray
Steve Holland (A)
Don Knight
Andy Spradling
Danny Riley

Class of 2025

Sammy Reed
John McFerrin
Buddy Palmer (A)
Randy Letson
T. J. Adams

Class of 2023

Lynn Turner
Mike Irwin
Chip Prestage
Brenda Shumpert
F. G. Wiygul, Jr.

(A)—Not present

(P)—Phone/Zoom

Also, present were Scott Hendrix, CEO
 Jonathan Hagood, Auditor
 Bruce Williams, CFO
 Michael Dickinson, Safety, Loss and Prevention
 Jeff Godfrey, Tupelo Electric Operations Manager
 Matt Fennell, Manager of Fiber Services
 Ken Brown, Fulton Branch Manager
 Toby Mask, Manager of Engineering
 Mitzi Hinds, Manager of Member Services
 Brian Wood, Manager of Fiber Operations

F.G. Wiygul called the meeting to order and called on Chip Prestage to open the meeting with prayer.

Scott Hendrix introduced two existing employees to the board. Each employee was given a few minutes to introduce themselves and tell a brief work history. Each employee explained their job responsibilities at Tombigbee EPA.

Mr. Wiygul opened the floor for consideration of the May 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. **Lynn Turner made a motion that the May 2023 meeting minutes prepared and distributed be approved.** Chip Prestage seconded the motion for approval and upon vote taken, a majority vote was observed.

Mr. Wiygul asked if an executive session was needed. Scott Hendrix responded that there was no need for an executive session or attorney report for this month.

Committee Reports:

Purchasing Committee, John McFerrin-Chairman.

Mr. McFerrin informed the board that the committee met earlier in the week to discuss this years' electric equipment and rolling stock budget. Mr. Ferrin reviewed the 2023-24 equipment budget with the Board and answered any questions that they had. Since this budget is proposed as a recommendation from the committee, no motion is needed. A vote was duly taken, and a unanimous vote of the board was observed approving said budget.

Finance and Loan: Brenda Shumpert-Chairman

Ms. Shumpert informed the board of an earlier meeting of the committee to discuss opening a line-of-credit with CoBank. Ms. Shumpert explained that the line-of-credit was at no cost to Tombigbee EPA, unless it is actually used. The line-of-credit is unsecured. The line-of-credit also, had very favorable interest rates. The Tombigbee Board of Directors would be required to approve the loan terms, adopt the CoBank resolution, incumbency certificate and any additional paperwork that may be required by CoBank. A brief discussion ensued, and since it was a recommendation of the committee, no motion is needed. A vote was duly taken, and a unanimous vote of the board was observed. A copy of the resolution, incumbency certificate being so authorized shall be attached hereto.

Fiber Update:

Matt Fennell, Manager of Fiber Services, gave an update on our broadband project. Mr. Fennell stated that there was a total of 19,309 fiber customers connected, an increase of 537 from last month. There are 1,076 members waiting to be installed. The board was also updated on the following: take rate of 37%, and 3,290 total number of miles constructed. Mr. Fennell also updated the board on the number of voice customers 1,145 and revenue generated by both internet and voice customers. Brian Wood gave an update on fiber construction. Mr. Wood informed the board that all main line fiber has been built, with the exception of some off legs. The main work left to do is splicing and testing.

Engineer Report: Toby Mask reported that the transformer repair for the Fulton Transformer has been scheduled for the week of June 19th. Mr. Mask reported that the substation crews were performing normal spring maintenance on substation, regulators, and capacitors.

Auditor's Report:

Mr. Hagood provided the board with a copy of the TEPA Monthly Highlights Report, prepared by Franks, Franks, Wilemon and Hagood for the month ending April 2023 and explained various details of the report. Specific details and information where gross margins from electric sales are down 4% for the same period last year; net income for this month has decreased as compared to the same period last year; kilowatt-hours sales are down 2.37%, compared to the month ending April 2022; and operating expenses have increased 5% from this time last year. Mr. Hagood further presented financial statements relative to Tombigbee Fiber, LLC.

CEO Report:

Scott Hendrix informed the board that we had installed our 19,000 internet customer since the last board meeting.

Matters of Mutual Concern:

There were no matters of mutual concern. Brenda Shumpert made a motion to adjourn, Don Knight seconded, and a vote duly taken, and a majority vote was observed.

Don Knight, Secretary-Treasurer

F.G. Wiygul-President