

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TOMBIGBEE ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION HELD APRIL 11, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Tombigbee Electric Power Association met at the Tupelo Headquarters Office, Tupelo, MS, on Thursday, April 11, 2019, at 6:00 p. m. The following directors were present:

Class of 2019

Pat Carr
John McFerrin
Jimmy Gray
Buddy Palmer
Malcolm Wesson

Class of 2020

Lynn Turner
Guy Harris
Chip Prestage
Brenda Goff Shumpert
F. G. Wiygul, Jr.

Class of 2021

Jim Gray
Steve Holland
Don Knight
Andy Spradling
Cecil Weeks

(A)—Not present

Also present were: Scott Hendrix, Attorney
 Jonathan Hagood, Auditor
 Ken Brown, Fulton Branch Manager
 Bruce Williams, Tupelo Office Manager
 William Long, General Manager

The Board convened at approximately 6:00 pm to conduct the regular monthly meeting. Mr. Carr called upon Bill Long to offer the opening prayer.

Mr. Carr then opened the floor for consideration of the March 2019 regularly scheduled Board Meeting Minutes. **Chip Prestage made a motion that the March 2019 meeting minutes be approved as prepared and provided to Directors for review.** Don Knight seconded the motion and upon vote taken a majority vote was observed.

Mr. Carr inquired of directors and Mr. Hendrix if there was a need for an executive session. There was no need identified. Mr. Carr moved along with the agenda and asked Mr. Hendrix to provide his report. Mr. Hendrix stated that the only matters to report on at this time were pending suits that are progressing through the discovery phase. Mr. Hendrix continued by reporting that he has been involved with support to the TEPA staff by participating in broadband studies and various related meetings that include review of contract and program documents.

Committee Reports:

Continuing with the agenda, Mr. Carr then called on those committee chairmen having information to report to the Board.

Public Relations and Bylaws: Chairman Jimmy Gray, was recognized and deferred to Bruce Williams who gave the Board an update on the installation and activation of kiosk machines. The kiosk will be used by members for making payments of their electric bills...and soon can be used for the acceptance of payments for accounts that have been disconnected due to non-payment. Mr. Williams stated that all four (4) locations were in operation that had been

approved by the board for evaluation of this member program. Mr. Williams gave a short video presentation of what the machines look like, how members can use them, and answered questions presented by the board.

SmartGrid: Chairman Palmer reported on matters being conducted by the newly formed committee. Mr. Palmer provided a summary of the meeting that was held starting at 3 p. m. today with area educators and others supporting education in the state. We had approximately twelve attendees that accepted the committee's invitation to come to TEPA and present information to the board addressing if a need exists for improved high speed internet in the TEPA service area. The meeting enjoyed good participation from area high schools, community colleges, the Ole Miss/ICC Tupelo campus and the state department of education in Jackson. The general consensus among the school staff was that internet service to the schools was generally good, however, there was definitely a need for improved internet service in the communities where the students live and study. After the meeting, the group enjoyed a meal together with the board and continued to discuss matters related to broadband in the community.

Mr. Palmer continued by reminding the board of the two other sectors...economic and community development as well as tele-medicine applications planned for evaluation in the near future. Members of the SmartGrid committee expressed an interest in traveling to the neighboring Tombigbee Electric Member Cooperative to view their broadband project still under development and to ask questions to learn from their experience. Emphasis was stated that the trip is open to all directors, not just the SmartGrid Committee. The staff was requested to make the appropriate arrangements and communicate to the board.

Auditor's Report: Jonathan Hagood provided Directors with a copy of the TEPA Monthly Highlights Report, prepared by Franks, Franks, Wilemon and Hagood for the month ending February 2019. Mr. Hagood explained various details of the report and provided the following specific details and information for the 8th month of the fiscal year: Gross margins and net income from electric sales exceed margins and net income for the same period last year; energy sold in kilowatt-hours increased compared to the same period last year by 0.58%; and, new member growth increase by 325 compared to the same period last year. Mr. Hagood also highlighted other accounting details that affected our monthly report.

Directors had no questions or comments for Mr. Hagood.

Manager's Report: Long reported to the Board on the following matters:

- The broadband feasibility study to be presented by Irby Communications has been delayed. A rescheduled date will be determined and provided to the board.
- Gave the board a general overview of how broadband discussion were progressing at other electric cooperative within Mississippi
- Discussion the board wishes concerning details of the trip to Tombigbee Electric Member Cooperative in Alabama.
- Inquired of the Board's wishes to pursue the continued emphasis to gather information from the service area community for the need in improved broadband service in the application areas of economic development and tele-medicine.

- Informed the Board of dialog occurring for problems with the Engineering and Operations building roof. The roof is not leaking, but review and discussion with architects and roof warranty providers indicate that something has caused the roof segments to separate and buck up. Between all the original building service providers, it has been adequately documented that the roof will be replaced without any cost to TEPA.
- Reminded the board that job announcements for cashier and labor positions have been published at the WIN Job Center.

Matters of Mutual Concern:

There were no matters of Mutual Concern expressed. There being no further business, **Lynn Turner made a motion that the May 2019 Board meeting be held at the Tupelo Headquarters.** Jim Gray seconded the motion and upon vote taken a majority vote was observed.

Pat Carr, President

Don Knight, Secretary-Treasurer