

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
TOMBIGBEE ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION HELD JULY 13, 2023.

The Board of Directors of the Tombigbee Electric Power Association met at the Tupelo Headquarters Office, Tupelo, MS, on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The following directors were present:

Class of 2024

Jim Gray  
Steve Holland  
Don Knight  
Andy Spradling  
Danny Riley

Class of 2025

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

Class of 2023

Lynn Turner  
Mike Irwin  
Chip Prestage  
Brenda Shumpert(A)  
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

F.G. Wiygul called the meeting to order and called on Don Knight 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 June 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. **Don Knight made a motion that the June 2023 meeting minutes prepared and distributed be approved.** Steve Holland 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 but would have a short attorney report.

**Attorney Report:** Scott R. Hendrix updated the board on lawsuit involving a Tombigbee EPA vehicle. Mr. Hendrix informed the board that it should come to trial within the next few months and answered questions from the board regarding the wreck.

**Committee Reports:**

**Nominating Committee:** Jim Gray, Chairman

Mr. Gray presented the nominations from the committee to be placed on the ballot for the board election in August. Mr. Gray presented three members from Lee County and two members from Itawamba County. All names were confirmed to be a Tombigbee EPA member and qualify to run for director. Don Knight made a motion to accept the nominations and Chip Prestage seconded the motion. A vote was duly taken, and a unanimous vote of the board was observed.

**Fiber Update:**

Matt Fennell, Manager of Fiber Services, gave an update on our broadband project. Mr. Fennell stated that there was a total of 20,238 fiber customers connected, an increase of 929 from last month. There are 881 members waiting to be installed. The board was also updated on the following: take rate of 39%, and 3,290 total number of miles constructed. Mr. Fennell also updated the board on the number of voice customers 1,161 and revenue generated by both internet and voice customers. Mr. Fennell informed us that all feeders have been opened and every area was open for service.

**Youth Leadership and Community Grant:** Mitzi Hinds gave a presentation on the Youth Leadership Trip to Washington D.C, last month. Mrs. Hinds answered questions related to the program. An update was given on the community grant program and the programs that received grants from TVA and CoBank.

**Engineer Report:** Toby Mask reported that the repair of the Fulton Transformer was ongoing and that a part would have to be engineered and built with the installation next month. Mr. Mask answered questions from the board on this topic.

**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 May 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 2.63%, compared to the month ending May 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 20,000 internet customer since the last board meeting. Mr. Hendrix informed the board of the ECM Annual Meeting dates for this year. Mr. Hendrix reported on the future retirement of Member Service Manager and his plans to open that job internally this month. Mr. Hendrix informed the board of a contractor contact that had happened this week and storm restoration at Southern Pine EPA. Mr. Hendrix presented pictures and an explanation of what had happened on the Fulton Fiber Damage and suspected causes.

**Matters of Mutual Concern:**

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

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Don Knight, Secretary-Treasurer

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F.G. Wiygul-President