

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TOMBIGBEE ELECTRIC POWER ASSOCIATION HELD APRIL 14, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Tombigbee Electric Power Association met at the Tupelo Headquarters Office, Tupelo, MS, on Thursday, April 14, 2022, 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 2022

Pat Carr (A)
John McFerrin
Buddy Palmer
Malcolm Wesson
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, Tupelo Office Manager
 Michael Dickinson, Fiber Construction/Operations
 Brian Wood, Manager of Fiber Operations
 Matt Fennell, Manager of Fiber Services
 Mitzi Hinds, Manager of Member Services
 Samantha Nanney, Marketing & Communications

F.G. Wiygul called the meeting to order and called on Buddy Palmer to open the meeting with prayer.

Mr. Wiygul asked Mr. Hendrix to introduce the 2021 Youth Leadership Scholarship recipients. After each introduction, Mr. Wiygul presented the scholarship to each individual student with a group photo afterwards. Each school in Tombigbee EPA's service area was represented.

Mr. Wiygul opened the floor for consideration of the March 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. **Chip Prestage made a motion that the March 2022 meeting minutes prepared and distributed be approved.** Don Knight seconded the motion for approval and upon vote taken, a majority vote was observed.

Mr. Wiygul asked if an executive session was needed. Mr. Hendrix acknowledge a need for an executive session at the end of the meeting. Mr. Hendrix report of no attorney report for this month.

Committee Reports: Purchasing Committee, John McFerrin Chairman.

Mr. McFerrin reported of a need to purchase a new excavator and trailer for use with the boring machine. Mr. McFerrin presented a bid for each to the board for their consideration. The board discussed the details of the excavator, a motion by Mr. McFerrin to purchase said equipment was made, Buddy Palmer second the motion. A vote was duly taken, and a majority vote was observed.

Fiber Update:

Matt Fennell, Manager of Fiber Services, gave an update of our broadband project. Mr. Fennell stated that there was a total of 9,028 fiber customers connected, an increase of 712, from last month. 494 members are waiting to be installed. The board was also updated on the following: take rate of 35%, 1,858 total number of miles constructed. Mr. Fennell also updated the board on the number of voice customers, 415 and revenue generated by both internet and voice customers.

Discussion was had relating to the timing and logistics of the Fiber to the home construction project and the pace at which the project has progressed, as well as the need to continue to manage each stage of construction by phase. Following the discussion, Steve Holland made the motion allow for preliminary and main line construction efforts to commence in all 4 Phases of the project in the method and manner as has been conducted to date on the project, including concurrently, with the contingency service be made available to all Tombigbee members prior to service becoming available off system. Upon receipt of a second, the motion passed unanimously.

Engineer Report:

Toby Mask, Manager of Engineering, informed the board of a need for improvement project for North Shannon 46 Breaker for reliability. Toby was also contacted by TVA to change out the 161 KVA switch at Mooreville Substation due to a lighting strike. The Mooreville switch replacement would require an outage, that Tombigbee and TVA currently are determining the best time for that project to take place.

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 February 2022 and explained various details of the report. Specific details and information where gross margins from electric sales are up more than 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 approximately 1.20% less than the eight months ending February 2022; and operating expenses are approximately 14% more than February of last year. Mr. Hagood further presented financial statements relative to Tombigbee Fiber, LLC.

Call Center update and discussion: Mr. Hendrix informed the board that he met with all of the servicemen, along with Greg Spradling, Jeff Godfrey and Bruce Williams, to get input on problems that they might be experiencing. A few problems were identified, but overall, a lot of progress had been made in the last five weeks to improve the system.

CEO Report: Mr. Hendrix informed the board of National Lineman Appreciation Day on April 20. Mr. Hendrix also informed the board of issues with ordering and receiving trucks and equipment. Mr. Hendrix gave an update on CoBank patronage that was received this past week.

F.G. Wiygul said there was a need for an executive session. John McFerrin made a motion to go into executive session, Don Knight seconded, and the board entered into executive session.

Lynn Turner made a motion to exit executive session, Don Knight seconded, and majority vote was observed, and the board resumed the board meeting.

Lynn Turner made a motion for Scott Hendrix to negotiate the sale of Coley Road Property. Don Knight second the motion and a majority vote was observed.

Chip Prestage made a motion for Scott Hendrix to negotiate a settlement to a member underbilling issue. John McFerrin seconded the motion, and a vote was duly taken. A majority vote was observed, with Steve Holland voting against the motion.

Matters of Mutual Concern:

No Matters of Mutual Concern, Don Knight made a motion to adjourn, and Buddy Palmer seconded, and a vote was duly taken, and a majority vote was observed.

Don Knight, Secretary-Treasurer

F.G. Wiygul-President