

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc. was held at 1411 Landis Street, Winnsboro, Louisiana at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, July 29, 2021.

Directors present were Thad H. Waters, Jr., Alton L. Welch, Jr., Richard Strong, Weldon Fitch, Charles Hixon, Ronald Pippin and Steve Pylant. Others present were Jeff Churchwell, General Manager, Nora Pylant, Accountant, Jim Berry, Attorney and Joe Curtis with the Franklin Sun.

Mr. Fitch called the meeting to order. Mr. Churchwell led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

Mrs. Pylant read the minutes of the June 15, 2021, regular meeting, the June 23, 2021, special meeting and the June 29, 2021, special meeting; all minutes were approved as read.

Mr. Churchwell gave the safety report for June 2021, there were no reported accidents.

Mrs. Pylant presented the Manager's Report and Income Statement for June 2021. Mr. Churchwell explained that June was the first month for the ETC invoice to be billed under the PPS rate. Mr. Churchwell explained the discussion with Calpin concerning the potential ETC load, at this time, they were not interested in pursuing litigation against CLECO concerning the ETC load. Mr. Churchwell reviewed the July residential rate comparison. Mr. Churchwell reviewed the current long-term debt, he explained some of the extraordinary expenses that NELPCO cash-flowed during the last 18 months. He requested the Board consider approving a 20-year loan in the amount of \$2,000,000. CoBank has presented an interest rate of 2.88% for the loan. CoBank will extend the line of credit limit to \$6,000,000 during the interim, waiting on loan approval from the LPSC. The line of credit will renew at \$4,000,000 on October 31, 2021. On motion made by Mr. Strong, seconded by Mr. Hixon and carried, none opposed, the Board approved the loan of \$2,000,000 through CoBank pending LPSC approval.

Mr. Churchwell discussed the NELPCO annual meeting. October 19, 2021 is the date of the October board meeting and tentative annual meeting date. Mr. Strong expressed his desire to wait until the August board meeting to review the options for the 2021 annual meeting. After some discussion and agreement with Mr. Strong, it was decided to wait on making plans for the annual meeting. The NELPCO Board was polled for appointments to the Nominating Committee. Those named to the Nominating Committee are Jimmy Harper of Franklin Parish; Bendel Clack of Richland Parish, Edward Bain, and Artis Lewis of West Carroll Parish; Bill King of Morehouse Parish; Freddy Payne of East Carroll Parish, and Samuel Earl of Tensas Parish.

Mr. Churchwell updated the board concerning the new IWTP grant. For the 2021-2022 year, NELPCO will offer an intermediate class to the lineman that began the training class during 2020-2021. On motion made by Mr. Welch, seconded by Mr. Pippin and carried, none opposed the following resolution was adopted:

BE IT KNOWN that at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc., held at the offices of the Corporation on the 29th day of July, 2021, the following Resolution was duly offered, seconded and unanimously approved, to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED that this Corporation authorizes Jeff Churchwell to sign on behalf of the corporation by his or her signature, enter any and all contractual obligations on behalf of this corporation pertaining to the Incumbent Worker Training Program.

FURTHER RESOLVED that Weldon Fitch, President of this Corporation be, and he is hereby authorized to execute such deeds or other instruments as may be necessary to effectuate the purpose and intent of this Resolution.

Mr. Fitch reported that 1803 held its annual meeting in Baton Rouge on July 27, 2021. Mr. Fitch reported that the ALJ reviewing the case held the January 2022 date, even though CLECO continues to submit discovery questions. Mr. Churchwell reported that the NELPCO and WST directors were ratified for another term, the officers were also reelected for another term.

Mr. Fitch presented the operating agreement between Volt Broadband, LLC and NELPCO. He reviewed the changes that were made by the Volt managers, including a decrease to the amount the operating manager could spend without approval. The amount was decreased from \$50,000 to \$25,000. There was also language concerning the office of secretary for the LLC added to the operating agreement. Mr. Waters requested time to review the document, Mr. Fitch stated the agreement would be put on the August 2021 meeting agenda. Mr. Churchwell and Mr. Welch discussed the meeting with Commissioner Campbell and Conexon representatives Jonathan Chambers and Randy Klindt. At this time, there have been no recent offerings from Conexon.

On motion made by Mr. Strong, seconded by Mr. Pylant and carried, none opposed, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, that the following capital credits totaling \$ 27,921.46 be paid on behalf of deceased members: *(List available at NELPCO office in Winnsboro)*

On motion made by Mr. Hixon, seconded by Mr. Welch and carried, none opposed, the following applicants totaling 69 members be accepted as new members of Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc.: *(List available at NELPCO office in Winnsboro)*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

S/ Weldon Fitch, President

S/ Charles B. Hixon, Secretary