

**NORTHEAST LOUISIANA POWER COOPERATIVE, INC.  
WINNSBORO, LOUISIANA**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc. was held at LDCC, 2889 Highway 15, Winnsboro, Louisiana following on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

Directors present were Weldon Fitch, Thad H. Waters, Jr., Davin McMurry, Charles Hixon, Steve Pylant, Ronald Pippin, Alton L. Welch, Jr., and Richard Strong. Others present were Jeff Churchwell, General Manager, James Berry, Attorney, and Nora Pylant, Accountant.

Mr. Fitch called the meeting to order.

Mr. Fitch opened the floor for officer nominations. On motion made by Mr. Strong, seconded by Mr. Pylant and carried, none opposed, the Board elected to keep Mr. Fitch as President, Mr. Hixon as Vice President, and Mr. Pippin as Secretary for the next year.

Mrs. Pylant read the minutes of the September 26, 2023, meeting; the minutes were approved as read.

Mr. Churchwell gave the safety report, there were no reported accidents for the month of September. Mr. Churchwell reviewed the current lineman training program and the opportunity to partner with LDCC on a lineman program at the Winnsboro campus.

Mrs. Pylant presented the September income statement and manager's report. The CLECO invoice and residential rate comparison were also reviewed.

Mrs. Pylant reviewed the 2023-2024 insurance renewal information. Mr. Churchwell discussed the different levels of umbrella coverage available. On motion made by Mr. Pylant, seconded by Mr. Welch and carried, none opposed, the Board accepted the insurance renewal as presented with an additional umbrella policy in the amount of \$5 million.

On motion made by Mr. Strong seconded by Mr. Pippin and carried, none opposed, the Board approved Christmas bonuses for all employees equal to an 80-hour paycheck.

Mr. Churchwell reported that NELPCO's base rate case has been filed with the LPSC. The intervention period concludes on October 30, 2023. Mr. Churchwell and Mr. Piontek are planning to meet with Commissioner Campbell prior to the November 18 B&E session concerning the rate case and implementation of the rates on an interim basis.

Mr. Fitch gave the 1803 Electric Cooperative update; the 1803 representatives will be present at the November 28 meeting to give 1803's option to provide services related to substation assets. He and Mr. Churchwell reported that 1803 Electric Cooperative has applied for the USDA green energy for rural America grant to aid with solar project associated with future PPA. Mr. Fitch reported that an energy manager should be hired by December 31, 2023. Mr. Churchwell informed the Board that 1803 has hired Ben Adams as CFO. Mr. Adams is also a FEMA expert and will be available to assist the 1803 Cooperatives.

Mr. Churchwell reviewed the operational report for Volt Broadband, LLC. Mrs. Pylant presented the September 2023 income statement. Mr. Churchwell discussed make ready construction costs and other expenses that have been incurred to date. Mrs. Pylant presented projected financial statements. Mr. Churchwell explained the need for additional financing and a guarantee from NELPCO. On motion made by Mr. Hixon, seconded by Mr. Pippin and carried, none opposed, the following resolution was adopted:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Directors of the Company approve a guarantee by NELPCO for Volt Broadband, LLC in the amount of \$8,600,000 as required by CoBank."

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

RESOLVED, that the following capital credits totaling \$ 17,195.49 be paid on behalf of deceased members:  
(Listing on file at Winnsboro office)

On the motion made by Mr. Strong seconded by Mr. Welch and carried, none opposed, the following applicants totaling 55 members be accepted as new members of Northeast Louisiana Power Cooperative, Inc.: (Listing on file at Winnsboro office)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

s/ Weldon Fitch, *President*

s/ Ronald Pippin, *Secretary*