

Minutes of Annual Meeting
Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc.

April 27, 2022

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the members of Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Wheatland or Cooperative) was held on April 27, 2022, at the Scott Community Building, 600 Fairground Rd., Scott City, Kansas at 11:30 a.m. CDT. The meeting was held pursuant to notice provided each member of Wheatland. Board President, William “Woody” Barnes announced that the annual meeting of the members was being simulcast at Wheatland’s seven other offices or service locations in its territory. Pursuant to Wheatland policy, every meeting starts with a Safety Tip. President Barnes explained that most home fires occur at night between 8p.m. and 8a.m., so it is important to keep an extinguisher in high-risk areas. The luncheon began at 11:30 a.m., and Katie Eisenhower, District 1 Trustee, provided an invocation.

President Barnes, served as chairman throughout the meeting. The Chairman called to order the 74th Annual Meeting and welcomed all members and guests. Harold Irwin, Alan Yaeger, Josh Yaeger, Trevor Fisher, Daniel Ryan, and David Lewis, posted the national and state colors, and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Students from Scott City Community High School sang the National Anthem. Chairman Barnes introduced the trustees of the cooperative and their spouses. Jim McVay, Wheatland’s Assistant General Manager and General Counsel introduced the executive staff of Wheatland and other special guests in attendance.

Chairman Barnes announced there were 303 members present in person at the meeting and 76 members present by proxy. Those members present by proxy were reported and posted to the members by the Wheatland staff. The Cooperative membership exceeds 1,000 members, and therefore, 50 members or more constitutes a quorum. A quorum was announced by Chairman Barnes.

The Chairman presented that the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing, and the Certificate of Membership would be read to the members verbatim. However, upon motion made by the members from the floor and seconded, it was passed by unanimous voice vote to waive the formal reading of the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing, and the Certificate of Membership. Jim McVay summarized the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing, and the Certificate of Membership.

The 2021 Annual Meeting minutes were provided to the membership when registering at the meeting. Chairman Barnes presented that the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes would be read to the membership. However, upon motion made by the members from the floor and seconded, it was passed by unanimous vote to dispense with the formal reading of the 2021 minutes. There were no additions or corrections to the official minutes, and they were approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

Thereafter, a video presentation was made to the members by Traci Goddard, Wheatland’s Director of Finance. She presented the Financial Report, which was also published in the April issue of the *Kansas Country Living* magazine and was mailed to each of the members, along with the Official

Notice of the Annual Meeting. Once Goddard finished her report, the Chairman asked the members if there were questions relative to her report. The Chairman announced that he would entertain a motion to accept the report as mailed to each member of the Cooperative. Upon motion made, seconded, and passed by unanimous voice vote, the Financial Report was approved and adopted.

Jim McVay then introduced a video presentation of the following speakers and subjects:

Wheatland's General Manager, Bruce W. Mueller, summarized Wheatland's activities in 2021. Mueller emphasized the Winter Weather Event that took place in February of 2021 and the financial impact on Wheatland and its members. Mueller explained how the high price of natural gas and the sustained extreme cold weather brought about significant price spikes that caused Wheatland's whole-sale power bill to significantly increase the following month. Wheatland's Board of Trustees voted to allow any additional costs from the Winter Weather Event to be spread out evenly over a 12-month period. Mueller closed by informing the members that Wheatland once again plans on retiring \$1 million in capital credits during 2022, barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Rick Klaus, Director of Operations, then discussed Wheatland's Asset Purchase Agreement - the sale of substations and other facilities to Garden City, Kansas. He explained how this sale also permitted Wheatland to build two new substations in other locations advantageous to Wheatland's members that will serve the Finney County area for decades to come.

Alli Conine, Director of Member Services and Corporate Communications, provided the members with a summary of Wheatland's annual food drive, Cram the Van, that once again, broke another record collecting 44,576 pounds of food. Conine also discussed three new programs being offered to Wheatland members:

- Electric Vehicle Chargers – charging stations, at-home chargers, installation, and financing.
- Electrician Services – local partners & financing for all your electrical needs.
- Generac Generators – standby generators, installation, and financing.

Jevin Kasselmann, Wheatland's Director of Information Technology, discussed the completion of the Scott City Fiber project to enhance Wheatland Broadband Services, and the subsequent sale of Wheatland Broadband Services to S&T Communications.

Jim McVay told the members about the new construction of the Great Bend building and how it will benefit District 6.

At the conclusion of the video presentation, Chairman Barnes called for any questions from the membership. There were two questions. The first dealt with electric vehicle charging stations and the second inquired as to the sale price of Wheatland Broadband Services.

Alli Conine announced that due to the ongoing pandemic, Wheatland elected to provide four \$1,000 scholarships in place of the annual Youth Tour to Washington D.C. and the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp to Steamboat Springs Colorado. This year's winners are:

Cordell Brown - Wichita County/Leoti
Madelynn Gregg - Great Bend
Baylee Hutcheson - Garden City
Nayomi Olivas - Great Bend

Alli then introduced the recipients of (14) \$1,000 scholarships to area high school seniors. This year's winners are:

Alyssa Martin - Argonia
Ally Brennaman - At-Large Winner
Lana Rodriquez - At-Large Winner
Tatum Lee - Caldwell
Gillian Struble - Chaparral
Iris Wood - Conway Springs
Brody Feist - Great Bend
Jesse Smith - Greeley County/Tribune
Morgan Hammond - Holcomb
Judson Hibbs - Norwich
Chelsie Rose - Scott Community
MaKaylin Ann Kuchar - South Haven
Miles Stum - Syracuse
Tristen Porter - Wichita County/Leoti

After the scholarship awards, Chairman Barnes recognized Wheatland employees for their years of service and commitment to the Cooperative.

5 Years

Brock Brazeal – Garden City
Maria Carrasco – Garden City
Adam Parker – Harper
Aaron Wright – Garden City
Diane Fisher – Harper
Nicole Semenko – Scott City
Rosalva Godinez – Garden City
Mark Arnold – Trustee
Stacey Addison-Howland – Trustee
John Kleysteuber – Trustee
Mike Thon – Trustee

10 Years

Heather Rufenacht – Scott City
Nathan Schrock – Harper
Cody Ellis – Scott City
Beth Nelson – Garden City
Brandon Barrett – Garden City
Bruce Mueller – Garden City
Jordan Habiger – Scott City

15 Years

Quinten Wheeler – Scott City
Joe Thomeczek – Syracuse
Brad Thyne – Garden City
Jake Jones – Scott City
Pam Brungardt – Garden City
Shawn Ryan – Harper

20 Years

Tuan Herrell – Garden City
Tyson Ryff – Great Bend
Andy Pivonka – Great Bend

25 Years

Wes Campbell – Trustee

30 Years

Mark Kircher – Great Bend

35 Years

Eilene Jacobs – Harper

40 Years

Terry Rebel – Great Bend

Chairman Barnes then inquired of the members whether there was any old business to come before the meeting. There was no old business to come before the meeting. He then asked if there was any new business, and there was none.

The Chairman announced one item of new business. There were three Wheatland districts up for trustee elections. Jim stated that all districts must stop registering members to vote. Jim McVay read the Nomination Committee Affidavit. The Nominating Committee was composed of Ed Cupp, Milan Reimer, Dale Wetzel, Pat Riley, Jason Dougherty, Matt Hoisington, and Troy Dierking. The Nominating Committee placed into nomination and selected the following candidates: Wes Campbell, District 5; Bob Hiss, District 6; and William Barnes, District 7. Jim presented that all nominations were made by motion, seconded, and passed by unanimous vote of the committee. The members were once again told that Trustee candidates could be nominated

from the floor. The qualifications for the Office of Trustee were read to the membership verbatim from the Wheatland bylaws.

Thereafter, Jim asked for nominations from the floor. At the end of the 60 second waiting period from the floor and awaiting any response from the remote locations, there was one nomination from the floor. District seven had a proper nomination, a second and upon voice vote passed Dustin Stansbury to the Ballot for Trustee in District 7, to run against William Barnes. A motion was made from the floor, seconded, and passed by unanimous vote of the members to accept the slate of candidates from the Nominating Committee for Districts 5 and 6. Therefore, Wes Campbell of District 5 and Bob Hiss of District 6 were elected for a 3-year term as Trustee. Jim informed the voting members to write in the name of Dustin Stansbury on the line next to the voting box on the ballot in District 7, and if the member wanted to vote for Mr. Stansbury, the member had to also place a mark in the box next to his name. The members were then told to cast their ballots. A short video was played to the members during the counting of ballots.

A ballot counting committee was assembled and collected all ballots from the members. The ballot counting committee consisted of Rick Klaus, Brandon Barrett, Lynn Freese, and Bill Miller. The ballot counting committee counted the ballots of the members and the results were 209 votes for Dustin Stansbury and 164 votes for William Barnes. Dustin Stansbury was elected Trustee of Wheatland for a three-year term. Jim McVay reported the results of the election to the members.

Thereafter, the Chairman announced that Lynn Freese was the winner of the Grand Prize an iRobot Roomba i4+.

The Chairman then announced how other members at the remote locations could obtain their door prizes. He then called for the retirement of the Colors. Harold Irwin, Alan Yaeger, Josh Yaeger, Trevor Fisher, Daniel Ryan, and David Lewis retired the colors.

The Chairman then also asked for and found that there was no additional new business to be presented at the meeting. The Chairman ordered that the meeting be adjourned by motion made, seconded, and carried at 2:15 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted

James M. McVay
Assistant General Manager & General Counsel