

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**May 29, 2024**

**AGENDA ITEM # 1**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Alan R. Lunsford, Vice-President/Vice-Chairman  
(1:00 p.m.) Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary  
J. Allan Risinger, Treasurer  
J. Carey Bedenbaugh, Jr.  
Eddie C. Best, Jr.  
Kenneth E. Lindler  
Mark A. Svrcek  
Justin B. Watts

**STAFF PRESENT:** B. Robert "Bob" Paulling, President and CEO  
Theresa D. Crepes. VP, Finance and Accounting  
Robert A. Wilbur, VP, Operations  
Lee H. Ayers, VP, Engineering  
Troy A. Simpson, VP, Member Services  
Steven G. Davidson, VP, Information Technology  
Vicki E. Ross-Bell, Administrative Services Manager

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:** Chris Koon

**INVOCATION:** Mark Svrcek

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA ITEM # 2**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called the meeting to order and welcomed Mr. Koon in Mr. Black's absence. He reminded everyone that Chairman Sox was out of town. Vice-Chairman Lunsford then asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on April 24, 2024. Mr. Risinger made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bedenbaugh and unanimously passed.

**See Resolution # 1**

**AGENDA ITEM # 3**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business to come before the Board at this time.

## AGENDA ITEM # 4

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTING:**

**FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mrs. Crepes for the Finance and Accounting report. Mrs. Crepes reported the year-to-date revenue was \$50,022,480, which is (\$2,688,166) below budget at the end of April. The year-to-date cost of wholesale power was \$26,979,684, which is under budget by (\$2,319,011). The year-to-date margins were \$3,136,609, which is \$34,141 above budget. Mrs. Crepes reported that equity was 23.44% at the end of April for an increase of 0.08%. The deferred credits account balance changed by (\$542,848), and the ending balance was \$3,549,928.

Mrs. Crepes then presented a rate comparison chart showing an average residential usage of 1,129 kWh in April. Mid-Carolina's average bill was \$142.64 (account charge \$29.45) compared to Dominion's \$162.14 (account charge \$9.50), Duke – Carolina's \$155.07 (account charge \$11.96), and Duke – Progress \$166.70 (account charge \$11.78). She then presented a rate comparison chart showing an average annual usage of 16,968 kWh. Mid-Carolina's average annualized bill was \$1,971.08 (account charge \$346.75) compared to Dominion's \$2,448.63 (account charge \$114.00), Duke – Carolina's \$2,243.62 (account charge \$143.52), and Duke – Progress \$2,464.36 (account charge \$141.36).

Mrs. Crepes reported that Mid-Carolina has received \$1,736,094 from CarolinaConnect year-to-date. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mrs. Crepes for her report.

**OPERATIONS:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Wilbur for the Operations report. Mr. Wilbur reported the locations and the service district that the Mid-Carolina and Contractor crews worked in April. The right-of-way crews completed their work in the Leesville area. They are still working in the Gilbert area, and they have started work in the South Congaree area. Mr. Wilbur stated the System Inspectors are still working in the Friarsgate area.

Mr. Wilbur reported that Tomberlin Pole crews have completed their inspection and treating of poles this year. They inspected 6,775 poles, which is 9.3% of the system. There was a rejection rate of 3.8%, which was 256 poles. Mr. Wilbur discussed the Carolina Crossroads and Midlands Connections projects. He reported there were 35 transformers and 52 meters changed out from Dominion to Mid-Carolina's system on Rebecca Drive. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Wilbur for his report.

**ENGINEERING:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Ayers for the Engineering report. Mr. Ayers reported that the routine inspection and maintenance was completed in April. He stated that the permitting for Lake Murray substation upgrades are in progress, and the high side switches were replaced during the month at Coldstream Substation. Mr. Ayers next discussed the status of the fiber construction in subdivisions.

Mr. Ayers then showed a chart graphing MWh purchased each month year-to-date from 2020-2024 with a five-year running average. The next chart showed the MW Demand purchased each month year-to-date from 2020-2024 with a five-year running average. The monthly outage report and notes for April were reviewed. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Ayers for his report.

**MEMBER SERVICES:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Simpson for the Member Services report. Mr. Simpson reported on the Touchstone Energy Scholarship recipients. He discussed the ways the Cooperative has been connecting with the community. Mr. Simpson next showed the Cooperative's Brand Identity on Social Media and reviewed the quarterly schedule for the *South Carolina Living* magazine through the August 2024 issue. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Simpson for his report.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Davidson for the Information Technology report. Mr. Davidson reported there were 40,749 accounts enrolled in SmartHub as of May 1, 2024, which represents 67.71% of active accounts enrolled. He stated that 83.60% of all April payment transactions were made electronically.

Mr. Davidson reported there were 40,071 emails received during the month, and 15,861 emails were blocked prior to reaching the Cooperative's email servers. He stated in April, 1,079 members enrolled in TextPower, bringing the enrollment total to 40,978. Mr. Davidson reported that 2,992 members were enrolled in Pay-As-You-Go in April, and 16 payments were made through the new InComm system. He then gave an update on Cyber Security. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Davidson for his report.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mrs. Ross-Bell for the Administration report. Mrs. Ross-Bell referred to the monthly Operation Round-Up report. There were 6 applications approved out of 7 for a total donation of \$16,430. The Trust Fund balance at the end of the month was \$34,161.

Mrs. Ross-Bell reported the Trust Board Members whose term ends this year are Mr. Greg Black, Mrs. Daphyne Ridgell, and Mr. Gerry Spragg. They have all agreed to serve another three-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Mid-Carolina Electric Trust (June 2024 to May 2027). After a brief discussion on all candidates, a motion was made by Mr. Bedenbaugh to approve the Trust Board members, as presented for the next three years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watts and unanimously passed.

#### **See Resolution # 2**

Mrs. Ross-Bell reviewed the Board calendars through July 2024. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mrs. Ross-Bell for her report.

#### **AGENDA ITEM # 5**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Paulling for his report. Mr. Paulling reported there were no recordable accidents in April. There was a voluntary termination effective May 10, 2024. Currently, there is active recruitment for a Custodian, a Finance & Accounting Manager, three Line Technicians, and an Apparatus Technician.

Mr. Paulling gave a Central and Santee Cooper update, and discussed the Energy Bill that is still pending. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Paulling for his report.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 6**

**LEGAL REPORT:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Koon for the legal report. Mr. Koon discussed several pending legal matters. There were no further questions or comments, and Vice-Chairman Lunsford thanked Mr. Koon for the report.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 7**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford read several thank you notes. He then reported that the Board needs to select a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the CFC Annual Meeting that will be held at the CFC Forum in June 2024. Mr. Risinger and Chairman Sox will be attending the meeting. Mr. Risinger made a motion to appoint Mr. Marvin W. Sox as the Voting Delegate and Mr. J. Allan Risinger would be the Alternate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bedenbaugh and unanimously passed.

#### **See Resolution # 3**

Vice-Chairman Lunsford stated that the National Cooperative Services Corporation "NCSC" Annual Meeting will also be held at the CFC Forum in June 2024. Mr. Risinger made a motion to appoint Mr. Marvin W. Sox as the Voting Delegate and Mr. J. Allan Risinger would be the Alternate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bedenbaugh and unanimously passed.

#### **See Resolution # 4**

He had nothing further to report at this time.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 8**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Ms. Kirkland for the Policy Committee report. Ms. Kirkland stated that the Board received Board Policy 202 – Membership in Clubs and Civic Organizations and Board Policy 203 – Appearance of Members or Others Before the Board of Trustees prior to the meeting for their review. There were no recommended changes to either policy. The policies will reflect that they were reviewed and discussed at this meeting. There were no other committee reports at this time.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 9**

**ASSOCIATED MEETING REPORTS:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called on Mr. Paulling for the CarolinaConnect update. CarolinaConnect now over 37,000 customers. Mid-Carolina has almost 19,000 members with CarolinaConnect. The 10-year projection was presented at their Board Meeting on May 28, 2024.

Mr. Risinger gave an update on Central's Board Meeting that was held on May 8, 2024.

Ms. Kirkland reported that CEEUS and ECSC will meet next week at the ECSC Summer Conference.

Vice-Chairman Lunsford reported that the ECSC Trustee Association meeting was held May 13-15, 2024, in Charleston, SC. He stated it was a well-attended meeting and informative with good speakers.

There were no other reports at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM # 10**

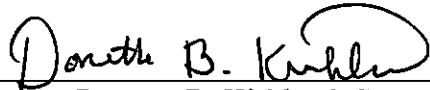
**NEW BUSINESS:** Vice-Chairman Lunsford called for any new business. There was no new business to come before the meeting at this time. Mr. Bedenbaugh made a motion to enter executive session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kirkland and unanimously passed.

**AGENDA ITEM # 11**

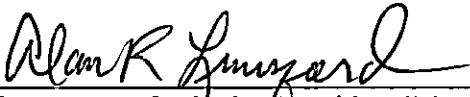
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no action taken during the executive session.

**AGENDA ITEM # 12**

**ADJOURNMENT:** There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary

**APPROVAL:**

  
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Alan R. Lunsford Vice-President/Vice-Chairman of the Board

**S.C. 37 LEXINGTON**

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

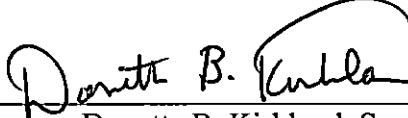
**RESOLUTION**

**# 1**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees reviewed and had no changes to the minutes of the regular monthly meeting held on April 24, 2024; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby approves the minutes for the April 24, 2024, meeting as presented.

I, Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. at a regular meeting duly assembled on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, at which meeting a quorum was present.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary

**S.C. 37 LEXINGTON**

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**RESOLUTION**

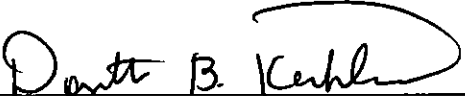
**# 2**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees is responsible for making appointments to the Board of Directors of the Mid-Carolina Electric Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees has decided to reappoint three Trust Board members to serve on the aforesaid Board of Directors;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby reappoints Mr. Greg Black, Mrs. Daphyne Ridgell, and Mr. Gerry Spragg (June 2024 to May 2027) on the Board of Directors of the Mid-Carolina Electric Trust Board.

I, Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. at a regular meeting duly assembled on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, at which meeting a quorum was present.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary

**S.C. 37 LEXINGTON**

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**RESOLUTION**

**# 3**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees is responsible for selecting a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation "CFC" Annual Meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, this annual meeting will be held at the CFC Forum in June 2024;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees desires to appoint the within named persons as the Voting Delegate and Alternate to the aforesaid meetings;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby appoints the Voting Delegate and Alternate to the CFC Annual Meeting being held at the CFC Forum in June 2024, as follows:

**CFC**

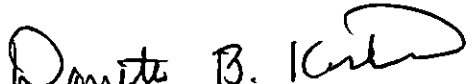
Voting Delegate

Mr. Marvin W. Sox

Alternate

Mr. J. Allan Risinger

I, Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. at a regular meeting duly assembled on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, at which meeting a quorum was present.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary



**S.C. 37 LEXINGTON**

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**RESOLUTION**

**# 4**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees is responsible for selecting a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the upcoming National Cooperative Services Corporation “NCSC” Annual Meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, this annual meeting will be held at the CFC Forum in June 2024;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees desires to appoint the within named persons as the Voting Delegate and Alternate to the aforesaid meetings;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby appoints the Voting Delegate and Alternate to NCSC Annual Meeting being held at the CFC Forum in June 2024, as follows:

**NCSC**


Voting Delegate

Mr. Marvin W. Sox

Alternate

Mr. J. Allan Risinger

I, Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. at a regular meeting duly assembled on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, at which meeting a quorum was present.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary