

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

**LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**

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

**April 24, 2024**

**AGENDA ITEM # 1**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Marvin W. Sox, President/Chairman  
(1:00 p.m.) Alan R. Lunsford, Vice-President/Vice-Chairman  
J. Allan Risinger, Treasurer  
Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary  
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  
Troy A. Simpson, VP, Member Services  
Vicki E. Ross-Bell, Administrative Services Manager

**ATTORNEY PRESENT:** J. David Black

**INVOCATION:** Marvin Sox

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA ITEM # 2**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Chairman Sox called the meeting to order, and he welcomed Mr. Svrcek to the meeting as a new Board Member for the Cooperative. He then asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on March 26, 2024. There were two scrivener corrections to these minutes, and Mr. Bedenbaugh made a motion to approve the minutes, as presented with the noted changes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lunsford 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:** Chairman Sox called on Mrs. Crepes for the Finance and Accounting report. Mrs. Crepes reported the year-to-date revenue was \$38,745,614 which is (\$2,512,922) below budget at the end of March. The year-to-date cost of wholesale power was \$21,488,488 which is under budget by (\$2,354,690). The year-to-date margins were \$2,356,286, which is \$12,543 above budget. Mrs. Crepes reported that equity was 23.36% at the end of March for a decrease of -0.69%. The deferred credits account balance changed by (\$175,707), and the ending balance was \$4,092,776.

Mrs. Crepes then presented a rate comparison chart showing an average residential usage of 1,349 kWh in March. Mid-Carolina's average bill was \$162.18 (account charge \$27.55) compared to Dominion's \$191.02 (account charge \$9.50), Duke – Carolina's \$184.36 (account charge \$11.96), and Duke – Progress \$197.85 (account charge \$11.78). She then presented a rate comparison chart showing an average annual usage of 16,965 kWh. Mid-Carolina's average annualized bill was \$1,979.33 (account charge \$346.75) compared to Dominion's \$2,441.78 (account charge \$114.00), Duke – Carolina's \$2,232.20 (account charge \$143.52), and Duke – Progress \$2,459.97 (account charge \$141.36).

Mrs. Crepes reported that Mid-Carolina has received \$1,284,498 from CarolinaConnect year-to-date. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mrs. Crepes for her report.

**OPERATIONS:** Chairman Sox 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 March. The right-of-way crews are still working in the Gilbert and Leesville areas. Mr. Wilbur stated the System Inspectors are still working in the Friarsgate area. He reported that Tomberlin Pole crews are still inspecting and treating poles in the Pelion area with 2,608 poles completed in March. Mr. Wilbur discussed the recent switch over of Dominion customers in the Harbour Watch subdivision to Mid-Carolina's system. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Wilbur for his report.

**ENGINEERING:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Ayers for the Engineering report. Mr. Ayers reported that the routine inspection and maintenance was completed in March. He stated that the planning for Lake Murray substation upgrades are in progress. Mr. Ayers 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 March were reviewed. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Ayers for his report.

**MEMBER SERVICES:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Simpson for the Member Services report. Mr. Simpson reported on the Washington Youth Delegates and Youth Summit Delegates for this year. He reported on several events the Cooperative sponsored in the community during the month. Mr. Simpson discussed the success of the Annual Meeting. He then shared photos of the employees working on the Harbour Watch conversion of service from Dominion to the Cooperative. Mr. Simpson showed the Cooperative's Brand Identity on Social Media and reviewed the quarterly schedule for the *South Carolina Living* magazine through the July 2024 issue. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Simpson for his report.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Paulling for the Information Technology report in Mr. Davidson's absence, as he is attending a conference. Mr. Paulling reported there were 40,470 accounts enrolled in SmartHub as of April 1, 2024, which represents 67.44% of active accounts enrolled. He stated that 85.04% of all March payment transactions were made electronically.

Mr. Paulling reported there were 41,941 emails received during the month, and 17,913 emails were blocked prior to reaching the Cooperative's email servers. Mr. Paulling stated in March, 2,665 members enrolled in TextPower, bringing the enrollment total to 39,899. He then gave an update on Cyber Security. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Paulling for the report.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Chairman Sox called on Mrs. Ross-Bell for the Administration report. Mrs. Ross-Bell referred to the monthly Operation Round-Up report. There were 13 applications approved out of 18 at the March meeting for a total donation of \$26,888. The Trust Fund balance at the end of the month was \$24,051. The Board calendars were reviewed through June 2024.

Mrs. Ross-Bell stated that Mr. Lunsford will attend the ECSC Trustee Association meeting in May, all Board Members will attend the ECSC Summer Conference in June, and Mr. Risinger and Chairman Sox will attend the CFC Forum meeting in June. Mr. Bedenbaugh made a motion to approve all meeting attendance, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lunsford and unanimously approved.

Mrs. Ross-Bell stated the Member Advisory Committee meeting minutes from March 26, 2024, are in BoardPaq Library for review. She reported that BoardPaq is going out of service in November 2024, and the new Board Report platform will be NiSC's Call To Order in the coming months. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mrs. Ross-Bell for her report.

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

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Paulling for his report. Mr. Paulling reported there were no recordable accidents in March. There was a promotion from an Apparatus Technician to an Apparatus Crew Leader, and two terminations since the March meeting. Currently, there is active recruitment for a Custodian, a Finance & Accounting Manager, two Line Technicians, and an Apparatus Technician.

Mr. Paulling gave some statistics on the Cooperative's 2024 Annual Meeting. There were 5,601 members that registered and voted this year on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. At the Chapin Middle School drive-through, there were 1,905 members. There were 3,696 members at the Beechwood Middle School drive through in Lexington. The Cooperative's Business Meeting was live streamed from the Lexington One Performing Arts Center at Gilbert High School at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 13, 2024.

Mr. Paulling discussed the on-peak energy cost included in the wholesale power cost from Central Electric Power Cooperative for the summer months of June-September. He recommended that under the Cooperative's Schedule MAF - Monthly Adjustment Factor, the Cooperative should index up by \$0.0050 per kWh beginning June 1, 2024. Mr. Watts made a motion to approve the recommendation, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Best and unanimously passed.

**See Resolution # 2**

Mr. Paulling made a recommendation to Service Rules and Regulations – Provided Services regarding Deposit and Meter Tampering Fees. He explained the reasons supporting the recommendations. Mr. Bedenbaugh made a motion to approve the recommendations, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Risinger and unanimously passed.

**See Resolution # 3**

Mr. Paulling gave a State House update. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Paulling for his report.

**AGENDA ITEM # 6**

**LEGAL REPORT:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Black for the legal report. Mr. Black discussed several pending legal matters. There were no further questions or comments, and Chairman Sox thanked Mr. Black for his report.

**AGENDA ITEM # 7**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Chairman Sox and Mr. Paulling discussed the Washington Legislative Conference held April 21-23, 2024. He had nothing further to report at this time.

**AGENDA ITEM # 8**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Risinger for the Retiree Welfare Trust Committee report. Mr. Risinger said the Committee met just prior to the meeting. The Trust Fund is still overfunded, and the Committee does not have any recommended changes. They will meet again in July 2024.

Chairman Sox called on Ms. Kirkland for the Policy Committee report. Ms. Kirkland stated that the Board received Board Policy 200 – Insurance Coverage for Active Trustee & Emeriti and Board Policy 201 – Trustee Resignation prior to the meeting for their review. There were no recommended changes at this time. 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:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Paulling for the CarolinaConnect update. He reported that Mr. Peacock would be presenting the 2023 Audit Report at the meeting on April 30, 2024. CarolinaConnect is on target to reach 37,000 customers the first of May. Mid-Carolina has over 18,600 members with CarolinaConnect.

Mr. Risinger stated that Central will meet again on May 8, 2024.

Ms. Kirkland reported that CEEUS and ECSC met on April 4, 2024, and everything is going well. CEEUS hopes to move into their new office building in August 2024. Ms. Kirkland was a Judge for the Pay It Forward program.

Mr. Lunsford reported that the ECSC Trustee Association meeting will be held May 13-15, 2024, in Charleston, SC.

Chairman Sox reported that Federated will meet again in May. There were no other reports at this time.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 10**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Sox called on Mr. Black for new business. Mr. Black handed out the Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Certification that needs to be signed each year. Then, he handed out individual ballots for each office, and the following were selected: Chair – Mr. Marvin W. Sox; Vice-Chair – Mr. Alan R. Lunsford; Secretary – Ms. Donette B. Kirkland; and Treasurer – Mr. J. Allan Risinger. There was a round of applause for the officers elected. Chairman Sox stated the only change in Board Committee assignments is that Mr. Svrcek will take Mr. Shealy’s seat on the Audit Committee, due to his background in accounting.

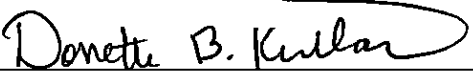
There was no other new business to come before the meeting at this time. Mr. Lindler made a motion to enter executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bedenbaugh and unanimously passed.

### **AGENDA ITEM # 11**

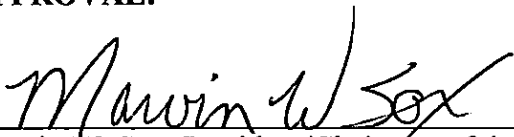
**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** There was no action taken during the executive session.

**AGENDA ITEM # 12**

**ADJOURNMENT:** There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary

**APPROVAL:**

  
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Marvin W. Sox, President/Chairman of the Board

**S.C. 37 LEXINGTON**

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

**RESOLUTION**


**# 1**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees reviewed and noted two scrivener errors to the minutes of the regular monthly meeting held on March 26, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees approved the minutes with the noted corrections;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby approves the minutes for the March 26, 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 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**, Mr. Paulling discussed the on-peak energy cost included in the wholesale power cost from Central Electric Power Cooperative for the summer months; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Paulling recommended under the Cooperative's Schedule MAF - Monthly Adjustment Factor that the Cooperative should index up by \$0.0050 per kWh beginning June 1, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, after careful consideration, the Board of Trustees agrees with Mr. Paulling's recommendation;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. that the Cooperative's retail rates shall be indexed up by \$0.0050 per kWh effective with regard to all bills rendered by the Cooperative on or after June 1, 2024.

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 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 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**, Mr. Paulling presented changes to the Service Rules and Regulations – Provided Services; and

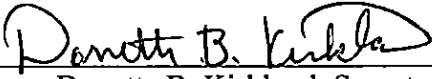
**WHEREAS**, there was a recommendation to add a deposit for Active Members with a B Credit Rating transferring service; and

**WHEREAS**, there was a recommendation to breakout the metering tampering fees based on the type of service needed by the Cooperative;

**WHEREAS**, after a discussion, the Board agreed with the recommendations;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. hereby approves the recommended changes to Service Rules and Regulations - Provided Services regarding Deposit and Meter Tampering Fees. The policy is attached hereto.

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 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024, at which meeting a quorum was present.

  
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Donette B. Kirkland, Secretary

**MID-CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.  
 PROVIDED SERVICES AND APPLICABLE CHARGES**

<u>ELECTRICAL SERVICES</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>
Membership Fee .....	\$ 15.00
No or Bad Credit Deposit (Minimum) .....	\$ 500.00
Active Members with a B Credit Rating Transferring Service Deposit .....	\$ 350.00
Final notice processed and mailed .....	\$ 4.00
Trip or Reconnect non-payment by Meter Technician (regular/after hours) ....	\$ 35.00/50.00
Trip or Reconnect non-payment by Service/Line Crew (regular/after hours) ...	\$ 75.00/125.00
Return check charge .....	\$ 25.00
Connect new service after regular hours (existing meter connection).....	\$ 50.00
Residential Surge Guard installation .....	\$ 250.00
Commercial Surge Guard installation .....	\$ 300.00
Residential Energy Audit .....	\$ 25.00
Commercial Energy Audit .....	\$ 50.00
Additional required facilities .....	\$ Cost Difference of Standard Installation
Manual Switch Installation for outdoor lighting.....	\$ 200.00
Change out type of outdoor lighting (at consumer request) .....	\$ 200.00
Relocate outdoor lighting pole (30' typical) .....	\$ Actual Costs
Upgrade facilities due to change in character of service.....	\$ Actual Costs
<u>METERING FEE</u>	
Meter Test Fee – (single & poly phase) .....	\$ 25.00
Meter Relocate Fee .....	\$ Actual Costs
<del>Meter Tampering Fee .....</del>	<del>\$ 150.00</del>
Meter Tampering Fee – Meter Technician Only 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense.....	\$ 250.00
Meter Tampering Fee – Meter Technician Only Multiple Offenses.....	\$ 500.00
Meter Tampering Fee – Meter Tech & Service Truck 1 <sup>st</sup> Offense.....	\$ 400.00
Meter Tampering Fee – Meter Tech & Service Truck Multiple Offenses.....	\$ 800.00
<u>SERVICE INSTALLATION</u>	
Account set-up fee.....	\$ 10.00
Pay As You Go set-up fee .....	\$ 35.00
Connect service after regular hours by service crew .....	\$ 75.00
Primary underground installation .....	\$ 17.50/ft.
(single phase, not in underground subdivision, new construction only)	
Secondary underground installation (not in underground subdivision) .....	\$ 300.00 plus 6.50/ft.
Replace existing overhead service with underground service .....	\$ 300.00 plus 6.50/ft.
Replace existing overhead service and fiber with underground.....	\$ 500.00 plus 8.00/ft.
Relocate existing underground service .....	\$ 300.00 plus 6.50/ft.
Relocate existing underground service and fiber.....	\$ 500.00 plus 8.00/ft.
<u>GENERAL</u>	
House moving assistance (A deposit for estimated cost as well as a signed contract will be required with an advance of a five (5) day notice) .....	\$ Actual Costs
Unclaimed Capital Credit Account Maintenance .....	\$ 5.00/month

*Members of the Cooperative are automatically enrolled in Operation Round Up®. By rounding up electric bills to the next highest dollar, these funds are distributed to approved local charities and needy individuals. Members may opt-out by contacting the Cooperative.*

REVISED: 4/24/2024