



Egyptian Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting

Pursuant to notice, the 80th annual membership meeting of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association was held at the offices of the Cooperative, located at 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, Illinois, the evening of July 17, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Ken Jarrett. The National Anthem was played, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The invocation was given by Rev. Paul Hicks, pastor of the Murdale Baptist Church of Carbondale.

Mr. Jarrett reported that a quorum was present prior to the start of the meeting. There were 430 registered members and 748 total attendees. A list of those members is attached to these minutes.

Secretary/Treasurer Paul Hicks then presented the official notice of the meeting, the certificate of mailing, and moved that said notice and certificate be approved. Motion was seconded by Robert Saupe. Motion carried. Mr. Hicks moved to dispense with the reading of the 2017 minutes and that they be approved as printed. Motion was seconded by Jean Kroening. Motion carried.

Mr. Dwayne Mulholland, Acting Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the report of the Nominating Committee meeting, held May 8, 2018, at which time Paul Pyatt, Pinckneyville, Paul Hicks, Carbondale and Randall Campbell, Chester, were officially nominated for the office of director for the ensuing three years.

Attorney William Broom was called upon to conduct the election of directors. There were no nominations by petition nor were there any nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Lawrence Dietz, seconded by Shirley Jones, to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Paul Pyatt, Paul Hicks, and Randall Campbell, as directors for a three-year term. Motion carried.

Mr. Hicks presented the treasurer's report for 2017 and moved that the

treasurer's report be approved. Motion was seconded by Janet Louveau. Motion carried.

President Jarrett welcomed everyone and reminded them that every registered member would receive a \$15 electric credit on their August bill. He focused his report on the transition of moving into the new headquarters facility. He also stated that members were free to approach board members at any time to discuss topics of concern.

Executive Vice President/General Manager Shane Hermetz started his remarks by welcoming all members to the new headquarters of the Cooperative. He focused his report on the topics of change in the organization and rate stability. He discussed recent retirements and how the Cooperative transitioned into the new facility. He mentioned in recent weeks that the Cooperative received an inquiry into the property at Steeleville and that the Board of Directors guided him to discussions of a possible sale of the property. He marked tonight's event by announcing that a dedication plaque would be placed in the front lobby to memorialize the opening of the headquarters facility.

Mr. Hermetz then discussed electric rates. The last rate adjustment was made in 2012. Due to increased costs, namely an average 5.6% rate increase from SIPC, Cooperative members received a rate adjustment starting with their April 2018 bills. Mr. Hermetz explained that the increase was 4.7% for residential accounts and a slightly higher increase for commercial and industrial accounts. EECA had the fourth lowest rates of all Illinois electric cooperatives in 2017.

Hermetz noted a Cooperative is different than other electric utilities. He informed the membership that the Cooperative principle of Economic Participation was on full display in the returning of capital credits. Last year, the cooperative returned about \$670,000 in

capital credits and more than \$130,000 estate retirements. From the beginning of the Cooperative, EECA has returned close to ten (10) million dollars in capital credits to its members.

Hermetz noted that the Cooperative principal of Concern for Community was on display in the recent awarding of a USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program (REDLG) project being awarded to Degognia Fountain Bluff Levee district in the amount of \$360,000. Members were reminded of the various programs the Cooperative currently has in place for their benefit. It was suggested that members read the Illinois Country Living to keep abreast of national, state, and local updates, as well as member topics. They should also visit our website, Facebook page and Twitter. Mr. Hermetz concluded by introducing the guests in attendance from the AIEC, SIPC, and visiting Cooperatives as well as past employees and directors.

There was no old business. There was no new business.

President Jarrett called to adjourn the business meeting at 7:04 p.m. and on a motion by John Bochantin, seconded by Ralph Timpner, motion carried.

Following the business meeting, drawings from 90 applicants present for ten \$1,000 scholarships was held. Scholarship winners were Lindsay Hammel of Steeleville; Joel Rahlfs of Ellis Grove; Kyle Chambers of Murphysboro; Calvin Clendenin of Rockwood; Marshall Brown of Carterville; Kelsey Stanton of Murphysboro; Elizabeth Koester of Red Bud; Connor Graeff of Murphysboro; Olivia Savka of Carbondale; and Adam Krisby of Sparta.

A \$250 drawing for signing up to use the app Smarthub was awarded to Patty Johnson. The drawing for attendance prizes concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Hicks, Secretary