

# From the WCE boardroom

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held Nov. 26, 2024

A meeting of the board of directors of West Central Electric Cooperative was held at the offices of the Cooperative, in Higginsville, Missouri, at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024, pursuant to the bylaws of the cooperative and previous resolution of the board of directors. The meeting was called to order by President Densil Allen Jr. Attorney Sheri Smiley caused the minutes of the meeting to be kept. The following directors were present: Clark Bredehoeft, Richard Strobel, Dale Jarman, Robert Simmons, Colby Dowell and Elizabeth Houtsma. Stan Rhodes and Jeremy Ahmann were absent. Also present was General Manager Michael Newland.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

After discussion, the agenda was approved as presented.

## APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved its consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the regular meeting of Oct. 24, 2024; expenditures for the month of October 2024; new membership applications and membership terminations.

## APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The following October reports were approved:

**Financing and Treasurer's Report:** Accounting Manager Rebecca Hoefficker presented the October 2024 Operating Report (RUS Form 7) and Comparative Operating Statement. She reviewed the Financial and Statistical Report and Treasurer's Report with monthly and annual budget comparisons. She also gave the investment report. She presented and reviewed statistical data pertaining to operating revenue, expenses, margins, assets, liabilities, cash flow management, and KWH sales and ratios. She reported on the impact a large load has. She reported on interest rates and the impact to the budget of the make-ready work and vehicle sales. Billing that has gone out on the hurricane help was reported on.

### Operations Report

Operations Manager Scott Gard provided an oral report to supplement his written Operations Report. He reported on crews, and outages and causes for the month. He gave a mechanic and and fleet report. He also gave a brush crew and right-of-way report.

**Safety and Engineering Report:** Engineering Manager Pete Nelson provided an oral report to supplement his written Safety and Engineering Report. As of Oct. 31, 2024, employees have worked 729 days without a lost-time accident. Co-op employees drove a total of 47,135 miles as of the end of October without a serious accident. He reported on safety meeting presentations, including working load limits and minimum breaking strength. Crew visits and issues with locates were discussed.

**Member Services Report:** Member Services Manager Brent Schlotzhauer provided his written Member Services Report. His report included RoundUp enrollment and RoundUp updates. Communications Specialist Heather Hoflander gave a report on the Cooperative Insights Member Engagement Summit she attended. The FFA Area IV speech contest was judged by the cooperative, trick-or-treat events attended were reported on, a new member services meeting was attended and



the Oak Grove High School senior mock job interview day was attended. A presentation was also given to the Lafayette County 4-H County Council.

### IT Report:

IT Manager Tim Bowler gave the IT report. He discussed locates, phishing emails and ransomware. AMI features were discussed and daily reports that will be able to be generated.

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Dowell and Jarman gave an update on the scholarship committee including potential ways to get new applicants.

### REVIEW AND APPROVE THE 2025 BOARD MEETING DATES

The 2025 board meeting dates were reviewed and approved:

January 22-23 – Board retreat and Monthly Board Meeting,  
February 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, August 28,  
September 25, October 23, November 25, December 18.

### BOARD PER DIEM

A discussion was held on the board per diem. The board per diem was set at \$400 a meeting, effective Jan.1, 2025.

### LEGAL REPORT

Smiley gave the legal report for the month.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Newland presented the monthly Manager's Report. He reported 4-H kids will submit photos for next year's calendar. An annual emergency preparedness meeting was held. He is reviewing department budgets and tree-trimming contract rates. The manager's fall meeting at Associated Electric was reported on. A rates and cost-of-service study from Toth was updated on, and different scenarios for a potential rate increase will be reviewed next month. He discussed deferred revenue and when to bring it back in. He reviewed projects being done office wide.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

None.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### October 2024 Statement of Operations

	This month	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,900,523</b>	<b>\$31,017,585</b>	<b>\$27,429,293</b>
Power Bill Expense	1,803,537	18,814,754	15,856,577
Operation & Maintenance Expense	822,402	7,385,930	6,426,968
Depreciation Expense	213,745	2,101,268	2,236,153
Interest Expense	135,805	1,331,563	1,240,215
<b>Total cost of Service (Total Expenses)</b>	<b>2,975,489</b>	<b>29,633,515</b>	<b>25,759,913</b>
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	(74,966)	1,384,070	1,669,380
Other Margins	26,542	295,639	577,751
<b>TOTAL MARGINS</b>	<b>\$(48,424)</b>	<b>\$1,679,709</b>	<b>\$2,247,131</b>