ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Annual Membership Meeting of Fayette Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on July 19, 2023, at the KC Community Center in La Grange, Texas, County of Fayette, with registration beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the business meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m.

Most of the members of the Board of Directors were present, namely: David Lehmann, Bill Briscoe, David A. Stancik, Leo C. Henke, Gale Lincke, and James A. Anderle. Also present was Karen Mahoney-Woods, the Cooperative's attorney. Director Joseph D. Kruppa was unable to attend.

Members of the Fayette County 4-H clubs provided assorted cookies, lemonade, and coffee to the members attending the meeting. Several guests were also present with an approximate total attendance of 483.

President Lehmann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed the members and their guests to the Annual Membership Meeting of Fayette Electric Cooperative. Then he recognized members who were attending their first annual meeting.

President Lehmann stated the purpose of the meeting was to provide the board and management the opportunity to present an update on the activities of the Cooperative, and to elect two directors to represent members in Districts 6 and 7. For safety purposes, he also indicated the locations of the exit signs in the event of an emergency.

After the invocation was presented by Director David A. Stancik, the members and their guests sang the National Anthem. Director James A. Anderle then led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas flag.

President Lehmann then introduced General Manager Gary Don Nietsche who recognized the Fayette County 4-H Club members, their parents, leaders, and volunteers for their years of support and for providing and serving the refreshments.

The Manager also recognized State Representative Stan Kitzman and thanked him for attending. He also recognized Ewald Kubota of La Grange and Kleiber Tractor and Equipment for providing the use of their utility vehicles to transport members and their guests to the front steps of the KC Community Center.

Finally, the Manager recognized the Cooperative's employees who could be identified by those wearing gray shirts. He stated that they, along with Cooperative directors, would be available after the meeting should they have a question or concern.

The President then introduced the directors and the Cooperative's attorney. Next, he requested Board Secretary Bill Briscoe report the number of members registered. Secretary Briscoe reported that 369 members (records show that five more members registered after the meeting was called to order) had registered at the meeting at the time the meeting was called to order, all of whom are listed as follows:

Adams, Norma C. Holub, Waylon by wife Jackie Olsovsky, Haley L. Adams, Vincent L. Hostyn Parish by Roxann Olsovsky, Mark

Alvarado, Michael by wife Anderle, James A. by wife Anders, Linda M. Anders, Wayne A. by wife Linda Aschenbeck, Herman Aungier, Marlene G. Baca, James R. by wife Balzer, Robert E. Bamsch, Raymond R. Barton, Johnny A. Bauer, Alice A. Bayer, Erwin J. Becker, Caroline R. Behrens, Richard by wife Eileen Behrens, William K. Bellamy, Mariette A. Belota, Dennis M. Belota, Robert L. Berger, Kenneth B. Berger, Robert E. Berwick, Virginia Blankenburg, Carolyn Bockhorn, Bruce Boehnke, Wiley W. by wife Angeline Brandt, Roger by wife Janice Brautigam, Edward F. Brezina, Robert J. Brier, Joyce M. Briscoe, Bill Bronikowski, Robert Brossmann Redding, Roxann Brothers, Steven D. Brown, Corey M. Brown, Donald C. Burton, Donna P. Buscha, Carolyn J. Caflisch, Carlton R. Carter, Jimmy Castello, Cindy Castillo, Rachel S. Cernoch, Alvin J. Cernosek, Clement C. Jr. Cernosek, David Cernosek, Donald Cernosek, Henrietta

Cerny, Benjamin F.

Agamdzhanova, Yelena

Altwein, Glenn

Redding, Admin. Assistant Oltmann, Callan and Linda Hrbacek, Amos Oltmann Huebel, Larry J. Oncken, Carole J. Ivy, James D. Oppermann, Elton S. by wife Ivy, Kim M. Annie Jackson, Megan M. Ortiz, Juan C. Jakobeit, Connie L. Pargac, Gerald H. Janacek, C. J. Patalik, Elizabeth C. Janca, Jay C. by wife Dana Pavlica, Michael by wife Theresa Janda, Ann M. Pavlicek, Stephen E. Janda, Irene Perkins, Cheryl L. Janda, John B. Jr. Pesak, Douglas Q. by wife Sandy Petrasek, Donald J. Janda, Patricia J. Janecka, Leroy E. Sr. Petrich, Marilyn Janecka, Brett M. and Kristy M. Petty, Warren L. Pieper, Brandon L. Janak Jasek, Marcus J. Pieper, Roy C. Jasek, Johnny Pietsch, Betty Lou Jenkins, C. D. by wife Carol Pilat, Patrick J. Juergens, Ruby Platt, Daniel L. Jurak, Bernice A. Polasek, Gladys Jurk, Daniel Polasek, Jerry J. Julian, Ian M. and Connie Julian Polasek, Johnnie Joe Poppe, Shirley Kahlden, James H. Kahlden, Lanette Post Oak Ranch by Callan Kalina, Celine Oltmann, owner Price, Brad Kalinec, Daniel J. Kallus, Benedict by wife Dianna Proske, Robert Kallus, Russell by wife Tina Raabe, Molly A. Rabel, Glenn A. by wife Linda Kallus, Tina Kappler, Wayne E. Rabel, Kenneth Kaspar, Kayla M. and Kory Rabel, Steve Jr. Kaspar Radcliff, Judy Rainosek, Jerome P. and Anita Keilers, Kirby Kelley, Dan A. and Dawn I. Kelley Kelly, Mary Cole Khater, Ferdinand

M. Rainosek Rainosek, Leo John Rausl, Jimmie L. Read, Rodney R. Kilian, Beatrice Santos Reiss, Family Trust by Michael Kilty, William F. Jr. C. Reiss

Klam, Debbie Rettinger, Richard J. Kleihege Ranch by Marcel Rials, Sandra L. Ricicar, Allen G. by wife Kleihege, owner Klesel, Melvin J. Ripper, Francis H. Kloesel, Betty Raab Roan-Willirich, Kari A. Kloesel, Elizabeth L. Robbins, Michael L. Kobza, Gerald Rocky III Farm by Marian Kocian, Frankie J. Chamrad, owner

Koehl, Donnie by wife Rodibaugh, Scott by wife Cindy Koehn, E. Dale Roensch, Christopher A. by wife

Cerny, Georgia Cervantez, Sherri L. Chamrad, Marian Cherniss, Sandra K. and Kenneth D. Cherniss Christ, Clara A. Collins, Margie L. Colorado Valley Celltel by Kelly Allison, President Colorado Valley Communications, Inc., by Kelly Allison, President Coppinger, Mike Crim, Stephen Crum, Dennis J. Demel, Elroy A Denton, Tracy Derrick, David C. Dibala, Thomas C. Dowell, Michael R. Dudensing, Edgar Jr. Dusek, Douglas Dybala, Leonard M. E & H Fietsam Farm by Harold Fietsam, partner Ehler, Leehmann L. Elstner, Alfred Ermis, Basil Euton, Norma Ann by Donna Burton, Admin Faldyn, Clarence by wife Helen Fietsam, Joe Jr. Fietsam, Harold A. by wife Fietsam, Harold Jr. Fillip, Betty Jean Freudenberg, E L Friske, Patsy M. Fritsch, Mary Lou Fucik, Jimmie by wife Gracie Fulkerson, Doyle W. G & W Farm by Gracie Grohman, owner Gabler, Atlin F. Gaddes, Leroy R. by wife Linda Galipp, Henry Paul Jr. by wife Helen Gassmann, Cynthia Genzer, Glenda J. Gerecke, Daniel S.

Cerny, Daniel A.

Konvicka, Jo Ann Koopmann Catering by Allen Koopmann Kothmann, Marilyn Kovar, John D. by wife Madeline Kramer, Betty Arndt Krampota Account by Jerry and Peggy Krampota, owner Krenek, Lad A. Jr. Kristof, Tom F. by wife Gladys Kristynik, Anthony E. and Audrey A. Kristynik Krupala, Rudy Jr. by wife Mary Jane Kruppa, Edward C. Kubecka, James E. Kubenka, Stanley T. Kunkel, Gary B. and Jennifer C. Kunkel Kutac, Andrew Lafferty, Benjamin J. and Jerry N. Lafferty Lafferty, Franklin H. Latham, Ann Learned, Charles E. Ledbetter Fire Dept. Inc. by Rodney Read Lee, Steven W. DVM Leer, Dan L. by wife Lori Lehmann, David Lehmann, Douglas N. by wife Lorie Lev. Robert A. Lidiak, Doris A. Lincke, Gary and Gale Lincke Lorenz, Wesley A. Lorfing, L. P. Lueders, Clinton Jr. Mache, Kenneth R. Mache, Milton A. Machicek, Donnie by wife Shirley Machicek, George by wife Lorine Macik, Nicholas J. and Shirley K. Macik Malota, Bradley P. Marburger, Gilbert T. Marek, Thomas V. Marx, Ira Richard

Roensch, Donald by wife Christine Roscher, Glen Rucker, Mary Ann Rudloff, Danny D. Rudloff, Percy L. Ryza, Veronica M. and David Ryza Schilhab, William E. Schmidt, Alvis W. by wife Schmidt, Reese R. Schmitt, Edwin Schmitt, Sylvester Jr. Schneider, Jerry W. by wife Schramek, Eugene E. Schulman, Cheryl W. Schultz, Norman F. Schwenke, Derek J. Seidel, August G. Sera, Eugene J. Shank, Charles A. by wife Susie Shelby AM Legion Pt 602 by S. E. Pavlicek, officer Sommer, James P. by wife Melissa Srubar, Ronald E. and Rhonda K. Srubar Stancik, David A. Stardig, Ted Stone, Bob D. Stork, Randy D. Strmiska, Marilyn Sulak, Larry J. Sumbera, Jimmy L. Sumbera, Leonard J. by wife Surface, Omer L. Jr. and Carolyn A. Surface Surman, Jared R. Svatek, Martin R. Svec-Locke, Bobbye Jean Svetlik, Robert L. by wife Diana Svetlik, Willie Joe Svrcek, James L. Szwarc, Irene A. Templin, Donald E. Thiele, Kermit L. Sr. and Mildred J. Thiele Thompson, Ernest and Dottie Thompson Tompkins, Ray L.

Gest, Sandra Matthijetz, Janet K. Treybig, Bruce Giese, Henry C. Mazoch, Caroline Treybig, Cheryl M. Gilbertson, Alan G. and Sallie Meinke, Colton D. Trinity Evan Luth Ch by Allen A. Gilbertson Meischen, Warren Bellamy, past president Triolo, Carlo A. by wife Gillings, Bernadette A. Mercer, H. Nicholas Goerig, Cathy Turlington, Jeremy R. and Meyer, Elmer Gosch, Jerry by wife Nancy Mican, Dennis J. Amanda R. Gray-Bartek, Clara Mican, Gilbert P. Ulrich, Elmer A. Greener, Kenneth R. Michalke, Mark E. Urban, James E. Grones, Allen R. Michalke, William R. Vacula, Dennis Migura, Madeline G. Vacula, Louis Jr. Guenther, Peggy Gullick, Milton L. Mikes, Eugene L. Vavra, John A. by wife Rebecca Hamilton, Karin Agness Mikulin, Mark E. by wife Velasquez, Joyce A. Hanzelka, Pat Hanzelka Farm Veselka, Paul by wife Barbara Susannah Hartmann, Kyle A. Villarreal, Leo A. by wife Milder, Carolyn A. and Louis H. Hasse, Lorene Vinklarek, Charles W. Milder Haueisen, James P. Miller, Michael S. Vinklarek, Eugene Heintschel, Leon L. by wife Joan Minzenmeyer, Johnelle Vornsand-Brandt by Harvey Heintschel, Milton L. Moore, Dawn Vornsand, partner Henke, Leo C. Jr. by wife Moore, Mary D. Votaw, Leslie T. by wife Morris, Nancy White Dorothy Elizabeth Mueller, Douglas C. Henneke, Matthew P. by wife Vyvial Georgia Ann Jennifer Mueller, Thomas E. Wagner, Helen Fay Herbrich, August by wife Linda Muenster, Earlene Wait, Russell Herbrich, Daniel R. Muesse, Ginger Walla, David F. Hermes, Mark A. and Ashley N. Munsch, Rebecca S. Walla, Gary W. Hermes Muras, Gladys A. Weikel, Agnes Hermis, Walter J. by wife Josie Muras, Ivan A. White, John W. by wife Mary Herzik, Charles Muras, Mary Jane Wick, Leo J. Hoelscher, Leo H. Naumann, Stuart Wick, Leo John Hoffmann, Richard by wife New Bielau Community Center Wick, Marvin J. and Shirley A. by Mariette A. Bellamy, Margaret Wick Hoffmann, Wilbert V. Sec./Treas. Winkler, Gilbert A. Neiser, Janie A. Holik, Marvin James Woelfel, Gwened Hollas, Harvey Niesner, David J. Wolfington, Ronald E. Hollas, Robert Norwood, Kathy L. Wood, Willard Jr. Noska, Roy G. by wife Karen Woods, Glen M. by wife Karen Holub, James D. Novak, James J. Youens, Kiesha Holub, James D. Ohnheiser, Fred E. Jr. Zbranek, Dennis W. Holub, Patsy Ohnheiser, Joyce W. Holub, Robert Lane Zuhn, Michael Olsovsky, Dennis S. Holub, Virginia S.

The Secretary then read the Official Notice of the Meeting followed by the Proof of Mailing, all being made a part of these minutes as Exhibits A & B.

The President then stated that the Secretary normally read the minutes of last year's annual meeting; however, in the interest of time, the President entertained a motion from the floor to dispense with the reading thereof. Upon motion by Linda Anders, seconded by Ted Starding, it was:

RESOLVED, That the membership waive the reading of the minutes of the July 20, 2022, annual meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Before the prize drawing was held, President Lehmann announced that each member who registered for the annual meeting would receive a \$10 energy bill credit as an attendance prize. This amount, he said, would be automatically deducted from their next utility bill.

Next, the President announced that there would be a drawing for attendance door prizes. Directors Gale Lincke and Leo C. Henke drew the names of 21 door prize winners.

The President then asked FEC Attorney Karen Mahoney-Woods to report the names of those officially nominated at the District 6 and 7 meetings which were held in May and to conduct the election of the two directors.

Attorney Woods then proceeded with the election of directors. She stated that the District 6 meeting was held on May 16, 2023, and that Bill Briscoe was the only candidate nominated, and upon a voice vote, he received a unanimous vote of those present and voting and was thereupon declared to be the sole nominee for director of District 6. She then asked for a motion that Bill Briscoe be elected director of District 6 by acclamation. Upon motion by Steve Lee, seconded by Elizabeth Kloesel, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED, That Bill Briscoe be elected as director of District 6.

Attorney Woods stated that the District 7 meeting was held on May 15, 2023, and that David A. Stancik was the only candidate nominated, and upon a voice vote, he received a unanimous vote of those present and voting and was thereupon declared to be the sole nominee for director of District 7. She then asked for a motion that David A. Stancik be elected director of District 7 by acclamation. Upon motion by James Ivy, seconded by Steve Pavlicek, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED, That David A. Stancik be elected as director of District 7.

Attorney Woods then asked the newly elected directors to present a few brief remarks. Director Briscoe and Director Stancik each took turns thanking the membership for electing them.

President Lehmann returned to the podium and asked Tracy Denton to introduce the Scholarship and Youth Tour winners.

The 2023 Rural Scholarship winners, who will each receive a \$1,500 scholarship, and their parents were introduced to the audience as follows:

Kannyn Goehring, son of Christie and Blake Goehring, Kylee Kelley, daughter of Dawn and Dan Kelley, Tamara Otto, daughter of Stacy and Keith Otto, Campbell Youens, daughter of Kiesha and Mark Youens

The 2023 Trade & Technical School Scholarship winners, who will each receive a \$1,500 scholarship, and their parents were then introduced as follows:

Tadan Alvarado, son of Tabatha and Michael Alvarado, **Jacob Polasek**, son of Dana and the late Michael Polasek

Next, Mrs. Denton introduced the 2023 Government-in-Action Youth Tour participant who presented a short speech about her trip to Washington, D.C.

Delaney Turlington, daughter of Jeremy and Amanda Turlington, spoke about her experience on the trip and urged other local youths to apply.

The President then returned to the podium and asked for a round of applause for both the scholarship and Youth Tour winners. He then stated that the Report of the Board and Management for the year 2022 would be presented in a videotaped message by the Cooperative's General Manager, Gary Don Nietsche.

In the video update, Mr. Nietsche provided a review of the Cooperative's business over the past year, including FEC's financials, the growth of its system, system improvements, an explanation of the rate increase and updates on the Cooperative's new headquarters building.

At year-end 2022, the utility plant-in-service totaled \$107.4 million dollars, which was an increase in value of \$6.1 million dollars from 2021. Operating revenues were \$34.7 million dollars, a decrease of \$6.3 million dollars from 2021. This decrease was due to costs incurred from Winter Storm Uri in 2021 and lower energy prices due to lower-priced energy contracts taking effect. Total operating expenses were \$29.3 million dollars, which was a decrease from \$35.7 million the prior year. This decrease was the result of increased purchased power costs during Winter Storm Uri in 2021. The Co-op's assets grew to \$95.7 million dollars, up from \$93.8 million dollars in 2021. This increase was due to the increased cost of materials and new services throughout our service territory.

The Cooperative ended the year with a \$705,769 margin that will eventually be returned to members as capital credits.

In December of last year, the FEC board of directors approved a rate increase of 2.95% for the Cooperative. This increase was necessary to ensure the Cooperative's financial stability and its ability to deliver affordable and reliable power to its members. The Cooperative also continues to have new members building homes and opening businesses in the Cooperative's service territory. As a result, the Cooperative faces increases in capital improvement expenditures in order to extend service to new members as well as maintain and improve its system for service to all members.

The increase in capital expenditures includes the cost to finance and construct a new headquarters facility. Moving from the decades-old current building, originally built in 1964, into a modern one will improve operational and organizational efficiencies within the Cooperative, including better customer service for members and retention, recruitment and training of Cooperative employees. The new location will be on Von Minden Road adjacent to our existing pole yard. A planned move-in date of June 2024 is expected.

To round out his report, Mr. Nietsche recognized three employees who reached milestones in their careers: Doyle "Tiger" Hall for 15 years of service; Leo C. Henke, 20 years; and Brandon Piper, 25 years.

The President then returned to the podium and asked for a motion to accept the Report of the Board and Management for the year 2022. Upon motion by Norman Schultz, seconded by Dave Derrick, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED, That the Report of the Board and Management for the year 2022 be accepted.

Next, the President announced that there would be another drawing for attendance door prizes. Directors Gale Lincke and Leo C. Henke drew the names of 21 door prize winners.

President Lehmann then announced that Director James A. Anderle would draw the names of the Children's Prize Drawing. Four winners' names were then announced by Director Anderle.

The President then called on General Manager Gary Don Nietsche to announce the winners of the Sharing Success Grant Program. The Manager, with the assistance of President David Lehmann, presented grants to the following non-profit organizations:

Fayette Community Foundation for the Fayette Electric Cooperative Charitable Fund in the amount of \$7,500

Turtle Wing Foundation in the amount of \$7,500

Navidad Valley Community Connections in the amount of \$5,000

President Lehmann then returned to the podium and opened the floor for other business. H. Nicholas Mercer approached the microphone and spoke about the history of the Cooperative's Power Cost Pass Through charge from 2008 to 2022. Afterwards, Rodney Read approached the microphone and thanked Fayette Electric Cooperative for its support of the Ledbetter Lane of Lights and the Ledbetter Volunteer Fire Department. He also asked the newly elected directors if they knew how many votes they each received at their respective district meetings.

There being no other business, President Lehmann thanked the members for attending their annual membership meeting. He then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Upon motion by Rodney Read, seconded by Dave Derrick, it was:

RESOLVED, That the annual membership meeting of Fayette Electric Cooperative be adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The President then asked Directors Gale Linck door prizes.	te and Leo C. Henke to draw the remaining 27 attendance
door prizes.	
David Lehmann, President	Bill Briscoe, Secretary

JOIN US FOR THE



ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

5:30 P.M.

Doors Open for Registration

7 P.M.

Call to Order and Welcome Invocation **National Anthem** Pledge of Allegiance & Pledge to the Texas Flag **Introduction of Guests & Employees Introduction of Directors** Report of Registered Members & Quorum Reading of Official Notice of Annual Meeting **Approval of Minutes Drawing of Attendance Prizes Director Elections Director Comments** Introduction of Scholarship Recipients **Youth Tour Report** Report of Board & Management **Drawing of Attendance Prizes Drawing of Children's Prizes Sharing Success Grant Winners Other Business** Adjournment **Drawing of Attendance Prizes**



4-H members will be serving cookies, lemonade and coffee between 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Affidavit of Publication

I do hereby attest that the Official Notice of Annual Meeting of Fayette Electric Cooperative was published in the July 2023 issue of Texas Co-Op Power and mailed to the 10,332 members of record of the cooperative on June 28, 2023.

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Karen Nejtek, Production Managér, Texas Co-Op Power

State of Texas

County of Travis

Before me, Jennifer Johnston, a notary public, on this day personally appeared Karen Nejtek, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this _____ day of_

JENNIFER JOHNSTON Notary Public, State of Texas Comm. Expires 11-07-2024 Notary ID 12919680-4