

BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2021

The Board of Directors of Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation (BRMEMC) met in Regular Session on March 9, 2021. Board Chairman Ray Cook called the meeting to order at 5:50PM.

The invocation was led by Director Rogers , followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Director Trull

The following Directors were present as noted by Board Secretary Perren and were in attendance during the Board Meeting:

Ray Cook, President/Chair
Danny Henson, Director
Jack Lance, Director
Jeff Ledford, Director
Gene Mason, Director
Cory Payne, Director
Roy Perren, Director
Bert Rogers, Director
Gayland Trull, Director

The following Staff were recognized by the Chair and were present during Regular Session:
Erik Brinke, Interim General Manager
Charles Autry, Board Attorney

The following Staff were recognized by the Chair and were present during Regular Session via Zoom:

Amanda Holdaway, Director of Finance and Acct.
Fred Gray, Director of Operations
Daniel Frizzell, Director of Engineering
Kelly Crawford, Manager of Communications
Sonny Mahan, Director of Member Services

Allan Glidewell, nominee for General Manager was present.

Upon request of Chairman Cook, the Meeting Agenda for March 9, 2021 was considered. A motion to approve the Agenda was approved by unanimous vote upon Motion by Director Payne seconded by Director Ledford.

Upon request of Chairman Cook, the Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 9, 2021 were considered. A motion to approve the minutes was approved by unanimous vote upon Motion by Director Henson, seconded by Director Rogers.

Board Chair Cook asked for any declarations of conflicts of interest by the Directors and none were found.

Director Payne presented the Finance Committee report of the Committee meeting of March 9, 2021, at 5:00 PM, to the Board, which was noted by the Chair as received and to be filed with the Minutes of the meeting for subsequent audit. The committee also reviewed second quarter budget reviews

Director Rogers presented the Policy and Public Relations Committee report of the committee meeting of March 9, 2021. The committee approved minutes from the last meeting and did not take up any further business.

Interim General Manager, Erik Brinke presented the financial report

Other Staff Reports were presented in the board packet as available for review by members of the Board.

Member Comments:

None

Old Business:

Survey & Ballot Systems – Voting Systems Provider Research

Interim General Manager presented research on voting systems. Found 7 companies that handle this type voting. We will continue to use Survey & Ballot Systems this year while continuing to investigate and get quotes from the other vendors

NGNC Asset Transfer

Interim General Manager Erik Brinke presented information on the NGN Asset Transfer. Asset transfer should be completed soon.

Temporary Broadband Construction Contractor

Interim General Manager Erik Brinke, Director of Engineering, Daniel Frizzell and Director of Operations Fred Gray have been observing contractor. The work they are doing is good but the length of time to complete the job is too long. Frizzell states we need another contractor to help with the project. Will discuss situation with current contractor and make him aware of deadline. Will make every possible effort to work with current contractor before seeking additional contractors. Director Payne presented motion, seconded by Director Henson to authorize staff to take steps necessary to get project on schedule including speaking with current contract on their ability to complete the task. Additional contractors may be required to meet a completion schedule. After discussion the motion was passed by unanimous vote of the board.

New Business:

Zoning of Old HQ Property

City of Young Harris willing to amend industrial zoning to include additional uses.

Director Report:

Director Cook asked about a specific power outage that impacted members fed out of Nottely Substation

Manager Report:

Interim General Manager Erik Brinke presented the following items for the manager's report

1. BRMEMC has implemented additional security enhancements in the public areas of the Co-op. Ballistic glass has now been installed in Customer Service Walk-in Offices increasing our physical security in the public areas of our building. This installation was the final piece of our planned physical security upgrades.

2. BRMEMC Crews offered Mutual Aid to Upper Cumberland EMC (TN) and Southside EC (VA), two Co-op's significantly impacted by ice storms. Southside EC in Virginia sustained the most damage we are aware of with over 720 poles broken and an estimated \$18.8 MM in total cost. Both crews have since returned and both stated that they were treated very well by their hosts.

3. BRMEMC's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan forgiveness application has been sent to SBA for review and approval. SBA has up to ninety (90) days to process the application. Our contacts at Regions Bank have said they see no reason why we would be denied the loan forgiveness.

4. BRMEMC has connected the Georgia Mountain Fair with TVA -ED and has been awarded a low-interest loan to expand campsites/RV sites at the Fairgrounds by a total of 38. TVA-ED has provided financial support several times over the years to the Georgia Mountain Fair, and we are excited about this expansion which will bring visitors to the area who will stay for extended periods and spend money in our community.

Other Business:

None

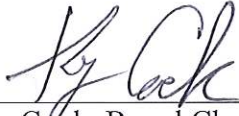
The board adjourned at 6:59PM before going into Executive Session

The came out of Executive Session. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM

Respectfully submitted, this, the 12th day of April 2021.

Roy Perren,
Secretary of the Board of Directors, BRMEMC

ATTEST: The undersigned EMC officers attest that the foregoing minutes of the Board Meeting on the 9th day of March 2021, were approved in Regular Session of the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC Board of Directors on the 13th day of April 2021.



Ray Cook, Board Chairman



Roy Perren, Secretary