



# **FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

## **2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025**

The 87th Annual Meeting of Members of Firelands Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Saturday, March 29, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Ashland University Convocation Center in Ashland, Ohio. The meeting was held pursuant to the Code of Regulations of the Cooperative.

Dan Schloemer, President of the Board of Trustees, welcomed the members to the meeting. President Schloemer then introduced Kevin Reidy, Trustee from District 6, and Greg Hess, Trustee from District 7. Trustee Reidy gave the Invocation. Trustee Hess lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Schloemer called the business meeting to order. In a pre-recorded video, Andrea Gravenhorst introduced the Trustees.

Carl Ayers, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, reported that by virtue of the ballots cast by mail and electronically and the members present, a quorum was present pursuant to the Cooperative's Code of Regulations. The Secretary reported that the members had been notified of the Annual Meeting in accordance with the Cooperative's Code of Regulations. He reported that minutes of last year's Annual Meeting, which was held April 6, 2024, had been distributed to the members upon their registration for this meeting. The Secretary called for approval of the minutes. Thereafter, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the reading of the minutes was waived, and the minutes were approved as presented.

President Schloemer presented a pre-recorded video of Craig Grooms, President of Ohio's Electric Cooperatives. President Grooms advised on the good performance of the power plant. President Grooms advised that the new presidential administration shares the cooperatives' concerns for energy, and it is believed that the energy policies will become more favorable. President Grooms advised that OEC would continue to build relationships with government officials.

President Schloemer provided an update on the Cooperative. The President recognized Trustee Leimbach for his years of service, and recognized Trustee Oswald for her quick completion of new trustee training. The President advised that BHM CPAs had performed an audit of the Cooperative, but due to the early scheduling of the Annual Meeting this year, the results were not able to be shared in time. The President advised that the Cooperative invested 4.3 million in capital improvements, and for the third year in a row, \$1 million was returned to the members in capital credits. The President advised that the Cooperative was keeping on top of cyber security, and thanked Andrea Gravenhorst for her work in said area. The President recognized the projects completed through money provided by the People's Fund. The President recognized employee Robert Shepherd for his time in Guatemala working with Project Ohio to bring electricity to homes in rural parts of the country, and recognized the crews that went to North Carolina to help restore power after the hurricane.

President Schloemer introduced Don Englet, General Manager of the Cooperative. GM Englet thanked Dan McNaull, retired General Manager and former Trustee, for his time with the Cooperative. GM Englet advised the members on America's Electric Cooperatives PAC and encouraged them to join. GM Englet advised on SAIDI, System Average Interruption Duration Index, and explained what a SAIDI score means. GM Englet advised on the tremendous SAIDI score the Cooperative had obtained in 2024. GM Englet described the work plan, new technology, and methods to help reduce the SAIDI score. GM Englet further advised that the Cooperative strives to be open and transparent with the members, shares information in numerous ways, and when members call, they speak to an actual person. GM Englet then introduced the Cooperative employees through a pre-recorded video.

The President introduced Attorney Heather Niedermeier Heyman to conduct the election of trustees. The attorney announced the results of the Cooperative's election conducted by mail and electronic ballot. She explained that for the 2025 trustee election the Board retained Coop Ballot of Dublin, Ohio to conduct the election. Ballots were mailed to the membership with instructions on how to cast the ballots and where and when to return them. The attorney advised that 647 valid votes were cast. This represented a participation rate of 8.14% of the membership in the voting process. The attorney reported that Lon Burton was running uncontested in District 4. The attorney advised that Carl Ayers was running uncontested in District 5. The attorney advised that Adrian Finlay and Elaine Oswald were running in District 8. The attorney reported that Lon Burton was elected in District 4, Carl Ayers was elected in District 5, and Adrian Finlay was elected in District 8.

The attorney invited each of the newly elected trustees to the podium. Each of the elected trustees came forward and introduced themselves to the members. President Schloemer called for any old business to come before the meeting. There being no old business, the President asked for new business. There being no new business presented by the membership, and without further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

**A copy of the 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes is also available on the cooperative's website at [www.firelandsec.com/cooperative-elections](http://www.firelandsec.com/cooperative-elections).**