

**TRI-COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING
July 24, 2018 – Troy, PA**

MINUTES

CHAIRMAN MATTHEW WHITING called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM. Chairman Whiting welcomed the members to the 82nd Annual Meeting of Tri-County Rural Electric Cooperative.

CHAIRMAN WHITING announced that the director election ballot box will close at 1:15 PM and directed the members as to the location of the ballot box.

DIRECTOR NICHOLAS REITTER gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIRMAN WHITING then advised that the purpose of the annual meeting is to conduct the director elections, announce the results of the election of directors, present annual reports and transact other business submitted following the proper procedure.

SECRETARY/TREASURER ALSTON TEETER presented the Proof of Mailing of the Official Notice, a copy of which is filed with the official minutes. Members received a complete copy of the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes in their registration packets. Secretary Teeter asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and asked that the motion include the approval of the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes as circulated. ***A motion was duly made and seconded to waive the reading and approve the 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes as circulated; motion carried.***

SECRETARY/TREASURER TEETER gave the Secretary/Treasurer's Report. Secretary Teeter reported that Tri-County continues to operate in a sound financial condition.

CHAIRMAN WHITING introduced Attorney Terra Koernig.

ATTORNEY TERRA KOERNIG reviewed the election process and introduced the Election and Credentials Committee. Attorney Koernig asked the Election & Credentials Committee Chairman Milton Shatto to come to the podium.

E & C COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MILTON SHATTO addressed the membership and presented the committee report stating that the election was fairly and impartially conducted and that the results were as follows:

District 1	- Jerome E. Sasala	266
District 1	- J. Thomas Wandel	127
District 4	- James R. Davis	169
District 7	- Alston A. Teeter	149

Therefore, the elected directors for three-year terms are District 1, Jerome E. Sasala; District 4, James R. Davis; and District 7, Alston A. Teeter. ***A motion was made by Mr. Shatto that the ballots be destroyed after the passing of three working days, given that no protests are received during that interval; motion was seconded and carried.***

CHAIRMAN WHITING introduced the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT & CEO CRAIG ECCHER introduced and thanked special guests – first and foremost the Tri-County employees for organizing and working the annual meeting, Jeff Fetzer, C&T Enterprises Corporate Communicator, Pete Yastishock, C&T Enterprises Director of Safety & Compliance, Katherine Cooper-Winters, Northwestern Rural Electric Cooperative Board Chairman, and Pete Fitzgerald, PREA Director of Communications & Member Services.

CHAIRMAN WHITING recognized the Tri-County participants in the 2018 NRECA Youth Tour.

CHAIRMAN WHITING provided the Chairman's Report. Chairman Whiting briefly reviewed the Cooperative's goal to be a first-class service provider through proven high reliability, superior member service and long-term financial health. Chairman Whiting also discussed the importance of seeking new opportunities to improve life in rural Pennsylvania. The cooperative is pursuing this goal through broadband deployment. Broadband deployment in our territory will enhance the use of telemedicine and distance learning, increasing efficiency and reducing costs across multiple sectors and demographics. Chairman Whiting touched on the financial health of the cooperative stating that Tri-County's goal is to make reliable electric energy and related services available to the members at the lowest cost consistent with sound economics and good management. This will result in a necessary rate increase in the future to help maintain system reliability and improve service to members.

CHAIRMAN WHITING introduced Craig Eccher, President & CEO of Tri-County.

CEO ECCHER stated that the cooperative works diligently to maintain electric infrastructure, utilize new technology, and improve member services. Tri-County has undertaken a project with Allegheny Electric Cooperative to encourage energy conservation and reduction of power costs; therefore, each member should have received LED lightbulbs. To address reliability, Tri-County invests in replacing poles each year that have failed our inspection program while also completing a transmission line and construction of a new substation in Lycoming County. The Cooperative also continues to invest in rights of way clearing as tree related outages have historically been a primary cause of power outages. The Cooperative is also promoting the use of Smart Hub, which enables our engineering department to improve the operation of the electric system while also enhancing communication with our membership. Tri-County has expanded our System Control and Data Acquisition System, deployed a new load management system, and completed a Geographical Information System project to improve member service. The Cooperative maintains very competitive rates and, due to system plant improvements since 2012, will be increasing rates slightly to account for these improvements. CEO Eccher touched on the cooperative's fiber optics and broadband internet project. As is known, many areas are lacking adequate connectivity infrastructure and it is very much needed in the Tri-County territory. Tri-County is participating in the FCC Connect America Fund II auction to generate potential grant funds for the project and are analyzing other opportunities for funding.

CHAIRMAN WHITING recognized the Member Advisory Committee and asked that if anyone was interested in becoming a committee member, they should contact their director.

CHAIRMAN WHITING called for questions/comments from the membership for CEO Eccher.

- Members asked questions regarding the annual plant investment and maintenance of the system. CEO Eccher responded with further details regarding the accomplishments in 2018 in these areas.
- Members asked questions regarding the broadband deployment project and CEO Eccher provided more information on the funding pursued and what it would mean for the membership to have an opportunity for high-speed internet through the Cooperative and a potential subsidiary.

THERE BEING no further business to come before the meeting, ***a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 PM.***

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Secretary

Date