

Illinois Country Living

20
23
ANNUAL
MEETING

Notice of Annual Meeting

Notice of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association (EECA) 85th Annual Meeting of the Members is being given to the membership by method of this July Illinois Country Living magazine. The Annual Meeting of the Members will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 13 at our headquarters facility at 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, Ill. Gates will open, and registration and food service will begin at 4:30 p.m. Boxed hot dog dinners, drinks, dilly bars and kettle corn will be provided to all in attendance. Extension cords and \$10 bill credits will be issued to each member upon registration (credit will be applied to August bills, one per membership). You can bring the registration card with the barcode below for expedited registration, but it is not required to attend. Entertainment will be provided by Bill Harper until 5:30 p.m., and then a live-line demonstration will be performed by our linemen. The business meeting will begin promptly at 6 p.m. onstage outdoors within our truck bays. Consumer-members will have the choice to join the meeting in person near the stage or by listening to the radio broadcast at 87.9 FM in their vehicle in on-site parking. We will conduct attendance prize drawings throughout the evening. Scholarship winners and \$1,000 in cash prizes will be drawn following the business meeting; winners must be in attendance.

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Registration Card. Cut out and bring to the meeting as your official registration.

Annual Meeting Scholarships

Ten - \$1,000 Scholarships to be awarded by drawing at the EECA Annual Meeting

- The applicant must be a member in good standing of EECA, or the dependent of a member of the Cooperative who is in good standing, and must have been a member for one year prior to July 13, 2023.
- The applicant must be enrolled, or have applied for enrollment, in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two or four-year college, university or vocational school for the Fall 2023 term.
- Application must be signed by the applicant and parent or legal guardian (if a dependent). Proof of college registration for Fall 2023 should be included with application.
- Verification of enrollment could include a payment installment, copy of school schedule, or equivalent proof. If proof of college registration is not provided with the application, winners will have until July 26, 2023, to produce verification of enrollment, or scholarship award will be passed on to alternate recipient.
- Applications and proof of enrollment must be returned to EECA by 4 p.m., July 5, 2023. Applications will be accepted by mail, fax, email or by dropping off in our after-hours dropbox.
- Prior annual meeting scholarship applicants are eligible. Prior scholarship recipients are ineligible.
- Scholarship drawings will take place live following the business meeting. Attendance for student and parent or legal guardian (if a dependent) is mandatory. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to scholarship winners in the mail.



Where does your dollar go?



2022 Statement of Earnings

Operating Revenue	\$42,770,661
Cost of Power	\$27,546,832
Operations & Maintenance	\$5,651,770
Depreciation, Interest & All Other	\$8,879,792
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$42,078,394
Operating Margins	\$692,267
Nonoperating Margins	\$248,536
Total EECA Margins	\$940,803
Total SIPC Capital Credits	\$1,112,668
Other Capital Credit Allocations	\$227,038
Total Capital Credits	\$2,280,509



Board of Director Elections

The 2nd Principle of the Rochdale Principles — democratic member control — states: “Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Those serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary, cooperative members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote), and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.”

You may ask, what does a director do? Not only do board members attend monthly board meeting (board meetings are typically the last Tuesday of each month at the Cooperative headquarters), but they are involved in mitigating risk, setting rates, understanding power supply, strategic planning, financial decision making, promoting the cooperative business model, gaining insights on political and environmental impacts, among others.

Voting in the Cooperative Director Election is one of the things that makes EECA a cooperative. Board candidates are co-op members, like you! When elected, board members serve three-year terms and seat a board of nine (9) directors. Each year at our annual meeting, the membership elects three (3) members to represent them on the board. We can't do it without you, so vote!

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee met at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at the headquarters office to nominate directors to be elected at the 2023 EECA Annual Meeting of the Members. The nominating committee nominated the following members for director seats, to serve a three-year term beginning in 2023:

- Rick Asaturian, Carbondale
- Mary Jo Homan, Chester
- Steve Prest, Coulterville

There were no nominations filed by petition during the 2023 director's cycle by the May 15, 2023 due date. Members of the 2023 Nominating Committee are: Matt Crain (Carbondale), Richard Fager (Murphysboro), Wes Fritsche (Marissa), Kenneth Hollmann (Gorham), Royce Hoops (Chester), Stuart Langrehr (Chair, Evansville), Jefferson Lindsey (Carbondale), Donald Stallman (Chester), and Cynthia Winter (Pinckneyville).

2023 Board Candidate Profiles



Rick Asaturian, Carbondale, is Vice President and Director of Building Systems Engineering at Asaturian-Eaton and Associates Engineering and Land Surveying Inc. in Carbondale and has worked there for 38 years. He has an Architectural Degree from SIU Carbondale. Rick and his wife, Suzanne, are longtime members of Egyptian Electric. They have been married for 35 years and have two daughters. He was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2020 and has since completed his National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Certified Credentialed Director (CCD) certification.



Mary Jo Homan, Chester, currently serves as the President/CEO of First National Bank in Pinckneyville and has been in the banking community for 40 years. She attended Belleville Area College and Career Development Banking School in Champaign/Urbana and currently serves on the Board of Directors for Community Bankers of Illinois (CBAI) and the Community Bankers Service Corporation (CBSC). Mary Jo was a board member of the Randolph County Startup and previously served as a Startup mentor and as member of the Chester Rotary District #6510 and Chester Chamber of Commerce. Mary Jo is a life member of Girl Scouts of the USA and was a troop leader for 13 years. Along with her husband Kevin, she resides in Chester, Ill. She was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2020 and has since completed her NRECA CCD certification.



Steve Prest, Coulterville, has served on the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Board since 2013. He has successfully completed his CCD and BLC, as well as maintained NRECA Director Gold status. During his tenure, he has served in all officer roles, most recently as Board President until 2020. Steve also represents our local cooperative on our statewide board, Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) in Springfield. He and his wife Carol have been married for 44 years and have a son, daughter and two grandchildren. He has a Master of Science Degree in Plant and Soil Science from SIU Carbondale and worked in the agricultural industry for 40 years prior to retirement in 2015.

Meeting Agenda

1. **Credential Committee Report**
The Committee will report on the number of members present and determination of a quorum.
2. **Reading of the Notice of the Annual Meeting** and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waiver(s) of notice of the meeting as the case may be.
3. **Reading of the Minutes** of the 2022 Annual Meeting and action to approve the minutes.
4. **Election** of three (3) board members.
5. **Presentation of Reports** from the Board Secretary-Treasurer, Board President, and the Executive Vice President/General Manager and consideration of necessary action thereon.
6. **Unfinished business**
7. **New business**
8. **Adjournment**

Randall Campbell

Randall Campbell, Secretary-Treasurer
EECA Board of Directors



Voting Authorization for Organizations

For Churches, Schools, and Other Public & Business Accounts

EECA requires a Letter of Authorization for all organization accounts, such as churches, schools, hospitals, etc., registering at the Annual Meeting of the Members. This can be done one of two ways: by completing this form or bringing an actual authorization letter.

To the right is the form that can be brought in place of a letter. Please note, all information needed in your letter is also required on this Letter of Authorization form and is to be brought to the Annual Meeting. The Letter of Authorization will also be available on our website under Annual Meeting.

Authorization letters must be on the organization's letterhead and include:

1. **Organization name and address**, as it appears on the monthly billing statement.
2. **Current Date**
3. **The EECA Account Number**
4. **The name of the Authorized Representative** that will attend the meeting and will be asked to sign the letter upon presentation at registration.
5. **Title and signature** of the Office of the Organization, or name on organization's billing statement, who is designating the Authorized Representative to register on their behalf.

Letter of Authorization

Account Number (Required): _____

Name of Organization: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of authorized representative who will be presenting this document at the time of the Annual Meeting for the purpose of registration and/or voting on behalf of the organization named above:

Signature of officer granting authorization to the above named representative:

Date: _____ Title: _____

By signing this form, I am authorizing the said name of authorized representative to register this organization at the Annual Meeting with my permission.

**Bring this form with you to the Annual Meeting.
Please do not mail to our office.**

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 **Egyptian Electric
Cooperative Association**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2022

Pursuant to notice, the 84th annual membership meeting of the Egyptian Electric Cooperative Association was held at the office of the Cooperative, located at 1732 Finney Road, Murphysboro, Ill., on Thursday evening, July 14, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 5:59 p.m. by President Paul Pyatt. After the national anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the invocation was given by Rev. Paul Hicks, board member and pastor of the Murdale Baptist Church of Carbondale.

Mr. Pyatt reported that a quorum was present prior to the start of the meeting. There were 356 registered members and 647 total attendees. A list of those members is attached to these minutes.

Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Liefer then presented the official notice of the meeting and the certificate of mailing and moved that said notice and certificate be approved. Motion was seconded by Ralph Timpner. Motion carried. Mr. Liefer moved to dispense with the reading of the 2021 minutes and that they be approved as printed. Motion was seconded by Leonard Crane. Motion carried.

Mr. Stuart Langrehr, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the report of the Nominating Committee meeting, held on May 17, 2021, at which Kevin Liefer of Red Bud, Ken Jarrett of Jacob, and Kevin Bame of Murphysboro were officially nominated for the office of directors for the ensuing three years.

Attorney Elisha Sanders was called upon to conduct the election of directors. There were no nominations by petition for the 2022 slate of directors. A motion was made by Gilbert Kroening, seconded by Leonard Crane, to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Kevin Liefer, Ken Jarrett and Kevin Bame as the 2022 directors for a three-year term. Motion carried.

Mr. Liefer presented the Treasurer's Report for 2021 and moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Motion was seconded by Butch Hicks. Motion carried.

President Pyatt welcomed everyone and reminded them that every registered member would receive a \$20 electric credit on their August bill. He shared with the membership that the Board of Directors recently approved the retirement of approximately \$1 million in Capital Credits for the Fall of 2022. He also announced that since its inception, EECA has given away \$72,000 in annual meeting scholarships, with a plan for 10 more \$1,000 scholarships at this meeting. He then introduced the Executive Vice President/General Manager, Mr. Shane Hermetz.

Executive Vice President/General Manager Shane Hermetz started his remarks by welcoming all members to the 84th Annual Meeting of Members of Egyptian Electric Cooperative. Mr. Hermetz started by introducing the guests in attendance from the AIEC and SIPC. He started his discussion by mentioning multiple cooperative projects in the area that signaled growth in the region. He followed up by mentioning that he wanted to discuss the changing energy landscape and high prices in the electricity market.

Mr. Hermetz reminded members that last year we had discussed the changing energy landscape and that unless it was properly managed, we could see higher energy prices. He stated that not only were we seeing high energy prices this year, but that we have an electricity supply issue and discussed the possibility of electric blackouts. He discussed the regional independent system operator (MISO), their role in the electric grid, and how EECA, along with Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), are navigating in the world of high electricity prices.

He stated that while the cooperative was at minimal risk of higher electricity prices due to market factors, that the Cooperative was not immune to inflation and supply chain concerns. He told the membership to expect a 1/10-of-one-penny rate increase on the Power Cost Adjustment line on their bill (\$1 for every 1,000 kWh purchased). He indicated that this was a necessary first step to

curb inflationary pressures. He concluded his rate discussions stating that management would review inflationary pressures monthly, and if any additional charges would be needed, they too would be found on the PCA line of the billing statement. He stated that it was too early to discuss rate implications for the upcoming year, stating that any additional rate adjustment would be announced to the membership in a timely manner and would also be published in the Illinois Country Living magazine.

In closing, Mr. Hermetz discussed the Operation RoundUP program and how members could participate.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Mr. Hermetz took questions from the membership related to the possibility of electric blackouts, high electricity prices and the overall energy landscape.

President Pyatt called to adjourn the business meeting at 6:28 p.m., and on a motion by Butch Hicks, seconded by Jean Kroening, motion carried.

Before the business meeting, drawings were held for attendance prizes. Winners of the gift bag with a T-shirt, hat and fuel card included the following members: Ronald Partin, Juanita Dean, Tony Mayberry, James Winter, Shirley Franklin and Gyle Rodewald.

Following the business meeting, the 2022 scholarship winners were announced. The winners were as follows: Molly Biggs, Benjamin Hyink, Aren Abell, Harris Ehlers, Lilli Robinson, Kory Benhken, Kody Benhken, Madison Falkenbury, Corbin Guthman and Mitchell Gale.

Upon completion of the scholarship announcements, the remaining attendance prize winners were announced. The winners of \$50 were as follows: Maxine Harrouff, Van Robinson, James Buitt, Paul Penrod and Peggy Darnell. The winners of \$100 were as follows: Dennis Phoenix, Carl Handel, Gary Jatho, Marcia Krisby and Larry Inselman.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall Campbell
Secretary-Treasurer