

80th Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative Annual Membership Meeting
October 19, 2024
Campbell-Savona High School in Campbell, New York
Pine Valley Central High School in South Dayton, New York

The 80th Annual Meeting of the Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. was convened at the Campbell-Savona High School, 8455 County Route 125, Campbell, New York and was live streamed to the Pine Valley Central High School, 7755 NY-83, South Dayton, New York on Saturday, October 19, 2024, as designated by the Bylaws, Article III, Meeting of Members, Section 1, Annual Meeting.

Call to Order: President McCormick called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Invocation: Pastor George Coon, of the Lindley Community Church, delivered the invocation.

Quorum: Attorney Robert Tyson declared that a quorum was present. Two hundred and ninety-two members registered.

Introductions: President McCormick introduced the Board of Directors, Cooperative Attorney, and management employees: James McCormick, President, District 1; Janice Hoad, Secretary, District 2; Edward Borkowski, Director, District 3; Walter Longwell, Director, District 4; Gerald Chase Jr., Director, District 5; Gordon Foster, Treasurer, District 6; Robert Nichols, Vice-President, District 7; Randy Stankey, Director, District 8; William Moss, III, Director, District 9; Robert Tyson, Cooperative Attorney; Bryant Dillon, General Manager; and Kristen Cleveland, Executive Secretary.

Special Guests: President McCormick introduced the special guests in the audience: Lincoln Nichols, Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative 2024 Student Delegate; Tim & Annie Schultz, Owners of Well-Connect; Zachary Mullen, Owner of Value Geo-Thermal; Ross Gill, Director at Delaware County Electric Cooperative; and William Moss, former Director of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative.

Welcome: President McCormick welcomed the members and guests to the meeting and expressed how great it was to see all the members. He further stated again this year we are live streaming the meeting to our Cherry Creek District Members at the Pine Vally Central High School in South Dayton.

Appreciation to Employees: President McCormick expressed his appreciation to the employees assisting at the meeting and appreciates everything they do to keep the Cooperative functioning smoothly and providing great service to our members.

Bill Credit Announcement: President McCormick announced the members who registered and attended today's meeting will receive a \$30.00 credit towards their electric bills, which will appear on their November billing statement.

Meeting Notice and Proof of Publication: Pursuant to the Bylaws, Article III, Section 3, Secretary Janice Hoad declared that the notice of the meeting, stating the place, day and hour and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called was mailed to all members at the United States Post Office in O'Fallon, Missouri on September 17, 2024.

Minutes of October 14, 2023 Meeting: A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to waive the reading of the October 14, 2023 meeting minutes and accept them as published.

President's Report: At the 2024 Annual Meeting of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, the President highlighted the cooperative's 80th anniversary, reflecting on its mission of providing reliable and affordable electricity to underserved rural communities. A key focus of the report was the cooperative's strong financial position, evidenced by the return of over \$400,000 in patronage capital to members. The President emphasized the cooperative's commitment to community resilience, noting the challenges posed by recent flooding in Steuben County and the cooperative's swift response to restore essential services.

Looking forward, the President discussed the impact of New York State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), which aims to achieve a carbon-free electricity grid by 2040. While recognizing the environmental benefits of the transition to renewable energy, the President expressed concerns about grid reliability. The cooperative plans to carefully navigate these changes while advocating for policies that ensure both sustainability and reliability. The President closed by expressing deep appreciation for the employees, members, and board of directors, whose efforts have contributed to the cooperative's success and will continue to guide it into the future.

General Manager's Report: During the 2024 Annual Meeting, the General Manager of Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative highlighted several key events and accomplishments from the past year. A major challenge was the August flooding in the Southern Tier of Steuben County, which caused widespread damage to the cooperative's electric distribution system. Despite difficult conditions, the cooperative's linemen and staff worked tirelessly to restore power more quickly than expected. The flooding underscored the importance of the cooperative's ongoing infrastructure upgrades, including the replacement of nearly 20 miles of distribution lines and the installation of new substation transformers. These efforts aim to enhance the resilience and reliability of the electric system, especially in the face of increasingly severe weather events.

The report also emphasized progress in three FEMA hazard mitigation projects, which focus on relocating and undergrounding vulnerable distribution lines. Despite delays in securing FEMA funding, one project is in the construction phase, with two more set to follow. Additionally, vegetation management has been a critical focus, particularly in addressing the threat posed by the Emerald Ash Borer, which has consumed a significant portion of the budget. With new technologies and equipment, the cooperative is looking to further improve system reliability and reduce outage risks. The General Manager praised the dedication of the staff and reaffirmed commitment to serving its members with reliable, safe, and affordable electricity.

Secretary and Treasurer Reports: A motion was made, seconded, and adopted to accept the 2023 Secretary and Treasurer reports as published.

Nominating Committee Minutes June 26, 2024: Attorney Tyson read the Nominating Committee Report. The committee met on June 26, 2024, to select a slate of candidates for election to the Board of Directors in the districts scheduled for election.

Introduction of Candidates for Election to the Board of Directors: Attorney Tyson introduced the candidates who were nominated for a three-year term to the Board of Directors: District 5: Canisteo, Jasper, Troupsburg and Woodhull – Gerald Chase Jr.; District 7: Addison, Erwin, Corning, Tuscarora and Lindley – Robert V. Nichols; and District 8: Cattaraugus County – Randy Stankey.

Nominations by Petition: Attorney Tyson stated there were no director candidates brought forth by way of petition.

Close Nominations & Call for Vote: Attorney Tyson called to close the nominations and called for a vote for Districts 5, 7, and 8.

Election Results: Attorney Tyson stated since there was no more than 1 candidate nominated in any 1 district, he called for a motion for the secretary to cast one ballot to elect the candidate for Districts 5, 7, and 8 for a three-year term on the Cooperative's Board of Directors.

Attorney Tyson called for and received a motion, and second to approve the nominated candidates for Districts 5, 7, and 8. The motion was adopted.

Attorney Tyson declared Gerald Chase Jr., Robert V. Nichols, and Randy Stankey duly elected to the position of director for Districts 5, 7, and 8, respectively.

Attendance & Proxy Announcement: Mr. Tyson stated there were 292 members in attendance and zero proxies received. Mr. Tyson thanked all members for participating in this year's annual meeting and election of the current slate of directors.

Service Awards: Bryant Dillon, General Manager and James McCormick, Director/President recognized the following employees for their years of service for 2024: Ernie Jessup, Stores & Facilities Attendant, 35 years of service; Justin Young, Lineman 1st Class, 20 years of service; Bryant Dillon, General Manager, 10 years of service; Katie Smith, Senior Branch Clerk, 10 years of service; Richard Pendle, Crew Chief, 5 years of service; Susan Roche, Finance Manager, 5 years of service; and Gerald Chase Jr., Director, 5 years of service.

Unfinished Business: President McCormick announced there was no unfinished business to bring before the membership.

New Business: President McCormick advised there was no new business to bring before the membership.

Well-Connect: Tim Schultz, owner of Well-Connect, gave a presentation to the membership on the Well-Connect Geothermal System. He gave a brief history of how the business started and how the system works.

Adjournment: Bryant Dillon announced the pulled pork BBQ dinners will be distributed to those members who reserved dinners in the cafeteria following the adjournment of our meeting. In addition, he stated the drawings for the raffle and four mums will follow the adjournment of our meeting. Mr. Dillon called for and received a motion, and second to adjourn the meeting at 11:49 a.m. The motion was adopted.

Raffle Drawings: Bryant Dillon, General Manager, announced the winners of the raffle drawings for the Char-Broil Electric Grill and Grill Cover, and the six mums in the Campbell-Savona location. Katie Smith announced the winners for the raffle drawings in the Pine Valley location.

Janice L Hoad
Janice L. Hoad, Secretary

10/22/25
Date of Approval

Corporate Seal:

