

8/05/2020 MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS (P. 2)

guarantee delivery dates for trucks ordered to specification. Due to the timing of the process, any trucks ordered to exact specifications at this time would be 2021 models, and dealers reported that delivery dates for those vehicles could be as late as December 2021. Bids were submitted for trucks that were currently available on dealer lots that were as similar as possible to trucks that PEPA would normally order. After reviewing all bids, and upon a motion duly made, seconded and approved, the Board approved a bid in the amount of \$37,912.73 for a 2020 Ford F-150 Crew-Cab 4x4 truck, and a bid of \$34,505.00 each for two Ford F-150 Super-Cab 4x4 trucks, all from Cannon Ford Sales.

The manager next discussed President Trump's recent action to remove TVA Board Chairman Skip Thompson and TVA Director Richard Howorth due to Trump's unhappiness about some recent TVA business decisions. He also distributed copies of a statement from TVA in response to this action and discussed the statement. The TVA statement said that TVA was attempting to reduce operating expense by outsourcing work in areas where it was difficult to find qualified candidates. TVA also discussed actions being taken to comply with the President's directives, while also stating that all operations would continue uninterrupted. Board President Larry Parker also noted that Mr. William Cook, who is originally from Bruce, has been nominated by President Trump for a vacancy on the TVA Board.

The manager next updated the Board on broadband issues in Mississippi. He reported that \$65 million in CARES Act grant funds were recently distributed to 15 electric cooperatives. Those systems will be required to have "significant work" completed by December 30, 2020, meaning that they must have fiber hung and be serving customers, as well as providing free mobile "hot spots" by that deadline. He noted that Pontotoc Electric would not have been able to meet all of those criteria by that December 30, 2020 deadline.

The manager also reported that NRTC has filed PEPA's consortium short form application to be eligible to receive Rural Development Opportunity Fund grant monies to be awarded later this year.

The manager next updated the Board on recently completed projects, including the relocation of the Banner circuit along Thompson Street in Bruce and the 46-kV transmission line serving the Ingomar Substation.

The manager also updated the Board on ongoing projects, including an underground job to serve a new subdivision on CR 101 in Ingomar, a new underground extension to a subdivision on CR 90 in Ingomar, a new three-phase line extension on Dena Lane off of Highway 9 South, and wrapping up work on the Ingomar Substation and preparing to put it into service. He also noted that the Association continues to be very busy, with approximately a one-week backlog on day-to-day projects.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and approved, the Board approved contributions to each of the schools in the PEPA service area, to be distributed according to the attached list. Also included in this motion was a contribution of \$200 to the Jesse Yancy Memorial Library at Bruce. President Larry Parker also discussed efforts to put in a new walking track at Bruce. He reported that some grant money had been obtained but not enough to complete the project. At his recommendation, and upon a motion duly made, seconded and approved, the Board approved a \$500 contribution to the Town of Bruce for this walking track. The manager also distributed copies of a letter from the Pontotoc Bodock Festival reporting that the 2020 festival was being cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The committee thanked sponsors for their past support and requested that they plan to continue to support the Bodock Festival in future years.

The manager reported that it was time for the Board to appoint a Nominating Committee for the purpose of nominating candidates for the office of director for those director areas involved in this year's election. The following individuals were appointed to serve on this committee: Billy Terry, Miles Jeffrey, Mrs. Brenda Browning, Mickey Swords, Dwight Simmons, Marlin Chunn, Mrs. Kim Holladay, Shane Cowser, and Steve Box. The manager reported that a meeting of this committee was

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