EDISTO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
August 24, 2026 | 2:00 PM

The Board of Trustees met for its regular meeting on August 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Board Chairman Douglas Reeves presided, and all members were present in person.

Chris Sandifer gave the invocation.

The minutes of the July 27, 2026, regular board meeting were provided to the Board in advance via Board*Effect* and were approved without objection.

Mr. Daniel Bessinger, President and CEO, presented the July Operating Report:

OPERATING REPORT - JULY 2026

• **Operating Margins:**	$	566,029
• **Non-Operating Margins:**	$	180,367
• **Other Margins:**	$	(28,782)
• **Total Margins:**	$	717,614

The Board received a report on cash balances and short-term investments.

Douglas Reeves asked Pickens Williams, Chairman of the Benefits Committee, for a report from their meeting that was held prior to the Board meeting. Pickens Williams stated that the Benefits Committee is making the following recommendations for approval from the Board:

a) The RS Defined Benefit and Select Re 401(k) plans would remain the same.

b) Family Medical Benefits would increase by 17.6% - Single Medical Benefits would increase by 16.8%. Family dental benefits would increase by 4.7% and single would increase by 7.2%. Life insurance would also increase by 4.7%. All other cooperative sponsored insurance benefits would remain the same.

c) Retiree Insurance Benefits would remain the same.

d) Vacation, sick leave, and holidays would remain the same.

e) Mileage for travel and meal reimbursement amounts would be based on the allowable rate when published by the Internal Revenue Service.

f) Employee salaries will have overall "pay grade scale" increase according to the salary and wage report prepared by EleCo Solution, Inc. by 3.75% with a discretionary 1% merit.

g) Christmas bonuses for full-time employees and retirees would remain the same.

h) Board of Trustees per diem allowance for regular and special meetings would remain the same.

i) Attorney retainer fee – The Board decided not to retain an attorney at this time and to engage legal counsel on an as-needed basis.

After some discussion, the recommendations for approval brought forth by the Benefits Committee were unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Bessinger discussed the S.C. Living Magazine subscription renewal for 2027. After a review of the options, Wayne Welch made a motion, duly seconded by Jack Vallentine, to continue with the S.C. Living Magazine with eleven issues per year. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board received an update on the ECSC Board meeting.

The Board also received an update on the CEEUS and Line Equipment Board meetings.

The monthly safety meeting was held on August 11, 2026, at the Bamberg office. Daniel Bessinger discussed the cooperative's mission and the importance of unifying the group around safety and customer service. Travis Renwick with The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina served as the guest speaker and presented on "Rubber Gloves, Sleeves and Blankets." Attendees viewed a PowerPoint presentation and discussed proper procedures for inspecting, caring for, and using personal protective equipment.

The Board discussed the date for the 2027 Annual Meeting. Generally, the Board selects the first Thursday in April. After some discussion, Chris Sandifer made a motion, duly seconded by Tripp Mathias, to set the 2027 Annual Meeting for Thursday, April 1, 2027. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the format of the 2027 Annual Meeting. Based on the success of the drive-through format used during the past six years, which included virtual broadcasts via Facebook Live and YouTube, the Board unanimously agreed to use the same format for the 2027 Annual Meeting.

There are four Board of Trustee districts with elections in April 2027. District 1 – Dorchester County (Incumbent Douglas A. Reeves), District 1 – Orangeburg County (Incumbent Stanley M. Funchess), District 2 – Allendale County (Incumbent Ervin M. Mathias, III) and District 2 – Bamberg County (Incumbent Mary Nimmons).

According to our By-Laws, Board members should inform the Nominating and Qualifications Committee of the upcoming annual meeting date and direct the Committee to meet and begin the process of selecting nominees for those trustee districts which will have a Board member elected at the upcoming meeting. A Nominating and Qualifications Committee meeting, via conference call, has been scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2026, at 9:30am.

The 2027 Board of Trustees monthly Board meeting schedule was discussed. It was suggested that the May and December meetings be moved due to meeting conflicts and/or holidays. All other meeting dates will remain on the fourth Monday of each month. The Board approved the 2027 Board meeting schedule as presented. According to our By-Laws, the meeting schedule, which includes the annual meeting date, will be placed in the lobby of the primary office.

Mr. Bessinger reported that there was 100% participation for America's Electric Cooperative PAC and the state ECHO membership dues.

Mr. Bessinger advised that the Touchstone Energy Membership dues will remain the same for 2027.

There will be a Special-Called Board of Trustees meeting on September 17, 2026. Board members will meet at the St. George office at 9:00am to tour areas of growth within Edisto Cooperative's Dorchester County service area.

Mr. Bessinger stated that we sold truck #66 for $21,500, through Purple Wave Auction. He also noted that there are plans to purchase a new truck for underground that will be housed in our St. George office.

Mr. Bessinger discussed purchasing property for two additional substations in the Ridgeville area. There will be more information provided at the September Board meeting.

As matters of information, the next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Monday, September 28, 2026.

Various other information and announcements were made to the Board, which did not require action by the Board.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pickens Williams
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved By:

Chairman