

Annual Meeting of Membership Conducted via GoToWebinar

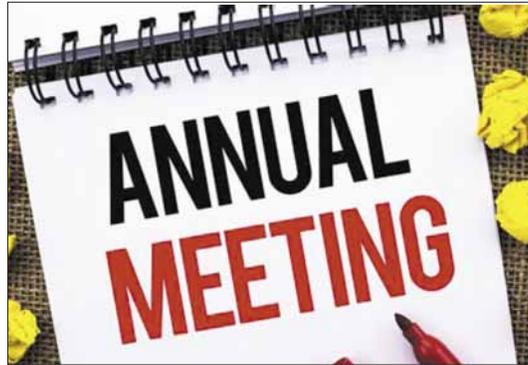
The 54th Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Kansas Rural Water

Association was held via GoToWebinar on Thursday, March 25, 2021. This meeting was held via GoToWebinar due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and inability to hold large in-person meetings.

Following reading of the notice and review of the minutes, Treasurer Allan Soetaert introduced Taylor Penick, CPA of the auditing firm of Kientz & Penick, Manhattan, Kan. The audit report had been emailed to each delegate and alternate also in advance of the meeting. Taylor Penick reviewed the auditor's report and explained the requirements of the single entity audit. He commented on the financial statements and supplemental financial information and expenditures of federal awards. The auditor's opinion on financial statements and compliance for major federal award programs was Unmodified. There were no deficiencies or material weaknesses identified concerning internal controls. There were no reportable financial statement findings. It was moved by Mike Fulkerson that the Auditor's Report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Carl Chalfant. The motion was approved. President Shroyer thanked Taylor Penick for the report; he asked that anyone having any further questions on the audit or any financial report of the Association to contact the KRWA office.

Dennis Schwartz, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, placed the names of Patricia Shaffer, Butler RWD No. 5 and Mike Fulkerson, Leavenworth Cons. RWD 1, as nominees to the two positions expiring on the board of directors. President Shroyer called for any additional nominations. There were none. It was moved by Carl Chalfant, City of Washington, that the nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for the election of Patricia Shaffer and Mike Fulkerson for a term of three years. The motion was seconded by Tom Wilson, Franklin RWD 1. The motion was approved.

KRWA Counsel Gary Hanson reviewed the efforts to gain the signing of Executive Order 21-05 by Governor Kelly. This Order delays until October 1, 2021 the requirement that any rural water district to conduct their annual meetings of membership due to COVID-19. Mr. Hanson expressed



appreciation to be able to continue to be of service to the Association.

KRWA General Manager Elmer Ronnebaum provided a report on the operations of the Association in 2020. Training and technical assistance programs, the new Apprenticeship Program and efforts to develop online training were mentioned. In 2020, KRWA conducted five online training

events and has conducted 11 from January 1, 2021 to March 23, 2021 attended by more than 800 operators. Several articles in the Association magazine were referenced as was the ability to search for and download articles based on a particular topic. Elmer offered compliments to the work by KRWA staff.

The 2022 Annual Conference will be held March 29-31 at the Century II Convention Center in Wichita. KRWA will make hotel room blocks available as soon as they are contracted by the hotels.

There being no further business, President Shroyer adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

During the reorganizational meeting of the board on April 19, 2021, officers elected for 2021 are Bill Shroyer, President; Mike Fulkerson, Vice-President; Paul Froelich, Treasurer and Scott Robertson, Secretary.

The Association also approved the Entity Authorization with United Bank & Trust in Seneca, Kansas to authorize any one of the Treasurer, General Manager and Assistant General Manager to open necessary accounts for operation of the Association programs and to sign checks or for transfers for any payment requiring such a transfer.

The board requested Counsel Gary Hanson to develop a policy that addresses potential conflict of interests and "buy local" policy.

General Manager Elmer Ronnebaum commented on recent change from Blue Cross Blue Shield as underwriter for the Association employee health benefit plan to United Health Care. This change represents an annual premium reduction of approximately \$23,000. As a result, a new administrator of the Association's cafeteria plan is needed. The recommendation of Freedom Claims was to consider contracting with NueSynergy, Leawood Kansas.