

WHEATLAND ELECTRIC ANNUAL MEETING HELD APRIL 23

“True North: Our Commitment, Your Cooperative” at Wheatland Electric’s 2025 Annual Meeting on April 23

SYRACUSE—Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WEC) is hosting this year’s 2025 Annual Meeting on April 23, 2025, at the Scott Community Building, 600 Fairground Road in Scott City and in seven other remote locations across its service territory: Leoti, Tribune, Syracuse, Garden City, Great Bend, Harper, and Caldwell.

Just as the stars have guided explorers through the ages, this year’s theme, “True North: Our Commitment, Your Cooperative,” highlights the vital role our members play in shaping our direction and purpose.

Your engagement ensures we remain steadfast in our mission: DELIVERING ENERGY FOR LIFE. Rooted in the Seven Cooperative Principles, we prioritize your needs while upholding our core values of SERVICE, INNOVATION, AND COMMUNITY. With your support, we continue to navigate the future with integrity and dedication.

All WEC co-op members (account holders) are invited to attend this year’s primary meeting location in Scott City or at a remote meeting location to LEARN co-op news and updates, CONNECT with cooperative staff and trustees, VOTE on proposed bylaw changes, and WIN door prizes, including the grand-prize giveaway – a Dyson Purifier Hot+Cool Gen 1, providing year-round comfort and clarity to one lucky winner’s space.

The results of this year’s trustee elections will also be announced at the annual meeting. For more information on this year’s trustee voting process, which will be held by mail and when members can expect their ballots, visit www.weci.net or contact your local office.

Registration at this year’s annual meeting begins at 11 a.m. CDT (10 a.m. MDT), and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. CDT (10:30 a.m. MDT) at all meeting locations. The business meeting will commence at noon CDT (11 A.M. MDT).

Members in attendance at any meeting location can vote on proposed bylaw changes and register to win door prizes, including our grand prize giveaway. Every member household in attendance at all locations will also receive a special take-home gift.

The annual meeting held in Scott City will be simulcast in real-time at seven other locations, which include the following:

- District 2, Wheatland Electric Warehouse, 103 West F, Leoti, Kan.
- District 3, Wheatland Electric Warehouse, 310 Broadway Ave., Tribune, Kan.
- District 4, VFW Building, 609 N. Main Street, Syracuse, Kan.
- District 5, Wheatland Electric Office, 2005 W. Fulton, Garden City, Kan.
- District 6, Wheatland Electric Office, 200 10th Street, Great Bend, Kan.
- District 7, Westview Lodge & Apartments, 1300 N. Westview, Harper, Kan.
- District 7, Caldwell Community Building, 119 E. First Street, Caldwell, Kan.

For more information about WEC’s annual meeting, go to weci.net/annual-meeting. Members with questions can also contact their local office or send a message to memberservices@weci.net.

HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF’S REPORT

New Inmates: 0

Released Inmates:

Carlos Palma-Garay, 35, 11501 SW CR 31, TL 9, Syracuse, Kansas
Arrested on: 04/04/2025; Charges: DUI and No Driver’s License (Bonded Out)

Eugene Bart Hilburn Jr., 62, 102 S Nott St., Syracuse, Kansas
Arrested on: 04/04/2025; Charges: Possession of a controlled substance and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia (Bonded Out)

Total Inmates: 4

HM COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 18, 2025

Attendees: Nancy Lewis, Secretary, Sarah Schwieterman, Via Teams Board Chairman:, Brian Loder, Board Member, Randy Levens, Board Member, Sherri Rome, Board Member, Kelly Hatcher, Hospital Administrator, Leah Haug, DON, Brandi Scott, Operations Supervisor, Sadie Anderson, Quality, Dr. Richard Carter, MD, Via Teams, Jeff Weaver, CFO, Via Teams, Chris Patrick, HR, Via Teams, Dr. Brandee English, PA-C, Shelby Cortes Via Teams, Bobby Smith, Maintenance Director, Via Team.

Absent: Dr. Mirela, MD

I. Sarah called the meeting to order at 12:36 PM

II. Review and Approval; of Agenda: Nancy moved to approve the agenda. Randy seconded. Motion carried.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes: A. Brian moved to accept the Minutes of the January 21st, 2025, Board Minutes. Randy seconded. Motion carried.

B. Brian moved to accept the Minutes of the January 21st,2025, Medical Staff Meeting. Rand seconded. Motion carried.

C. Brian moved to accept the Minutes of the January 21st ,2025, Quality Meeting. Randy seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Public Concerns: None.

V. Old Business: Hospital Renovations: Kelly reported that they are still trying to get the master plan finalized with the architect.

VI. Review and approval of Medical Staff Credentials: Dr. Carter asked the board if there was a motion to approve the Med Staff Credentials for the FreeState Providers Emmanuel Oundo, MD-Internal Medicine-Consulting-FreeState, and Ashruta Patel, DO-Internal Medicine-Consulting FreeState. Sarah ask the board if there was a motion to approve the FreeState providers and Reappointment for LLaura Beach, MD-FreeState. Nancy moved to approve. Brian. seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

VII. Review of Hospital Operations: Kelly presented statistics for the month of January.

- Administrator Report: Kelly reported all department heads are reviewing and updated policy and procedures books to meet the deadline by quarter one which is next month. Kelly also reported they are reviewing and updating annual service agreements in lab. Kelly mentioned that Danny Harris in maintenance has been doing a great job with making sure the heating system is up and functioning and making sure the residents are being taken care of with heating.

- Financial Report: Jeff Weaver gave the financial report for the month of January. Interim rates IP - \$9,999 (\$6,594) and SBS - \$8,000 (\$5,870). Cash Balance: \$2,254,674.00. Net Change -\$1,478,500 Capital Equipment: \$1,000.00 Current Accounts Payable- CPCH/CCS. \$6,297,409.00. Accrued Payroll. Notes Payable CPC Forgiveness. Initial balance - \$4,996,766. Current balance - \$2,916,601.00. Notes Payable CPC Non Forgiveness. Initial Balance - \$3,792,733. Current Balance - \$2,349,135.00. Total gross patient revenues were \$517,073.00 for the month. This is up \$111,034 or 27.3% from last month. Primarily caused by increases in the OP/ER/SBS service lines. For the year to date, total patient revenue has decreased \$23,664.00 or 4.4% from last year. Contractuals: -\$585,395. Cost report settlement analysis: \$398,030 (receivable). Monthly Adjustment: \$398,030. Total net revenue was \$1,143,462.00 for the month. This is down \$66,674.00 from the last month. Total operating expenses were \$1,353,613.00. This is down \$262,209.00 or 16.2% from last month. Primarily from staffing expenditures. Recorded a net income of \$114,096.00 for the month. This leads to a net loss of \$114,096.00 for the year to date. Accounts receivables have decreased in their aging. The aging of accounts less than 120 days old changed from 79% to 84% of total AR. The older accounts changed from 21% to 16% of total AR for the month. Total outstanding accounts payable: \$6,152,729.69. Total check register payments: \$2,295,382.30.

Shelby’s Report: For January, the Medicare settlement estimate was a \$398,030 receivable. January 2025 compared to January 2024: Allowable costs were up 22%, Medicare IP days were up 11%, Swingbed days were down 63% and Medicare RHC visits were up 8%.

A. DON: Leah reports the Activities position, should be out for offer as well as a CNA role. Leah reports 1 RN who went PRN status, so we do have some open shifts. Leah reported we had 0 surveys back for the

month of January.

B. Quality/ Infection Report: Sadie reports she had her first QAPI meeting. Lab and Radiology added a measure to track. Clinic measures are still being discussed. Hand hygiene audits for January showed 52% compliance with 26/50 observations. In January there were no healthcare acquired infections, no CLABSI, NO CAUTIS, No C-DIFF, and no MRSA event. In January there were no inpatient Sepsis events.

C. Risk Management: Q4 was finalized in January. There was less incidents overall. Risk plan work will begin in the next couple of months.

D. HR Staffing Report: Chris reports we are still looking for a Physician or Advance Practice Provider. Still working on radiology technologist. Chris reports an offer has gone out for the activities coordinator. Chris reports APRN has signed a 1099 contract and starts in April.

E. New Business:

- Portable X-Ray: Kelly reported to the board that the old portable x-ray machine went down and the service technician was not able to fix it. Integrity came back and was able to get us a 2010 model and do a trade in for our old one which gave us a trade in around \$5000.00 and it was a one day purchase so Kelly reached out to Sarah. Sarah asked the board for approval to purchase a 2010 portable x-ray machine in the amount of \$25,000.00 Randy moved to approve. Brian seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

- CT Room Construction: Kelly reported this is for the CT room that needs electrical pieces and construction that needs to be confirmed before building the new CT. The old machine will be removed and new constructional work will need to be completed before new CT comes in. Bobby reported the amount of the construction is \$31,147.00. Sarah asked the board for approval. Randy makes a motion to approve the CT removal construction as presented. Nancy seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Outside Agency for Provider Recruitment-Delta Physician: Chris talked about the outside agency to help with physician replacement. Chris talks about the rates which is \$10,000.00 for them to do the marketing materials for the physician and additional \$20,000.00 for the placement fee which is a total cost of \$30,000.00 again that placement fee would be for placing a physician. Sarah asked the board for approval in the amount of \$30,000.00. Randy made a motion to approve the outside agency recruitment. Sherri seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Bad Debt Approval: Jeff asked the board for approval to send bad debt to collection. Sarah asked the board for approval to send bad debt account in the amount of \$10,322.10 to ARSI collection agency. Sherri moved to approve. Brian seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

F. Policy & Procedures:

- Clinic Policies: Sarah asked if there was a motion to approve the Clinic Policies with no new changes just updating signature page. Randy moved to approve. Brian seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Respiratory Therapy Policies: Sarah asked if there was a motion to approve the Respiratory Policies with no new changes just updating signature page. Randy moved to approved. Brian seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

- Material Management/Central Sterile Policies: Sarah asked if there was a motion to approve the Material Management and Central Sterile Policies with current changes to Central Sterile that Hamilton County Hospital is no longer providing or performing sterilization at this time. Randy moved to approved. Brian seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

X. Board Concerns: None

XI. Executive Session: Sarah moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes with Dr. Carter, Kelly Hatcher, Hospital Administrator, Jeff Weaver, CFO, and Board members to discuss Non-elected personnel. Randy seconded. Motion Carried. Executive session started 1:14PM and out at 1:24PM.

XII. Adjournment: February 18th, 2025, the Third Tuesday of the month. Sherri moved to adjourn. Brian seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:24 PM. Next meeting will be March 25th, 2025 at 12:30pm.

Public Notices

Published in *Syracuse Journal*, on April 3, April 10, and April 17, 2025

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF HAMILTON COUNTY, KANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
DARYLE W. LEWIS, DECEASED.

No. HM-2025-PR-000006

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on March 25, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by Babette Dixon, an heir, devisee, and legatee, and one of the Executors named in the Last Will and Testament of Daryle W. Lewis, deceased, dated April 14, 2022, praying that the instrument attached thereto be admitted to probate and record as the Last Will and Testament of the decedent; and Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act be issued to Annette Vemuri, Babette Dixon, and Patti Selikoff to serve without bond.

You are further advised that under the provisions of the Kansas Simplified Estates Act the Court need not supervise administration of the estate, and no notice of any action of the Executors or other proceedings in the administration will be given, except for notice of final settlement of decedent’s estate.

You are further advised that if written objections to simplified administration are filed with the Court, the Court may order that supervised administration ensue.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 29, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. MST in this Court, in Syracuse, Hamilton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, thirty days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Babette Dixon, Petitioner

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Lawyer for Petitioner