Certified Public Accountants & Consultants JACKSON THORNTON Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. June 30, 2021 Financial Statements



# Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

The Board of Trustees Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. Greenville, Alabama

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative), which comprise the balance sheets as of June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the related statements of revenue, changes in equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. as of June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Jackson Thornton & Co. PC

Montgomery, Alabama August 30, 2021

# Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. Balance Sheets At June 30, 2021 and 2020

# Assets

		2021		2020
Utility Plant	· ·			
Electric plant in service	\$	86,416,217	\$	84,201,827
Construction work-in-progress		199,789		242,742
		86,616,006	'	84,444,569
Less accumulated provision for depreciation		32,381,235		30,607,164
Net utility plant		54,234,771		53,837,405
Other Assets and Investments				
Restricted cash		1,279,445		1,321,724
Investments in associated organizations		15,415,542		15,057,240
Investments in land and buildings		1,171,204		1,171,204
Notes receivable - economic development loans		95,847		95,847
Total other assets and investments		17,962,038		17,646,015
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents		5,994,378		5,726,751
Certificate of deposit				251,513
Accounts receivable				
Customers, less provision for doubtful accounts of				
\$60,508 in 2021 and \$60,908 in 2020		1,031,991		1,125,573
Federal Emergency Management Agency		710,348		
Other		385,474		237,402
Unbilled revenue		1,418,324		1,418,324
Materials and supplies		345,157		337,753
Prepaids		179,544		98,534
Total current assets		10,065,216		9,195,850
Deferred Assets				
NRUCFC conversion fees		4,804,408		5,046,517
Other		117,769		138,721
Total deferred assets		4,922,177		5,185,238
Total assets	\$	87,184,202	\$	85,864,508

# **Equities and Liabilities**

	2021	2020
Equities		
Patronage capital	\$ 29,986,522	\$ 27,361,970
Other equities	717,079	623,148
Total equities	30,703,601	27,985,118
Noncurrent Liabilities		
Notes payable, net of current maturities	44,771,483	46,525,801
Capital lease obligations, net of current maturities	1,270,540	1,028,735
NRUCFC conversion fees, net of current portion	4,555,834	4,797,943
Postemployment benefit obligation, net of current portion	16,278	27,283
Total noncurrent liabilities	50,614,135	52,379,762
Current Liabilities		
Current maturities on notes payable	1,752,369	1,680,276
Current maturities on capital lease obligations	303,167	226,847
Current portion of NRUCFC conversion fees	248,574	248,574
Current portion of postemployment benefit obligation	4,556	9,215
Accounts payable		
Purchased power	1,143,979	120,854
Trade	221,498	279,167
Paycheck Protection Program loan		891,015
Customer deposits	1,480,206	1,326,077
Accrued liabilities	405.450	050 400
Taxes	165,453	253,423
Other	546,664	464,180
Total current liabilities	5,866,466	5,499,628
Total equities and liabilities	\$ 87,184,202	\$ 85,864,508

# Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. Statements of Revenue For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

	2021		2020	
Operating Revenue				
Electric revenue	\$ 28,408,816	99.21%	\$ 28,243,498	97.71%
Other	227,363	0.79%	662,076	2.29%
Total operating revenue	28,636,179	100.00%	28,905,574	100.00%
Operating Expenses				
Cost of power	12,832,653	44.81%	13,185,449	45.62%
Distribution - operations	1,407,292	4.91%	1,047,294	3.62%
Distribution - maintenance	3,992,219	13.94%	3,612,465	12.50%
Consumer accounts	875,264	3.06%	1,213,763	4.20%
Energy marketing and communications	260,498	0.91%	267,225	0.92%
Administrative and general	2,145,953	7.49%	2,347,068	8.12%
Depreciation and amortization	3,199,822	11.17%	3,063,044	10.60%
Taxes	 108,328	0.38%	125,532	0.43%
Total operating expenses	 24,822,029	86.67%	 24,861,840	86.01%
Operating Margins	3,814,150	13.33%	4,043,734	13.99%
G & T and Other Capital Credits	 468,054	1.63%	 520,168	1.80%
Net Operating Margins	4,282,204	14.96%	4,563,902	15.79%
Interest Expense	 2,020,087	7.05%	1,948,892	6.74%
Nonoperating Margins				
Interest income	44,936	0.16%	76,749	0.27%
Other income	1,379,377	4.82%	86,848	0.30%
Total nonoperating margins	1,424,313	4.98%	163,597	0.57%
Net Margins for the Year	\$ 3,686,430	12.89%	\$ 2,778,607	9.62%

# Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. Statements of Changes in Equity For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

	Patronage					
		Other Capital		Total		
Balance at June 30, 2019	\$	546,903	\$	25,313,689	\$	25,860,592
Net margin				2,778,607		2,778,607
Patronage gains		76,245				76,245
Utility tax refund				274,012		274,012
Retirement of capital credits				(1,004,338)		(1,004,338)
Balance at June 30, 2020		623,148		27,361,970		27,985,118
Net margin				3,686,430		3,686,430
Patronage gains		93,931				93,931
Utility tax refund				169,505		169,505
Retirement of capital credits				(1,231,383)		(1,231,383)
Balance at June 30, 2021	\$	717,079	\$	29,986,522	\$	30,703,601

# Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. Statements of Cash Flows For the Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

		2021		2020
Cash Flows From (Used For) Operating Activities				
Net margins	\$	3,686,430	\$	2,778,607
Adjustments to reconcile net margins to net cash				
provided by operating activities		0.400.000		0.000.044
Depreciation and amortization		3,199,822		3,063,044
Bad debt expense		(54,902)		(3,012)
G & T and other capital credits  Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness		(468,054) (891,015)		(520,168)
Decrease (increase) in operating assets and		(091,013)		
increase (decrease) in operating liabilities				
Accounts receivable		(986,730)		67,599
Materials and supplies		(7,404)		108,284
Prepaids		(81,010)		(18,072)
Other accrued assets		20,952		52,033
Accounts payable		965,456		(942,780)
Consumer deposits		154,129		152,536
Accrued liabilities		(21,150)		(253,129)
Net cash from operating activities		5,516,524		4,484,942
·				
Cash Flows From (Used For) Investing Activities				
Net additions of property and equipment		(2,789,574)		(4,672,903)
Sale of investment property				80,690
Proceeds from investments		109,752		118,493
Purchase of certificate of deposit				(251,513)
Maturity of certificate of deposit		251,513		
Economic development loans - net		(0.100.000)		16,125
Net cash used for investing activities		(2,428,309)		(4,709,108)
Cash Flows From (Used For) Financing Activities				
Principal payments on notes payable		(1,682,225)		(1,418,683)
Principal payments on capital lease obligations		(247,380)		(1,410,388)
Proceeds from notes payable		(= ,000)		4,916,940
Proceeds from Paycheck Protection Program loan				891,015
Payments on NRUCFC conversion fees		(242,109)		(248,574)
Increase in membership fees and other equity		130,718		233,951
Retirement of capital credits		(821,871)		(652,526)
Net cash (used for) from financing activities		(2,862,867)		3,596,335
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		225,348		3,372,169
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	_	7,048,475	_	3,676,306
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	<u>\$</u>	7,273,823	\$	7,048,475
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents				
Restricted cash	\$	1,279,445	\$	1,321,724
Unrestricted cash	Ψ	5,994,378	Ψ	5,726,751
Totals	\$	7,273,823	\$	7,048,475
Supplemental Cash Flows Information				
Cash paid for interest	\$	2,020,087	\$	1,948,892
Noncash Financing Transactions				
Recovery of bad debt from capital credit retirement		58,071		45,023
Return of capital to members through accounts receivable credit		218,723		190,483
Gains on retirement of unclaimed credits		132,718		116,306
Equipment purchased under capital lease		565,505		1,303,198

## **Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

<u>Nature of business</u> - Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative) distributes electric power to residential, commercial, and industrial consumers in rural central Alabama.

<u>Basis of accounting</u> - The accounting records of the Cooperative are maintained in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts prescribed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS). As a result, the application of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America by the Cooperative differs in certain respects from the application of those principles by nonregulated enterprises. Such differences primarily concern the recognition of gains and losses on the retirement of assets.

<u>Utility plant</u> - The Cooperative's costs associated with electric plant additions and improvements are capitalized based upon the RUS guidelines established in Bulletin 1767B-2. This results in the capitalization of direct costs such as labor and materials expense and also includes capitalization of indirect costs including labor, material charges, taxes, insurance, transportation, depreciation, pensions, and other related expenses. These costs are accumulated in work-in-process accounts and are capitalized to the proper plant accounts at the completion of the construction activity. Certain special equipment additions, as defined by RUS, are capitalized when purchased along with an estimated installation charge. The cost of depreciable property, when retired, is computed at the average unit cost along with removal costs less salvage. The net retirement cost is charged to accumulated depreciation. Maintenance and repairs, including minor items of property, are charged to maintenance expense as incurred.

<u>Investments</u> - Investments in associated organizations represent cooperative capital credits from the Cooperative's suppliers and lenders. Investments in associated organizations are recorded at cost plus allocated equities. Investments in land and buildings are carried at the lower of cost or market value.

<u>Cash equivalents</u> - The Cooperative considers all highly liquid investments with maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

<u>Accounts receivable</u> - The Cooperative extends credit to its customers who are primarily located in central Alabama. Trade receivables are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts on a monthly basis. Management determines the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Trade receivables do not accrue interest. Trade receivables are written-off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of trade receivables previously written-off are recorded when received.

Federal Emergency Management Agency receivables related to Hurricane Zeta are recorded at an estimated amount based on total eligible project dollars incurred by the Cooperative.

<u>Materials and supplies</u> - Electric materials and supplies are priced at average historical cost. Cost is determined by the cumulative average of all costs on a first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis.

Recognition of revenue from contacts with customers - The Cooperative has contractual agreements with its customers for the provision electric utility service. Electric revenue and the related cost of power purchased are recognized when electricity is used by the ultimate consumer. All such revenue is recognized as earned by the Cooperative. Customers are billed on a cycle basis throughout the month. Payment is due from customers within 15 days of the bill date.

The Cooperative has contractual agreements with customers for the attachment of other utility services to existing utility poles owned by the Cooperative. Revenue is recognized monthly over the term of the agreements. Customers are billed annually in arrears. Payment is due within 30 days of the bill date.

<u>Taxes</u> - The Cooperative collects gross receipts taxes from its members on behalf of the State of Alabama. Revenue is presented net of taxes collected in the statements of revenue.

Income tax status - The Cooperative is exempt from income taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(12). Management has evaluated the Cooperative's tax positions and concluded that the Cooperative has taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to the financial statements.

<u>Use of estimates</u> - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Note 2 - Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Cooperative maintains cash and cash equivalents in various banks located in Alabama, which at times may exceed federally insured limits. The Cooperative has not experienced any losses in such accounts. The Cooperative believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

Restricted funds relate to industrial development revolving loan programs. Restricted balances were as follows:

	2021			2020
Intermediary relending program	\$	300,771	\$	343,049
RUS revolving loan fund		388,585		388,585
REDLG		460,993		460,993
RBEG revolving loan fund		129,096		129,097
Total restricted funds	\$	1,279,445	\$	1,321,724

#### Note 3 - Receivables and Contract Assets from Contracts with Customers

Receivables and contract assets from contracts with customers for the year ended June 30, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

	2021			2020
Receivables		_		
Customers beginning of year	\$	1,125,573	\$	1,397,706
Customers end of year		1,031,991		1,125,573
Contract Assets				
Unbilled revenue beginning of year		1,418,324		1,418,324
Unbilled revenue end of year		1,418,324		1,418,324

# Note 4 - Investments in Associated Organizations

Investments in associated organizations consisted of the following at June 30, 2021 and 2020:

	2021	2020
PowerSouth Energy Cooperative patronage capital	\$ 10,194,973	\$ 9,917,226
NRUCFC patronage capital	2,162,174	2,089,916
Investment in NRUCFC capital term certificates	2,215,516	2,215,516
Other investments in associated organizations	842,879	834,582
Totals	\$ 15,415,542	\$ 15,057,240

# Note 5 - Utility Plant

Listed below are the major classes of utility plant and estimated annual rates used to compute depreciation for financial reporting purposes as of June 30, 2021 and 2020:

		Plant B	Annual		
	2021			2020	<b>Depreciation Rate</b>
Distribution plant	\$	72,418,265	\$	70,393,295	3.20 - 4.40%
General plant					
Land and rights		240,473		240,473	
Structures and improvements		5,118,889		5,112,257	2.05%
Office furniture and equipment		2,766,754		2,561,351	7.00 - 14.28%
Transportation equipment		1,602,175		1,483,601	17.00%
Power operated equipment		3,314,505		3,457,658	6.72 - 17.00%
Communication equipment		550,592		550,592	8.00%
Other miscellaneous equipment		404,564		402,600	6.00 - 12.00%
Totals	\$	86,416,217	\$	84,201,827	

Electric plant is depreciated on a straight-line basis.

# Note 6 - Notes Payable and Lines of Credit

Notes payable - Notes payable at June 30, 2021 and 2020 consisted of the following:

Description	2021	 2020
Notes payable - NRUCFC; fixed interest rates from 3.60% to 4.60%; notes due at various times up to December 2040; secured by all assets.	\$ 46,143,592	\$ 47,761,059
Notes payable - RUS; 1.00% interest; intermediary relending program; principal and interest due in installments until August 2030; secured by related economic development loans.	302,299	341,720
Note payable - Thompson Tractor Co., Inc.; 0.00% interest; note due November 2024; secured by related transportation		
equipment.	77,961	103,298
Less current maturities	(1,752,369)	(1,680,276)
Total notes payable	\$ 44,771,483	\$ 46,525,801

Estimated maturities on notes payable for the next five years are as follows:

For the Years Ending	 Amount
June 30, 2022	\$ 1,752,369
June 30, 2023	1,827,673
June 30, 2024	1,911,522
June 30, 2025	1,980,555
June 30, 2026	2,045,881

The Cooperative has covenants with its lenders relating to certain financial ratios.

The Cooperative had approved but unadvanced loan funds of \$18,100,000 with NRUCFC as of June 30, 2021 and 2020.

<u>Lines of credit</u> - The Cooperative has one line of credit with NRUCFC on which it may borrow up to \$5,000,000 and it may be used only for electric capital or operating needs. The balance outstanding was \$0 at June 30, 2021 and 2020.

The Cooperative has an available unsecured line of credit with CoBank on which it may borrow up to a total of \$1,000,000. The balance outstanding was \$0 at June 30, 2021 and 2020.

The NRUCFC loan conversion fees are payable in quarterly payments, over a period of 30 years. These conversion fees have no carrying cost. The related deferred asset is being amortized over a period of 30 years. Amortization expense related to this deferred asset was \$242,109 and \$248,574 for 2021 and 2020, respectively.

## Note 7 - Capital Lease Obligations

As of the year ended June 30, 2021, the Cooperative had outstanding leases for various pieces of equipment. Equipment under capital leases at June 30, 2021 and 2020, included:

	2021	 2020
Equipment	\$ 2,099,515	\$ 1,534,028
Less accumulated depreciation	530,383	 276,779
	\$ 1,569,132	\$ 1,257,249

Depreciation based on the equipment's useful life using the straight-line method, amounted to \$253,604 and \$122,892 for years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

At June 30, 2021, the future minimum lease payments under capital leases are presented as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	Amount		
2022	\$	341,982	
2023		329,743	
2024		329,743	
2025		318,806	
2026		258,171	
Thereafter		130,983	
		1,709,428	
Less amount representing interest		135,721	
Present value of minimum lease payments		1,573,707	
Less current maturities		303,167	
Noncurrent maturities	\$	1,270,540	

#### Note 8 - Purchased Power Payable

The Cooperative has an agreement with PowerSouth Energy Cooperative (PowerSouth) by which the Cooperative maintains an interest-bearing prepaid power account for purchases of electricity. At June 30, 2021, the Cooperative had a liability for purchased power of \$1,143,979. At June 30, 2020, the Cooperative had deposits with PowerSouth totaling \$1,000,000, and a liability for purchased power of \$1,120,854.

#### Note 9 - Paycheck Protection Program Loan

On March 27, 2020, Congress enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) which established the Paycheck Protection Program (the Program). The Program was created to assist small businesses in paying their employees and certain other expenses during the COVID-19 crisis. The Cooperative applied for a loan under this Program and received from its bank a loan in the amount of \$891,015 on June 4, 2020. The loan is forgivable if the Cooperative meets certain criteria as established under the Program.

On February 3, 2021, the Cooperative's application for forgiveness of their Paycheck Protection Program loan in the amount of \$891,015, in addition to \$6,039 of interest, was approved by the Small Business Administration. Loan forgiveness is subject to audit. Thus, there is a possibility that the loan forgiveness may be reviewed by governmental authorities or others. Such review may result in adjustments to any loan forgiveness. The Cooperative recognized the loan forgiveness as other nonoperating income on the statements of revenue.

## Note 10 - Accounting for Pensions

<u>Defined benefit pension plan</u> - The Retirement Security Plan (RS Plan), sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), is a defined benefit pension plan qualified under Section 401 and tax exempt under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is considered a multi-employer plan under the accounting standards. The RS Plan Sponsor's Employer Identification Number is 53-0116145 and the RS Plan Number is 333.

A unique characteristic of a multi-employer plan compared to a single employer plan is that all plan assets are available to pay benefits of any plan participant. Separate asset accounts are not maintained for participating employers. This means that assets contributed by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of other participating employers.

The Cooperative's contributions to the RS Plan in 2021 and in 2020 represented less than 5% of the total contributions made to the RS Plan by all participating employers. The Cooperative made contributions to the RS Plan of \$707,113 in 2021 and \$743,926 in 2020.

For the RS Plan, a "zone status" determination is not required, and therefore not determined, under the Pension Protection Act (PPA) of 2006. In addition, the accumulated benefit obligations and plan assets are not determined or allocated separately by individual employer. In total, the RS Plan was over 80% funded at January 1, 2021 and January 1, 2020 based on the PPA funding target and PPA actuarial value of assets on those dates.

Because the provisions of the PPA do not apply to the RS Plan, funding improvement plans and surcharges are not applicable. Future contribution requirements are determined each year as part of the actuarial valuation of the RS Plan and may change as a result of plan experience.

401(k) plan - The Cooperative has a 401(k) plan for its employees. The total expense related to the 401(k) plan for the Cooperative was \$61,179 and \$63,134 for 2021 and 2020, respectively.

#### Note 11 - Commitments

Under its wholesale power agreement, the Cooperative is committed to purchase its electric power and energy requirements from PowerSouth until December 31, 2055. The rates paid for such purchases are subject to periodic review.

#### Note 12 - Related Party

Pioneer Electric Cooperative Charitable Foundation (the Foundation) was formed in 2020 to accumulate and disburse funds for charitable, educational, or other worthy purposes in the service area of the Cooperative. The Foundation is a separate operating and reporting entity. Employees of the Cooperative perform the general and administrative functions of the Foundation for no fee. The Cooperative remitted \$10,000 and \$35,019 to the Foundation for the years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

#### Note 13 - Subsequent Events

The Cooperative has evaluated subsequent events through August 30, 2021, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued. All subsequent events requiring recognition as of June 30, 2021, have been incorporated into these financial statements.