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Monday - Thursday

7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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ID-1

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Manager

Thomas Wolff, Heppner

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Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative's main objective is to provide reliable electric service to its members at the lowest cost consistent with good business practice.

OR-2

Play it Safe This Summer

Hello, Members:

Spring has arrived. Everyone is anxious to get their yards groomed, gardens planted, and fields tilled, fertilized and planted. This also is the time many undertake major jobs of a new underground sprinkler system for the yard or expanded irrigation infrastructure.

In doing all of this, be aware of your surroundings and watch for electrical hazards. I want to remind you that you must call the 811 Call Before You Dig service two to three days before you dig to allow ample time for an underground locate. Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative makes every effort to conduct our requested locates as soon as possible.

Members should be aware of overhead electrical hazards. When using ladders, irrigation pipe, agricultural equipment or excavation machinery, be sure to keep yourself and your equipment 10 feet away from all overhead power lines. Do not touch anything in contact with the power lines. Carry ladders and other equipment horizontally, lower equipment apparatus before driving, never spray water at or on power lines, and stay at least 35 feet away from fallen power lines. Immediately call the CBEC offices or 911 upon any contact with power lines.

Whether you're digging a garden, holes for fence posts or doing a major trenching project, it is vital for the safety of you, your family and your community that you protect pipelines and all underground utilities by following the call-before-you-dig practice here in Oregon.

Wishing everyone a safe spring and wonderful summer!

Regards,

Tommy Wolff
CEO/General Manager



NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY PUD

2345 River Road
The Dalles, OR 97058
(541) 296-2226 FAX 298-3320
www.nwascopud.org

Board of Directors

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Clay Smith, Vice President
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Barbara Nagle, Treasurer
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Manager

Roger Kline

Board Meetings

Usually the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the PUD offices, 2345 River Rd. The public is always welcome.

Our Mission

To provide reliable, competitively-priced energy and related services that benefit our customers, in the tradition of public power.

Our Core Values and Beliefs

Local citizens championed and fought to create our People's Utility District. They believed—and we believe—in the public's right to own and control its electric utility.

Today, our values are a legacy from our public power heritage, as well as guideposts for a changing future.

We believe in:

- ▶ Public ownership and local control.
- ▶ Integrity.
- ▶ Keeping power rates as low as possible.
- ▶ Providing quality essential services.
- ▶ Quality customer service.
- ▶ Community involvement.

OR-3

Manager's Report



Investment in your PUD systems and people

About this same time last year, I reminded you that we were amid some major infrastructure renewal projects. I thought I'd take a moment to update you as to how they are all progressing.

Utility pole inspection, testing and treatment has paid huge dividends for our electric system. We have completed our second round of inspections and have replaced many poles before they failed and caused power outages, interruptions or worse. We're improving our work processes and accounting to ensure that any

outdoor lights that are in our system are being billed appropriately as well. Thank you for your understanding and patience if that has impacted you personally.

Your Board of Directors approved staff's recommendation to adopt our smart grid initiative to bring enhanced services to you, our customer-owners and community. We'll be installing the communication network later this year and continue replacing the electric metering infrastructure as appropriate to ultimately offer you enhanced products and services through technology. Meter reading accuracy and overall reliability of service are huge benefits of this community investment as well.

More than just replacing poles, meters and wires goes on at your PUD every day. Staff works hard to provide excellent customer service, billing accuracy and timely processing of all the other details that it takes to ensure safe, reliable, cost-effective and environmentally responsible electric service to you. We do regional policy work, strategic planning for the future, safety and technical training, community outreach, and support economic development in multiple ways as well. Our community is growing and your PUD is growing right with it.

None of this is possible without excellent people and a supportive community. Thank you for allowing us to accomplish all of this on your behalf.

Please ensure we have your current contact information, including email. Also, feel free to take advantage of electronic bill payment. You can do that through your financial institution or directly at www.nwascopud.org, we do not process any extra fee or charge for this service. This is also a great season to have an energy audit or to sign up for budget (levelized) bill payment. Explore these options on our website!

Enjoy the sunshine and be safe as you recreate outside!

Roger Kline

General Manager



P.O. Box 31 • 1009 F St.
Nespelem, WA 99155
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (M-F)
Phone: (509) 634-4571
Fax: (509) 634-8138
email: nvec@nvec.org
website: www.nvec.org

For after-hours emergencies,
call 634-4571 to page
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District 8, Bridgeport

Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of every month.

WA-5



No matter how you celebrate summer, do it safely so you can enjoy the season for months to come.

Safely Celebrate Summer

It's that time of year when many people look forward to venturing outdoors for fun in the sun. Make the most of the warm weather, but do it safely with the following tips from the National Safety Council:

- **Beat the heat.** Anybody can be at risk for a heat-related illness. Take breaks in the shade and drink plenty of water.
- **Bug safety.** Mosquitoes can cause a number of illnesses. Learn what you can do to protect yourself at work and play.
- **Playgrounds.** Emergency departments see more than 20,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related traumatic brain injury each year.
- **Fireworks.** Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades, fireworks displays—and plenty of visits to emergency rooms, especially during July.
- **Water safety.** Not including boating incidents, on average about nine people die from drowning every day. The younger the child, the greater the risk.
- **Bicycling.** Bicyclists must take extra precautions when they ride. They often share the road with vehicles, but injuries can happen even on a bike path.
- **Boating.** Most boating experiences are positive. But joyful times quickly can turn deadly if boaters are not vigilant about safety.
- **Pedestrian safety.** Cellphone-distracted walking is a huge problem. Rarely are we more vulnerable than when walking, crossing streets and negotiating traffic.



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www.cpi.coop

**Happy
Fathers
Day!**

OR-6

President's Report

Your Voice Mattered

Thank you to our ORECA-Action members for your terrific response to our Call to Action last month, which played a significant role in getting passage of H.R. 3144 in the U.S. House of Representatives.

This measure, calling for a timeout on the court-ordered river flow spill at the federally operated dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers, passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 225 to 189.

Hundreds of members of our political grassroots network told their congressional representatives that it doesn't make sense to add more water to the large amounts that already bypass the hydroelectric plants' turbines under current recovery programs. The majority of legislators agreed this risky experiment did not make sense considering its estimated annual cost of \$40 million for electricity consumers while also adding 840,000 metric tons of emissions to our Northwest skies.

However, the struggle is not over. The measure now goes to the U.S. Senate for consideration, where we face an uphill battle. We will likely call upon you again to let your senators know you stand with your electric cooperative when it comes to taking a balanced approach based on sound science to helping fish recover and ensuring ample supplies of carbon-emission-free, renewable energy.

If you would like to sign up and be part of our grassroots effort, go to www.ORECA-action.org and make your voice heard!

CRAC Surcharge Unlikely

We recently received encouraging news from the Bonneville Power Administration

regarding wholesale power costs.

Improved revenue projections and lower expenses for power services during the second quarter of FY 2018 has reduced the probability of a cost recovery adjustment clause rate increase for FY 2019 to only 8 percent.

The CRAC is triggered by an end-of-year forecast, made in the third quarter (April-June) of FY 2018, of zero or less reserves available for risk.

The improved power revenues were in large part due to regional debt management that provided interest savings from the Columbia Generating Station.

BPA's end-of-year forecast for expenses are \$372 million lower than projected and revenues were up \$8 million.

Safety First

In April, CPI celebrated National Lineman Appreciation Day and brought home top honors in the 2018 Northwest Public Power Association Safety Award. This award is based on a review of recordable injury/illness cases and lost work days in 2017. In April, we also achieved another milestone: four years without a lost-time accident at CPI. That is no small feat in our industry.

Congratulations to all of our employees and their families. Their commitment to Safety First is making a positive difference at CPI.

Roman Gillen
President and CEO



Benton REA

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Prosser Office
402 7th St., P.O. Box 1150
Prosser, WA 99350
509-786-2913

West Richland Office
6095 W. Van Giesen
West Richland, WA 99353
509-967-2921

Report an Outage: 509-786-2913
Toll Free: 800-221-6987
www.BentonREA.org

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Board Meetings

The Board of Trustees meets the last Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

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Jeff Bastow, I.T. Manager
Troy Berglund, Member Services Manager
Terry Mundorf, Attorney
HDR, Consulting Engineer
Blodgett, Mickelsen & Adamson, Auditor



WA-7

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

The dams have been on my mind lately. A court-ordered spill over the four Snake River dams began on April 3rd and will continue through June. The Columbia River dams followed soon after in a test that hopes to boost the already extremely high survival rate (92-96%) of salmon returning to the ocean.

This court ordered spill could impact both the rates and reliability of your power. The Bonneville Power Administration, where Benton REA purchases most of its power, estimates the additional spill will cost between \$20 and \$40 million a year because spilled water doesn't generate electricity. The additional spill also means that less water will be available later this summer when it's needed most, which could cause electrical service reliability problems.

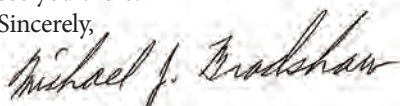
Reliable electricity is always available when you need it. Reliable hydropower flows here in our local region, but it may not always, unless we take a stand at some point to protect it.

The dams and salmon can coexist. We have seen this supported in Congress. In fact, our own Congressman Dan Newhouse deserves a huge thank you for his leadership on this issue. Yet, there is MORE work to be done. House Bill 3144, which will stop the additional spill of water over the dams, passed in the House of Representatives but faces challenges in the Senate.

Congress is now working on an alternative approach that would address two primary issues—it will stop the future spill over the dams and require the courts to seek Congress's advice before breaching the dams. There is optimism about this new approach, but it won't be easy. As supporters of low-cost, reliable electricity, we need to make our voice heard to protect our dams along with the price and reliability of our power supply. Benton REA will send more information to you soon about how to contact your Congressional Delegation and voice your opinion about this extremely important regional issue.

Local utilities, port districts, conservation districts and supporters of hydropower are rallying to make our voice heard. I encourage you to attend RiverFest on September 8 at Columbia Park in Kennewick to learn about the importance of the dams and river-system to our region and economy. Watch for information in future Ruralite editions about this event showcasing the benefits of the Federal Columbia River Power System. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,



Michael J. Bradshaw, General Manager
mikeb@bentonrea.org



Offices

Hermiston Office

750 W. Elm Ave.
541 567-6414

Boardman Office

400 N.E. Eldrige Drive
541 481-2220

Hours

7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday-Thursday

Toll-Free

1-800-452-2273

Report An Outage

888-465-5701 day or night

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Glenn Rohde

General Manager

Robert Echenrode

Mission

Umatilla Electric Cooperative is a member-owned business that sells energy and invests in and supports other services to improve the quality of life in our communities.

umatillaelectric.com

OR-8

Two Legacies of High Accomplishment

In her unassuming way, Kathy Moore spent the past 18 years helping homeowners save energy and gain comfort by upgrading their heating and cooling systems, insulation, windows and water heaters.

As UEC's energy efficiency coordinator, Kathy also worked on projects for our irrigation, commercial and industrial members, all the way up to her crowning achievement, helping Lamb Weston save about 13 million kilowatts annually in a single project at its Boardman West plant. (See page 28.)



By time she retired March 31, Kathy's dedication to UEC and its members had helped save more than 100 million kilowatt hours in the past half-dozen years alone.

Energy-efficiency projects help our members save money and be more productive—that's a benefit to our cooperative and the community as a whole. Saving energy frees up capacity on the UEC system for our community to grow, and it reduces the need for Northwest ratepayers to pay for new generation and transmission.

In her other duties, Kathy directed our community giving and scholarship programs in the Member Services Department. In her spare time, she has served on the Boardman Park and Recreation District board, which recently completed its pool and recreation center.

We wish her well in a future that includes being able to spend more time with her daughters and grandchildren.

So, too, do we wish the very best to departing board member Bob MacPherson

and his wife, Serena, also after 18 years of service to the cooperative. (See board election results on page 4.)

Appointed in 1999 and first elected in 2000, Bob is the 47th individual in the line of distinguished men and women who have helped our cooperative grow and prosper since its creation in 1937. He was elected six times to represent District 4, the Stanfield-Columbia areas.

Most recently Bob served as our board president, and previously served as secretary-treasurer. Bob helped navigate the myriad challenges of growth as UEC revenues rose from \$29 million in 1999 to \$118 million in 2017.

"What a great experience," Bob said. "The staff, the fellow board members, people from all the other cooperatives—it's been an incredible experience."

Bob said that among his greatest satisfactions is seeing companies that UEC helped start—Eastern Oregon Telecom and Lightspeed Networks—succeed in their markets.

Bob also served as a board member of the Wilsonville-based Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which advocates for cooperative and rural-based issues and concerns.

We will miss his leadership, and we welcome Phil Hamm to the UEC Board of Directors.



Robert Echenrode
General Manager & CEO



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

**105 E. 4th St.
The Dalles, OR 97058
Office phone: (541) 296-2740
Toll-free phone: (800) 341-8580
www.wascoelectric.com**

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday,
7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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BJ Ayres	The Dalles Lineman
Robert Gridley	The Dalles Lineman
Wesley Woods	Serviceman
Dan Funkhouser	Grass Valley Foreman
Frank Roeder	Maupin Foreman

Mission Statement

*"Wasco Electric Cooperative Inc.
will provide its members with
competitively priced, reliable energy
and related services."*

OR-9

Manager's Message

Summer Safety

With the arrival of summer comes an increase in outdoor activities. Whether you are out and about for work or pleasure, please be aware of where overhead power lines are located in relation to your activities.

If you come across a downed power line, stay away from it, protect the area and call Wasco Electric Cooperative immediately.

In addition to increased outdoor activities, summer also brings fire season. In the event of a fire that may potentially threaten the cooperative's distribution or transmission lines, please call the office immediately.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

High School Graduates

The Wasco Electric Board of Directors and employees offer our congratulations to the 2018 graduates from area high schools.

One of the ways the co-op supports local youth is through contributions to the high schools' graduating class drug- and alcohol-free graduation parties.

The high schools we support in this manner are The Dalles, Dufur, Sherman County, South Wasco County and Madras.

Congratulations, and good luck in your future, wherever it may take you.

As always, if you have any questions about your cooperative, please feel free to call or stop by the office.

Jeff Davis, General Manager



Owned By Those We Serve

Douglas Electric Cooperative Inc.,
Roseburg, Oregon

Phone (541) 673-6616

(800) 233-2733

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Director..... Carey Weatherly

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David Western

Superintendent

Todd Sherwood

Member Services

Todd C. Munsey

System Engineer

Jess Dory, PE

Mission Statement

The mission of Douglas Electric Cooperative, a member-owned and operated cooperative, is to provide affordable, reliable electric and other compatible services that enhance the quality of life for its members, using progressive marketing in conjunction with sound financial and management principles.

DOUGLAS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OR-10

Spilling Water For Salmon - Science, Politics and Money

It's impossible to give you a full-blown, comprehensive report on the salmon spill issue in this short column, but I want to at least give you a summary, and how it will directly affect you and the price you pay for electricity.

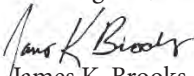
First of all, what is spill? Spill is the water released through the federal hydro projects on the Columbia and Snakes rivers. The projects already spill between 30 and 40 percent of the water in those rivers, instead of generating renewable, carbon-free electricity. The issue here is that fish advocates want even more water spilled.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration fisheries models show that increased spill would have little to no impact on fish survival. In fact, it may even have an adverse effect on the young fish we are trying to protect. Fish advocates claim their modeling reaches a completely different conclusion.

From a financial perspective, this is where it costs you, the Northwest ratepayer. Not only does spilling additional water create a loss of generation, and essential back-up for intermittent energy sources such as wind and solar, it also reduces Bonneville Power Administration revenues. To recover these additional costs, BPA must either reduce other program expenditures, pass these additional costs on to its customers, or both. I have heard estimates for the amount of these additional costs ranging anywhere from \$10 to 40 million. To be clear, if it meant preventing extinction of a species or even dramatically increasing fish migration, additional cost over and above the billions that Northwest ratepayers have already paid would be easier for members to swallow. But that simply is not the case here. It's a matter of the courts battling against what we feel is good science.

Thankfully, we have excellent representation working on our members' behalf. Ted Case, the executive director for the Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association (www.oreca.org), Terry Flores, executive director with Northwest RiverPartners (nwrivernpartners.org) and Ashley Slater, Vice President of Government Affairs and Policy for PNGC Power (www.pngc.com), continue to look out for your best interests. You will find plenty of information on their websites. In their words, "We can all agree that the Northwest cares about our region's iconic salmon, but we shouldn't throw good money at a bad plan." Feel free to call me with any questions you may have.

Best Regards,


James K. Brooks
General Manager



Columbia Power Co-op



**P.O. Box 97
Monument, OR 97864
(541) 934-2311
Toll free (888) 203-7638**

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Vice President Adam Temple
Sec./Treasurer Brian Campbell
Dan Cannon
Dave Humphreys
Cheryl Jenison
Judy Wilson

MANAGER

Troy Cox

The board of directors meets
the second Monday of each month.

.....

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Guy Andersen 934-2098
Troy Cox 934-2155
Josh Hamilton 934-2133
Mike Osborne 934-2067
Joe Ringering 805-9098
Gary Warner 934-2961
Brian Woodell 934-2260

OR-11



Robbie Beron



Bailey Thomas



Marissa Jacobson

2018 Scholarship Awards

Three students from the Columbia Power Co-op service area are recipients of the 2018 scholarship awards.

The judges said they enjoyed talking with the students and that they were a great group. After much deliberation, the judges awarded Robbie Beron from Spray the \$1,000 scholarship. Bailey Thomas from Monument and Marissa Jacobson from Spray tied for second place. Each will receive \$500.

We want to thank Pat Holliday, Tracie Unterwegner and Bob Armstrong for taking time from their busy schedules to undertake the difficult task of judging the applicants for us this year. They did a great job. We appreciate their help.

Troy Cox
General Manager

Central Issues

Central Electric Cooperative

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and Energy Services**
Karen Lewis

24-HOUR PHONE NUMBERS:

In Redmond, call (541) 548-2144
or toll free at (800) 924-8736

Mission Statement

*The aim of Central Electric Co-op is to
make electric energy available to its
members at the lowest cost consistent
with sound economy and good
management.*

Board meets the third Thursday
of each month at the CEC office,
2098 N. Highway 97, Redmond, OR.

www.cec.coop

OR-12

President's Report

CEC and Energy Trust of Oregon Approaches Differ, Co-op Supports Individual Choice

CEC has a long history of helping homeowners, businesses and the agricultural sector conserve energy and save money. We have been doing this since 1978, whether supporting weatherization improvements, incentivizing purchases of high-efficiency appliances and lighting systems, promoting more efficient irrigation practices or helping reduce the costs of custom industrial efficiency projects.

Today, we offer 16 programs covering the full span of our consumer groups: residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural. The programs are designed and chosen to fit the most in-demand needs among our members, while getting the greatest energy savings per dollar spent. Because Central Electric and Pacific Power's service areas are side by side, some CEC members are aware of the investor-owned utility's programs. They sometimes question why we offer a program Pacific Power doesn't and vice versa. The consumer's question often comes down to, "why don't you do what they do?"

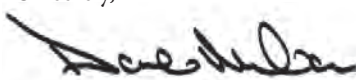
The major reason is how differently our programs are funded and managed. Pacific Power's programs are marketed and managed through the Energy Trust of Oregon, an independent entity established in 1999 by the Oregon Legislature. ETO is funded by a consumer tax, called a public purpose charge, on Pacific Power and Portland General Electric's customers' bill. By law, it is required to be 3 percent.

This is one of the costs contributing to Pacific Power's residential bills that average 42 percent more than CEC's, based on the average CEC residential member's monthly use of 1,480 kilowatt-hours.

We point to this and other factors when discussing the differences between Central Electric's energy-efficiency program management and that of Pacific Power. By choosing from among all the programs designed by the Bonneville Power Administration and qualified for use by its 124 public utility customers, CEC tailors its 16 program offerings to best meet the needs of our members. This has worked exceedingly well for the past 40 years. Every year, the amount of energy and money saved by our members is greater than the year before.

If you are looking to upgrade your heating and cooling system, improve lighting for your business, or install a variable-frequency drive for irrigation, reach out to our energy specialists by calling (541) 548-2144. Our team can help you find the best solutions for your energy-efficiency needs.

Sincerely,



Dave Markham
President and CEO





Board of Directors

President

John G. Herzog, Brookings/Harbor

Vice President

Georgia A. Cockerham, Brookings/Harbor

Secretary/ Treasurer

Daryl C. Robison, Port Orford/Langlois

Cheryl L. McMahan, Southern At-Large

Jim Kolen, Gold Beach

Peter C. Radabaugh, Bandon/Coquille

Daniel Loshbaugh, Northern At-Large

Attorney—Tyler Pepple

Staff

General Manager/CEO

Roger Meader

Corporate Services/CFO

Frank Corrales

Engineering Manager

Matt Mjelde

Marketing and Member

Services Manager

Jacob Knudsen

Operations Manager

Randy McDonald

Local numbers

Coquille..... (541) 396-3118

Port Orford..... (541) 332-3931

Gold Beach..... (541) 247-6638

Brookings..... (541) 469-2103

Area office hours 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.,
Monday through Thursday.
Closed Friday.

After-Hours Outage Number

(866) 352-9044

Call Before You Dig

811

www.ccec.coop

OR-13

Special Message

To those we are committed to—and serve electrically—every day.

Your Membership Matters

Director elections and 80th annual Meeting of the Members

Each June, we offer our members an exciting opportunity that is the best example of how electric cooperatives are different than other utility companies. With the enclosed ballot, each member has the opportunity to participate in the selection of two board members who will represent them on the Coos-Curry Electric Board of Directors. Democratic Member Control—one member, one vote—is perhaps the most defining element of a not-for-profit electric cooperative.

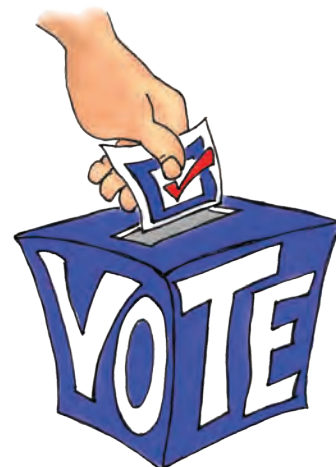
This year, directors will be elected from District 1 & 2, Brookings/Harbor area; and District 3, Gold Beach area. As a member of Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative, the most important action you can take is to vote for your board of representatives.

Ballots must be received at the address on the ballot return envelope by 5:30 p.m. June 19, 2018. Ballots received after the deadline or in an unsigned envelope will not be counted.

We will announce election results and provide updated financial and operational information at this year's annual business meeting Thursday, June 21, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. at the Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative headquarters in Port Orford.

Roger Meader

General Manager and CEO





West Oregon
Electric Co-op

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®

652 Rose Ave.

P.O. Box 69

Vernonia, OR 97064

(503) 429-3021

Toll free (800) 777-1276

www.westoregon.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Robert VanNatta

(Dist. 2 – Mist, Apiary, Birkenfeld)

Vice President Jim Buxton

(Dist. 3 – Vernonia, Keasey)

Sec./Treasurer Rosemary Lohrke

(Dist. 6 – Chapman, Scappoose)

Brian Baker

(Dist. 1 – Jewell, Elsie, Hamlet)

Brett Costley

(Dist. 4 – Vernonia)

Nick Galaday

(Dist. 5 – Timber, Buxton)

Larry Heesacker

(Dist. 7 – Manning, Hagg Lake,
Yamhill County)

GENERAL MANAGER

Bob Perry

Contact the board:

directors@westoregon.org

Board meetings are the fourth

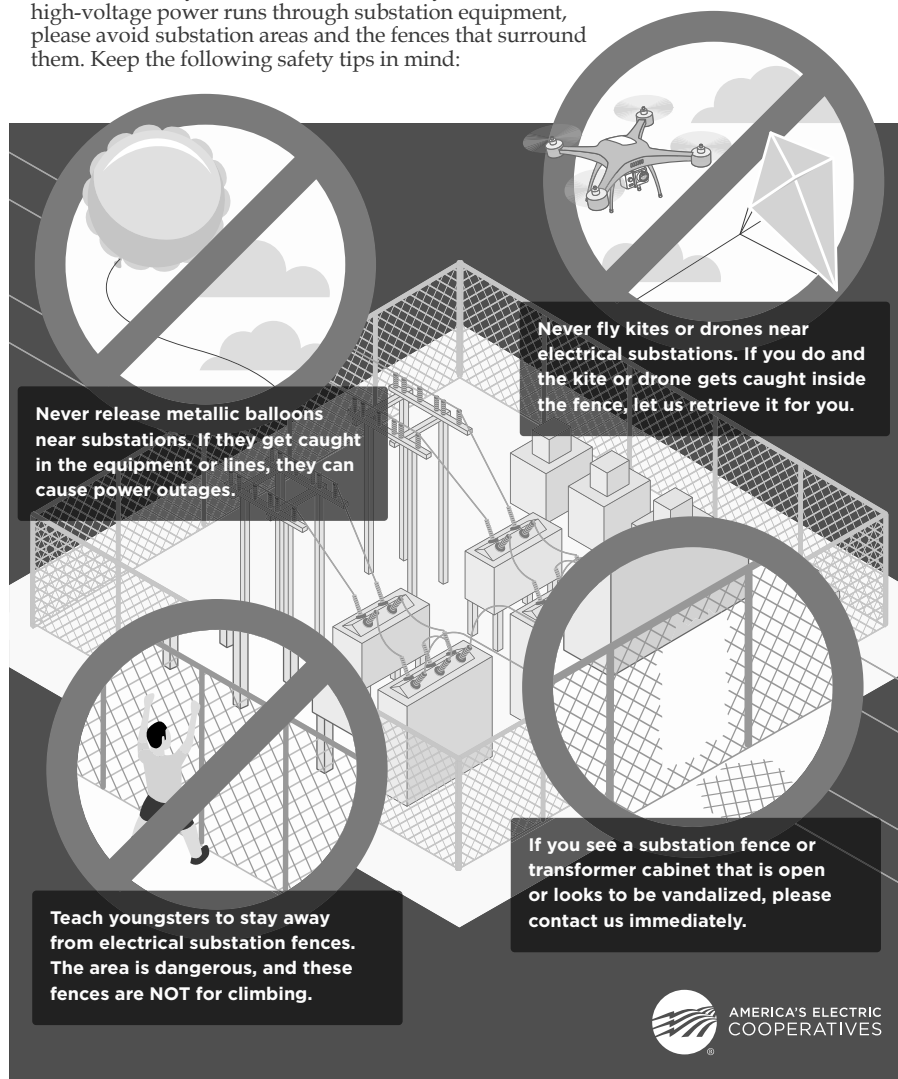
Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Members are welcome.

OR-14

Stay Away from Electrical Substations

An electrical substation converts electricity to a lower voltage so it can be safely routed and delivered to your home. Because high-voltage power runs through substation equipment, please avoid substation areas and the fences that surround them. Keep the following safety tips in mind:





Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.

516 U.S. Hwy. 395 E.
Alturas, CA 96101

Phone (530) 233-3511
Toll-Free: (866) 843-2667

For utility information or to pay
online, go to SVE's website,
www.surprisevalleyelectric.org

*Office open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday*

After hours and outages:
Call office numbers above

STAFF

Bradley Kresge, General Manager
John Minto, Engineer
Dennis Reed, Line Superintendent
Lynn Culp, Member Service Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Craig Joiner, President
Lookout

Dennis Flynn, Vice President
Valley Falls

Raymond Cloud, Secretary/Treasurer
New Pine Creek

Wesley Cook
Cedarville

Scott Warner
Lakeview

John Erquiaga
Lake City

Duane McGarva
Likely

*Board meets the fourth Thursday of the
month at the SVE office.*

"Owned by those we serve"

CA-15



Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.'s 80th annual membership meeting is Saturday, September 8.

Photo by Anthony Larson

Nominating Committee Meeting Notice

The Nominating Committee will meet Thursday, June 21, 1 p.m. at the Surprise Valley Electrification Corp. office to nominate candidates for Districts 2 and 3.

Members appointed to and voluntarily serving on the nominations committee are Belva Landes, Dan Bouse, Lee Holland, John Derner, Andy Grove, Dannette DePaul, Davis Wellman, Ellen Withers, Pete Talbott and Don Robinson.

The SVE Board of Directors is elected from the membership. The cooperative is divided into seven districts roughly equal in population. One director is elected from each district for a three-year term. It is the directors' duty to plan and guide the development of your cooperative. They are expected to keep themselves informed on all matters that affect the cooperative.

Directors serve without salary, but are paid a fee and reimbursed expenses for attending board and other designated meetings.

Section 4.06 of your SVE's bylaws sets forth the methods of nomination to the board of directors. You may be nominated to run for election by the nominating committee, or nomination can come from a petition signed by not fewer than 30 members. Petitions must be filed not fewer than 45 days prior to the annual meeting. For more information on eligibility and nomination to the board of directors, please review your bylaws or come by the office.

Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.'s 80th annual membership meeting is Saturday, September 8, at the Cedarville Fairgrounds. Member registration begins at 10 a.m., followed by lunch at 11:30 a.m. The business meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

787 Bailey Hill Road
Eugene, OR 97402

Office Phone: (541) 484-1151

Business Hours:

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED FRIDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Website: laneelectric.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Seubert, President, Central District

Susan Knudsen Obermeyer, Vice President, Oakridge District

Kathy Keable, Secretary, McKenzie District

Hugh Buermann, Treasurer, Row River District

Jack Billings, Central District

J. Ingrid Kessler, Central District

Jerry Shorey, Oakridge District

GENERAL MANAGER

Matt Michel

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Tony Toncray, Manager Engineering & Operations

Debi Wilson, Manager Office & Staff Services

BOARD MEETINGS

4th Monday of each month

Lane Electric's office, 787 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene

Meetings begin at 9 a.m.

(Unless otherwise noted on LEC website)

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OR-16

Down the Line



Dear Co-op Community Members:

There have been several developments on spilling more water for fish in the Columbia and Snake rivers and the impact that has on your power bill.

In May, the Bonneville Power Administration announced the state of Oregon's court-ordered spill experiment cost \$38.6 million in lost hydroelectric generation. After BPA's spending reductions in fish and wildlife costs and other adjustments, BPA whittled the cost down to \$10.2 million. The cost to Lane Electric is nearly \$52,000. BPA will

finalize the amount in late June. We knew an increase was coming—see the September 2017 Ruralite back page—and we budgeted for it. That in turn, had an impact on the April rate increase.

In addition to the added power cost, the state of Oregon's lawsuit added an estimated 1,001,743 more metric tons of CO₂ into the Pacific Northwest atmosphere. This is equivalent to putting 217,770 more cars on the road for a year! According to the Oregon Global Warming Commission, transportation emissions were already a primary driver of Oregon's increasing CO₂ emissions. This experiment made Oregon's carbon profile worse without any assurance fish would benefit.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, D.C., the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3144, a bipartisan bill that would call a "timeout" on the spill experiment. During the House floor debate, Oregon Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-Canby) spoke eloquently in support of the common-sense bill. The bill is now in the Senate and faces a long road, but raising the issue for open discussion is worth the effort.

Oregon's 18 electric co-ops will continue advocating in Congress and Salem for a coherent, common-sense energy policy in Oregon that balances the complex and vital issues of carbon, affordable power and fish passage mitigation. You have a voice on this issue through Lane Electric. Be a part of a grassroots effort by joining ORECA Grassroots on our website (bottom-right at www.LaneElectric.com). You will receive updates and calls to action.

Finally, thank you for coming out to have dinner with us in May at one of the co-op's five district meetings. All of us at Lane Electric—the board and employees—enjoy being your host and sharing time with you. From Crow to Lowell to Westfir to Dorena and Blue River, we gathered together to be a part of a grassroots tradition. Take another look at the small communities I just listed—each with their own story, yet all connected in the shared co-op community of Lane Electric. The district meetings are fun, social and informative, so make it a habit to attend every year. We look forward to seeing you.

Matt

Matt Michel, General Manager



Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative

90680 Highway 99
Eugene, OR 97402
(541)-688-8711
(800)-446-8418
www.blachlylane.coop

Mission Statement: *Blachly-Lane provides safe, reliable electric service consistent with the values of our members.*

Board of Directors:

Ernie Jacksch

(ph: 927-3466) District 1
jacksche@blachlylane.coop
(Low Pass, Blachly, Deadwood and Indian Creek areas)

Curtis Short Vice Chairman

(ph: 998-2721) District 2
shortc@blachlylane.coop
(Fern Ridge and Elmira-rural areas)

Cheryl Haskell,

(ph: 998-3954) District 3
haskellc@blachlylane.coop
(Junction City-rural and Hwy 99N)

Marlene Northrup, Chairwoman

(ph: 998-1216) District 4
northrupm@blachlylane.coop
(Hwy 36, Hall Road and North Poodle Creek Road)

Cliff Kelley, Secretary/Treasurer

(ph: 915-6109) District 5
kelleycc@blachlylane.coop
(Warthen, Sheffler and Walton areas)

General Manager

Joe Jarvis
jarvisj@blachlylane.coop

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The power of human connections

OR-17

Manager's Report

Dear Members,

It was good to see many of you at our annual meeting in April. There were 73 memberships represented with approximately 117 members in attendance. Many thanks to Oaklea Middle School for hosting us and serving a delicious chicken lunch, and to the Blachly-Lane employees who made sure things ran smoothly.

Board Chairwoman Marlene Northrup inspired us with her message that as a cooperative, we are more powerful as we stand together. Assistant General Manager Greg Gardner shared the commitment of the co-op as a plan-driven organization. I announced it was my last annual meeting, as I plan to retire in January 2019.

Spending time with members at the annual meeting is always energizing to the board, staff and employees. We thank you for participating.



Summer Projects

Our crews have an ambitious list of work ahead of them this summer. These projects achieve the board of directors' strategic goals of improving safety, reliability and member satisfaction. Give our guys a wave when you see them out on the lines. We appreciate you slowing down in their work zones.

Junction City Substation Feeder Get-aways. Underground get-aways connect this new substation to existing feeder lines at Parker Substation, creating a backup source.

Alderwood 115-kilovolt Circuit Switcher. Installation of modern circuit protection replaces outdated fuse protection.

Re-conductor Sheffler M Line 229 Tap. Replacement of damaged and undersized high-voltage conductor to improve reliability and efficiency.

Alderwood to Cheshire 34.5 kV transmission line rebuild. During BPA's rebuild of the 115-kV line to EPUDs Cheshire Substation, we will remove the radial line feeding Alderwood. We will build a temporary 34.5-kV line that ties into our existing 34.5-kV line nearby.

Distribution Cable Replacement. This reliability and efficiency project targets cables in the system that have had two or more failures.

Pre-Pay Meter Infrastructure (FlexPay). FlexPay meters give members an affordable and customizable way to pay for their service, lower operational costs of connects/disconnects by servicemen and improve revenue losses due to nonpay.

Nelson Mountain Feeder Reconductor. Replaces overhead conductor with specialized conductor developed for the Northwest's heavily treed right-of-way. This equipment is more affordable than burring cables, while providing safety and reliability.

High Pass Substation Transformer. Replaces transformer that failed April 7, 2017. Project will upgrade and modernize protective station equipment.

Enjoy the summer,

Joe Jarvis, General Manager



Board of Commissioners

Randy L. Knowles

President

Dan G. Gunkel

Vice President

Douglas B. Miller

Secretary

.....

Jim Smith

General Manager

Kevin Ricks

*Generation Asset/
Special Projects Manager*

Gwyn Miller

H.R. & Business Services Director

Mike DeMott

Power Manager

Mark Pritchard

Operations Manager

Ron Schultz

Chief Engineer

Brandy Myers

Customer Service Supervisor

.....

www.klickitatpud.com

Goldendale Office

1313 S. Columbus Ave.
Goldendale, WA 98620
(509) 773-5891
(800) 548-8357

White Salmon Office

110 NE Estes Ave.
P.O. Box 187
White Salmon, WA 98672
(509) 493-2255
(800) 548-8358

WA-18

Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Follow the tips below to get the least cost and greatest comfort this summer.

- Make sure your central air-conditioning system or window unit is properly sized for the space it is meant to cool. Improperly sized units use more energy than needed.
- Remember, window air-conditioning units generally are not designed to cool more than one room.
- Clean or replace window unit or central air-conditioning system filters monthly. Dirty filters cause air conditioners to work harder and use more energy.
- If you have a central air-conditioning system, do not close off unused rooms or close air registers. The system will be less efficient, and will cost more to operate.
- Make sure outside air conditioning units or heat pumps are not blocked by shrubbery, leaves or other objects.
- Set the thermostat on the highest comfortable setting. Raising the temperature just 2 degrees can reduce cooling costs as much as 5 percent. It is recommended to set your thermostat between 72 and 77 F.

Heat Transfer and Airflow

- Check weather stripping around doors and caulking around windows. Properly sealed doors and windows help prevent warm outside air from entering the home.
- Close blinds, shades or drapes during the hottest part of the day to block the sun's heat.
- Make sure the attic is properly ventilated to eliminate excess summer heat.

Household Tips

- Place heat-producing appliances such as lamps and televisions away from the air conditioning thermostat to prevent inaccurate temperature readings.
- For homes without air conditioning, use fans to draw cooler air inside during the night and to circulate air throughout your home during the day. Use only when the home is occupied. Fan blades should rotate counter-clockwise in summer months.
- Save jobs that produce moisture—such as mopping and washing dishes or clothes—for early morning or nighttime hours. The humidity from these activities can make homes uncomfortable. On hot days, cook outdoors, use a microwave or prepare cold meals to avoid excess heat in the kitchen.
- Try not to use a dehumidifier when your air conditioning is on. Dehumidifiers increase the cooling load and forces the air conditioning to work harder.
- If planting permanent shade trees, place them to the east and west sides of the home. South-facing walls benefit from the sun the most in the winter through passive solar energy. Therefore, planting trees to the south could decrease that warming effect.

To learn more about home cooling and energy saving rebates, contact Anita, Klickitat PUD's energy services specialist, at (509) 773-7622.



NORTHERN LIGHTS, INC.

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www.nli.coop
P.O. Box 269
Sagle, ID 83860

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(866) 665-4837

**For regular business
within the Sandpoint area:**
(208) 263-5141

Outside Sandpoint:
(800) 326-9594

Board President
Steve Elgar

Board Vice President
Kennon McClintock

Board Secretary/Treasurer
Judith Simonson

General Manager
Annie Terracciano

Board of Directors by District

Dist. No. 1—Mike Dolan, Nordman, ID
(208) 610-3853

Dist. No. 2—Judith Simonson, Noxon, MT
(406) 847-2643

Dist. No. 3—Steve Elgar, Sandpoint, ID
(208) 610-2999

Dist. No. 4—David Pemberton, Careywood, ID
(208) 661-5911

Dist. No. 5—Kennon McClintock, Moyie Springs, ID
(208) 267-7064

Dist. No. 6—Dave Anderson, Bonners Ferry, ID
(208) 610-8021

Dist. No. 7—Jim Woodward, Sagle, ID
(208) 946-7963

ID-19

Annual Meeting Recap

The Northern Lights 83rd annual meeting May 12 consisted of entertainment, refreshments, giveaways and the business meeting. Check out the pictures on pages 4 and 5 of this issue. Thanks to all of the members who made the effort to attend. For those of you not able to be there, we missed you. Let me highlight what was discussed at the meeting.

NLI Board Directors in Districts 2 and 4 were up for election. Director Judith Simonson, District 2, and Director David Pemberton, District 4, ran unopposed. Congratulations to Judith and David on their re-election.

Two proposed bylaw amendments were voted on by the members. Both amendments passed.

You will find a summary of your cooperative's 2017 financial statements on pages 28 and 29. NLI continues to be in a healthy financial position. Members' ownership in the cooperative grew by approximately \$2.7 million in 2017. New services are still increasing, with 370 completed in the last year. In December 2017, \$1.3 million was returned covering the balance for 1987 and 65 percent of 1988 capital credits.

We are seven years into our long-term power supply contract with the Bonneville Power Administration. NLI buys 90 percent of its power from BPA. We generate the other 10 percent at our Lake Creek Hydroelectric Dam in Troy, Montana. In 2017, the dam produced 27 million kilowatt-hours of energy. The dam provides our lowest cost of power, which helps keep your rates low.

In addition to owning our own hydro plant, last year NLI completed construction on Idaho's first community solar project. The solar array is at our Sagle headquarters. Members have the option of buying up to five units of solar. The kilowatt-hours those units produce are credited back to their account monthly. Units are \$300 each. We have sold 80 percent of available units.

Every year, maintaining the plant is a high priority for the NLI Board of Directors. In 2017, we replaced 240 poles, 54,000 feet of old underground cable and trimmed trees along 160 miles of line.

As we enter June, I hope you are enjoying the warmer weather, have your gardens planted and are looking forward to a great summer. To all the dads out there, happy Father's Day.



Annie Terracciano
General Manager



Idaho County Light & Power Cooperative

P.O. Box 300
Grangeville, Idaho 83530
Phone: (208) 983-1610
Toll free: (877) 212-0424
Fax: (208) 983-1432
Email: iclp@iclp.coop
Website: www.iclp.coop

Directors

President Cliff Tacke
Greencreek

Vice President Kim Dahler
Kooskia

Secretary-Treasurer Jim Poxleitner
Cottonwood

Frank McIntire
Kamiah

Gerald Frei
Grangeville

John Solberg
Kamiah

Ernie Robinson
White Bird

Attorney

J.A. Wright

General Manager

Max Beach

c-21

The Price of Power

Just as you receive a power bill every month, so does Idaho County Light & Power. On average, our power bill reflects a little more than 42 percent of our total cost to operate—roughly \$2.5 million per year. It's a significant number and one we keep a close eye on.

While you generally see a fixed kilowatt-hour rate on your monthly bill, your co-op's bill varies from month to month. Many factors play into our bill. Since 85 percent of the power we receive is from clean hydropower, the rate can fluctuate throughout the year based on how much rainfall and snowpack were received in previous months.

There also are unexpected increases in our power bills. Last year, Judge Michael Simon of the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court in Portland ruled the Bonneville Power Administration would have to spill water at the maximum capacity—roughly 120 percent of normal—at the Columbia and Snake river dams and consider removal of four Snake River dams.

This was appealed and garnered support from our legislators, including Rep. Cathy McMorris Rogers from Washington, who sponsored HB 3144 to require the dams to be operated under the eight-year plan developed in 2014. The increased spill began in April and will continue through mid-June. Removal of the four Snake River dams is still up for discussion as it moves through the process.

There are, of course, two sides to every story. On one side, the increased spill and potential dam removal are said to be saviors for migrating salmon. Others have a differing opinion. Increasing spill to 120 percent of average pushes oxygen levels to the maximum fish can handle. It also will let nearly \$40 million of potential power production flow down the river before it can be used. Increased spill will influence recreation, flood control, transportation, barges on the river and irrigation. If the dams were removed, it would take two coal plants or two natural gas generating stations to replace the power output.

Many point to the oceans as being a significant contributor to reduced salmon runs, and sea lions have now moved into the bases of fish ladders that provide safe passage through the dams. While this represents a problem to discuss at another time, fish ladders have a 96 to 97 percent passage rate. Ratepayers throughout the Northwest, including you, have paid nearly \$16 billion since 1978 to promote fish and wildlife programs.

With little control or oversight, nearly one-third of the \$2.5 million ICL&P pays for power each year funds fish and wildlife programs—and this number continues to rise. This cost rivals the dams and the large transmission lines that carry power out to 142 utilities in the Northwest. While we work to find a solution that benefits everyone, we were just notified that our power bill will increase during the next four months to cover the additional spill.

We will continue to manage our costs to best serve you, our members. When it comes to carbon-free, renewable hydropower, there is a lot at stake and will continue to be for years to come.

Thanks for listening,

Max Beach, General Manager



Columbia REA

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections

2929 Melrose Street
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Phone: (509) 526-4041
Fax: (509) 526-3666
Toll Free: (800) 642-1231

ColumbiaREA.coop

Board of Directors

Katie Wooldridge, President
Greg Knowles, Vice President
Neil Carpenter, Secretary/Treasurer
Patrick Dennis, Director
Jay DeWitt, Director
Doug Logan, Director
Dennis Munden, Director
Vic Parks, Director
Glen Shipley, Director

Board meetings are normally the fourth Tuesday of each month. The meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. and is usually held in Walla Walla.

Staff

Chief Executive Officer, Les Teel
Executive Assistant/HR,
Jennifer Aichele
Chief Operating Officer, Scott Peters
Manager of Marketing & Member
Services, Doug Case
Manager of Operations, Dave Reller
Manager of Engineering, Grant Glaus
Manager of Financial Services,
Jim Cooper
Manager of Communications & IT,
Bob Greene
Manager of Safety & Regulatory
Affairs, KC Dors

WA-22

Letter from Les...

Putting the needs of members first – this can be hard to find these days, but as a cooperative, that's what we do. Being a cooperative, our members are our owners, so not only does this allow each member to have a voice and be heard, but we work for you – and at Columbia REA, we work hard.

The first cooperative dates back to Rochdale, England in 1884, and there is a reason that this business structure still holds strong today. Columbia REA is a tax-exempt, nonprofit businesses that strives to keep prices low for our members. We, along with the rest of the electric cooperatives in America, operate by following seven key principles:

- Open and Voluntary Membership
- Democratic Member Control
- Members' Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training, and Information
- Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- Concern for Community

As you might know, these seven key principles drive how we operate in many ways. Take our annual meeting; by hosting these, we are ensuring that our key principles are followed. We actually just wrapped up our 80th annual meeting, where our members voted in two new directors and reelected a third. In addition to voting in the three directors, our members also made four bylaw revisions (see page 5 for details). These meetings do so much more than help us follow our key principles, but they also give Columbia REA employees the opportunity to have face-to-face time with our members, which we love.

One principle that we continually focus on is our Concern for Community; actually, we immerse ourselves in it. Did you know that annually Columbia REA employees log over 1000 hours of volunteer time, supporting local community events and on various boards? We believe that in order to help our service area thrive, contributing to them is essential to their success as well as ours. Between the volunteer time and monetary support we provide to the surrounding communities, I couldn't be more proud of our cooperative and what we've helped accomplish over the years.

Until next time,





A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

16755 Finley Butte Road
P.O. Box 127
La Pine, OR 97739

www.midstateelectric.coop
info@midstateelectric.coop
(541) 536-2126 • (800) 722-7219

Departments

Customer Service Option 3
Engineering Option 4
Marketing Option 5
Operations Option 6

**After-Hours Outage and
Emergencies: (541) 536-2165
or (800) 752-5935**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays and holidays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Leland Smith, Sunriver

Vice President

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Secretary/Treasurer

Diana Cox, Christmas Valley

Vic Russell, Fall River

Robert Reed, La Pine

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist

Ken Wilson, Chemult

Bud Kendall, La Pine

Board meets the fourth Monday
of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager

Dave Schneider

Operations/Engineering Manager

Steve Hess

Marketing Manager

Teresa Lackey

CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Bartunek

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Manager's Message

Dear Member:

Midstate Electric Cooperative's 66th annual meeting, held May 12 in La Pine, was well attended. With 409 registered members and their guests, there were more than 900 people in attendance.

Before the business meeting began, attendees enjoyed a barbecue, health fair, displays, high-voltage safety demonstrations and bucket truck rides.

At noon, Board President Lee Smith welcomed members to the meeting. In his president's report, Lee spoke about the changes taking place in the electric utility industry that will require us to adapt.

Lee spoke in depth about electric cars, trucks and SUVs. He referenced an article published by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association that stated, "If you think electric cars are just a lot of hype, you're about to be left on the side of the road." The author went on to say, "This is the largest opportunity for electric cooperatives to grow load since the invention of air conditioning."

Lee said that in a few years, it could be possible for MEC to replace gasoline companies as the largest seller of automobile fuels in our service area: kilowatts of electricity.

Derek Moody of Blodgett, Mickelsen and Adamson gave the auditor's report. With assets of more than \$64 million, margins of more than \$3.04 million and equity of 45 percent, the cooperative is positioned to succeed.

I gave an update on events that have happened since the 2017 meeting, current events and where we are going.

Margins for year-end 2017 were higher than expected due to the cold weather. The system saw a peak of 114 MWs with

a record number of 440 million kWhs delivered. The higher margins allowed us to return \$1.5 million in capital credits to members. We were able to accelerate our tree-trimming program, clearing more than 92 miles of distribution lines. Getting the legally required clearance between power lines reduced the number of minutes members were without power, declining by 37 percent from 2016.

A few issues facing MEC are centered on complex energy policies. Oregon legislators are looking at implementing a cap-and-invest bill—a mechanism that will cost Oregon citizens by taxing large carbon-emitting businesses that manufacture goods, on production of electricity and even on fuel at the gas pump.

A federal judge has granted the state of Oregon increased spill over Columbia and Snake river dams. This poor policy will potentially kill fish, have a \$40 million financial impact to Bonneville Power Administration ratepayers and possibly replace clean hydro generation with carbon-emitting generation.

We believe it is wrong to charge members more and to waste electricity. We will fight these harmful policies to the best of our ability.

MEC has an aging electrical system that requires upgrades and replacement. We have nearly 30,000 wooden poles and nearly 780 miles of direct buried cable. We are accelerating our replacement programs to ensure reliability.

Members running for board positions—Vic Russell, District 1; Bob Reed, District 2; and Diana Cox, District 8—were unopposed, and therefore re-elected to serve for additional three-year terms.

General Manager Dave Schneider



www.rrelectric.com

DIRECTORS

President Krinn McCoy
 Vice President Stan Spencer
 Secretary-Treasurer Gary Jones
 Larry Henson
 Lindsey Manning
 Larry Monroe
 Dennis Poulsen
 Blaine Tanner
 Doug Webb

GENERAL MANAGER

Kurt Anderson

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Chad Black

Board meets the fourth Wednesday
 of each month

P.O. Box 617
Malta, ID 83342

To Call Raft River

- Office hours (208) 645-2211
- Toll free (800) 342-7732
 (After hours and outages)
- Pay-by-phone (844) 244-1497

Western Division

(All calls for Jackpot, Jarbidge,
 Mountain City and Owyhee)

- Office hours (208) 645-2211
- Toll free (800) 342-7732
 (After hours and outages)



Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

ID-24



No matter how you celebrate summer, do it safely so you can enjoy the season for months to come.

Safely Celebrate Summer

It's that time of year when many people look forward to venturing outdoors for fun in the sun. Make the most of the warm weather, but do it safely with the following tips from the National Safety Council:

- **Beat the heat.** Anybody can be at risk for a heat-related illness. Take breaks in the shade and drink plenty of water.
- **Bug safety.** Mosquitoes can cause a number of illnesses. Learn what you can do to protect yourself at work and play.
- **Playgrounds.** Emergency departments see more than 20,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related traumatic brain injury each year.
- **Fireworks.** Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades, fireworks displays—and plenty of visits to emergency rooms, especially during July.
- **Water safety.** Not including boating incidents, on average about nine people die from drowning every day. The younger the child, the greater the risk.
- **Bicycling.** Bicyclists must take extra precautions when they ride. They often share the road with vehicles, but injuries can happen even on a bike path.
- **Boating.** Most boating experiences are positive. But joyful times quickly can turn deadly if boaters are not vigilant about safety.
- **Pedestrian safety.** Cellphone-distracted walking is a huge problem. Rarely are we more vulnerable than when walking, crossing streets and negotiating traffic.



BIG BEND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

**P.O. Box 348
Ritzville, WA 99169**

Ritzville office 659-1700

Toll free (866) 844-2363

Pay by phone (844) 255-3682

For after-hours emergencies

(866) 844-2363

www.bbec.org

TRUSTEES

President Dan Hille

Vice President Ken Story

Secretary John Harder

Treasurer Lyle Holt

Robert Clinesmith

Curtis Dahl

Stacy Kniveton

Lanny Hayes

Dennis Swinger Sr.

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Yvette Armstrong

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mark DeWulf

WA-25



Dale Anderson is retiring after more than 17 years as Big Bend Electric's manager of member services.

Retirement of an Icon

Many of you know Dale Anderson as the face of Big Bend Electric Cooperative. He joined BBEC in December 2000 and spent the past 17½ years as manager of member services.

During that time, he has come to know many members through visits to their farms, shops, homes and schools, looking to share energy-savings options, capital credit checks and safety demonstrations. He also made the rounds to see how members were doing and to make sure BBEC staff was doing all it could to help.

Dale's last day is June 7. After that, he embarks down the road of retirement. He is excited about retirement, but says he will miss BBEC members and co-workers.

Dale has been a fixture in the community. He regularly volunteered for projects and events. He has devoted much of his time to coaching young athletes in the Lind and Ritzville areas. He has coached football and boys and girls basketball since the '90s. Dale is a tremendous asset and mentor to our youth.

Dale and his wife, Yvonne, plan to stay on the Anderson family farm near Ritzville, and look forward to taking a few road trips after retirement. Dale does not plan to get bored when retired. He will continue coaching, helping with the high school football "chain gang," running the shot clock for high school basketball and will continue to write feature articles for Big Bend's edition of Ruralite.

Dale has always gone out of his way to help Big Bend Electric members. He has left a legacy of hard work and commitment. All of us at BBEC will miss his positive attitude. We wish Dale a happy retirement and much luck in his future endeavors.

Kelly Dugger is taking on Dale's role as manager of member services. All rebate and conservation inquiries can be directed to her at (509) 659-1700 or toll-free at (866) 844-2363.

Hood River Electric Cooperative



**P.O. Box 125
3521 Davis Drive
Odell, OR 97044**

**(541) 354-1233
www.hrec.coop**

.....

DIRECTORS

President Butch Gehrig
Vice President Gary Bloom
Secretary Patrick Moore
Treasurer Roger Nelson
Opal DeBoard
Doug Mahurin
John McGhee
Dick Sohler

MANAGER

John Gerstenberger

.....

Serving rural
Hood River County
since 1945

OR-26

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

As previously announced, I will be transitioning away from my duties as your manager this month. Your board of directors has been working several months to select my successor. The next manager will take the reins July 1.

I am so very proud to have had the opportunity to work for you, the membership, for the past 32 years and to lead the co-op team these past 21 years. It has been a satisfying and rewarding career. Thank you!

I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the board of directors for its consistent guidance, support and encouragement. The directors' diverse collective experience and wisdom provides a stable foundation to support and guide the efforts of staff.

It has been my good fortune to work with a very capable and dedicated staff during my employment at Hood River Electric Cooperative. It is they who are responsible for the success of the organization—each day, month and year. I will miss sharing the challenges, triumphs and camaraderie.

Take good care!

John Gerstenberger, Manager



Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy
Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

277 Lottery Lane
Hines, OR 97738
(541) 573-2061

hec.burns@harneyelectric.org

Orovada, Nevada
(775) 272-3336

orovada.office@harneyelectric.org

www.harneyelectric.org

Find us on 

.....
Board of Directors

President John Ugalde
Vice President Joe Cronin
Sec./Treasurer Gary Miller
Frank Albisu
Rod Hoagland
Hank Dufurrena
Zach Sword

General Manager

Fred Flippence

Operations Manager

Jason Hill

Line Superintendent

Jason Radinovich

Electrical Engineer

Shane Sweet

Office Manager

Stephanie Bowen

Attorney

Raymond S. Kindley

OR-27

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

The board of directors and staff of Harney Electric Cooperative would like to thank those who attended the annual meeting May 5 in Crane, Oregon. Your ongoing interest in your cooperative is commendable and appreciated.

The financial performance of the cooperative was discussed, along with the results of the auditor's report. Your cooperative continues to be financially healthy.

The members present re-elected Zack Sword and Hank Dufurrena as directors for the next three years.

In my manager's report, I reviewed the projects completed in the past year, such as the Fields to Quinn River transmission line and update of our distribution line project. Thanks to the hard work of HEC employees, this project was completed on time and under budget.

We completed installation of the advanced metering infrastructure system for services out of the McDermitt Substation, along with the supervisory control and data acquisition system for the McDermitt Substation and Hanley Lane switchyard. Both projects improve efficiency and reduce operating costs for the cooperative.

We also replaced a breaker in the Hanley Lane switchyard.

HEC employees were busy completing these large projects and did so with no lost-time accidents. Safety is a priority for us. We appreciate the employees' commitment to working safely.

I also discussed issues we will face in the future, such as increased spill on the

Columbia River system, as mandated by Judge Michael Simon.

We have been given a preliminary cost of approximately \$41,000 to be handed down from the Bonneville Power Administration to HEC to make up the lost sales of power due to the spill. This is about \$33 per member. This cost is lower than projected because BPA was able to cut other fish programs to help offset the initial estimate.

The other large challenge we face is the Energy Choice Initiative in Nevada, which will be voted on in November. If Question 3 passes, it will change how we do business in Nevada.

There are a lot of risks and unknowns associated with Question 3 because it is an amendment to the Nevada state constitution, not just a regulation that has been vetted through the legislature.

The Nevada Public Utilities Commission issued a report that states this change will add costs to rural areas because stranded costs for the urban areas will be spread to rural areas. The PUC believes Nevada consumers would see higher electric rates, and large industrial users may see a lower cost. In the coming months, we will attempt to give more information on this issue in Ruralite and on our website.

We will continue to work hard on these issues and others as they arise to ensure we deliver on the cooperative's promise to give our members safe and reliable power at the least cost possible.

Sincerely,

Fred Flippence
Manager



P.O. Box 384
Challis, ID 83226
Phone: (208) 879-2283
Fax: (208) 879-2596
After-hours emergency numbers:
Propane: (208) 879-2201
Electric: (208) 879-4900

Board of Directors

President Bob Boren
Vice President Jeff Bitton
Sec./Treasurer Norman Wallis
Michael Miller
Doug Parkinson
Steve Rembelski
Earl Skeen
Manager Ken Dizes
Attorney Dale Storer

Board meets the third Wednesday of each month

Email: energy@srec.org

Website: www.srec.org

A Touchstone Energy[®]
Cooperative



ID-28

Outage Response

Did you know your electric cooperative had electricity available for your use on average 99.9985 percent of the time in 2017? That's what we reported at the annual meeting this year.

Perhaps we jinxed ourselves by sharing such favorable reliability indices. Since the meeting, your cooperative has experienced three large power outages, starting April 28 to the point of this writing May 15. The outages affected all cooperative customers except those located in the East Fork of the Salmon River drainage and upstream from the East Fork, including the Sawtooth Valley.

The Bonneville Power Administration is updating the Round Valley Transmission Substation south of Challis. SREC is keeping the lights on while this work is completed by serving Challis, Round Valley, Down River and Pahsimeroi circuits using the original transmission line that served the Challis area from 1953 until the early 1980s.

In the early 1980s, a new transmission line was built to serve Cyprus Mines. Round Valley Substation was built in the early 1980s to terminate the new transmission line and provide the needed capacity for the influx of people moving in with the mine.

The old transmission line remains energized even when the new transmission line is in use so we know it is ready to be used in an emergency. Our line crews patrolled the old transmission line prior to BPA taking a portion of the new transmission line out of service in April. No problems were identified.

Back on April 28—two days after the SREC annual meeting—the co-op suffered the first of three major power outages. More than 1,700 members lost power for approximately three hours when the old transmission line broke mid-span near Grandview Canyon. An SREC crew found the break in the line quickly, but a crew had to be sent to Mackay to do switching so the line could be worked on.

The second major outage was May 11. This was a planned outage that affected the same customers involved in the April 28 power outage. Cooperative crews had identified some flashed over insulators that needed to be changed with the original transmission line de-energized. The cooperative intentionally shut power off to those customers for about three hours.

On May 12, SREC customers experienced their third major power outage in just two weeks. Again, the original transmission line came to the ground. Members were without electricity for about 2.5 hours. It is possible earlier snow and/or wind events caused the lines to slap together while energized, arcing the lines and weakening them. Round Valley Substation was slated to be back in service by May 18, with transmission service restored to the newer, higher-capacity transmission line.



Ken Dizes

Ken Dizes
General Manager

United Electric Co-op Inc.

Directors

President Bruce Beck
Vice President David Phillips
Sec./Treas. Cordell Searle
Brent Bowen
Dean Nielsen
Ronald Osterhout
George Toner
John R. West

General Manager

Jo Elg

Engineering and Operations

Trevor Parke

Line Superintendent

Kay Hill

Executive Assistant

Penny West

Member Services Manager

Chris Seibold

Mailing address:

1330 21st St.

Heyburn, ID 83336

Phone: (208) 679-2222

Fax: (208) 679-3333

Email: uec@unitedelectric.coop

Website: www.uec.coop

Office hours: Monday-Thursday,
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

After Hours: (208) 679-4444



UNITED ELECTRIC
CO-OP INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



ID-29

On the Wire at United Electric

As a member-owner, you want reliable electric service. United Electric's primary goal is to deliver the highest-possible quality of electric service at the most reasonable price. The goal is in our mission statement: "It is the mission of United Electric to provide safe, reliable power at reasonable rates with exceptional service and commitment to the members."

How reliable is electric service from United Electric? It is very reliable! On average, across the distribution system, member-owners received power 99.99 percent of the time in 2017. Let's think about that. There are 525,600 minutes in a year. On average, you were without power for 20 of those minutes. That is reliable.

When there is a power outage, United Electric crews work hard to respond and restore power as quickly and safely as possible. The average restoration time was 53 minutes in 2017. The national average restoration time was 83 minutes. That is reliable.

Power bumps or momentary outages are terms used to describe power outages that last less than a minute. Regardless of what you call them, they are annoying. They can briefly shut down the electronic devices and appliances in your home or business. From time to time, you may experience a pesky power bump. On average, you experienced less than six power bumps in 2017. That is reliable.

Power bumps are frustrating not only to you, but to United Electric because they typically are out of our control. Wind, fallen branches, birds, squirrels, rain, lightning, vehicle accidents, ice and equipment failures can cause a short circuit or fault on the electric distribution system. Power bumps can occur anytime, even on a sunny day.

United Electric is committed to providing reliable power 24 hours a day, every day. Linemen are on standby 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to restore power when necessary. We work hard to maintain the electric distribution grid to minimize the occurrence of power bumps and outages.

We keep trees trimmed out of power line areas, we install bird guards and small animal guards, and we regularly patrol and maintain line equipment.

Having a reliable supply of electricity is more than a convenience. It's a necessity. Our economy—and our way of life—depend on it. Maintaining a high level of reliability requires constant commitment. The employees and board of directors at United Electric are committed to maintain the electric distribution system to provide reliable electric service to our member-owners. It's our mission.



Jo Elg

General Manager



Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc.

305 Pine St.
P.O. Box 420
Mackay, ID 83251-0420

Phone: (208) 588-3311
Fax: (208) 588-3038
Email: office@lrecoop.com
www.lostriverelectriccoopinc.com

Directors

Brad J. Gamett
President

Susan M. Harris
Vice President

Bret L. Zollinger
Secretary/Treasurer

Chad H. Angell
James D. McKelvey
Dean L. Myler
Randy R. Purser
Lynn O. Rothwell
Merlin A. Waddoups

Manager/CEO

F. Richard Reynolds

The board of directors
meets the fourth Friday
of each month at 8:30 a.m.

ID-30



No matter how you celebrate summer, do it safely so you can enjoy the season for months to come.

Safely Celebrate Summer

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- **Playgrounds.** Emergency departments see more than 20,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related traumatic brain injury each year.
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- **Boating.** Most boating experiences are positive. But joyful times quickly can turn deadly if boaters are not vigilant about safety.
- **Pedestrian safety.** Cellphone-distracted walking is a huge problem. Rarely are we more vulnerable than when walking, crossing streets and negotiating traffic.



Board of Directors

Lon Rake, President
 Mary Odden, Vice President
 Dan Stowe, Secretary
 Brad Honerlaw, Treasurer
 Paul Kildal, Director
 Jeff Saxe, Director
 Will Stark, Director
 Fred Williams, Director

P.O. Box 45
 Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org

Copper Basin District

(907) 822-3211
 (907) 822-5586 (fax)
 Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

Valdez District

(907) 835-4301
 (907) 835-4328 (fax)
 367 Fairbanks Dr.

After hours outage line

(866) 835-2832

Important Dates

June

CVEA Member Tours: Member tours will be held 10-12 p.m., Tuesday, June 12, in Glennallen, and 12-4 p.m., Wednesday, June 13, in Valdez. The Valdez tour is FULL, but there is room in Glennallen. Advance registration is required.

CVEA Board Meeting: The June meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2018, in Glennallen

July

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed Wednesday, July 4, 2018, for Independence Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The July meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m., Thursday, July 19, 2018, in Valdez

AK-34

Copper Valley Electric Association 2018 Election Results

At the 2018 Annual Meeting of Members, Board of Director election results were announced. The Copper Basin District re-elected Paul Kildal and the Valdez District re-elected Lon Rake and Will Stark, each to a three-year term.



The Credentials and Election Committees in both districts reported voting results for the director election as follows:

<u>Copper Basin</u>		<u>Valdez</u>	
Ballots Received	258	Ballots Received	255
Ballots Counted	244	Ballots Counted	232
Paul Kildal	244	Lon Rake	217
		Will Stark	225

CVEA welcomes the returning directors and appreciates the participation of everyone involved in the election.

Winners of the 2018 ballot drawing for a \$50 energy credit were: Nora and Richard Tombaugh in the Copper Basin, and Bobby and Diane Gibbs, in Valdez. Thanks to all who submitted valid ballots.



1115 Pacific Ave. • P.O. Box 433
Tillamook, OR 97141
Phone: (503) 842-2535
Toll free: (800) 422-2535
www.tpud.org

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Friday.

For EMERGENCY service after
business hours, call (800) 842-2122.

Board of Directors

Doug Olson, President
Ed Jenkins, Vice President
Ken Phillips, Treasurer
Harry Hewitt, Secretary
Barbara Trout, Director

General Manager

Todd Simmons

*Board meetings are in the PUD office
at 6 p.m. the first Tuesday after the
11th of the month. In June, however, the
meeting has been moved to Wednesday,
June 13.*

Our Mission

Tillamook PUD provides safe, reliable and
competitively priced power to our
customers.

Our Vision

Tillamook PUD provides high value to
our customers, staff and community,
performing now and preparing for the
future.



OR-35

PUD Rate Update

Dear Customers:

Earlier this year, I discussed with you the approved 2018 Tillamook PUD operating budget. Now that we are midway through the fiscal year, I would like to revisit our discussion and provide an update.

Last October, the Bonneville Power Administration implemented a 5 percent average wholesale power rate increase to its electric not-for-profit utilities, such as Tillamook PUD. After much consideration—which included an extensive analysis of our load forecast, and anticipated expenditures and revenues—Tillamook PUD made the sound decision to refrain from passing along a retail rate increase to our customers.

During the past several months, the staff has continued to monitor our utility expenditures and returns, while projecting our future fiscal responsibilities. The staff has determined Tillamook PUD is in line with budget parameters and will be able to sustain operations as planned under the current rate structure for the time being. As such, the staff has recommended, and the board of directors agrees, that a rate increase is not needed at this time.

As we transition into the last half of the fiscal year, Tillamook PUD will continue to monitor and curtail expenses and, as needed, use funds set aside for rate stabilization. In doing this, our goal is to put any rate increases on hold for as long as possible.

Our door is always open. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to be of service to you!

Sincerely,

Todd Simmons
General Manager





P. O. Box 449
Barrow, AK 99723
Phone: 852-6166
Fax: 852-6372
www.bueci.org

Board of Directors

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Roy Nageak Sr.

Secretary/Treasurer

Josiah Patkotak

Karl D Ahgeak
Frederick F. Brower
Lewis F. Brower
Avaiyak Burnell
Richard Ungarook Sr.
Tina Wolgemuth

General Manager

Ben L. Frantz

AK-36



OPERATIONS SUPERINTENDENT

PERMANENT, FULL-TIME (OPEN UNTIL FILLED)

- Salary: \$132,410 - \$202,255; DOE
- Requirements:
 - Bachelor's degree in an electrical, natural gas, construction management, or related field (preferred)
 - 10+ years management/supervisory experience in electric or natural gas utility distribution
 - Additional directly related experience may be substituted for the educational requirements on a year for year basis
- Responsibilities:
 - Oversight of 10 employees: 3 crews (gas, sewer, garage) and the Assistant Operations Superintendent
 - Maintenance of natural gas pipe, electric line, fleet/equipment, and building facilities
- Non-Union
- Health & Life Insurance, 401 (k), and Retirement Security Plan

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

WWW.BUECI.ORG

EEO/M/F/D/V EMPLOYER

INTERESTED? SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

Attn: Ben Frantz, General Manager
Barrow Utilities & Electric Cooperative, Inc.
PO Box 449 | Barrow, AK 99723
hr@bueci.org



BUECI
BARROW UTILITIES AND
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Owned By Those We Serve

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Tom DeLong, Vice-Chairman (District 2)
John Sloan, Secretary (District 6)
Bill Nordmark, Treasurer (District 7)
Chris Bunch (District 5)
David Messier (District 1)
Gary Newman (District 4)

Corporate Headquarters

758 Illinois Street
PO Box 71249
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1249
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 458-6365

Delta Junction Office

1681 Richardson Hwy.
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 895-5472

Nenana Office

7259 Parks Hwy.
Hours: 8 am to 5 pm, M-F
(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax (907) 832-5438

Report Outages:

(907) 452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Select: Option 1, Option 2

View Outage Map:

gvea.com/resources/outages

www.gvea.com

Safety: You Have The Power!



AK-37



Utility poles are not bulletin boards

Think before you post that sign!

Staples, nails and tacks used to hang signs and fliers create dangerous obstacles for electric lineworkers.

Their jobs are dangerous enough—help us keep them safe!

Photo by Parisphotographics

GVEA Lineman Troy Birdsall

Lost Kitty

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 1

Artist's Opening Reception.

Main Street Artists Gallery, 436 Main St., Quincy. 5 to 7 p.m.

For more information, call (530) 283-1909 or visit www.mainstreetartists.net/home.htm.

Artist's Opening Reception.

Plumas Arts Gallery, 525 Main St., Quincy. 5 to 7 p.m. Plumas Arts Gallery welcomes a new exhibition.

For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

Romano's Farmers Market. Sierra Valley Farms, 1329 County Road A23, Beckwourth. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., every Friday through September 14. Fresh fruits and vegetables, local meats, baked goods, mushrooms, condiments, wines and wine tasting, and more.

For more information, call (530) 832-0114, or visit www.sierravalleyfarms.com.

June 2

Lost and Found Gravel Grinder.

Lake Davis Campground, 7394 Davis Way, Portola. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call (530) 250-7146.

Downieville Motorcycle Rally.

St. Charles Place, 203 Main St., Downieville. 6 p.m.

For more information, call (925) 382-7067.

Show and Shine.

Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds, 204 Fairgrounds Road, Quincy. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration at 8 a.m. We begin the weekend with a Friday afternoon "Happy Days" event on the fairgrounds lawn in the late afternoon, and cap off the evening with a drive-in movie and popcorn. Join us for a fantastic event.

For more information, call (530) 320-6025 or email pyramidbuilders.clio@gmail.com.

Flea Market and Craft Fair. Sierra Valley Grange, 92202 Highway 70, Vinton. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, call (530) 993-4508 or (775) 240-8711.

June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Farmers Market. Historic uptown Susanville, 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call (530) 257-3252.

June 8

Romano's Farmers Market. Sierra Valley Farms, 1329 County Road A23, Beckwourth. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., every Friday through September 14. Fresh fruits and vegetables, local meats, baked goods, mushrooms, condiments, wines and wine tasting, and more.

For more information, call (530) 832-0114, or visit www.sierravalleyfarms.com.

Spaghetti Dinner. Mohawk Valley Resource Center. Two sittings at 5 and 7 p.m. Adults \$15, kids \$7.

For more information, call (530) 836-0446.

Lost Sierra Tourist Center Golf Fundraiser. 1 p.m. shotgun start at Grizzly Ranch Golf Club.

For more information, call (530) 836-6811.

Sober Grad Golf Tournament.

Hosted by CHP 140 Squad Club. Bailey Creek Golf Course, 433 Durkin Drive, Lake Almanor.

For more information, call (530) 252-1800.

June 9

Plumas Arts' 36th Anniversary Party. Downtown Quincy, all day. A street party to dedicate the new mural on the back of the Town Hall Theater with live music from Rigmarole.

For more information, call (530) 283-3402.

June 16

Tour de Manure. Sierraville Firehouse. 102 Main Street. Registration begins at 7 a.m., ride begins between 8 and 9 a.m. 62- and 42-mile loops and a 30-mile out and back. \$60 before June 10, \$70 after, \$30 12 and under.

For more information, call (530) 414-4436 or visit www.tourdemanure.org.

Father's Day Fishing Derby.

Eastern Plumas Rural Fire District Lake Davis Fishing Derby. Register at J & J's Grizzly Store.

For more information, call (530) 832-8270.

June 22 - 24

Bluegrass Festival. Lassen County Fairgrounds, 195 Russell Ave., Susanville. Workshops, music camp, quilt room, great jamming,

beautiful camping area, vendors, arts and crafts, and food.

For more information, visit lassencountyfair.org/interimevents/bluegrass-festival.

June 23

Paws on Parade. Graeagle Park. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy live music by Benny, Penny and Dude, as well as agility and fly ball demonstrations throughout the day.

For more information, call (530) 832-4727.

June 23

Graeagle Health and Wellness Expo. Graeagle Fire Hall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, call (530) 320-6562.

June 29 - July 1

Mohawk Valley Independence Day Celebration. Downtown Graeagle, Highway 89. Street dance at the Corner Barn, 5K and 10K fun run, fireworks at the Mill Pond, (Saturday at dusk), parade and Old-Fashioned Day in the Park (Sunday.)

For more information, visit www.graeagle.com/events/mvid/2018/index.html.

June 30

5K and 10K Fun Run. Graeagle soccer field, Iroquois Trail. Sponsored and hosted by Eastern Plumas Chamber of Commerce and benefitting the Lost Sierra Tourist Center.

For more information, call (530) 836-6811 or email epcc@psln.com.

July 7

Summerfest 2018. White Sulphur Springs Ranch, 2200 Highway 89, Clio. 3 to 7:30 p.m. Concert fundraiser. Tickets available online and at Eco-Centric in downtown Graeagle. Limited tickets available. Adults \$50, kids 12 and under \$15. Bring your own lawn chair.

For more information, call (530) 836-2530 or visit WhiteSulphurSpringsRanch.com.

July 5 - 8

High Sierra Music Festival. Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds, Quincy.

For more information, visit www.highsierramusic.com.

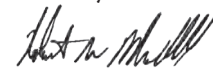
Manager's Message

Continued from page 32

Our employees are required to protect your private information—whether it is your address, phone number or how you use the internet. We don't have the capability to track anyone's surfing history, and would never install the technology to do so. We believe your private information is private and work to keep it that way.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (800) 555-2207 ext. 6076 or email me at bmarshall@psrec.coop.

Sincerely,



Bob Marshall
General Manager

Mohawk Valley Independence Day Celebration Event Schedule

Downtown Graeagle

Friday, June 29

► Dance at the Corner Barn 6 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, June 30

► Fun Run, 5K/10K, 8 a.m.

► Civil War battles, noon and 3 p.m.

► Pre-fireworks fun at the Mill Pond

► Aerial fireworks at the Mill Pond

Sunday, July 1

► Civil War battle, 10 a.m.

► Graeagle Fire pancake breakfast, 8 to 11 a.m.

► Day in the Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

► Parade, 1 to 2 p.m.

► Ophir Prison Band



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

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droberti@psrec.coop

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fnelson@psrec.coop

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dhansen@psrec.coop

Dan Kenney, *Sloat*
dkenney@psrec.coop

Dick Short, *Graeagle*
dshort@psrec.coop

Tom Hammond, *Herlong*
thammond@psrec.coop

Nancy Miller, *Litchfield*
nmiller@psrec.coop

Manager

Robert (Bob) Marshall
bmarshall@psrec.coop



Our subsidiary,
**Plumas-Sierra
Telecommunications**
offers a variety of high-quality
Internet solutions.
To learn more, please visit
www.pst.coop or call
(800) 221-3474

For information about any
of our products, please
call (800) 555-2207 or
visit our website at
www.psrec.coop

CA-39

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

June is National Safety Month. Safety is a serious issue, especially when it comes to electrical safety. For Plumas-Sierra, it's the No. 1 priority.

This is not empty talk. Over time, Plumas-Sierra has created a culture of safety by putting our employees' safety and that of the community above all else. At its essence, Plumas-Sierra's mission is to provide safe, affordable and reliable electricity to its member-owners. Equally important, we want to return our workers home safely to their loved ones. To do this requires ongoing focus, dedication and vigilance.

Working with electricity is an inherently dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. Plumas-Sierra establishes and follows safety protocols based on leading national safety practices for the utility industry. We require our lineworkers to wear specialized equipment when working next to or with power lines. Our lineworkers follow specific protocols when dealing with electricity. We encourage all of our crews to speak up and hold each other accountable for safety.

By cultivating a culture of openness and transparency, we promote problem solving with regard to safety. We examine the information and data gleaned from near misses and accident reports to discern patterns and use safety metrics to improve in those areas where we have fallen short. As appropriate, we brief contractors on our safety protocols and set expectations for their engagement.

Because we live and work in the community we serve, we care about our neighbors. Plumas-Sierra conducts electrical safety demonstrations in schools and for community events.

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International, each year thousands of people in the United States are critically injured and electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes. Many of these are preventable. There is much you can do to keep yourself and your community safe around electricity.

Don't attempt electrical do-it-yourself projects or overload your outlets. Report downed power lines, unlocked substations or padmount transformers that look amiss.

For more electrical safety information, please visit our website, www.psrec.coop. If you would like us to provide a safety demonstration at your school or community event, please contact us at (800) 555-2207. Be mindful when it comes to electrical safety. Pause and take the extra time to plug into safety.

Telecommunications

We are glad to report we have completed repairs to the coax system in Graeagle and are now connecting customers throughout town.

PST's coax and wireless broadband services offer download speeds of up to 20 Mbps. Our fiber optic services can go up to 1 gigabyte per second, with even faster speeds available, if needed. With these speeds, you can stream videos on multiple devices at the same time without slowing down. You could even eliminate your TV bill with streaming services. For more information and to sign up for service, call us at (800) 221-3474 or visit www.pst.coop.

One telecommunications issue that has been in the news recently is net neutrality. The rules of the internet are apparently changing at the end of June. Currently, internet service providers are required to treat all internet traffic equally. After the rule change, service providers will be allowed to prioritize traffic, which would allow them to charge more for faster delivery of certain content or to prioritize their own content. PST supports net neutrality and will not treat internet traffic from any source with different priority. We believe in an open internet.

Privacy has been another issue. Plumas-Sierra will never sell your information.

Continues on page 25



MT. WHEELER POWER

1600 Great Basin Blvd.
Ely, NV 89301

(775) 289.8981
(800) 97-POWER
info@mwpower.net

Emergency Contacts

Ely Office
(775) 289-8981

Eureka Office
(775) 237-5693

Outside Ely / Eureka Area
(800) 97-POWER

Board of Directors

District 1 – Ron Miller
District 2 – Mary Kerner
District 3 – Robert Pratt
District 4 – Catherine Bakeric
District 5 – Rick Hendrix
District 6 – Jerald Anderson
District 7 – Sandra Green
District 8 – Wade Robison
District 9 – Ron Niman

Proudly serving more than 10,000
residents and businesses throughout
Nevada and Utah.

*Summer hours: The Ely office is open
Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
The Eureka office is open Monday through
Thursday 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.*

“Powering Your Future”

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NV-40

Concern for Community is More than a Slogan

I've been with the cooperative for 23 years, and as my role transitions to serving as your member services manager, I find myself reminded of the importance of one of our founding principles: Concern for Community. Your cooperative believes our local presence is one of our strongest assets—second only to delivering safe, reliable, affordable energy. Aside from meeting your energy needs, we work diligently to meet our communities' needs with equal enthusiasm.



Households and businesses count on us to advocate for valuable local causes and assist our communities in moving forward. Mt. Wheeler Power is staffed by your friends and neighbors. We are all committed to the sustainable development and success of our local businesses, schools, neighborhood and public safety.

We are always looking for ways to make a difference, way beyond delivering electricity. We sponsor community events and fundraising efforts such as annual festivals, 5K runs, sporting events, Relay For Life and many others, and we always encourage and empower our employees to volunteer as coaches and coordinators for the youth events we sponsor. To assist families who struggle to make ends meet, we partner with our members to fund the Cooperative Assistance for Residential Energy (C.A.R.E.) program.

Our affiliations with other cooperatives provide an opportunity to donate even more. The matching funds programs from both Deseret and CoBank allow us to make a much larger impact with our donations to big ventures such as the Comins Lake project and the Great Basin Observatory—the first research grade observatory built in a U.S. National Park.

When budgets for our local schools, public safety and social service programs run short, we're always there to lend a helping hand. As 4-H supporters, we routinely bid at the local fair auctions and are able to donate our livestock purchases to the senior citizens centers. When struggling families are faced with the demands of the holiday season, we are there to help, providing toys, clothing and necessities to families participating in our Santa's Elves program.

We take an active role in preparing our youth to become contributing members of society. Our employees share their skills at local career fairs and safety demonstrations; they serve as judges on our scholarship board and as chaperones for students who are chosen to attend the Youth Leadership Challenge each summer.

I am grateful for my role at our cooperative and appreciative of the opportunities we have here to make a positive impact on our community.

Shellie Watts, Member Services and HR Manager

Wells Rural Electric Company

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Director Emeritus

D. Vernon Dalton

website:

www.wrec.coop

Outage Hotline:

(800) 566-6696
24 hours a day

Carlin office:

1322 Chestnut Street
P.O. Box 727
Carlin, Nevada 89822
(775) 754-6362

Wendover office:

1706 West Butte Street
P.O. Box 3699
West Wendover,
Nevada 89883
(775) 664-2204

Wells office:

1451 Humboldt Avenue
P.O. Box 365
Wells, Nevada 89835
(775) 752-3328

NV-41

Nominations for Board of Directors to Open

Nominations for three seats on Wells Rural Electric Company's (WREC) Board of Directors will open on Monday, June 11, 2018. The Directors seats subject to election are currently held by incumbents Orlin Kidner, Howard Wright and Robert Wilcox.



Nominations must only be made on the 2018 Board of Directors Election Nomination Form available at all WREC offices and on www.wrec.coop. All mandatory questions must be answered in order for the nomination to be valid. Completed nomination forms must be received by General Counsel, Gary E. DiGrazia, 530 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801 or General Counsel, Gary E. DiGrazia, P. O. Box 1358, Elko, Nevada 89803 or e-mail gdi Grazia@frontiernet.net or Fax (775) 738-4220 no later than 5:00 P. M. Pacific Time Zone on Monday, June 25, 2018. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure receipt of the nomination. Late nominations will not be placed on the ballot.

Any member in good standing for a minimum of one (1) year may nominate another eligible member, himself or herself, ("the nominee") for Director using the approved form. The nomination must be signed and dated by both the nominee and the person making the nomination, if other than the nominee. Nominees must verify their membership by providing their name and contact information.

To be eligible for election to the Board of Directors, non-incumbent nominees must attend a mandatory informational workshop on Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 1:00 P. M. Pacific Time Zone at the WREC Headquarters, 1451 Humboldt Avenue, Wells, Nevada 89835.

The nominee must not have been adjudged guilty of a felony within seven (7) years prior to June 11, 2018.

The nominee must be of legal voting age.

The nominee must be a member or spouse of a member, or a local officer, director, partner, official or manager of an entity that is a member. An entity is a partnership, corporation, limited liability company, firm, association, business trust, personal trust, body politic or subdivision thereof, or other multiple ownership-type business structure. No more than one person may serve on the Board based upon any one membership.

The nominee, or his/her entity, must not have an unpaid account with WREC which has been outstanding for more than ninety (90) days. The nominee, or his/her entity, must not have an account written-off as a bad debt by WREC within seven (7) years prior to June 11, 2018.

The nominee must not be a current employee of WREC or a former employee of WREC within five years prior to June 25, 2018.

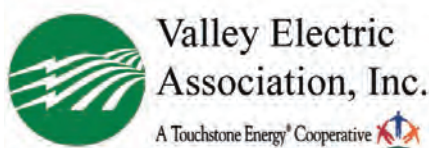
The nominee, or his/her entity, must not have been the subject of a *Ruralite* Feature Story article since February 15, 2018.

Additional voluntary information, including years of WREC membership, occupation and years on WREC Board may be included. Education and training credentials, not more than three hundred (300) characters and spaces, may also be included. The Company reserves the right to edit.

The nomination should be accompanied by a photograph of the nominee suitable for use in preparing the ballot package.

General Counsel shall determine the eligibility of each nominee.

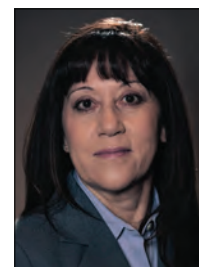
Clay R. Fitch
Chief Executive Officer



NV-42

LETTER FROM THE CEO

'Lean In' For Support and Inspiration



When I joined Valley Electric Association 15 months ago, I could not help but be impressed by the principles in which the Cooperative operated, putting the needs of our members first. For the past 53 years, delivering reliable, affordable services to members has been in the forefront. Maintaining this same commitment to service is essential as we usher in a new era with new management.

While the initial change in executive leadership can be unexpected – even to me – I've reminded our team that at times like this we need to 'lean in' and provide support and inspiration throughout our community and family of employees. During the past few weeks I have taken the opportunity to walk around our campus and visit with employees about the leadership change, but more importantly to let them know that I am available to them and to offer support during this transformative event.

The Seventh Cooperative Principle is Concern for Community. So not only have I engaged with employees, I've also taken the opportunity to meet with dozens of Ambassadors and open a dialogue as we continue to develop

and grow our ability to serve members. I

listened to their thoughts and ideas and answered their questions. I look forward to continuing this conversation and value feedback from our Ambassadors and members.

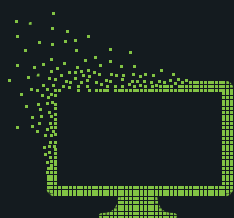
Utility delivery and service has been an enthralling part of my professional life for many years. Since early 2017, I have served as Executive-VP Operations at Valley Electric Association and later as Chief Operating Officer. I am proud to call on that experience to best serve the Cooperative's members. Our future is as bright as our remarkable past.

As a Co-op, we are family. My door is always open, and my commitment is to provide transparent leadership and open communication with you, our members and family.

Until next month,

Angela Evans
Chief Executive Officer
aevans@vea.coop

Angela Evans served in various capacities in the utility industry in New Mexico, Texas, California and now Nevada for more than 31 years before joining Valley Electric Association in 2017.



TUNE IN

VCA Digital TV



valleycom.com

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P.O. Box 237
Pahrump, NV 89041

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seven days a week for your
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(775) 727-5312

Website: www.vea.coop

Email: wmc@vea.coop

Commissioners

Joe O'Leary

Paul Rogers

Shan Rowbotham

General Manager

Matt Boast

The Kittitas PUD Board of Commissioners meets the last Tuesday of each month in Building B. Please visit the PUD website to view all approved board minutes.

Need Help With Your Utility Bills?

The following organizations may be able to help.

- ▶ Fish, (509) 925-5990
www.kvfish.org
- ▶ HopeSource, (509) 925-1448
www.hopesource.us
- ▶ Kittitas County Veteran's Coalition
Kittitas: (509) 933-2932
Cle Elum: (509) 647-3872
- ▶ St. Andrews Catholic Church, Ellensburg, (509) 962-9819,
www.st-andrewsparish.org
- ▶ Small Tribes Organization of Western Washington,
(800) 567-6690, www.stoww.webs.com

OFFICE HOURS

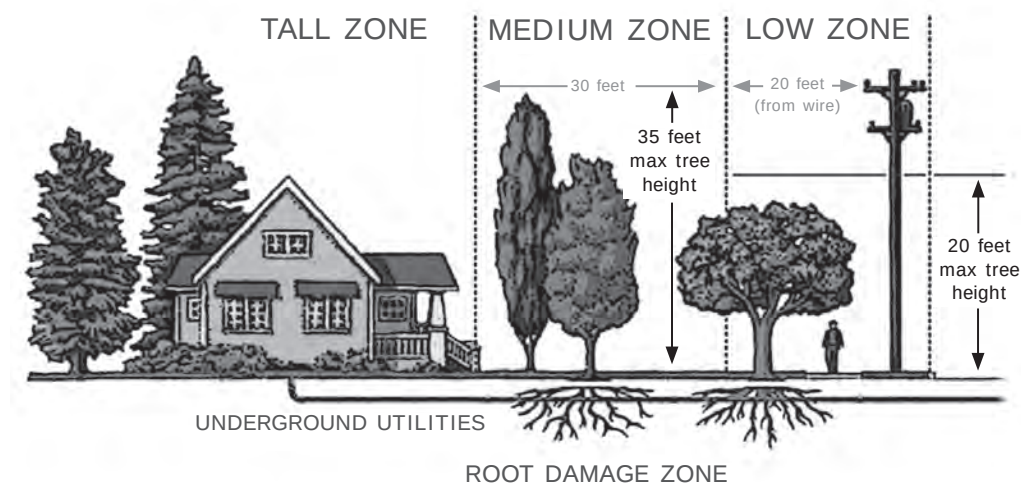
- ▶ Monday through Friday,
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



WA-43

Right Tree—Right Place

Proper tree and site selection provide trouble-free beauty and pleasure



Trees need space to grow both above and below ground. Carefully consider your surroundings. Choose a tree and location where the ultimate height and spread of the tree will remain at least 10 feet away from power lines. Roots may be damaged if underground facilities need to be dug up for repairs.

Proper selection of trees under or near power lines:

- ▶ Reduces fire hazards.
- ▶ Limits the need for frequent pruning.
- ▶ Increases property value.
- ▶ Adds beauty to the community.
- ▶ Provides shade that can reduce summer home cooling costs.

Report Unsafe Trees

If you see tree branches or bushes growing into power lines or other electrical equipment, notify Kittitas PUD at (509) 933-7200, (509) 674-2790 or after hours at (509) 925-8534.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



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P.O. Box 350
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(907) 842-5251
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After Hours: (907) 842-5555
Fax (907) 842-2799
www.nushtel.com

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Todd Radenbaugh

General Manager

Robert Himschoot

2018 Board Meeting Schedule

March 20	August 21
April 17	September 18
May 15	October 16
June 19	November 20
July 17	December 18

Serving the communities of:

Aleknagik	Ekuk
Clarks Point	Manokotak
Dillingham	Portage Creek



Touchstone Energy®

AK-47

The Power of a Cooperative

Welcome back to Ruralite. This is the fourth issue to reach our membership in 2018. It is Nushagak Cooperative's intent to create as many membership communication opportunities as possible. In addition to our annual meeting in March and our Membership Appreciation Day on June 8, we are on Facebook, have a website and are pleased to add Ruralite.

Most of you already know how special a cooperative is, but I believe it is valuable to have a reminder.

If you are a member, you are an owner of the cooperative. Any cooperative profits are allocated to the members as capital credits. There is no stock price driving increasing profits. The only metric is the value of services to the membership. This makes the cooperative a unique tool in the most meaningful measure of value: quality of life.

Cooperative direction is membership driven through a democratic process. The membership elects a board and gives it the authority to operate the cooperative. As a member, you have significant influence through participation.

Cooperatives have seven commonly accepted principles that can be traced all the way back to the first modern cooperative founded in 1844 in Rochdale, England:

1. Voluntary and Open Membership.

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all people able to use its services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2. Democratic Member Control.

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members—those who buy the goods or use the services of the cooperative—who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.

3. Members' Economic Participa-

tion. Members contribute equally to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. This benefits members in proportion to the business they conduct with the cooperative rather than on the capital invested.

4. Autonomy and Independence.

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If the co-op enters into agreements with other organizations or raises capital from external sources, it is done so based on terms that ensure democratic control by the members and maintains the co-op's autonomy.

5. Education, Training and Informa-

tion. Cooperatives provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative. Members also inform the public about the nature and benefits of cooperatives.

6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7. Concern for Community. While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of communities through policies and programs accepted by the members.

Please feel empowered and encouraged to participate in your cooperative. If you have not already done so, please sign up for Ebill to save some trees and postage.

Sincerely,

Robert Himschoot



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

District Offices

4005 23rd Street
P.O. Box 226
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3616

567 West Pierce
Burns, OR 97720
(541) 573-2666

400 Patterson Bridge Road
P.O. Box 575
John Day, OR 97845
(541) 575-0161

2408 Cove Ave.
La Grande, OR 97850
(541) 963-3155

www.otecc.com
communications@otecc.com

Report Outages at (866) 430-4265

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County
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George Galloway, Union
County
Greg Howard, Union County
Gary Miller, Grant County

Les Penning, CEO & General
Manager

Ron Williams, Attorney

OR-48

A Closer Look at Energy Efficiency

June is a month of transition around Eastern Oregon. Flowers are beginning to bloom, snow on the mountaintops is receding, and the days are longer and warmer. Our communities are busy tending to our businesses, homes and yards as well as the livestock, crops and fields. We see signs of new life everywhere we look.

With winter behind us, and summer not yet here, it is the perfect time to look closer inside your home or business to evaluate how energy is being used.

This month in Ruralite, we devote several articles to energy-savings tips and techniques, and provide information about rebate programs Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative offers to help you better manage your electric use and avoid high-bill surprises. This year, we've added a new rebate program to encourage members to buy their energy-efficient equipment and appliances locally, which not only saves the member money through lower bills, but stimulates our local economy. Coupled with OTEC's knowledgeable energy-efficiency staff, these make it easy and affordable for you to get started on those energy-saving projects you've been putting off.

A great place to begin your energy assessment is online through OTEC's website, www.otecc.com. There you will find the online customer portal, which gives you access to a variety of powerful tools, such as daily use activity reports and colorful graphs so you can evaluate before and after you've started your conservation and energy-efficiency changes. Information like this is powerful and at your fingertips when you need it.

From OTEC's website or our mobile app, you can get additional details about each of our rebate programs. We've added a new link to Touchstone Energy's online training tool to help you broaden your knowledge of the less

obvious energy wasters.

It is sometimes the small changes, such as lowering the thermostat a few degrees during the winter or increasing it slightly during the summer, that can make a big difference almost immediately in your usage. However you use OTEC's services, you can be assured that here in the Pacific Northwest you have access to clean, carbon-free hydroelectricity generated by the system of dams on the Columbia River.

To make a real difference, it takes all of us working together to become more energy efficient. Ultimately, our individual energy consumptions and demands for our homes and businesses is what drives the amount of power OTEC must buy from the Bonneville Power Administration.

In addition to promoting energy efficiency, maintaining competitive rates is a central part of the overall economic health of our communities. The details provided in this month's Ruralite on page 28 regarding the potential spill charge—coupled with the mitigation activities surrounding the courts and BPA, in addition to the actions your OTEC board has taken to avoid a rate increase in response to the spill this year—explain how all these issues are intertwined. Each issue plays a key role that requires ongoing effort and vigilance to successfully manage the cost of power from its source of generation all the way to our homes and businesses.

I hope these tools and our knowledgeable OTEC staff can help you maximize your efficiency potential and allow those savings to stay at the local level and in your hands.



Les Penning
CEO and General Manager



Member-owned since 1921

Ohop Mutual Light Co.

34014 Mountain Highway E.
Eatonville, WA 98328
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Power problems: (253) 847-4363
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Email: office@ohop.coop
www.ohop.coop

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Vice President Mel Cox
Sec./Treasurer Isabella Deditch
Director Frank Hoffman

General Manager

Kenneth Klotz

WA-49

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

Another legislative session has come to an end, but that does not mean it is really over.

With the electric industry constantly changing due to the increasing complexity of new regulations, it continues to become more difficult and time consuming to comply with all of the new local, state and federal laws.

That is why Ohop, together with other small utilities and the Washington Rural Electric Cooperative Association, seeks legislative and regulatory provisions that provide small utilities with exemptions or more simple compliance alternatives.

More than 60 utilities sell retail electric power to consumers in Washington state. Seven of those are large, while the remaining electric distribution utilities in Washington are much smaller. These smaller utilities are not-for-profit entities with service areas that range from mostly residential urban areas to sparsely populated rural regions. They are publicly or member-owned utilities with locally elected and accessible governing boards that ensure the utility's policymakers and management are more responsive and operate in the best interest of the utility's ratepayers.

Small utilities provide this service while often serving territories that are physically challenging and require a larger portion of utility resources—staff, equipment and financial—to focus on providing reliable and safe electrical service. The typical small utility is a full-requirements customer of the Bonneville Power Administration and does not own any generating resources, nor does it own or operate any transmission facilities, and the distribution system has very little if any impact on the regional power grid.

The problem is that many state laws and regulations covering the retail sale of electric power are one-size-fits-all approaches to public policy. Most of these laws and regulations do not provide additional reliability or safety for electric customers. Some may adversely affect the small utilities' ability to maintain a high standard of service reliability and public safety in a cost-effective manner. With fewer customers, lower energy sales and less staff, many of the compliance requirements place a disproportionately higher burden on smaller utilities.

At Ohop Mutual, we feel a small utility's ability to provide cost-effective, reliable and safe utility services to its customers should not be jeopardized by unnecessary mandates or regulations. Therefore, together with other small utilities and WRECA, we seek legislative and regulatory provisions that, when appropriate, provide small utilities with exemptions or simpler compliance alternatives. Even though it is clear to us, we must convince our legislators that one size does not fit all.

If you have questions or want more information about laws and regulations being sought by our legislature that impact Ohop Mutual, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kenneth Klotz
General Manager



TANNER ELECTRIC Cooperative

45710 SE North Bend Way
P.O. Box 1426
North Bend, WA 98045-1426
Telephone: (425) 888-0623
Toll-free: (800) 472-0208
www.tannerelectric.coop

General Manager

Steve Walter

Chief Financial Officer

Rob Carr

Operations Manager

Nick Himebauch

Executive Assistant

Lisa Peabody

Board of Directors

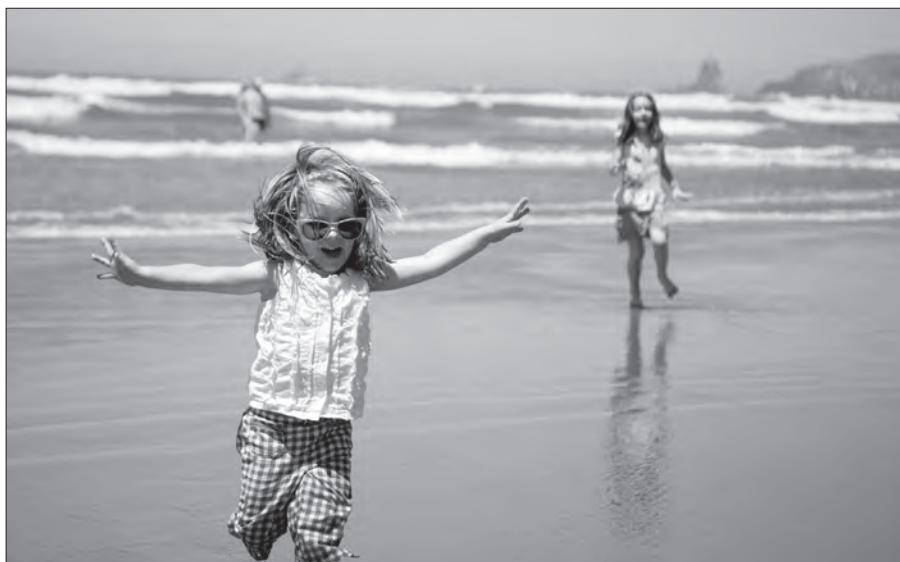
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Roger Guay
Jeff Gillette
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*An electric utility owned
by those we serve in:*

North Bend
Ames Lake
Anderson Island

*Tanner Electric Cooperative is an
equal opportunity provider and
employer*

WA-50



No matter how you celebrate summer, do it safely so you can enjoy the season for months to come.

Safely Celebrate Summer

It's that time of year when many people look forward to venturing outdoors for fun in the sun. Make the most of the warm weather, but do it safely with the following tips from the National Safety Council:

- **Beat the heat.** Anybody can be at risk for a heat-related illness. Take breaks in the shade and drink plenty of water.
- **Bug safety.** Mosquitoes can cause a number of illnesses. Learn what you can do to protect yourself at work and play.
- **Playgrounds.** Emergency departments see more than 20,000 children ages 14 and younger for playground-related traumatic brain injury each year.
- **Fireworks.** Summer is synonymous with barbecues, parades, fireworks displays—and plenty of visits to emergency rooms, especially during July.
- **Water safety.** Not including boating incidents, on average about nine people die from drowning every day. The younger the child, the greater the risk.
- **Bicycling.** Bicyclists must take extra precautions when they ride. They often share the road with vehicles, but injuries can happen even on a bike path.
- **Boating.** Most boating experiences are positive. But joyful times quickly can turn deadly if boaters are not vigilant about safety.
- **Pedestrian safety.** Cellphone-distracted walking is a huge problem. Rarely are we more vulnerable than when walking, crossing streets and negotiating traffic.



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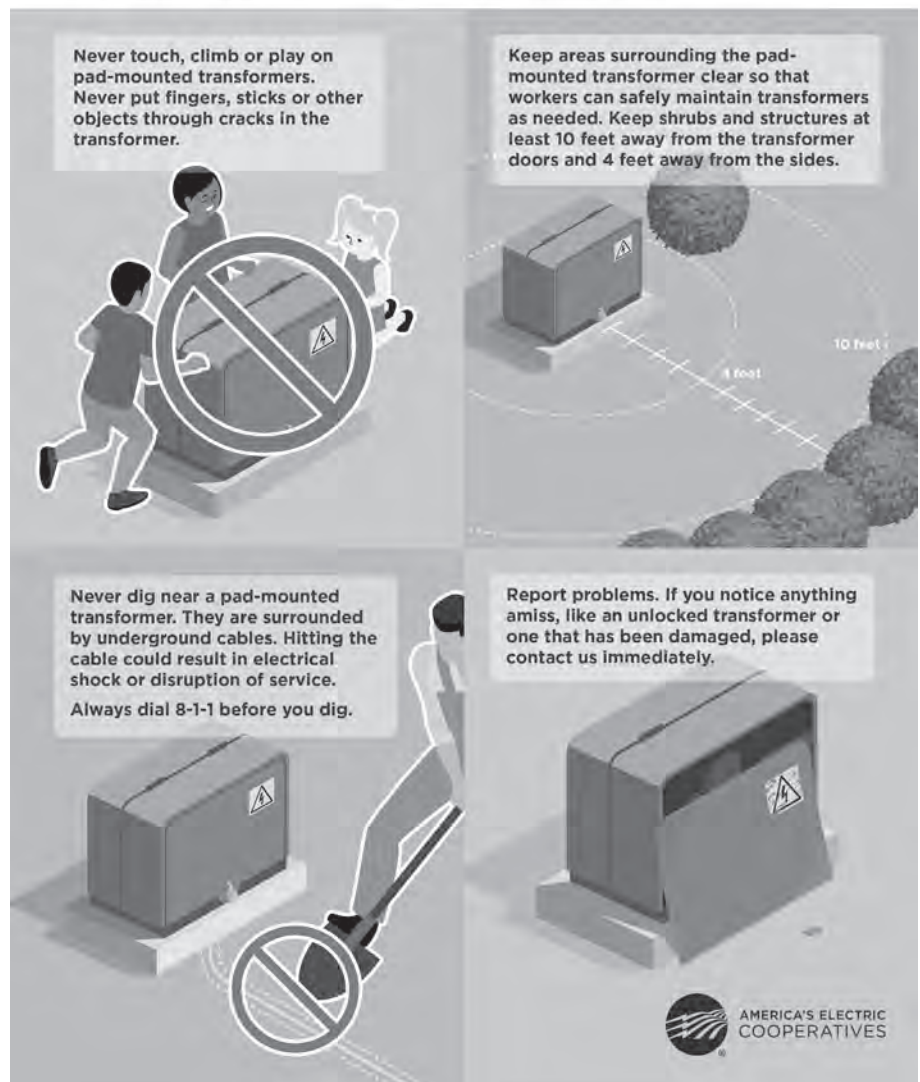
To report an outage or utility
emergency, call the main office 24/7.

To track an outage, follow us on
Twitter @PLWCo.

WA-52

Avoid the Big Green Box

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green box). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities.





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CPUD \$10 Bill Credit Winner

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Community Calendar

June 7: Clatskanie Chamber Meeting

Noon at Colvins

June 14: Rainier Chamber Meeting

Noon at the Rainier Methodist Church

June 17: Father's Day

June 20: Clatskanie PUD Board

Meeting Workshop at 5:30 pm, followed
by regular board meeting at 7 pm.

June 29 & 30: Clatskanie Quilt Show

"Quilting with the Angels" at Clatskanie
Presbyterian Church, June 29th 10 am to
4 pm and Saturday, June 30th 10 am to
3 pm.

June 30: Clatskanie Cruisers Car Show

Prince & Princess in Training

See pages 28 & 29 for details

OR-60

Safety has been a priority and an integral part of our culture here at Clatskanie People's Utility District. It is not just focused on our outside crews and the work they do, but it is throughout our entire organization. We have a Safety Committee, currently chaired by Lonnie Marcum, which meets monthly to go over safety concerns internally and externally. The committee is made up of staff from various departments to provide a diverse representation to look at our safety needs, issues, directions, and ideas to provide the District with a safe work environment.



The success of our efforts is shown in the fact that for the fourth year in a row we have received safety awards from Northwest Public Power Association. This is a result of the efforts and focus of all of our staff and the support of our board to keep safety at the forefront of our organization. It was re-emphasized in the strategic planning process that the board and management team just went through with specific goals and tasks identified to keep safety as a priority going forward.

The first draft of the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan was presented to our board for their discussion and review at our May workshop. It will be finalized and then adopted at the June meeting. Included in the plan are five key areas of focus with a goal for each area. The areas of focus and supporting goals are as follows: Operational Excellence – Operate and maintain the District safely, reliably, and efficiently; Financial Stability – Achieve and maintain financial stability; Value Added Services – Provide cost-effective, value added energy services to our customers; Power Supply – Maintain a reliable and affordable power supply; and Regional Engagement – Protect and advance the Districts and customers interests in the region.

The Strategic Plan includes our Action Planning Model that lists 67 tasks to be accomplished over the next two year period, any budget impacts, who is the responsible party or parties to oversee the task, a start and an ending date to accomplish the task, how often the staff will report progress to the board for each task, and the percentage of completion of each task. While the goals and associated tasks are aggressive we, the staff, are committed to their accomplishment and are pleased with the collaborative effort of the management team and board to create the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan for the District.

One final note, we have received the retirement dates for three of our staff. While we are sad to see them go, we want to wish them a very happy retirement which they have all definitely earned. Eric Hiaasen, our Energy Resources and Services Manager will be leaving us on June 30th. Charlie O'Hare, our Engineering & Operations Manager and Karen Nelson, our E&O Administrative Assistant, will both be retiring on August 31st. We would like to thank them for all of the contributions, hard work, and friendship to the staff, board, and the customers of the District. You will all be missed.

Marc Farmer, General Manager



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Kotzebue Electric Association Inc., a locally owned utility dedicated to cooperative principles, will make electric energy, and other value-added utility services and products available to its members' at the lowest cost consistent with sound economic and management practices, which improves utility services and the quality of life in our service area.

AK-64

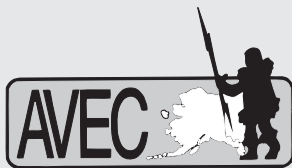


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/AlaskaVillage

AK-105

A Message from Meera

Now that we are in June, we are in the busiest time of the year. Most of our communities will receive their first diesel fuel delivery this month. I wish I had good news about the price of fuel, but unfortunately, the world oil market has been significantly higher than a year ago and we will be seeing that change through more expensive fuel. Of course, that translates to more expensive electricity, likely as much as 5 cents a kilowatt-hour or more.

For most residential consumers, the impact of a higher fuel charge will be small. Unfortunately, the higher cost of energy is being felt in urban Alaska as well. The cost of a kilowatt-hour in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau has risen from 17.58 cents last year to 19.02 cents this year. As a result, the PCE "floor" has risen, resulting in a lower PCE rate in rural communities. That change will be reflected in next month's electric bills.

Construction activities have already hit high gear. We are installing two 900-kilowatt-hour wind turbines in Bethel and St. Mary's this summer. We also are building the intertie between Mountain Village and St. Mary's this fall, so the wind energy from the new turbine can power both communities as well as Pitka's Point. A new tank farm is being installed in St. Mary's next year, so that eventually it will be the primary generating station for the three communities. We are designing a backup generator for Pitka's Point as part of this family of projects.

In addition to the wind turbine in Bethel, a lot of activity is underway in preparation to serve the new clinic for YKHC. In anticipation of the greatly increased heating load, we have installed a new heat recovery module to isolate the plant cooling system from the heat circulation loop, which significantly reduces a vulnerability in the system. We are designing a significant generation upgrade to meet the electrical needs of the new clinic and a major housing expansion for YKHC.

The major project in Teller is nearing completion, and our new tank farm will receive fuel later this summer. A new power plant and tank farm in Togiak will be completed this year and will also receive fuel this fall. While we are building our tank farm, we are also building tank farms for the city and the Native Corporation in Togiak. The Alaska Energy Authority is installing an intertie to connect Twin Hills to Togiak in anticipation of that community joining the AVEC family. That project is expected to begin late in 2018 and will not be completed until 2020.

Construction on a new tank farm in Holy Cross will begin this year and should be complete by the summer of 2019. Eek and Huslia will both have their distribution systems upgraded from single phase to three phase. Several generator replacements are planned across the state, and fencing will be installed at several sites. We have begun a phased upgrade to the distribution system in Yakutat—a process to which we have committed \$250,000 a year for the next five years.

We hope that you have a good summer and a bountiful harvest season. Until next time,

Meera Kohler
President and CEO





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In case of an outage: If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 257-4174. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After-hours and weekend calls are answered by a local service and immediately forwarded to standby personnel.

*The board meets at 5:30 p.m.
the fourth Tuesday of each month.*

CA-106

Keep The Poles Clear

We all enjoy yard sales, concerts and other activities we find advertised on posters nailed or stapled to our power poles. But a left-behind nail can cause a lineman's climbing hooks to cut out of a pole so he falls. A staple can snag a lineman's protective gloves, which could result in electrocution.

Please help keep our linemen safe:
Don't post signs on power poles.



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OR-400

Case in Point

It's not easy to pass a new law. I have watched countless bills be introduced and then fail to get a congressional hearing, much less a vote, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

That is why House passage in April of H.R. 3144—a bill to take a timeout from the ill-fated plan to spill more water in the Columbia River Basin—is incredibly significant. As noted in our feature story this month on Congressman Kurt Schrader, H.R. 3144 is a common-sense remedy to a situation that threatens one of the Northwest's most precious resources: our emission-free, renewable federal hydroelectric system.

I want to thank the members of the Oregon congressional delegation who voted for the bill: Congressman Schrader and Congressman Greg Walden.

Now the action turns to the U.S. Senate. Our Oregon senators—Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley—have told us they will carefully review the legislation. We appreciate their consideration of legislation that will protect co-op members from higher electric rates and keep more carbon emissions from going into the atmosphere.



Honoring One of Our Own

Democracy is an amazing thing, but sometimes it can sting. Recently, one of ORECA's board members—Umatilla's Bob MacPherson—was defeated in his re-election bid.

For many years, Bob served as our secretary-treasurer. While he was an exemplary board officer, I always considered him the “wise man” of the organization for his behind-the-scenes work. He cares deeply about ORECA and electric cooperatives, which I know will never change.

We look forward to honoring Bob for his service to ORECA at our meeting in Hood River this July.

Ted Case

Executive Director

FLORIDA Currents

Members acknowledge that \$3.96, plus actual postage, is the cost to publish 12 issues a year of **Florida Currents** (USPS-8300). Published by Ruralite Services Inc., 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124—a not-for-profit Oregon cooperative corporation—the magazine serves the communications needs of consumer-owned electric utilities in Florida. Preferred Periodicals postage paid at Hillsboro, OR 97123 and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to 5605 NE Elam Young Pkwy., Hillsboro, OR 97124.

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Subscription services: Nonmember subscriptions \$15 (U.S.) per year; \$25 (foreign) per year. Prepayment required. Allow 4 to 8 weeks for first issue. Be sure to identify which local edition you want to receive. Order online at www.floridacurrents.com.

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PRINTED IN FLORIDA

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Manager's Message

We are Prepared for Storms

Everyone is getting excited about summertime, and families are gearing up for a few months of fun and relaxation. While summer brings fun in the sun, it can also bring the occasional severe storm. In the event of a power outage, you can trust that Escambia River Electric Cooperative is ready to respond.

The major cause of most power outages in storms comes from damage to electric lines due to falling trees and branches. We work year-round—through right-of-way clearing—to try to ensure power lines in our service territory stand less risk of being damaged by trees, branches or other types of vegetation.

Despite our best efforts, during major storms damage can occur to transmission stations, substations and power lines. When this happens, our first priority is to safely restore power to as many members as possible in the shortest amount of time.

We start by mobilizing our line crews and other critical staff. The big problems are handled first—such as

damage to transmission lines, which serve thousands of people.

These problems must be corrected before we can focus on areas of more localized damage.

EREC's line crews inspect substations to determine if the problem starts there, or if there could be an issue down the line. If the root of the problem is at the substation, power can be restored to thousands of members when repairs are made.

Next, line crews check the service lines that deliver power into neighborhoods and communities. They repair damaged lines, restoring power to hundreds of people.

If you continue to experience an outage and your neighbors have power, it may be due to damage to a tap line outside your home or business. Please notify EREC so crews can inspect these lines.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but sometimes Mother Nature has other plans. Rest assured, EREC will respond 24/7 to keep your power flowing. ■



Clay R. Campbell

For a step-by-step guide to the power restoration process, turn to page 28.



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Volunteer firefighters provide critical emergency response for small communities throughout Florida.

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JUNE 2018

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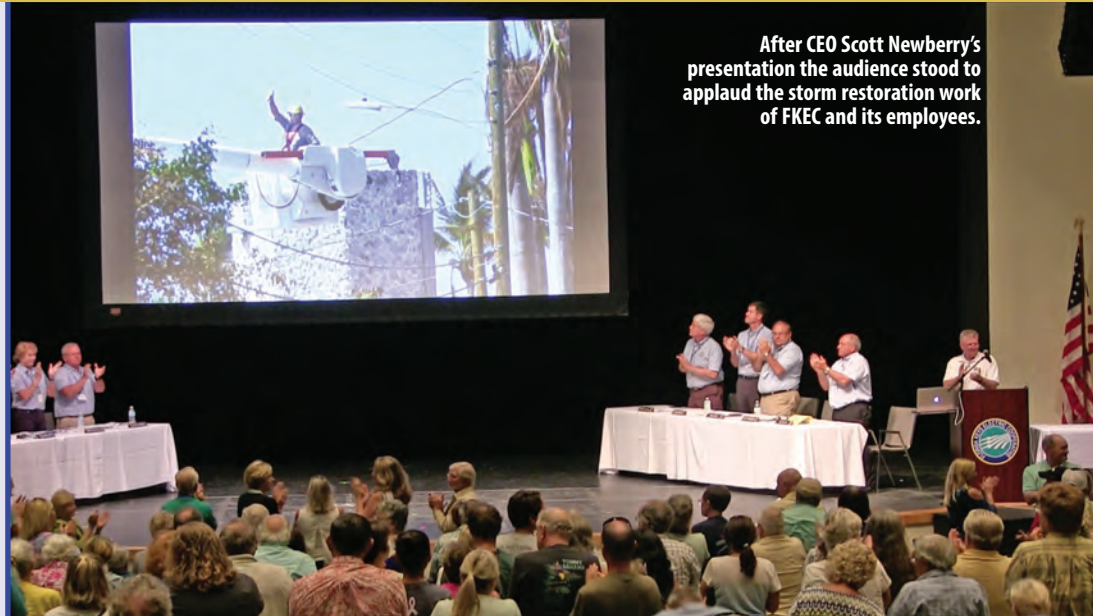
FKEC members can register for our Outage Texting program. Report an outage via text and also receive restoration updates. www.fkec.com/Cooperative/report-outage-text.cfm

Unless otherwise noted, "FKEC NEWS"

writing, design & photography by:

Nikki Dunn Cullen • news@fkec.com

Edited by: Rebecca Callahan Newman



After CEO Scott Newberry's presentation the audience stood to applaud the storm restoration work of FKEC and its employees.

FKEC 2018 Annual Meeting

SCOTT NEWBERRY

Chief Executive Officer

On Saturday, April 21, 503 Co-op members and their families attended FKEC's 77th Annual Meeting and Membership Appreciation Day.

As always, FKEC was pleased to offer informative booths with exhibits from various co-op departments, a live line safety demonstration and a delicious lunch. This year, instead of the traditional barbecue, FKEC's Chef Eddie Dudley and his crew served up a special fried mahi mahi dish.

At 1 p.m. in the Coral Shores Performing Arts Center, FKEC Board President Dr. James Boilini called the meeting to order. After introducing the co-op Board of Directors, Dr. Boilini recognized the work of the Charitable Trust Board and also paid tribute to Trust Board President Juanita Knudsen who passed away in January. Juanita served on the board for 22 years, and was a valued member of

the Trust and our community. It was an honor to have her husband, Capt. Kenneth Knudsen, there to help celebrate her legacy and kindness.

Following Boilini's introductions, Secretary Mike Puto and Treasurer Cale Smith presented their reports, and I ended the day's presentations with my annual CEO report.

Typically one of the most difficult things about my CEO presentation — besides having to give it — is trying to figure out what to talk about. Each year we want to come up with a fresh topic and share new information. Well, this year deciding on that topic was not a problem — This year we knew the focus would be Hurricane Irma.

The meeting was my opportunity to describe what the Florida Keys Electric Cooperative did before, during and after Irma to successfully recover from her impact. My report followed a linear time line beginning all the way back in 2006 when we started our aggressive storm hardening efforts, and highlighted the

FKEC's Chef Eddie Dudley serves up his delicious fried fish lunch.



FKEC members meet and mingle while learning about FKEC from different department booths.



decisions and work done to ensure full restoration following Irma.

Each year the meeting is also a chance to show our appreciation for our members, and this year that was no different. I was proud to stand before you and thank you for your support, cooperation and resilience. I was also proud to stand with you, the FKEC members in the audience, when you gave a standing ovation to thank

our employees who worked tirelessly and with zero injuries restoring power to our community.

This year I hope we have a quiet Hurricane Season, and I am left trying to decide what to talk to you about at next year's annual meeting. While this is a struggle I will gladly embrace, please know we are as prepared as ever to face any storm that may come our way.

Did You Miss the Meeting?

For those of you who could not attend the meeting you can watch the presentation online at <https://youtu.be/f8fYev4EiH0>.

You can also read a detailed account of FKEC's preparation and restoration work related to Irma in our "Hurricane Irma: FKEC Before, During and After" special edition magazine. Pick up a copy at an FKEC office or view it online at <https://goo.gl/AQVovr>.

Co-op members watch the FKEC Live Line Safety Demonstration.



FKEC employees strike a pose at their linemen exhibit booth.



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The Board's next meeting will be at 9 a.m. June 28 at the Moore Haven headquarters office. Any changes to this schedule will be posted in the lobby of all three district offices.

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FL-153

CEO's Message

GEC Rates Lowered Again

The Board of Trustees has done it again! Rates were lowered for the third time this year. Effective with May billings, 1,000 kilowatt-hours will cost residential members \$136. That is still more than 10 percent lower than rates seven years ago. To accomplish that with ever-increasing costs is quite a challenge and is a value we tend to underestimate. For less than \$4.50 a day—or about \$1 less than the current cost of 2 gallons of regular gasoline—we power our homes. Let me think: Drive 30 miles down the road for \$5.50 or live in comfort for an entire day? The best value is obvious to me.

We have to give some credit to our power supplier, Seminole Electric Cooperative, which under the leadership of Lisa Johnson is driven to provide us with the lowest possible energy costs. Those of you attending the annual meeting heard Lisa speak of a new direction in power supply, shifting a portion of production from coal to natural gas and adding additional solar to the mix. In her report, Lisa laid out plans to build a new gas plant, and I'm pleased to report the Florida Public Service Commission approved the need for that plant in early May. Not only will this improve our carbon footprint, it will provide more versatility in our fuel mix leading to more manageable costs, which we can pass on to you.

As we always look to manage in the most equitable manner for all cooperative members, we will change our net metering rates beginning with July billings. Current members under this rate will have their accounts trued up with June billings, as they have become accustomed to at each year-end. In July, we will begin paying these accounts for production moved to our grid at the same rate we pay Seminole Electric for deliveries to us. We will likewise bill these accounts for all deliveries to them at their applicable rate class, like all other members. The net amount of the two transactions will be reflected on each monthly bill, which could result in an account credit. No more waiting for the end of the year. If you have any questions on our new net metering rate, please give us a call.

We are moving into the storm season again, and the forecasters say it will be another busy year. Please take time to read the enclosed hurricane preparedness information within on pages 26-29 and prepare early.



Jeff Brewington

Packing for a Move to Iceland

Last December, in my article Big Mike's Bean House, I attempted to demonstrate how misguided studies and impractical solutions impair the serious discussion of climate change. In particular, that eliminating beef from our food sources is not a credible solution to mitigating climate change. It just will not happen.

Putting aside the argument of the credibility of climate science, the serious discussion of potential damage resulting from climate change is also impaired by unrealistic studies and bizarre results that researchers and the government actually stand behind.

Last fall, the Government Accountability Office released a summary of research titled "The American Climate Prospectus," which attempts to quantify the future cost of climate change for the U.S.

The prospectus predicts an extremely large detrimental economic impact and serious health impacts from unmitigated climate change. The doom-and-gloom prediction from unmitigated climate change uses dubious studies with conclusions sometimes in conflict with common sense and elementary logic.

For example, a study sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency relied on by the GAO in the prospectus concludes Pittsburgh's extreme heat mortality rate in 2100 will be 75 times higher than Phoenix's 2000 rate. However, the same study acknowledges

that Pittsburgh's climate in 2100 will not be as hot as Phoenix's in 2000.

Another study used by the prospectus—using data as old as 1968—led to the conclusion that unmitigated climate change will kill tens of thousands of people due to more globally widespread temperatures above 90 degrees. However, it ignored a newer study by the same researchers showing mortality rates on hot days have dropped substantially with the higher adoption of air conditioning.

Studies of economic damage resulting from climate change produce equally bizarre results. A study by professors at Stanford and the University of California—Berkeley and published in *Nature* found that warm countries tend to experience lower economic growth in abnormally warm years while colder countries benefit.

Interestingly, the study finds colder countries will achieve unbelievable wealth

Commentary

By Gary Smith
President and CEO



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and warmer countries will pay a devastating price as the global economy declines under the weight of unmitigated climate change.

For instance, by 2100 the annual per capita income in Iceland will soar to \$1.5 million. That is more than double the projected per capita income for any country other than Finland, which is projected to be \$860,000. Mongolia, which currently ranks 118th in national per capita income, will rise to seventh—four times greater than the average American's.

The Canadian national economy will be seven times larger than China's.

Of course, the results of the studies are nonsense. However, the GAO relies on such garbage to reach conclusions on the direction of the U.S. economy and publish serious-appearing prospectuses on the damage to be inflicted by climate change. Environmentalists use the studies and reports to support

their demands for immediate change to reduce the health and economic damage of climate change.

The obvious flaw is most of the models rely on past human behaviors and results as well as small sample sizes to extrapolate predictions of future outcomes from the large, slow shifts in climate change.

Humans and societies have an incredible capacity to adapt when faced with high economic or health cost pressures. The question of human adaptation is not an inconsequential factor for the study of the cost of future action or inaction. Yet it is often ignored.

The overpopulation scare in the 1960s was logical unless one assumed human adaption to a larger global population, improved farming methods, and expansion of a seemingly finite supply of resources—all of which occurred—and the overpopulation scare is rarely heard of today.

I could expound on the reasons the GAO would rely on obviously flawed data to paint an extreme picture on the ravages of climate change. I could discuss similar flaws associated with the basic climate change models and studies themselves.

But I don't have time. I need to start packing my beach clothes to move to Iceland. ■

The content used in this commentary was influenced by an article published in the Wall Street Journal, "Doomsday Climate Scenarios are a Joke," written by Oren Cass of the Manhattan Institute.



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

OFFICES

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9434 Highway 77
P. O. Box 8370
Southport, FL 32409
(850) 265-3631 or (800) 568-3667

6243 East Highway 98
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CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

John Bartley

TRUSTEES

President Waylon Graham
Vice President Jimmy Black
Secretary Eddie Jones
Treasurer Rupert Brown
Doug Birmingham
Robert Byrd
Gary Cox
Kinneth Daniels
Betty Moore

Trustees normally meet the third Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. CST. The board meets at the Wewahitchka office in even-numbered months (February, April, June, August, October and December) and the Southport office in odd-numbered months (January, March, May, July, September and November).

The mission of GCEC: Fulfilling the changing needs of our membership and communities by providing cost effective, reliable and safe utility services through a dedicated and responsive workforce.

FL-154

GCEC President's Message

Celebrating 70 Years of GCEC

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative hosted its 70th annual Members' Meeting on April 28 at its headquarters in Wewahitchka.

Mail-in and online balloting was used again for this year's meeting. In the past, when members voted at the meeting, member turnout was between 3 and 4 percent. This year, with the mail-in/online ballot process, voter turnout was 25 percent. This helps puts the power of the cooperative into the hands of all members.

For entertainment, GCEC provided a bounce house for the children. The Drummond Family provided music. Booths were open for the duration of the meeting, offering information about the programs GCEC offers. The cooperative provided a lunch of barbecue sandwiches, hot dogs, potato chips and Pepsi products.

Each member who returned a mail-in ballot received a \$5 electric bill credit. Registered members were entered in a drawing to win one of 10 \$100 electric bill credits. We also selected 40 members to win \$25 gift cards. Members who attended the meeting and brought the blue prize ticket enclosed in their registration packet were entered to win an array of other prizes, including the grand prize, which was a 2000 Ford Ranger. Members who contributed to our Project Helping Hand program were registered to win an electric grill.

If you have not attended our annual meeting, I encourage you to do so in the future. Each member has a voice in the operation of GCEC, and those voices need to be heard.

For those who attended, I thank you for your participation and hope to see you again next year. ■



Waylon Graham



Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



TO REPORT POWER OUTAGE

- Use the SmartHub app
- Text OUT to 8002823824
- Call 1-800-282-3824

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

210 Metheny Road
Wauchula, Florida 33873
Telephone: 1-800-282-3824
Fax: 866-201-1814

MANATEE SERVICE CENTER

14505 Arbor Green Trail
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202
Telephone: 1-800-282-3824
Fax: 941-752-4928

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1

LEONARD CRAWLEY

District 2

KENNETH ODEN

District 3

BRUCE VICKERS
ASST SECRETARY/TREASURER

District 4

HOLLIS ALBRITTON

District 5

MAURICE HENDERSON

District 6

JOHN MARTIN

District 7

CHRIS PORTALE
PRESIDENT

District 8

ELLEN BACHMAN
SECRETARY/TREASURER

District 9

WILLIE DAWES
VICE PRESIDENT

BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

Any PRECO member may attend a Board Meeting. Due to building security requirements and for us to facilitate attendance, members wishing to attend a Board Meeting should contact the Cooperative in a timely manner for logistical information regarding the meeting.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING DATES

June 26, 2018
July 24, 2018
August 28, 2018

FL 155

Answering Your Hurricane Outage Repair Questions

In September 2017, Hurricane Irma roared through the heart of Peace River Electric Cooperative's service area leaving us with nearly 200 broken poles, more than 60 damaged transformers and miles of downed power lines. Afterward, every PRECO employee, five contractors and workers from 12 out-of-state electric co-ops joined forces and restored power to our 40,000-plus meters in 8 days.

During this time, our members had a lot of questions about power restoration and safety. As we approach the 2018 Hurricane Season, I'd like to address the most common questions.

When will my power come back on?

Unfortunately, no one can accurately answer this question. The answer isn't simple and we don't want to mislead you by guessing. When damage is extensive, making repairs is like peeling an onion. As crews make repairs, they often find other problems which must be fixed before the lights can come back on. Our goal is to restore power as quickly as possible without compromising the safety of our members and crews.

What if I have a power line down in my yard?

Never touch downed power lines. Don't risk your life by moving lines or anything entangled in the lines. To report downed lines and hazards, call us at 1-800-282-3824.

What if I have a medical issue?

After a hurricane, power could be off for days or even longer. If you are dependent on electric-powered medical

equipment and have no power backup system, consider relocating until after the crisis and power is restored.

Why don't I see trucks in my area?

Power restoration begins at our substations, where we receive power from the statewide grid, and is systematically carried outward to the end of our power lines. Crews may need to repair another location before your section of the power lines will work again. Crews are working, even if you don't see them in your area yet.

What's the best way to get updates after a storm?

Sometimes a natural disaster brings down all means of telecommunications. Also, it would be physically impossible to answer every call if over 40,000 people were calling to get power restoration updates. However, we have communication tools in place to update you. For the latest storm and repair information:

- Visit our website at www.preco.coop
- Like PRECO's Facebook page
- Follow @PeaceRiverEC on Twitter
- View our online Outage Map at <http://outage.preco.coop>
- Update your phone number and email address with us before the storm, in case we need to contact you

Our lineworkers work 16-hour shifts to restore service after a hurricane because they know you're counting on them. And, they won't stop until everyone's power is restored.

Randy Shaw

PRECO CEO