



"We Care"

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Lewiston, ID 83501
(888) 743-1501
(208) 798-5220 (Propane)
www.clearwaterpower.com

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Monday - Thursday
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays

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ID-1

SmartHub: Finger Tips

Who' keeps turning the lights on?

Daily Usage ⓘ ⚙️
Sun Sep 20 - Sat Sep 26

Date	Account	Avg. Temperature
Sep 20	35	65
Sep 21	45	70
Sep 22	55	75
Sep 23	60	80
Sep 24	40	75
Sep 25	45	78
Sep 26	38	68

■ Account ■ Avg. Temperature

smart hub

Try SmartHub at: www.clearwaterpower.com or Get the app!

Available on the iPhone App Store | GET IT ON Google play

- Online Bill Pay
- Daily Electric Readings
- Outage Reporting



171 Linden Way
P.O. Box 398
Heppner, OR 97836
541-676-9146

cbec.cc
info@cbec.cc

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Stacie Ekstrom, Ione

CEO/General Manager

Andy Fletcher, 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

Manager's Message

Dear Members:

2020 has been a year of unfortunate events for families, students, communities and businesses. As the year progresses, many of us are thinking about what could have been, or how we had to sacrifice a family vacation or eating at our favorite restaurants. I am sure plenty of parents wish their children could be back in school with our outstanding teachers.

For others, this has been a desperate financial and family crisis, with much uncertainty about when things may return to "normal." Some who live alone, or must isolate to avoid illness, are facing endless loneliness.

Now we are thinking of those dealing with last month's devastating wildfires in Western Oregon, where communities were destroyed, and families have lost homes and loved ones.

Yes, locally we were affected by the smoke. However, in listening to other electric cooperative managers share their stories of the devastation to their communities and families, I pause and think about how fortunate we are within the Columbia Basin Electric service area to have communities in the condition we do. Please take a moment and think about ALL of things we still have and should be grateful for at this time. Then be sure to thank our emergency service workers and volunteers!

Annual Meeting Update

The decision to cancel our in-person annual meeting was a difficult one. Everyone at Columbia Basin Electric hopes you understand we made this decision in what we believe was in the best interest of our members and staff.

This year's annual meeting is held by phone Thursday, November 5, 2020. Please call **224-501-3412** and enter access code **451-332-749**. The meeting starts at noon. We recommend you call in a little early.

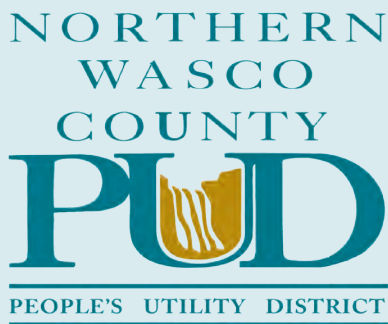
Please remember to cast your ballot for your Columbia Basin Electric board members. Everyone who returns a valid ballot will be entered into a drawing to receive a prize. Columbia Basin will select a member from each zone to win.

Make sure to visit our website at <https://cbec.cc> for cooperative updates.

Thank you for your understanding. Stay healthy.

Andy Fletcher

CEO/General Manager



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

Board of Directors

Roger Howe, President
Howard Gonser, Vice President
Dan Williams, Secretary
Wayne Jacobson, Treasurer
Connie Karp, Director

Manager

Roger Kline

Board Meetings

Usually the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the PUD offices, 2345 River Road. 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:

- ▶ Safety
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Customer Service
- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Operational Excellence
- ▶ Sustainability

OR-3

Public Power: The Community-Owned Advantage

Greetings,

Northern Wasco County People's Utility District is one of more than 2,000 public power utilities that helps power the lives of more than 48 million people across the country.

There are many reasons why you, our customers, continue to own and operate your own electric utility. Since our founding in 1939 and delivery of our first electron of service in 1949, NWCPUD has served our community with reliable electricity at low rates, offering excellent customer service and an ethic of serving the community's needs. Our strong commitment to our community includes supporting economic development; providing carbon-free, environmentally responsible electric power; and doing all of this as safely as possible for everyone involved.

As a not-for-profit public power utility, our loyalty is to you, our customer—not stockholders. We take great pride in our governance structure, with an elected governing board comprised of five local individuals. The board holds open meetings the first Tuesday of every month at the PUD offices at 2345 River Road. The meetings start at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The meetings are currently held electronically, but you may still participate. Watch for virtual meeting log-in details on our website, social media channels and media releases.

NWCPUD will continue to provide cost-effective, reliable electricity that adds value to the local economy and be a benefit to you, our customer-owners, and to our community.

Thank you for your continued support as we work diligently on your behalf.

Best to all,

General Manager Roger Kline



Community Calendar

Public meetings continue electronically.

- ▶ The Dalles City Council meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m., with the exception of August and holidays, at City Hall.
- ▶ The Board of County Commissioners meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at Wasco County Courthouse.



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
an on-duty employee.

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Ron Heath
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Albert Preugschat
District 8, Bridgeport

Board meetings are the fourth
Tuesday of every month.

WA-5

WHAT IS A CO-OP VOTER?

A Co-op Voter:

CO-OPS VOTE
A PROGRAM OF AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES
WWW.VOTE.COOP

Wants to preserve the way of life in rural America, but not let our future generations be left behind technologically.



Believes in policies that will modernize our nation's energy supply in a way that keeps costs affordable, promotes system reliability, and avoids imposing undue burdens on our energy supply system.

Wants to be an active voice in the community and promote the democratic system of governance for all our nation's institutions, from our co-ops to the halls of Congress.



Will vote for any candidate, regardless of party, who is willing to help ensure that rural Americans have ready access to reliable, affordable energy.

**Rural communities
depend on Co-op Voters.**

Learn about the issues.
Talk to your family and friends.



Be an active participant in our democracy. Be a Co-op Voter.

www.vote.coop



CONSUMERS POWER INC.

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1180
Philomath, OR 97370
541-929-3124
800-872-9036

LOCAL OFFICES

6990 West Hills Road
Philomath, OR 97370

1900 W Oak St.
Lebanon, OR 97355

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Eric Horning | VICE PRESIDENT
Terry Plagmann | SECRETARY
Kevin Christopher |
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

STAFF

Roman Gillen | PRESIDENT/CEO
Scott Muller | TREASURER/CFO

www.cpi.coop

OR-6

President's Report

CPI held its 81st annual meeting September 12, and it was attended by 55 members. The event was downsized due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We provided temperature checks and greatly appreciated that everyone in attendance observed guidelines for face coverings and social distancing throughout the meeting.

Elected to serve three-year terms on the board of directors were Jerry Etzel, Zone 1; Eric Horning, Zone 5; and Jim Gardner, Zone 8. The proposed bylaw changes were also overwhelmingly approved by the membership.

New BPA Acting Administrator

After serving seven years as administrator for the Bonneville Power Administration, Elliot Mainzer left the agency at the end of August for a new job as president/CEO of the California Independent System Operator. Last month, longtime BPA employee John Hairston was named acting administrator while the U.S. Department of Energy selects a new administrator.

Wildfires

Just one month ago, who would have foreseen the full fury of nature in the form of so many devastating wildfires across our state?

During the week of the Labor Day holiday, nearly a third of CPI's 23,000 members endured long hours and even days without electricity after strong east winds over several days sent countless trees through power lines, blocking roads and highways for miles. This kind of storm is most unusual for this time of year in our part of the country.

What does CPI do to mitigate the risk of wildfire?

After assigning a fire risk rating for each circuit of our electric system, we developed a fire mitigation plan comprised of three parts. The first is vegetation management. Besides cutting

and trimming trees within rights-of-way—1,800 spans so far this year—we identify and remove hazard trees outside the right-of-way: 1,400 trees so far in 2020 and 650 last year. We patrol high-risk circuits before fire season and address any identified problem areas early. We use drones or unmanned aerial vehicles to analyze vegetation line clearances.

System coordination is the second part of our fire mitigation plan. This involves selectively installing more sophisticated equipment to provide better system protection. We also continuously monitor the electric system during “red flag” or extreme weather events that contribute to high fire risk. We de-energize lines not needed for power delivery.

During red flag events such as the one that occurred during the week of Labor Day, power restoration takes far longer than normal because every section of line must first be patrolled to ensure no fire hazards exist before the section is reenergized.

System hardening is the third part of our fire mitigation plan. This includes selectively replacing wood poles with iron, steel or fiberglass in areas of high risk, and strategically converting overhead lines to underground.

We grieve for all who were impacted by the horrific destruction that occurred last month in the Santiam Canyon from Stayton through the Little North Fork and Elkhorn Valley, and the communities of Lyons, Mehama, Mill City, Gates, Detroit, Idanha and Marion Forks. Much of this portion of CPI's system was essentially destroyed, but that pales in comparison to the heartbreaking loss of life, property, and possessions of countless friends and neighbors that call these places home.

Roman Gillen
President and CEO



Give a Gift That Keeps on Giving

When you sign up for Operation Round Up, your bill will be rounded up each month to the nearest dollar. That difference helps support our local communities. The average cost per customer is \$6 a year. To sign up or for more information, please give us a call at 800-872-9036 or visit us online at www.cpi.coop.



Prosser Office
402 7th St.
Prosser, WA 99350
509-786-2913

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1150
Prosser, WA 99350

Report an Outage: 800-221-6987
Contact the Office: 509-786-2913
Website: BentonREA.org

Board of Trustees

- Michael Freepons, President, District 2
- Connie Krull, Vice President, District 7
- Catherine Russell, Secretary/Treasurer, District 8
- Buddy Treadway, District 1
- Bob Evans, District 3
- Ron Johnson, District 4
- Tim Grow, District 5
- Scott Fisher, District 6

Board Meetings, Agendas & Minutes

The board of trustees will meet October 28 at 6 p.m. in the Prosser office unless otherwise indicated on our website.

The board agenda for the upcoming meeting is available to members upon request no earlier than six days prior to the board meeting. Minutes of prior board meetings are available to members upon request. To request board agendas or minutes, visit Benton REA office, call 509-786-8260 or email priorityrequests@bentonrea.org.

General Manager

Michael J. Bradshaw

Management Staff

- Derek Miller, Engineering Manager
- Jeff Ekruat, Operations Manager
- Steve Catlow, Manager of Finance and Administration
- Jeff Bastow, Information Technology Manager
- Troy Berglund, Community Development and Member Relations Manager
- Terry Mundorf, General Counsel Attorney
- Blodgett, Mickelsen & Adamson, Auditor

Dam Support, Annual Meeting Invitation

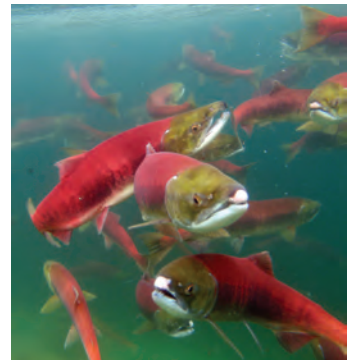
Dear Members,

In April, many of you chose to stand up for our lower Snake River hydroelectric dams. We received 173 letters from Benton REA members which we mailed to the federal agencies drafting the Columbia River System Operations (CRSO) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). They received more than 56,000 comments and released a final EIS on July 31.

The federal agencies recommended maintaining the lower Snake River dams with adjusted operations and concluded that the dams were critical to providing affordable, reliable and carbon-free electric energy for the Northwest.

Similarly, on July 31, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries released a biological opinion of the operations and maintenance effects of the CRSO. They concluded that the actions proposed in the EIS will not likely jeopardize the continued existence of Snake River salmon, steelhead and other endangered fish. They also determined that the actions included in the EIS will not destroy, nor adversely modify, designed critical habitat for the same species, the Southern Resident killer whales and the southern distinct population segment of sturgeon or their critical habitat.

Benton REA is relieved to hear that our carbon-free, renewable hydroelectricity is supported by these federal agencies' conclusions. But opposition for keeping the dams still remains. Thank you for your support and actions thus far. We will keep fighting for hydropower, low electric rates and an environmentally clean future!



Snake River Sockeye PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

Your Virtual Annual Meeting Invitation

At the time of this publication's deadline, restrictions for gatherings in Benton and Yakima counties remained too low for Benton REA to host our traditional annual meeting and member appreciation event. I am sad to announce this news, but I'm also pleased to let you know that Benton REA will offer a "virtual" annual meeting this year.

Please join your fellow co-op members for Benton REA's 83rd Annual Membership Meeting online on Wednesday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m. Registration instructions are listed on page 25 and at www.BentonREA.org/AnnualMeeting.

Everyone at Benton REA hopes that the pandemic will end soon, and that we will be able to see you face-to-face at our annual meeting in 2021. Please stay safe and stay healthy!

Cooperatively,

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

Offices

750 W. Elm Ave.
Hermiston, OR 97838
541 567-6414

400 N.E. Eldrige Drive
Boardman, OR
541 481-2220

Hours

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

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1.888.465.5701 day or night

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Bryan Wolfe, President
Jeff Wenholz, Vice President
Steve Platt, Secretary-Treasurer
Lee Docken
Phil Hamm
John Otis
Tom Pitzer

General Manager

Robert Echenrode

www.umatillaelectric.com

OR-8

A Future with Abundant, Reliable Power

As we look to our future of power acquisition, a couple of themes are emerging.

One is our relationship with Bonneville Power Association, the power marketing agency that sells nearly one-third of the electricity used in the Northwest. BPA markets wholesale power from 31 federal hydro projects and a nuclear plant, and counts UEC among its earliest customers.

As mentioned last month in this column, BPA capped the amount of legacy hydropower utilities such as UEC could buy. A half-dozen years ago, BPA's hydropower comprised more than 80 percent of the power we delivered to our membership. It now stands at 50 percent or below.



Today, BPA is our largest supplier but no longer our sole supplier. Because our BPA hydropower is capped, we increasingly rely on purchases on the open energy market. But by any measure, BPA's reliable and carbon-free resources are a major influence in the Northwest market and will remain a central fixture in UEC's future for several reasons.

BPA owns and operates about three-fourths of the region's high-voltage transmission system, essential to UEC's future power needs. BPA operates fish and wildlife programs that are of critical importance in our region. BPA's energy-efficiency initiatives are the foundation of our UEC energy savings programs.

With BPA contracts to receive wholesale power that expire in 2028, UEC and other Northwest utilities will soon begin discussions with the agency on the shape and substance of those long-term contracts in a rapidly changing industry.

Another theme in the years to come: Renewable energy resources will pay a bigger

role in our resource portfolio, because of public policy, technology advances and changing costs.

Oregon's Renewable Energy Act in 2007 established a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) that requires electric utilities to include renewable energy generation as part of their power supply. Under this law, UEC is obligated to ultimately provide 25 percent of "new" renewables such as wind and solar in our power resource mix.

However, a later compromise with the Legislature stretched out the number of years we can use renewable energy credits to meet the RPS. (One renewable energy certificate or credit is created when a megawatt of renewable power is generated, and we have been buying these credits on the open market.) This allows us time and flexibility to set up avenues to work with renewable developers and alternative power suppliers that best meet our member and community needs, whether it is local generation or distant resources.

This is expected to save our members tens of millions of dollars in power costs over the coming years as we meet our obligations under this law.

Going forth, we will share information about the advantages and impacts of our power acquisition choices. We will rely on our membership to help guide the direction and speed in which we incorporate renewable energy. As we take steps to diversify our power purchasing opportunities, our overarching mission will not change—to provide you with reliable, affordable and abundant power.

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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- Jerry Duling Treasurer
- Stacy Eakin Director
- Robert Durham Director
- Robert Hammel Director
- Jim McNamee Director
- DeOra Patton Director

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- Shannon Bessette Finance Manager
- Traci Brock Member Services Manager
- Jennifer Lindsey Executive Staff Assistant
- Kelsey Lepinski Customer Service Rep.
- Keenan Webber Customer Service Rep.
- Mackenzie Chukwuyenum Financial Analyst
- Brian Vosburgh Operations Manager
- Jim Green Engineering Technician
- Brewster Whitmire E&O Assistant
- BJ Ayres The Dalles Foreman
- Andy Gardipee The Dalles Lineman
- Gabe Red Cloud The Dalles Lineman
- Wesley Woods Serviceman
- Dan Funkhouser Grass Valley Foreman
- Frank Roeder Maupin Foreman

Board meetings are generally held the fourth Thursday of the month at the co-op office.

Mission Statement

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

OR-9

Manager’s Message

Director Recognition

Wasco Electric Cooperative Director Bob Hammel was recently presented with the Board Leadership Certificate of Director



Education from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for his continued education as a cooperative director. The BLC is the second level of director education achievable through the NRECA program.

The initial certificate, Credentialed Cooperative Director, is earned upon successful completion of prescribed classes detailing the role of the cooperative board and directors in today’s cooperative.

The BLC acknowledges directors who continue their education in the utility industry regarding governance, risk management, communication, rate making and policy development.

Congratulations, Bob! I sincerely appreciate the commitment WEC directors have made in continuing their education to best serve the members of this cooperative now and in the future.

October Is National Cooperative Month

As we celebrate, I want to reflect on what co-ops bring to Americans.

More than 29,000 co-ops with about 27 million members operate in the U.S. More than 900 electric co-ops maintain nearly half of the electric distribution lines in the U.S. These lines cover three-quarters of the U.S. landmass and provide electricity to more than 42 million Americans.

Like all co-ops, Wasco Electric operates under the Seven Cooperative Principles:

Voluntary and Open Membership.

Co-ops are open to all who are able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

Democratic Member Control. Co-ops are controlled by their members, who set the policies and make decisions. Elected representatives are accountable to the members, who have equal voting rights: one member, one vote.

Members’ Economic Participation.

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. They allocate surpluses to develop the co-op and benefit in proportion to their transactions with the co-op.

Autonomy and Independence.

Cooperatives are self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members.

Education, Training and Information.

Co-ops provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute to the development of their co-ops. They inform the public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

Cooperatives serve their members by working together locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Concern for Community.

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities.

**Jeff Davis
General Manager**

Owned By Those We Serve

Douglas Electric Cooperative Inc.
1981 NE Stephens St.
Roseburg, Oregon
Phone 541-673-6616
800-233-2733
Outage 888-420-8826

Officers

President | Evan Barnes
Vice President | Robert Poage
Secretary | Shirley Cairns
Director | Suzi Armstrong
Director | Bill Jackson
Director | Terry Nelson
Director | Carey Weatherly

General Manager

Keith Brooks

Assistant General Manager

Phil Bigler

Office Manager/CFO

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

There's More to the Story

Dear Member,

So far this year, the largest fire your cooperative has experienced was July 29. A massive tree nearly 100 feet outside of our right-of-way came smashing down, destroying four poles and bringing our wires down on top of a vehicle on Hwy. 38 west of Drain.

The car, wires, poles and tree lay tangled across the highway, blocking traffic for the better part of a day and evening. The fire quickly spread toward one of our major transmission lines that serves Elkton. Our heroes from the Douglas Forest Protective Association, North Douglas County Fire & EMS, and Elkton Rural Fire Department responded quickly, limiting the damage and suppressing the fire.

Unfortunately, these facts were not the focus of any media story I saw, heard or read. Rather, it was generally reported that a power line started a fire on Hwy. 38. It's not that power lines never start fires, but most are a result of situations like this one.

Our 30-foot easements—many established 70-plus years ago—are surrounded by 150-foot-tall, drought-ridden, bug-infested, dead or dying trees. Last year, we began tracking tree-related outages differently. We now collect data regarding trees, dead or alive, in or out of the right-of-way. Nearly 100 trees fell into our lines last year. Nearly all of them were from outside of our right-of-way, and about half were still green. Throughout our entire 2,200-square-mile service territory, three dead trees fell from inside of our right-of-way.

I keep hearing, "Trim and maintain your lines better." Oregon's latest wildfire season has proven we are not going to "trim and maintain" our way out of this threat. Anyone telling you that we can is misinformed. Besides, our members can't afford it. It would add hundreds of dollars a month to your bill if we tried to make our right-of-ways as wide as football fields. Putting everything underground in a service territory like ours would be just as, if not more, expensive, and in some areas, impossible. Reducing forest fuels, and investing in DFPA and our local fire districts to aid in their quick response is the path forward.

Sincerely,



James K. Brooks
General Manager



PHOTO COURTESY OF DFPA

Columbia Power Co-op



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

DIRECTORS

President Paul Walton
 Vice President Adam Temple
 Sec./Treasurer Brian Campbell
 Dan Cannon
 Dave Humphreys
 Dallas Newton
 Judy Wilson

MANAGER

Troy Cox

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

POWER OUTAGE NUMBERS

Co-op office 934-2311
 Ed Andersen 934-2255
 Guy Andersen 934-2098
 Troy Cox 934-2155
 Josh Hamilton 934-2133
 Mike Osborne 934-2067
 Joe Ringering 620-8261
 Gary Warner 934-2961
 Brian Woodell 934-2260

OR-11

Then. Now. Always.
 We're proud to power your life.
 October is National Co-op Month.

#PowerOn

As an electric cooperative, our mission is to serve our members and support our community—an especially critical mission in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. This principle is the essential DNA of Columbia Power Co-op and sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month. Electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.” Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a unique community like ours.

Who would have imagined in March that COVID-19 would amount to a test of our community and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have challenged everyone to operate differently.

Columbia Power has stepped up to help members.

As an essential service, and to ensure the reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity.

In the office, we observe social distancing and are modifying meetings to allow for safe separation. We adjusted in-person service calls to help protect the health and safety of our employees and valued members alike.

We’ve seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time because that’s what communities do. While COVID-19 has impacted every area of people’s lives, I’m encouraged to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1948, Columbia Power Co-op was built by the community to serve the community. We will continue to #Power On.

Troy Cox
Manager

Central Issues

Central Electric Cooperative

DIRECTORS

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Vice Chairman Kip Light, Madras
Secretary/Treasurer Kenneth H.

Miltenberger, Alfalfa
Beverly Clarno, Redmond
William J. Rainey, Sisters
Shirley McCullough, Prineville
Kelly McFarlane, Powell Butte
Dan Steelhammer, Bend
Tom Strand, Terrebonne

Attorney, Thomas M. Grim
Cable Huston LLP, Portland

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President and CEO

Dave Markham

Chief Financial Officer

Rawleigh White

Director of Operations & Engineering

Brad Wilson

Corporate Information Officer

Lisa Cutter

Director of Member and Public Relations

Brent ten Pas

Director of Customer and Energy Services

Ryan Davies

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 NW 6th St., Redmond, OR.

www.cec.coop

OR-12

California Blackouts Serve as a Cautionary Tale

With temperatures topping 100 degrees and millions working from home due to COVID-19, hundreds of thousands of California homes went dark in August.

The blackouts were not a result of utilities de-energizing lines to prevent wildfires. Instead, there was a shortage of power when most needed. The aftermath left Gov. Gavin Newsom, utility representatives and the state's bulk electric system operator pointing fingers at each other.

Numerous factors contributed to the blackouts: lack of available power supply internally and from out of state, transmission issues, volatile changes in wind generation and over-reliance on intermittent renewables.

The culmination of the crisis did not happen overnight. California paved the road for such an event long ago. Since the early 2000s, the state legislature passed multiple ambitious clean-energy policies. The renewable portfolio standard and cap and trade were landmark bills held up as the gold standard. They were imitated by other states, including Oregon, to varying degrees.

California's RPS required electric sales to be 20% renewable by 2017. In subsequent years, the program was accelerated to 33% by 2020, 60% by 2030 and 100% by 2045.

The aggressive targets and expedited timeline forced California to transition away from coal, natural gas and nuclear power in favor of solar and wind. In the interest of developing alternative renewables, large hydropower—a 100% carbon-free, 24/7, flexible and reliable resource—does not count toward the RPS. California's shuttering of natural gas and nuclear plants left fewer flexible and reliable resources to meet high peak demand.

Wind and solar should play an instrumental role in an all-of-the-above energy

resources strategy. Without affordable large-scale battery storage, however, they cannot serve as the backbone to a state's energy supply. When the wind stops and the sun goes down, these intermittent resources disappear—sometimes when most needed. To replace the lost energy requires expensive spot-market purchases, putting ratepayers on the hook.

Oregon has headed down a similar path. Although it failed in the last decade to pass a California-style cap-and-trade program, the state adopted an RPS in 2014, requiring 50% renewables by 2040. Likewise, Oregon recognizes wind, solar, wave energy and landfill gas as eligible resources, but not large hydropower.

The state legislature should not accelerate beyond a 50% renewable goal anytime soon, but it is considering doing so next year. Nor should there be any continued efforts to undermine the Pacific Northwest's most significant energy asset: hydroelectricity.

Hydropower is generated along the Columbia, Snake and other major rivers and delivered to eight different states by the federal Bonneville Power Administration. The energy backstops intermittent renewables while providing public safety and regional economic value.

In the meantime, special-interest groups continue to push for breaching the Lower Snake River dams, which would adversely impact the Northwest's electric grid's reliability by taking more than 1,000 average megawatts offline and requiring market purchases at a higher cost and carbon content.

Oregon should take heed or find itself in the dark, too.

Dave Markham
President and CEO



Board of Directors

President

John G. Herzog, Brookings/Harbor

Vice President

Georgia A. Cockerham, Brookings/Harbor

Secretary/ Treasurer

Jim Kolen, Gold Beach

Cheryl L. McMahan, Southern At-Large

Peter C. Radabaugh, Bandon/Coquille

Daryl C. Robison, Port Orford/Langlois

Daniel Loshbaugh, Northern At-Large

Attorney—Tyler Pepple

Staff

General Manager/CEO

Brent Bischoff

Corporate Services/CFO

Frank Corrales

Engineering Manager

Matt Mjelde

Chief Information Officer

Dan Springer

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

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

At Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative, we value the Seven Cooperative Principles. The wind and fires that devastated many of our fellow Oregonians gave CCEC the opportunity to exercise the sixth cooperative principle: Cooperation Among Cooperatives.

As the furious east winds fanned the flames of the Holiday Farm Fire and devastated the communities along the McKenzie River, Lane Electric Cooperative knew they would need help to restore power and rebuild their system. While the storm raged in the early morning hours following Labor Day, Lane Electric reached out to Coos-Curry Electric to see if we could spare a line crew to help them. Fortunately, the weather and fires hadn't battered our system. We asked for volunteers among our linemen. In the true lineman spirit, we had more volunteers than we could spare. Before lunchtime, a line crew and necessary equipment were assembled and rolling to aid our fellow cooperative.

As I write, Mother Nature has spared Coos and Curry counties from the devastating fires our neighbors experienced. Given the tremendous loss of property and life across Oregon, we at CCEC are extremely grateful to be on the giving side of the cooperative spirit this fire season. The small fire east of Humbug Mountain in Curry County crossed under the Bonneville Power Administration transmission lines that serve much of our system, but the power lines sustained no damage. In Coos County, the North Bank Fire was outside of the CCEC service territory.

Natural disasters pose the single-biggest threat to the electric power system that we so heavily depend on and often take for granted. This West Coast fire season and southeast hurricane season should serve as good reminders for all of us to consider our personal preparedness to deal with a disaster-caused extended power outage.

The Boy Scout motto is wise counsel: Be prepared.



Brent Bischoff
General Manager and CEO



A Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative crew helps restore power lines in the Lane Electric Cooperative service area devastated by fire last month.



652 Rose Ave.
P.O. Box 69
Vernonia, OR 97064
503-429-3021
Toll free 800-777-1276
www.westoregon.org

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Closed for lunch
from noon to 1 p.m.

.....
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Brett Costley
(Dist. 4 – Vernonia)

Vice President Jim Buxton
(Dist. 3 – Vernonia, Keasey)

Sec./Treasurer Erika Paleck
(Dist. 5 – Timber, Buxton)

Brian Baker
(Dist. 1 – Jewell, Elsie, Hamlet)

Mark Kaminski
(Dist. 2 – Mist, Apiary,
Birkenfeld)

Rosemary Lohrke
(Dist. 6 – Chapman, Scappoose)

Mark Ludeman
(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

Manager's Message

Dear Members,

At the time of this writing, our beautiful state of Oregon is experiencing a tragic number of wildfires following a historically powerful windstorm.

While electricity is convenient and necessary, it can also be dangerous in situations such as these.

Throughout the storm, WOEC worked closely with Oregon Department of Forestry and local officials. ODF instructed utilities to de-energize the high-risk areas of their service territories for fire mitigation purposes.

WOEC complied and de-energized most of our service territory, as advised. As the weather calmed, we were able to keep power on for most of our membership. Unfortunately, there was a fire in the Hagg Lake area of our service territory, and those members were left without service for days. Once local officials allowed utilities to have access to the area, we were able to repair damage and restore service.

These outages were not planned or scheduled, which made it challenging to notify members. Our staff worked around the clock and did an excellent job of communicating using available resources.

If this event taught us anything, it is that electricity is not guaranteed. Preparedness is key to handling unexpected natural disasters and situations where power must be de-energized for safety reasons. As we move into winter, we strongly encourage all members to take action and prepare for power outages. Following a strong storm or natural disaster, electricity cannot always be returned as easily as it was lost.

Our thoughts are with all of you who were affected. This situation was highly unexpected and unprecedented. We truly appreciated the patience and support from our members while we worked with local officials to keep our communities safe.

Best regards,

Bob Perry
General Manager





Surprise Valley Electrification Corp.

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

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

If no answer after hours, call the
Modoc County Sheriff's Office at
530-233-4416.

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
DJ Northrup, Member Service Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dennis Flynn, President
Valley Falls

Scott Warner, Vice President
Lakeview

Raymond Cloud, Secretary/Treasurer
New Pine Creek

Wesley Cook
Cedarville

Craig Joiner
Lookout

John Erquiaga
Lake City

Kyle Weber
Alturas

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

"Owned by those we serve."

This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.

CA-15



2021 Calendar Photo Contest Winners

Thanks to everyone who submitted photos for Surprise Valley Electric's 2021 calendar photo contest. Congratulations to all those whose images were selected.

Cover

Ruth Criner

May

Andrea Traphagan

October

Dianne Hagelthorn

January

Andrea Traphagan

June

Chris Larson

November

Chris Larson

February

Karoline Nelson

July

Dianne Hagelthorn

December

Brad Thorsted

March

Walter Shoaff

August

Samantha Peek

**Look for your copy
of the calendar in the
November issue of
Ruralite magazine.**

April

Karoline Nelson

September

Randall Mast

Keep an eye on Ruralite magazine to find out more about the 2022 SVE calendar photo contest.



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

Hugh Buermann, Row River District | **President**
Kathy Keable, McKenzie District | **Vice President**
Jack Billings, Central District | **Treasurer**
J. Ingrid Kessler, Central District | **Secretary**
Susan Knudsen Obermeyer, Oakridge District
Jerry Shorey, Oakridge District
Chris Seubert, Central District

MANAGEMENT

Debi Wilson | General Manager
Susan Carter | Finance & Administration Manager
Tony Toncray | Operations Manager
Sean Krause | Engineering Manager
Andy Cave | IT Manager
Jonathan Farmer | Member & Public Affairs Manager

BOARD MEETINGS

Fourth Monday of each month
Lane Electric's office, 787 Bailey Hill Road,
Eugene. Meetings begin at 9 a.m.
unless otherwise noted on the LEC website.

OR-16

Beacon of Light

Dear Co-op Community Members:

At Lane Electric, our hearts are heavy. This year has presented many challenges, beginning with COVID-19 in March, that brought significant change to our daily lives. As we wrapped up a beautiful Labor Day weekend, devastating wildfires spread through our small and beautiful McKenzie River communities.

Our hearts are with you during this significant loss to your homes, businesses and the true beauty of this area.

While the damage is great and healing will take time, we have a beacon of light. Lane Electric has begun repairs in areas where it is safe to do so.

There was significant damage to our electrical system and the Bonneville Power Administration's transmission system. BPA has transmission lines out of service due to wind and wildfire. Lane Electric's system sustained damage from the powerful windstorm that swept through the area. Other parts of the system continue to sustain damage from the Holiday Farm Fire.

At the east end of the McKenzie River electrical system, we were able to replace nearly 40 poles and provide repairs up to McKenzie School. Lane Electric brought in a 2-megawatt generator to power up the substation and return light to those homes. While we are excited and thankful to

restore service to this area, there is a lot of work ahead to rebuild our electrical system.

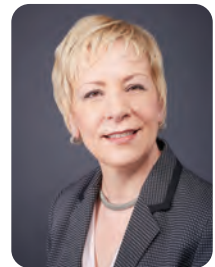
We have just begun to repair the damage. Service to all will take time and careful planning. At the time of this letter, damage continues to our system as the fire still smolders. When we know it is safe to return to those areas, we will assess the damage and create a plan to rebuild the electrical system.

We know Lane Electric is a small part of rebuilding these beautiful communities. The McKenzie River communities are strong, and we look forward to rebuilding with you. We are excited to again visit your restaurants and businesses, and provide service to your homes.

I have profound sorrow for your losses, and my heart—as well as those of all Lane Electric employees and the board of directors—are with you.

Sincerely,

Debi Wilson





**Blachly-Lane
Electric Cooperative**

90680 Highway 99 N.
Eugene, OR 97402
541-688-8711
800-446-8418
blec@blec.coop
blachlylane.coop

Mission Statement: *Blachly-Lane provides safe, reliable electric services for our consumer-members.*

Board of Directors

District 1

Ernie Jacksch, Chairman
541-927-3466
jacksche@blec.coop

District 2

Curtis Short
541-359-9434
shortc@blec.coop

District 3

Beverly Mattheisen, Vice Chairwoman
541-998-3704
mattheisenb@blec.coop

District 4

Marlene Northrup
541-998-1216
northrupm@blec.coop

District 5

Eric Imbler, Secretary/Treasurer
541-954-1949
imblere@blec.coop

General Manager

Greg Gardner
gardnerg@blec.coop

OR-17

Manager's Message

Dear Members,



Late Monday, September 7, we experienced high winds and power outages at the same time we were operating under “red flag rules,” which indicate high fire danger.

In 2019 following the catastrophic wildfires in California—and anticipating similar risks here in Oregon—we developed a fire mitigation plan. As part of that plan, we set system protection devices to operate as fast as possible to interrupt an electrical short circuit, and to not re-close the circuit automatically, as we would under normal circumstances.

As the September storm progressed through the night and into the next day, we realized our neighboring utilities were experiencing wildland fires. It is not yet determined if these fires were caused by downed lines. To our knowledge, these utilities were also operating under red flag rules. After assessing the risk to life and property by continuing to operate energized high-voltage lines versus shutting down the system, I decided to order a complete shutdown of the system until the winds passed and conditions improved.

Counter to anything any of us had done before, we moved quickly to shut down the entire high-voltage system. Until then, our crews and support employees had always worked to restore power. Now, they were shutting down the system. Those actions were enacted immediately and without notice to our members, in large part because we don't have a systematic notification method. I realized then—and need to acknowledge now—that unplanned outages can happen anytime without warning. By contrast, planned outages historically are preceded by some form of notice so members can plan accordingly. In this case, time was of the essence, and the resources we have could not facilitate phone calls to every member in advance.

I recognize the inconvenience and disruption these events caused our members during an already stressful time. I never want to take your understanding for granted, nor take these actions without full explanation. I also want to assure you we are continuing to make the system more resilient and reliable, and to be as responsive as possible. This is our mission, these are our values and we remain committed to them.

Thank you for your understanding and your membership.

Greg Gardner
General Manager



Board of Commissioners

Dan G. Gunkel
President

Douglas B. Miller
Vice President

Randy L. Knowles
Secretary

.....
Jim Smith
General Manager

Gwyn Miller
Assistant General Manager

Kevin Ricks
Renewable Energy Asset Manager

Mike DeMott
*Director of Finance
and Power Management*

Mark Pritchard
Operations Manager

Ron Schultz
Engineering Manager

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



Klickitat PUD employees joined Klickitat County, city of Goldendale and Washington state first responders to honor Andrew Deering on September 11. Andrew, a member of the Moses Lake Fire Department, died during a climbing accident in Oregon. Klickitat PUD Water/Wastewater Operator Noah Halm, who also serves as the city of Goldendale fire chief, coordinated with KPUD Mechanic Sohn Kartes and Senior Storekeeper Bill Rogers to include a bucket truck at the tribute to Andrew as his body passed through Klickitat County en route to Moses Lake. PHOTO BY JOHN STARR



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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

For outages:
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
Mike Dolan

General Manager
Annie Terracciano

Board of Directors by District

District No. 1
Mike Dolan, Nordman, ID
208-610-3853

District No. 2
Jill Vandegrift, Trout Creek, MT
208-683-6003

District No. 3
Steve Elgar, Sandpoint, ID
208-610-2999

District No. 4
David Pemberton, Careywood, ID
208-661-5911

District No. 5
Kennon McClintock, Moyie Springs, ID
208-267-7064

District No. 6
Dave Anderson, Bonners Ferry, ID
208-610-8021

District No. 7
Jim Woodward, Sagle, ID
208-946-7963

ID-19

Celebrating National Co-op Month

I hope you are enjoying the fall season that is upon us. I appreciate the beautiful colors and cooler weather. I get to see one of my favorite colors this time of year when the tamarack needles change. Going on a drive or a hike in our beautiful area is a great thing to do in the fall.

October is the month to celebrate the benefits cooperatives bring to our communities. Whether the cooperative's focus is food, child care, insurance, electricity or some other service, we all exist to help serve a need in the communities we live in.

Cooperatives are unique. We are not-for-profit, democratically controlled and member-owned. The cooperative business model is about meeting the needs of the people, not maximizing profits. In the U.S., more than 900 electric co-ops serve an estimated 42 million people. At Northern Lights, we have more than 18,000 members and 2,800 miles of distribution lines that serve members in Northern Idaho, Eastern Washington and Western Montana.

NLI is overseen by a seven-member board of directors, each elected by the members of the district in which they represent. Our power comes from the Bonneville Power Administration and our own dam on a tributary of the Kootenai River, which NLI distributes to each of its members' homes and businesses.

One way NLI serves its community is through Operation Roundup. Members can round up their monthly energy bill to the nearest dollar to help families in need. Members can also choose to donate to the Helping Hand program, designed to help struggling members with their power bills; or Project Share, which provides home heating assistance. If you would like to participate in any of these programs, please contact us to sign up.

During these unusual and trying times, it is important to come together as one cooperative family and help each other when needed. We are stronger together.

Happy fall!

Annie Terracciano
General Manager





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

Jim Poxleitner | President
Cottonwood

Ernie Robinson | Vice President
White Bird

Gerald Frei | Secretary-Treasurer
Grangeville

Frank McIntire
Kamiah

Martin Poxleitner
Grangeville

Greg M. Smith
Syringa

Bruce Nuxoll
Kooskia

Attorney
J.A. Wright

General Manager
Max Beach

c-21

Your 82nd Annual Meeting

Dear members,

What a year it has been for all of us!

For your upcoming 82nd annual meeting, I want to let you know this year's annual meeting will be a little different than in the past. Hopefully, next year we will be back to normal. As you saw from the official notice on the front page of this edition of Ruralite, our meeting is Thursday, November 12, at Greencreek Community Hall. Yes, that is the second Thursday in November instead of the first Thursday of the November. We had a scheduling conflict late last year with the community hall, and the second Thursday was chosen instead. If that weren't enough of a change, out of caution, we have moved the meeting to earlier in the morning. The business meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. and lasts until about 11 a.m. Doors open at 8:45 a.m., and we will have coffee and water available.

We want all of our members to be safe and feel comfortable attending their annual meeting, so we chose this condensed format with other precautions. By moving the meeting earlier in the day, we will not serve the great lunch we all are accustomed to. Instead, members in attendance will have a \$25 bill credit applied to their account—one credit per membership, and your name must be on the account. To maintain social distancing, we will pair up chairs 6 feet apart from others.

While not convenient for anyone, these precautions allow us to get the important business done at the annual meeting while still following guidelines. In addition to officer reports and other business, we will conduct director elections for Districts 5, 6 and 7. While incumbents for District 5 incumbent Frank McIntire, Kamiah; and District 6 incumbent Jim Poxleitner, Cottonwood; are running for re-election, longtime board member Ernie Robinson has announced his retirement. Members from any of these districts interested in serving should read my article on pages 4 and 5 of this issue about qualifications and requirements for serving as a director.


This annual meeting will still have the normal goody bags when you check in that have a gift, minutes, financial statements and so on. However, instead of the typical prize drawings we normally do, member attendees will be entered into a drawing for six \$82 bill credits and the \$500 grand prize bill credit.

We will have masks available for those who would like them. We appreciate your understanding during these unprecedented times. We hope to see you there!

Thanks for listening,

Max Beach
General Manager



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

Member 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

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Vice President

Gordon DeArmond, Crescent

Secretary/Treasurer

Vic Russell, Fall River
Diana Cox, Christmas Valley
Bud Kendall, La Pine
Dick Luebke, Sunriver
Robert Reed, La Pine
Ron Sommerfeldt, Gilchrist
Ken Wilson, Chemult

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 Steinhauer

Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Manager's Message

Dear Member:

As an electric cooperative, our priority is to provide safe, affordable and reliable power to our consumer-members. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich members' lives and serve the long-term interests of our communities. This mission has never been more critical than in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Midstate Electric Cooperative, and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we "Power On." We play an essential role in serving our communities.

Who would have fathomed in March that COVID-19 would have such an unprecedented effect on our communities and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have challenged how we operate.

As an essential service—and to ensure the reliability of your power supply—we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Our line crews are separated from other employees and even from each other. Crewmen were assigned to permanent crews and report to separate locations at the headquarters facility. We separated office employees for social distancing.

To the extent possible, employees are working from home. For employees unable to work from home due to technical and other limitations, we established working areas per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

We also temporarily closed our lobby to

the public to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our members.

We also made the difficult decision to cancel our in-person annual meeting.

For the health and safety of everyone, we believe these measures were prudent courses of action.

Even though COVID-19 changed how we interact, it did not change what we do. Line crews still respond to outages, work continues with service orders, bills are processed and mailed, and our employees are available to answer your questions and concerns during business hours at 541-536-2126.

In support of our members impacted by COVID-19, MEC temporarily suspended late fees and disconnections. We worked with members to receive energy assistance from local agencies and have helped them with special payment plans.

We also offered payment assistance through our relief fund—a fund made possible through member/employee donations.

I remind you of these efforts not to boast about MEC, but to explain how much we care about our members and communities. We have seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time, because that is what communities do.

While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I am inspired to see how everyone is pulling together.

Thank you for your continued support. We will continue to Power On.

See page 8 to enter this year's Co-op Month Contest.

Dave Schneider
General Manager



155 N. Main St. | P.O. Box 617
Malta, ID 83342

Phone: 208-645-2211
Toll free: 800-342-7732

www.rrelectric.com

After hours or to report outages
800-342-7732

Automated secure pay by phone
844-244-1497

Office hours: 7 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
Closed Friday through Sunday

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Jones, District 2 | President
Larry Henson, At-large | Secretary
John Campbell, District 1
Blaine Tanner, District 3
Krinn McCoy, District 4
Lindsey Manning, District 5
Jason Harper, At-large

Board meetings typically are the
fourth Wednesday of each month.

Chad Black | General Manager

Mission Statement

Our members are our mission.
We deliver safe, reliable, cost-
effective services to energize our
communities.



ID-24



When you think of October, you may picture pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage. But October is notable for another reason: National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Raft River Electric, celebrate who we are and, more importantly, the members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market refuses to offer a product or service, or does so at a high price, co-ops intervene to meet the need.

Similar to how RREC was built by members who came together 81 years ago to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the co-op members.

Raft River Electric is proud to:

- Be owned by our members, so we can serve you and not a group of shareholders.
- Be governed by a board of directors elected by you.
- Be a not-for-profit organization, which helps us provide you at-cost electricity.
- Provide jobs in our communities.
- Be part of our communities, keeping money local and helping when needed.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the communities we serve because we are locally governed, and we know you. RREC's leadership team, employees and directors live here in our communities.

More than 900 electric co-ops exist across the U.S. No two are alike because each belongs to the people who work, live and play in their service area. RREC cares deeply about our communities. We support community events, fundraisers, youth programs and more.

We hope you think of us as not only an energy provider, but as a local business partner that supports our communities and powers economic development and prosperity.

Each day, we are proud to serve you. We appreciate the group of community members who had the vision to serve and electrify our rural communities back in 1939. So, this month, we ask you to celebrate public power, cooperatives and your very own RREC. We were built by the community, for the community.

Happy National Co-op Month! #PowerOn



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.bb.ec.org

TRUSTEES

President Ken Story

Vice President John Harder

Secretary Lanny Hayes

Treasurer Stacy Kniveton

Curtis Dahl

Greg Galbreath

Dan Hille

Lyle Holt

Dennis Swinger Sr.

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO

Yvette Armstrong

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mark DeWulf

WA-25

Celebrate National Cooperative Month

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason: It is National Co-op Month!

This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Big Bend Electric Cooperative, celebrate who we are and, more importantly, the members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service, or does so at a very high price, co-ops fill the need.

Similar to how Big Bend Electric was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the community because we are locally governed. Big Bend Electric's leadership team and employees live right here in the community. Our board of directors, which sets long-term priorities for the co-op, is comprised of members who live on co-op lines. These board members have been elected to the position by neighbors like you.

We know our members (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we continually seek your input. Whether through community events, our social media channels or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you.

Our close connection to the community ensures we get a firsthand perspective on local priorities, enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments.

We hope you will think of Big Bend Electric Co-op not just as your energy provider, but as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so we can better serve you—because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community.

Then. Now. Always.
We're proud to power your life.
October is National Co-op Month.



#PowerOn



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

541-354-1233
www.hrec.coop

www.facebook.com/HRECCoop

Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday,
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Closed on Fridays

.....
DIRECTORS

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

GENERAL MANAGER

Libby Calnon
.....

Serving rural
Hood River County
since 1945

OR-26

Manager's Message

You are invited to attend **Hood River Electric Cooperative's 74th Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020**. Come to our office between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to cast your vote for directors and pick up your annual meeting gift. Then join us online at 6 p.m. for a Zoom video meeting to hear the election results and reports from our attorney, auditor and general manager.

The Nominating Committee has nominated these members to be considered for election to the board of directors:

- Butch Gehrig (incumbent); Summit Drive, Odell.
- Opal DeBoard (incumbent); Thomsen Road, Pine Grove.
- Jeff Osborn (incumbent); Neal Creek Road, Pine Grove

Meeting Agenda

7 a.m.—Meeting is called to order. President Gehrig calls for director nominations from the floor. Nominations are open until 8 a.m. Any nominations made will be posted at the HREC office. Members may cast votes for directors from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.—Voting for directors is closed.

6 p.m.—Zoom streaming video meeting begins.

- a. Reports
 - (i) Chuck Fadeley, attorney
 - (ii) Auditor Nate Reagan, Friend & Reagan
 - (iii) General Manager Libby Calnon
- b. Adoption of 2019 annual meeting minutes
- c. Announcement of director election results
- d. Old business
- e. New business
- f. Adjournment

All members who pick up an annual meeting gift will be entered into our drawings for door prizes. We will contact the winners and arrange for prizes to be delivered or picked up at our office. We have lots of great prizes!

Zoom meeting link: <http://bit.ly/HREC3521>

Meeting ID: 885 8594 9561

Passcode: 3521

Dial-in numbers: 669-900 6833 or 253-215 8782

Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

277 Lottery Lane
Hines, OR 97738
541-573-2061
hines@hec.coop

Orovada, Nevada
775-272-3336
orovada@hec.coop

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

Power On: It's Co-op Month

As an electric cooperative, our priority is to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the consumer-members we serve. Our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community—an especially critical mission in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Harney Electric Cooperative and sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month. Electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.” Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a unique community like ours.

Who could have imagined in March that COVID-19 would amount to a test of our community and our nation? Changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities.

For the past several months, we have been challenged to operate differently. HEC has stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure the reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity.

Our line crews maintain separation, and some staff worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We also adjusted our walk-in office availability

Then. Now. Always.
We're proud to power your life.
October is National Co-op Month.



#PowerOn

and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and members. For everyone's health and safety, we think these measures were the prudent course of action for the times.

For our members hardest hit by COVID-19 who needed help with their electric bills, we worked to make special payment arrangements. We also informed members of energy-assistance funds available through the Harney County Senior Center and the state of Nevada.

I tell you about all of these efforts to explain how much we care about this community, because we live here too.

We've seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time, because that's what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I'm heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1954, Harney Electric Cooperative Inc. was built by the community to serve the community. We will continue to Power On.

Fred Flippence
General 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 Norman Wallis
 Vice President Jeff Bitton
 Sec./Treasurer Doug Parkinson
 Bob Boren
 Michael Miller
 Steve Rembelski
 Earl Skeen
 Manager Ken Dizes

**Board meets the fourth
 Wednesday of each month**

Email: energy@srec.org

Website: srec.org

BPA Current Events

Your electric cooperative buys the largest share of its electric power from the Bonneville Power Administration. That power accounts for more than 50% of SREC's expenses, which it must recoup through its retail electric rates.

We pay close attention to events at BPA because they have a big impact on electric rates and our ability to fulfill the cooperative's mission. Many events at BPA are recurring, such as rate cases, and contract development and issuance. Other events may cycle over longer periods of time, such as the Columbia River System Operation Environmental Impact Statement or the Columbia River Treaty.



Ken Dizes

BPA is in the middle of a rate case. The rates BPA sets will be effective October 1, 2021. There are BPA customer participation opportunities in rate cases. These opportunities provide checks on BPA investments and expenses, which ultimately drive BPA rates. BPA is also drafting new contracts for post-2028, when current contracts expire. SREC is engaged in this process because it will strongly affect SREC's ability to fulfill its mission to provide safe, reliable and cost-effective electricity. These contracts most likely will need to be executed in 2025, with an effective date of 2028.

SREC has fewer opportunities to affect the outcomes of BPA's less-frequent events, which can be large and complicated. Comments and input may be submitted during public comment periods. Trade groups may also submit input and comments. These groups sometimes have more clout because they represent large groups of BPA customers. They may even have a seat at the table.

One such less frequently occurring event I reported on some time ago is the CRSO EIS. The final document was issued since I last reported. It maps out how BPA, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers will operate the river system to meet its various called-upon uses. This is a controversial issue that likely will continue to be litigated in the future, and the outcome will greatly impact BPA.

Another less-frequent event is negotiation of a new Columbia River Treaty, which continues to be negotiated between the United States and Canada. There has been no real movement in these negotiations. Each side is trying to preserve or acquire benefits from the Columbia River System. If the U.S. is successful in its negotiations, a modernized treaty could benefit BPA ratepayers. There are always risks in negotiations. Some theorize we could end up worse off.

BPA faces new challenges due to an evolving electric utility landscape. These challenges include new regulatory pressures, climate change, changing public opinion, renewable energy, electric markets, transmission capacity, and fish and wildlife issues. The SREC Board of Directors and I are responsible for staying abreast of these issues and positively impacting them where possible. This may mean altering the strategic direction of the cooperative.

We encourage your questions, comments and participation in your member-owned electric cooperative. Together, we can make a better cooperative that provides value to its members.



United Electric CO-OP INC.

Directors

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

Board meetings are typically held the fourth Monday of the month.

General Manager

M. Jamie Stark

Engineering and Operations

Trevor Parke

Line Superintendent

Kay Hill

Executive Assistant/Billing Specialist

Trisha Moultrie

Member Services Manager

Chris Seibold

Mailing address:

1330 21st St.

Heyburn, ID 83336

Phone: 208-679-2222

Fax: 208-679-3333

Email: uec@uec.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

ID-29

Thanks, United Electric Employees

Labor Day holds great expectations of fun summer activities as we usher in autumn. This last Labor Day on September 7 was anything but fun for the United Electric line crews. Moderate winds in the morning turned to a major windstorm by early evening. Our on-call crew went to work restoring power in the afternoon. But by sundown, the storm damage was so widespread we had all of our crews working in the wind and dark battling outages.

When all was said and done, 750 UEC members were without power because of the storm. Most of these hardworking linemen toiled all night and most of the next day getting the lights back on. Many of our inside staff dropped their Labor Day activities with friends and family to answer outage calls all night.

This article is not so much to discuss outages, but to say "THANKS!" to our employees. Ever since the first electric cooperative, lineworkers have battled Mother Nature in severe conditions. They labor selflessly to make sure their members have power as soon, and safely, as possible. I know very few organizations devoted to taking care of their members like electric cooperatives.

My friends at Missoula Electric Cooperative in Montana recently applauded their line crews. Along Interstate 90 near the city limits, they display pictures of their crews on billboards with the phrase: "When the power goes out, so do we." I love this because it captures what we do best.

I also want to thank you, our members. We appreciate that you call in when your power goes out so we know where to look. Thanks to all of you who let us trim trees so the lights STAY on during storms. And thanks to all of you who sent kudos



United Electric line crews worked through the night September 7 to restore power to 750 members who lost power during a storm.

and friendly comments by phone or on our Facebook page encouraging our staff during the storm. We are proud to be your electric cooperative and look forward to continuing excellent member service.

I would be remiss if I did not use this opportunity for a few safety reminders. When you see power lines down or damaged, STAY AWAY. Call United Electric immediately so we can secure the area. Also, be mindful of construction work areas. Sometimes we have members who want to be part of the action or want to thank our crews. ALWAYS keep a wide distance from equipment and crews while they are working. This keeps you and our crews safe so all can come home to their families.

Cooperatively yours,

M. Jamie Stark
General Manager

For more information about UEC, please check out our website at www.uec.coop, or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



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

Randy R. Purser, President

Susan M. Harris, Vice President

Bret L. Zollinger, Sec./Treasurer

Chad H. Angell
James D. McKelvey
Maddie Mocettini-Hansen
Dean L. Myler
Lynn O. Rothwell
Merlin A. Waddoups

MANAGER/CEO

Brad J. Gamett

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

ID-30



Virtual Meeting Information

Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc.
81st Annual Meeting of the Members

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Annual Meeting of the Members will be held virtually November 4, 2020**. The Zoom Annual Meeting of the Members sign-in begins at 6:45 p.m. The invitation will be posted on the Lost River Electric Cooperative Inc. website and Facebook pages by October 28, 2020. The meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Returned absentee ballot authorization forms—mailed in September—constitute meeting registration. Voting eligibility status was determined prior to sending absentee ballots. If you are a current member and did not receive an absentee ballot via the United States Postal Service, please call the office at 208-588-3311. Absentee ballots and authorization forms are due by close of business November 4, 2020, at 5 p.m. Ballots can be returned to the cooperative via mail or our payment drop slot.

Credential accounts were included in the absentee ballots mailed in September.

A drawing will be held for electric energy credits totaling \$1,000. All who return absentee ballots are eligible. Winners will be announced during the virtual Annual Meeting of the Members.

Candidates for the Lost River Electric Board of Directors

District 1: Madeline Mocettini-Hansen

District 2: Susan M. Harris

District 3: Bret L. Zollinger



A Touchstone Energy* Cooperative 

Board of Directors

Lon Rake, President
Yvette Delaquito, Vice President
Dan Stowe, Secretary
Will Stark, Treasurer
Paul Kildal, Director
Jan Maslen, Director
Jeff Saxe, Director
Mark Shorten, Director

P.O. Box 45
Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org
Copper Basin District
907-822-3211
Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.
Valdez District
907-835-4301
367 Fairbanks Dr.

Important Dates

October

Ruralite Cover Photo Contest: Submit photos October 1 - October 29, 2020

Cooperative Food Drive: Food accepted at CV Telecom October 1 - October 30, 2020

Kids Fall Into Fun Activity Contest: Submit activity photos and information to fallintofun@cvea.org October 1 - November 1, 2020

Get Connected Co-op Connections Program Launch: Drawings, Scavenger Hunt, and Shopping Contest - visit cvea.org for details

CVEA Board Meeting: The October meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, October 15, 2020, in Glennallen

November

CVEA Board Meeting: The November meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2020, in Valdez

CVEA Offices Closed: CVEA will be closed Thursday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving holiday

AK-34

OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH




A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

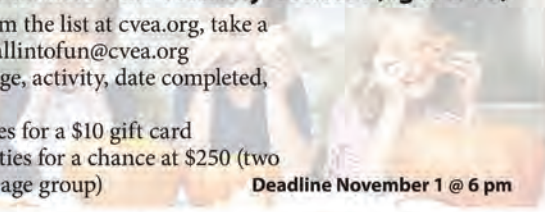
Help CVEA Celebrate Co-op Month!

visit cvea.org for complete details

'Get Connected' with Co-op Connections


- Sign up for Co-op Connections using the mobile app or at connections.coop
 - 'Get Connected Scavenger Hunt'; complete and enter to win one of two \$150 energy credits
 - Shop and SAVE on local deals and enter the 'Are You Connected' Shopping Contest
- 

October 1-31 Kids 'Fall into Fun' Activity Contest (ages 2-18)


- Complete activities from the list at cvea.org, take a picture, and email to fallintofun@cvea.org
 - Include: youth name, age, activity, date completed, and mailing address
 - Complete 5 list activities for a \$10 gift card
 - Complete 10 list activities for a chance at \$250 (two \$250 winners per each age group)
- 

Deadline November 1 @ 6 pm

October 1-29 Ruralite Cover Photo Contest

- Winners will receive \$100 per winning photo, be announced to the local media, and be featured on the cover of Ruralite for one month in 2021
 - Submit your photos by October 29 @ 6 p.m.
 - Visit cvea.org/ruralitecoverphotocontest for details, rules, and application instructions
- 

October 1-30 CVEA/CVTC Cooperative Food Drive

- Bring nonperishable food items to CV Telecom (only) during normal business hours and be entered to win a \$150 CVEA Energy Credit or a \$150 CV Telecom Service Credit
 - The drawing will be held Friday, October 30
 - Sorry, we cannot accept expired food
- 



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

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

Board of Directors

Barbara Trout, President
Doug Olson, Vice President
David Burt, Treasurer
Mike Gardner, Secretary
Harry Hewitt, 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.

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

Working Together to Bring You Power

Dear Customers,

When people work together toward a common goal, it's amazing what they can accomplish. We see it time and time again in our professions and our community. Working as a team often leads to successes beyond what we can do on our own.

The concept of teamwork is one of the driving forces behind public power. To some extent, it is how Tillamook PUD began.

In the early 1930s, access to electricity in Oregon was limited. Getting it to rural areas such as Tillamook County was challenging. But this didn't stop the people in our community. They took action and worked to bring affordable and reliable electricity to everyone in the area.

Following the state of Oregon's constitutional amendment authorizing the formation of people's utility districts, Tillamook County voters approved formation of Tillamook PUD in 1933. Once approved, it took several years to form power purchase agreements, secure financing and obtain construction materials. Finally, after years of hard work, Tillamook PUD connected its first customers in October 1946.

Tillamook PUD is governed by an elected board of five directors. Each director represents a subdivision of the utility's service territory. The board sets rates and policies to provide the most benefits to customers. Tillamook PUD operates following Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 261 and adheres to regulations set forth by the Oregon Public Utility Commission to ensure safety and reliability standards are met.

Tillamook PUD is a member of several trade organizations, such as the Public Power Council, Northwest Requirements Utilities, Northwest RiverPartners and the Oregon PUD Association. Whether they support the hydro system that provides us with clean, affordable electricity or work to influence state legislation and policy, these partner organizations help us continue to preserve the benefits associated with public power.

Although Tillamook PUD is constantly evolving, the core purpose of the utility—our mission—remains consistent: to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our customers. We started this objective as a team, and we will continue to work as a team to uphold it.

Don't forget to join us for Public Power Week, October 5-8. Check out our Facebook page, Twitter feed and website for details on how you can celebrate public power with us.

Sincerely,

Todd Simmons
General Manager





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

Board of Directors

President

Price E. Brower

Vice President

Roy M. Nageak Sr.

Secretary

Herman L. Ahsoak

Treasurer

Don A. Nungasak

Karl D. Ahgeak
Frederick F. Brower
Lewis F. Brower
Josiah B. Patkotak
Tina A. Wolgemuth

General Manager

Ben L. Frantz

AK-36

National Cybersecurity Month

Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative is proud to announce its commitment to National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, held annually in October. This year's theme is "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart," aimed at empowering individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting of cyberspace.

"By increasing awareness and enhancing understanding of basic cybersecurity practices, we can all work together to combat cyberthreats," said BUECI General Manager Ben Frantz. "The human element is oftentimes the biggest cybersecurity risk. Each of us has a critical role to play to ensure the security of our personal and professional data."

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is spearheaded by the National Cyber Security Alliance and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The overarching message of this year's theme, "If you connect it, protect it," dives into the importance of keeping connected devices safe and secure from outside influence. With more people spending time at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, now more than ever before connected devices are an integral part of how we communicate and access services essential to our well-being. Data collected from these devices can include highly-specific information about a person or business, which can be exploited by bad actors for criminal gain.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month aims to shed light on these security vulnerabilities, while offering guidance surrounding simple security measures to limit the susceptibility of threats for common devices.

This year, the Cybersecurity Awareness Month's main weekly focus areas will revolve around:

- Understanding and following general security hygiene for connected devices and home networks.
- The importance of maintaining the security of connected devices for remote workers.
- How connected devices play a pivotal role in the future of health care.
- The overall future of connected devices for consumers, professionals and the public domain.

If everyone does their part—implementing stronger security practices, raising community awareness, educating vulnerable audiences or training employees—our interconnected world will be safer and more resilient for everyone.

Now in its 17th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month continues to build momentum and impact with the ultimate goal of providing everyone with the information they need to stay safer and more secure online.

For more information about Cybersecurity Awareness Month and how to participate, visit staysafeonline.org/cybersecurity-awareness-month. You can also follow and use the official hashtag #BeCyberSmart on social media channels. ■



Owned By Those We Serve

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom DeLong, Chairman (District 2)
John Sloan, Vice-Chairman (District 6)
David Messier, Treasurer (District 1)
Appointment TBD (District 7)
Chris Bunch (District 5)
Gary Newman (District 4)
Rick Solie (District 3)

Corporate Headquarters

758 Illinois Street
PO Box 71249
Fairbanks, AK 99707-1249
907-452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax 907-458-6365

Delta Junction Office

1681 Richardson Hwy.
907-452-1151
1-800-770-GVEA (4832)
Fax 907-895-5472

Nenana Office

7259 Parks Hwy.
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 1

View Outage Map:

gvea.com/resources/outages

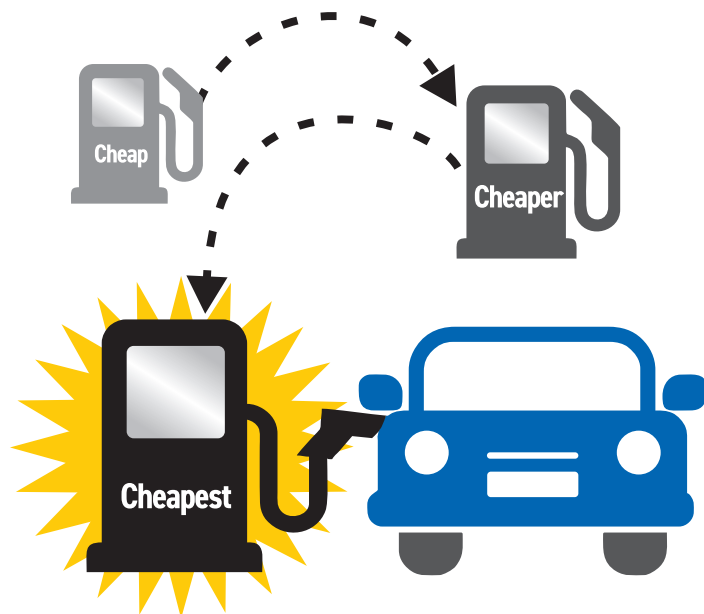
www.gvea.com

Safety: You Have The Power!



AK-37

DO YOU GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO FIND THE CHEAPEST FUEL?



SO DOES YOUR ELECTRIC CO-OP


Golden Valley Electric Association can choose from 12 different sources to generate your power. Our computers check every four seconds to make sure we're using the cheapest mix of fuels. If a lower-cost power source becomes available, we switch.

And when we save money on fuel, you save money on your electric bill.

GVEA's Fuel & Purchased Power Rate Explained

When you receive your monthly electric bill, do you look at the individual line items? One line item reflects the "Fuel & Purchase Power" rate, which is adjusted four times a year. The last adjustment went into effect September 1, and the next adjustment will be December 1. To better understand why this rate changes, visit the GVEA blog: <https://bit.ly/2ZpgeZ9> or blog.gvea.com ■



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President

Fred Nelson, *Clio*
fnelson@psrec.coop

Vice President

Dick Short, *Graeagle*
dshort@psrec.coop

Secretary/Treasurer

David Hansen, *Doyle*
dhansen@psrec.coop

Larry Price, *Quincy*
lprice@psrec.coop

Dave Roberti, *Sierra Valley*
droberti@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:

Thank you to everyone who joined us online for the 2020 virtual annual member meeting. If you missed it, the meeting recording can be viewed on our YouTube channel. You can find that by searching Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative at www.youtube.com.

During the event, Aaron Whitfield, chief operating officer of Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications, highlighted plans for broadband expansion in the region. You can get more information on our broadband services by visiting www.pst.coop.

Jason Harston, PSREC's manager of engineering and operations, gave an informative presentation on the recent wildfires and related outages.

Sonja Anderson of the Western Area Power Administration and Randy Howard of the Northern California Power Agency provided updates on the electric industry during the meeting. They discussed key issues facing our cooperative and the electric utility industry as a whole. A key takeaway was the need for the cooperative to stay active politically to protect the interests of our member-owners.

We had a lively question-and-answer session covering broadband expansion and the cooperative's energy-efficiency and renewable energy programs. Shares in the PSREC Community Solar Program are still available with payment plan options. For more information, please visit www.psrec.coop, or call us at 800-555-2207.

The board of directors is the governing body for Plumas-Sierra REC and Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications. They set policy, strategic direction, rates and budgets. They attend classes and work hard to understand the complexities of the electrical utility industry and the telecommunications business. We thank them all for their hard work and commitment to PSREC.

The membership reelected Tom Hammond

to District 6 and Nancy Miller to District 7. Amendments to the bylaws to allow electronic voting also passed.

Outages/Fires/PSPS

This has been a rather intense month. The Loyalton Fire destroyed several of our members' homes and outbuildings and caused damage to our transmission line, fiber-optic line and distribution line. The transmission line damage and fiber-optic damage was minimized due to the hard work of our operations crews. We lost some distribution poles and some local fiber, but around-the-clock work by the crews restored service quickly.

Then came the Claremont and Sheep Fires. The Claremont Fire blew through our transmission line in the Massack area. Our crews and contractors again cleared around poles and put out fires on numerous poles. In the two fires, we extinguished approximately 60 poles, which could have torn down an additional 120 poles. While the fire was still smoking in the area, our crews went into the Claremont damage and replaced four key transmission poles that were badly damaged.

We were asked by the incident commander of the Sheep Fire to disconnect power to areas of Janesville so they could safely fight the fire. Crews protected our infrastructure for several days, then replaced seven distribution poles damaged by fire. Photos of the fire damage are on page 5, and are available as part of the annual meeting presentation near the beginning of the video.

Plumas-Sierra would like to thank to following for quickly helping us restore our transmission line and prevent further damages to our system. Our line crews, Danelle Bradfield, Silas Rojas with Lassen Office of Emergency Services, Folchi Logging and Construction, Donald Fregulia with the U.S. Forest Service,



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

73233 State Route 70
Portola, CA 96122

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President

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fnelson@psrec.coop

Vice President

Dick Short, *Graeagle*
dshort@psrec.coop

Secretary/Treasurer

David Hansen, *Doyle*
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Dave Roberti, *Sierra Valley*
droberti@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:

Thank you to everyone who joined us online for the 2020 virtual annual member meeting. If you missed it, the meeting recording can be viewed on our YouTube channel. You can find that by searching Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative at www.youtube.com.

During the event, Aaron Whitfield, chief operating officer of Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications, highlighted plans for broadband expansion in the region. You can get more information on our broadband services by visiting www.pst.coop.

Jason Harston, PSREC's manager of engineering and operations, gave an informative presentation on the recent wildfires and related outages.

Sonja Anderson of the Western Area Power Administration and Randy Howard of the Northern California Power Agency provided updates on the electric industry during the meeting. They discussed key issues facing your cooperative and the electric utility industry as a whole. A key takeaway was the need for the cooperative to stay active politically to protect the interests of our member-owners.

We had a lively question-and-answer session covering broadband expansion and the cooperative's energy-efficiency and renewable energy programs. Shares in the PSREC Community Solar Program are still available with payment plan options. For more information, please visit www.psrec.coop, or call us at 800-555-2207.

The board of directors is the governing body for Plumas-Sierra REC and Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications. They set policy, strategic direction, rates and budgets. They attend classes and work hard to understand the complexities of the electrical utility industry and the telecommunications business. We thank them all for their hard work and commitment to PSREC.

The membership reelected Tom Hammond

to District 6 and Nancy Miller to District 7. Amendments to the bylaws to allow electronic voting also passed.

Outages/Fires/PSPS

This has been a rather intense month. The Loyalton Fire destroyed several of our members' homes and outbuildings and caused damage to our transmission line, fiber-optic line and distribution line. The transmission line damage and fiber-optic damage was minimized due to the hard work of our operations crews. We lost some distribution poles and some local fiber, but around-the-clock work by the crews restored service quickly.

Then came the Claremont and Sheep Fires. The Claremont Fire blew through our transmission line in the Massack area. Our crews and contractors again cleared around poles and put out fires on numerous poles. In the two fires, we extinguished approximately 60 poles, which could have torn down an additional 120 poles. While the fire was still smoking in the area, our crews went into the Claremont damage and replaced four key transmission poles that were badly damaged.

We were asked by the incident commander of the Sheep Fire to disconnect power to areas of Janesville so they could safely fight the fire. Crews protected our infrastructure for several days, then replaced seven distribution poles damaged by fire. Photos of the fire damage are on page 5, and are available as part of the annual meeting presentation near the beginning of the video.

Plumas-Sierra would like to thank to following for quickly helping us restore our transmission line and prevent further damages to our system. Our line crews, Danelle Bradfield, Silas Rojas with Lassen Office of Emergency Services, Folchi Logging and Construction, Donald Fregulia with the U.S. Forest Service,

Continues on page 25

Manager's Message

Continued from page 32

Jody Sherman, Sean Lemnah, Jim West, Toppers Tree Service, High Sierra Fire, and all of the firefighters and emergency response crews.

If that wasn't enough, PG&E announced a 48-hour outage for our region due to powerful winds coming from the north and east. These are the same winds that pushed the Bear Fire to Lake Oroville.

We switched to our backup power supply, our own generation and asked the three prisons on our system to run their generators. We couldn't have been able to keep the lights on without the cooperation of everyone who conserved power. Thank you to all who did. Kudos to Jason Harston and his staff for keeping the lights on!

There will be a few short outages in the months ahead as we switch around problem areas so we can replace poles in a safe manner.

The investments we've made in our power transmission and fiber-optic system have paid off. We continue to work on the feasibility of building a bigger connection to the major transmission line to the east of our system.

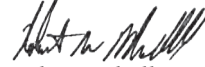
Between the increased frequency of major fires and PG&E announcing the Public Safety Power Shutoff program will go on for a decade, a more robust connection to the east is becoming a necessity.

I could not be more proud of the employees of PSREC and PST across the last month. This is a great example of the benefits of owning your utility and the

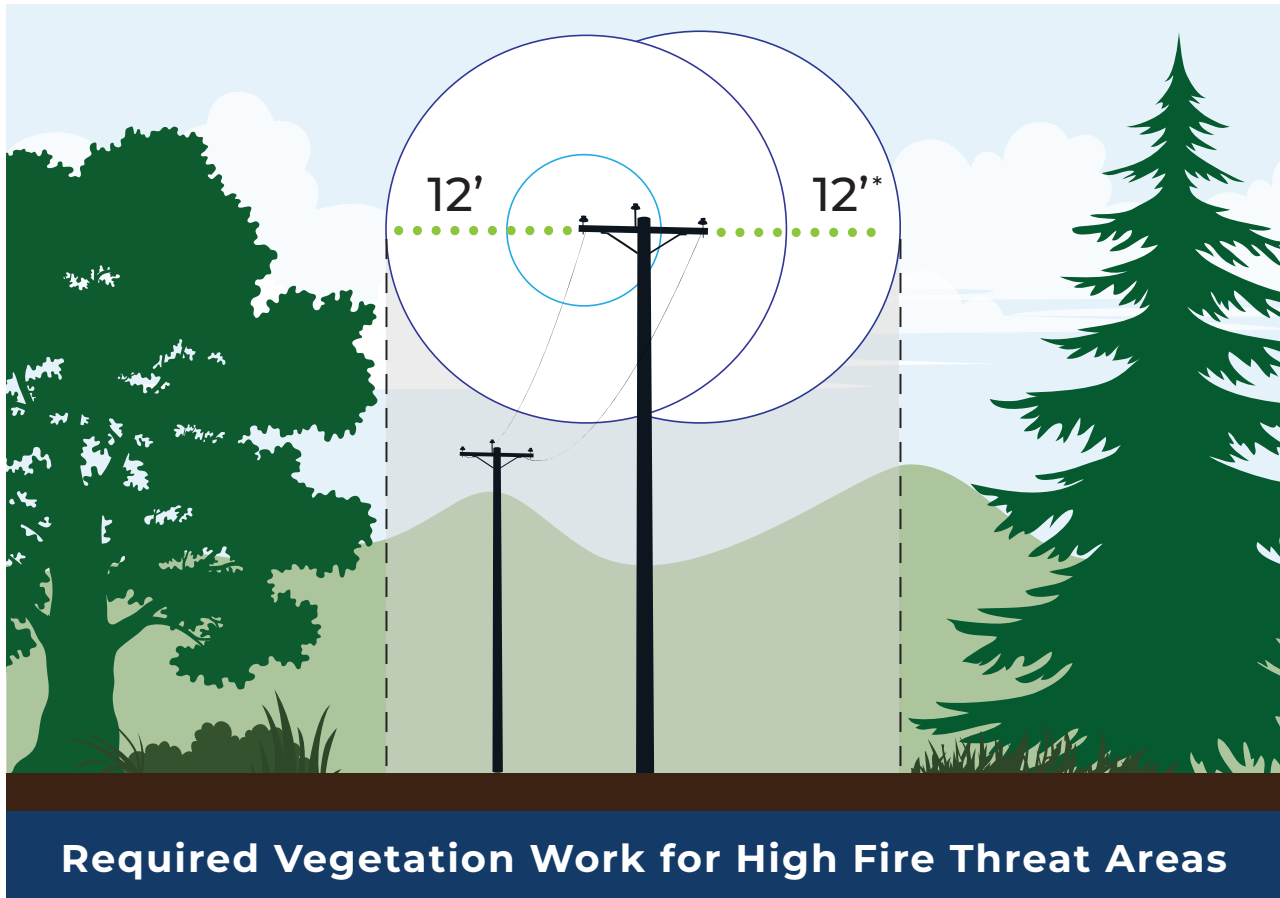
cooperative business model.

Please let me know if you have any questions. You can contact me at bmarshall@psrec.coop or call me at 800-555-2207 extension 6076.

Sincerely,



Bob Marshall
General Manager



* Distances are based on measurement at time of trim, as required by California Public Utilities Commission General Order 95.



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
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Outside Ely / Eureka Area
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Proudly serving more than 10,000 residents and businesses throughout Nevada and Utah.

Mt. Wheeler Power's summer office hours are in effect. The Ely office is open Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Eureka office's hours remain 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

“Powering Your Future”

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The power of human connections

NV-40

National Cooperative Month

Being part of a cooperative is something special, something unique, something strong.

October is National Cooperative Month. While many of you may celebrate the fall season with pumpkin spice, hunting stories or back-to-school routines, at Mt. Wheeler Power, we celebrate the cooperative principles shared by 40,000 other cooperative businesses serving more than 120 million people nationwide.

Co-ops bring a variety of resources and services to their members—connecting rural families to resources they might otherwise go without. These strategic partnerships keep communities thriving, even during difficult times like we are experiencing now. Your power cooperative always works hard to seek solutions that work for its members.

Mt. Wheeler Power has solutions to your energy needs:

- We can help with loans for energy-efficiency upgrades.
- We offer budget billing to take the sting out of winter heating costs.
- We offer rebates on new home construction or appliance updates.
- We connect with other agencies within the community to help meet the needs of our seniors, low-income families or community-related projects and events.

Mt. Wheeler Power serves our communities under the Seven Cooperative Principles, outlined on page 25—working together to power your future.

Sincerely,
Shellie Watts, Member Service/HR Manager





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24 hours a day

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Carlin, Nevada 89822
775-754-6362

Wendover office:

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P.O. Box 3699
West Wendover,
Nevada 89883
775-664-2204

Wells office:

1451 Humboldt Ave.
P.O. Box 365
Wells, Nevada 89835
775-752-3328

NV-41

No on Question 6

Please vote no on Question 6 when you cast your Nevada general election ballot.

Why? Question 6 suffers from many of the same flaws that plagued Question 3 two years ago:

- Energy policy doesn't belong in the Constitution.
- It could take five or more years to make any changes to the amendment.
- A restrictive mandate threatens reliability.
- There is potential for higher costs for consumers.
- Existing law already requires renewable energy.

Let's examine these issues in detail.

First, Question 6 would amend the Nevada Constitution. The Constitution should guarantee the rights of the citizens and provide the basic framework of the government. Policy matters, such as the source of electricity, should be enacted through legislation where all points of view and real-world impacts can be considered.

Second, if problems develop as we begin to implement Question 6, it could take five years to make any changes. Anyone wanting to make a change would either have to gather enough signatures on a petition or get the legislature to put the proposal on the ballot.

It's doubtful any problems will be discovered before the legislature adjourns next June, so it will probably have to wait until 2023. A change would then have to be approved by voters in 2024 and again in 2026 before it could take effect.

Third, Question 6 will require all "providers of electricity" to ensure 50% of the electricity they sell comes from renewable resources, but it doesn't guarantee renewable resources will be available, or allow any room to maneuver if supplies fall short.

A similar mandate is creating considerable

challenges in California, and spilling over into Nevada. Just a few weeks ago, extreme heat caused a massive demand for electricity. To avoid blackouts, regional grid operators begged Wells Rural Electric Co., and many other utilities, to reduce their need for electricity.

We passed that request on to you. Through your efforts, and those of other consumers across the West, a crisis was avoided. Question 6 could make that unusual event much more frequent.

Fourth, just as surely as night follows day, higher demand will eventually lead to higher prices.

Lastly, Question 6 is unnecessary. Senate Bill 358 of the 2019 Nevada Legislature already requires utilities to provide renewable energy. In contrast to the rigid mandate of Question 6, Senate Bill 358 allows utilities to adjust to changing conditions.

By participating in the legislative process, WREC demonstrated support for renewable energy but persuaded lawmakers to include protections for cooperative consumers like you. Those protections, and the ability of the legislature to make additional changes if needed, allowed WREC to support the bill.

WREC is committed to providing safe, reliable, affordable and carbon-free electricity. Your board of directors made that decision decades ago. Question 6 would limit our ability to meet your changing needs.



Clay R. Fitch
Chief Executive Officer



Valley Electric Association, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



SolPower
A Valley Electric Company

NV-42

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Website: www.vea.coop

Email: wmc@vea.coop

LETTER FROM THE CEO

National Co-op Month

October is special for electric cooperatives. This month, we celebrate the communities we serve and our unique heritage.

Cooperatives have a rich history of people uniting to meet the economic, social and cultural needs of their communities. Your cooperative was formed when our rural areas needed power and big corporations refused to accommodate, thus empowering those living here to join together and make it happen.

The communities united to ensure our rural communities received safe, reliable and affordable electrical service. Years later, it was that same vision that made Valley decide to expand into broadband. This was a huge need in our service area, so the co-op got to work and deployed a network to deliver reliable internet service.

We also began to provide Voice over Internet Protocol phone service. This is a way for our members to bundle their services into one provider.

We are in the business of making our members' lives better by striving to provide services to enhance their way of life.

The commitment to our community to produce quality, reliable services does not stop with electricity, internet or phone. We have embarked on another journey to serve our membership with local, honest and reliable options. The creation of SolPower, our solar energy system division, was established to provide our members with a local clean energy choice.

Valley's dedication to our members is not limited to the reliable services we provide. It goes much further. We are also here to support our communities.

For 14 years, Valley has hosted a Fill the Bucket school supply drive that provides children in its service areas with needed supplies for the school year.



In past years, the community has stepped up to support the drive. However, this year was a little different. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our ability to go out into the community to collect supplies was limited.

With many out of work and struggling, Valley decided to rely heavily on our partners and local businesses to help.

We received an overwhelming response from many of our corporate partners and employees because they were excited to help support the children in our service area. It makes me proud to be part of an organization with such great people.

Since 1964, National Co-op Month has been recognized. As we celebrate this month, let us focus on all the advantages a co-op brings to the community and its members. Cooperatives are based on a strong commitment to the community and a focus on strengthening the community we serve, because we are members too. Valley takes pride in doing our best for the good of our co-op, our communities and our members.

Until next month,

Mark Stallons, Chief Executive Officer

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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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



Smaller appliances, such as slow cookers, use less energy than a full-size oven. PHOTO BY SCOTT VAN OSDOL

Cook Up Savings On Electricity


By Abby Berry

Like most of us, you probably aren't thinking about saving energy when you're planning that perfect dish. Here are four ways you can save energy in the kitchen with minimal effort.

- Cook with smaller appliances. Smaller kitchen appliances such as slow cookers, toaster ovens and convection ovens is more energy efficient than your large stove or oven. According to the Department of Energy, a toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.
 - It's possible your kitchen has energy vampires—appliances that draw energy even when they're not in use such as coffee makers, microwaves and toaster ovens. The Department of Energy estimates that one home's energy vampires left plugged in year-round can add up to \$100-\$200 in wasted energy costs. Unplug them when they are not in use, or better yet, use a power strip for convenient control.
 - Help large appliances work less. There are small ways you can help your larger kitchen appliances run more efficiently. For example, keep range-top burners clean from spills and fallen foods so they reflect heat better. When it's time to put leftovers in the refrigerator, make sure the food is covered and allow it to cool down first. That way, the fridge doesn't have to work harder to cool warm food.
 - Use your dishwasher efficiently. Only run full loads, and avoid using the "rinse hold" function on your machine for just a few dirty dishes, which uses 3 to 7 gallons of hot water each use. You can also save energy by letting your dishes air dry. If your dishwasher doesn't have an automatic air-dry switch, turn it off after the final rinse and prop the door open so the dishes dry faster.
 - Bonus tip: The best way to save energy is to not use it. To avoid using the oven, try a tasty, no-bake dessert recipe. Your sweet tooth (and energy bill!) will thank you.
- By slightly adjusting a few of your habits in the kitchen, you'll be well on your way to energy savings. Contact Kittitas PUD to learn about additional ways you can save energy and money at home.

Abby Berry writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives.



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Gary Miller, Grant County

Les Penning, CEO

Ron Williams, Attorney

OR-48

Historic Wildfires Remind Us to Always Be Prepared

With devastating speed, deadly wildfires raced across our state this past month, erasing towns and leaving untold numbers of Oregonians without homes. These losses are further magnified by the ongoing pandemic in which home was one of the few places of refuge. The images coming from across the state are stark, and the stories of those killed are heartbreaking.

Many of the impacted areas are rural and naturally have more fuel on the ground. Co-ops serve more than 42 million people nationwide and more than 500,000 Oregonians across the state, where fires left hundreds if not thousands of those member-owners in the dark.

One of those co-ops, Consumer's Power Inc., put out a call to action for help. OTEC was positioned to help through a standing utility mutual aid agreement that is triggered in the event of emergencies such as storms or fires. We sent a full crew and equipment to help restore power to the town of Detroit in Marion County, which suffered tremendous damage.

One of the cooperative principles is Cooperation Among Cooperatives, exemplified by mutual aid situations such as this as crews were on site within 24 hours of the request. We're proud of the commitment of service by our OTEC linemen, who left their families to drive into dangerous territory and extremely volatile circumstances. Restoring power to those who are suffering is one small step of returning hope.

Rest assured, if OTEC finds itself in such critical need in the future, co-ops across the state will be at our doorstep at a moment's notice.

Though we are entering the fall season, OTEC remains on high alert for wildfires. OTEC has more than 3,000 miles of power lines that cross federal, state and private lands. Fire risk is always taken into consideration in general operations of the electric system and extra attention is focused on equipment inspections, maintenance and vegetation management.

Fire mitigation and the safety of the communities we serve are two of OTEC's highest



OTEC sent a crew to Marion County to help a fellow co-op repair power amid devastating wildfires. PHOTO BY PAT MCCLUSKEY/OTEC

priorities. Unfortunately, Mother Nature has a way of changing conditions by the minute.

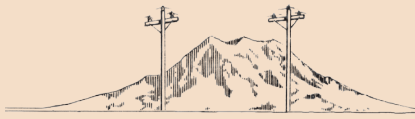
We can always use your help by keeping an eye out for leaning or broken trees that have the potential to come in contact with power lines, trees or other objects that may have blown into the lines or broken or damaged equipment. Please call us at 541-523-3616 as soon as possible and stay clear of these hazards until crews arrive.

With the vast rural landscape we enjoy, our infrastructure and resources are more vulnerable to major storm disaster. Always be prepared for any disaster and make sure your home is prepared by creating a defensible space around your property. It's also wise to sign up for your local county's emergency notification service.

We've seen firsthand the impacts of thousands of Oregonians caught unprepared by the fires. We've gathered information and tips to help you prepare on page 8.

Thank you.

Les Penning, CEO



Member-owned since 1921

Ohop Mutual Light Co.

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Email: office@ohop.coop
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WA-49

WHAT IS A CO-OP VOTER?

A Co-op Voter:



Wants to preserve the way of life in rural America, but not let our future generations be left behind technologically.



Believes in policies that will modernize our nation's energy supply in a way that keeps costs affordable, promotes system reliability, and avoids imposing undue burdens on our energy supply system.

Wants to be an active voice in the community and promote the democratic system of governance for all our nation's institutions, from our co-ops to the halls of Congress.



Will vote for any candidate, regardless of party, who is willing to help ensure that rural Americans have ready access to reliable, affordable energy.

Rural communities depend on Co-op Voters.

Learn about the issues.
Talk to your family and friends.



Be an active participant in our democracy. Be a Co-op Voter.

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An electric utility owned
by those we serve in:

North Bend

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Anderson Island

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

WA-50

October Is National Co-op Month

As an electric cooperative, our top priority is to serve you, our consumer-members, with reliable, affordable energy—an essential mission in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. This is essential to Tanner Electric Cooperative, and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month. Electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.”

Changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities for all of us. TEC stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Our line crews and other employees began working on staggered schedules to maintain separation. Some staff worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We adjusted our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members.

For members impacted by COVID-19 who needed help with their electric bills, we waived late fees and worked with those hardest hit to make special payment arrangements. We offered payment assistance through our local community energy assistance partners and Operation RoundUp, a fund made possible through your kind donations.

While we missed visiting with you in person, we found new ways to stay connected. We partnered with local organizations to feed children and members of the community who needed snacks and lunches.

I tell you about all of these efforts not to boast about TEC, but to explain how much we care about this community—because we live here too.

We’ve seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time, because that’s what communities do. While COVID-19 creates daunting challenges, I’m heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1936, TEC was built by the community to serve the community, and that’s what we’ll continue to do—Power On.

Steven Walter
Tanner Electric CEO



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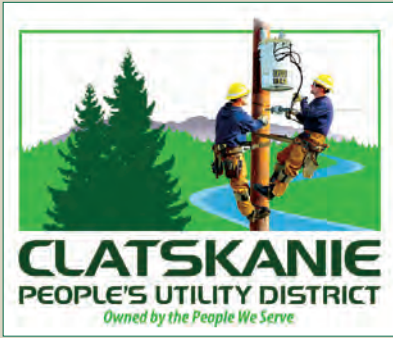
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Talk to your family and friends.



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Marc Farmer

CPUD \$10 Bill Credit Drawing

Account #5077006

If this is your account number,
please call the office to claim your
prize. Congratulations!

Community Calendar

October 1: Clatskanie Chamber - Zoom meeting noon. See the Clatskanie Chamber Facebook page for more information.

October 8: Rainier Chamber - Zoom meeting at noon. See the Rainier Chamber Facebook page for more information.

October 13: Virtual Candidate Forum Columbia County Commissioners - Rainier and Clatskanie Chambers co-host a virtual candidate forum on Zoom.

October 21: Clatskanie PUD Board Meeting Board Meeting at 5:30 pm.

OR-60

As if we haven't been through enough already in 2020, September brought fires and smoke to the mix. Our thoughts of safety and protection are with those whose homes and properties are in harm's way and with those who are fighting the fires.

While it was erroneously reported that all of the fires west of the Cascades were caused by electric infrastructure, a few of the fires were started by trees blowing down from outside the right-of-way into power lines. Clatskanie PUD had a small incident occur when the east winds took down a rotted tree from outside our right-of-way alongside Highway 30, just west of Alston. It was very fortuitous that my wife and I just happened to be driving by immediately after it happened. I quickly pulled off the road and called Tom Brittain, our Operations Manager, and Julie called 911 to report the fires. Tom alerted our General Foreman, Ray Shulda, and crews were dispatched to the location. Ray was able to be on site quickly to make sure power was cutoff to the line. That way the fire crews could safely spray water on the fires to put them out before they could expand and cause any serious damage. It took our crews until 1 a.m. to get the damaged poles, crossarms, and wire put back together to restore power.

We are all taking extra precautions to protect our service areas from these events. Some electric utilities have been asked to turn off power to their customers on a moment's notice. This was done at a few of the utilities that have an abundance of trees during the strongest part of the winds to reduce the risk of causing additional fires. Along with our neighboring utility, Columbia River PUD, we also took precautionary measures to mitigate fire risk without shutting off power to our customers. We reset our reclosers to shut off if anything encountered our lines, no matter how small, during the peak wind periods.

We are very sensitive to our customers' need for electricity. Especially now with more people working from home, students needing access to the internet for school, and for those with medical needs that require constant power. We are developing a comprehensive wildfire mitigation plan in partnership with the other Oregon PUDs. We will do our part to protect our customers and our system by making the best decision possible given the circumstances. It is in the realm of possibility that we might have to shut off power, but I want to reassure you we would only take that action in an extreme weather event in an effort to best protect all.

Marc Farmer
General Manager





KOTZEBUE
ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

P.O. Box 44
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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

National Cybersecurity Month

Kotzebue Electric Association is proud to announce its commitment to National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, held annually in October. This year's theme is "Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart," aimed at empowering individuals and organizations to own their role in protecting of cyberspace.

"By increasing awareness and enhancing understanding of basic cybersecurity practices, we can all work together to combat cyberthreats," said KEA General Manager Martin Shroyer. "The human element is oftentimes the biggest cybersecurity risk. Each of us has a critical role to play to ensure the security of our personal and professional data."

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is spearheaded by the National Cyber Security Alliance and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The overarching message of this year's theme, "If you connect it, protect it," dives into the importance of keeping connected devices safe and secure from outside influence. With more people spending time at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, now more than ever before connected devices are an integral part of how we communicate and access services essential to our well-being. Data collected from these devices can include highly-specific information about a person or business, which can be exploited by bad actors for criminal gain.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month aims to shed light on these security vulnerabilities, while offering guidance surrounding simple security measures to limit the susceptibility of threats for common devices.

This year, the Cybersecurity Awareness Month's main weekly focus areas will revolve around: Understanding and following general security hygiene for connected devices and home networks. The importance of maintaining the security of connected devices for remote workers. How connected devices play a pivotal role in the future of health care.

The overall future of connected devices for consumers, professionals and the public domain.

If everyone does their part—implementing stronger security practices, raising community awareness, educating vulnerable audiences or training employees—our interconnected world will be safer and more resilient for everyone.

Now in its 17th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month continues to build momentum and impact with the ultimate goal of providing everyone with the information they need to stay safer and more secure online.

For more information about Cybersecurity Awareness Month and how to participate, visit staysafeonline.org/cybersecurity-awareness-month. You can also follow and use the official hashtag #BeCyberSmart on social media channels. ■



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Alakanuk	New Stuyahok
Ambler	Nightmute
Andreafsky	Noatak
Anvik	Noorvik
Bethel	Nulato
Brevig Mission	Nunapitchuk
Chevak	Old Harbor
Eek	Oscarville
Ekwok	Pilot Station
Elim	Pitkas Point
Emmonak	Quinhagak
Gambell	Russian Mission
Goodnews Bay	St. Mary's
Grayling	St. Michael
Holy Cross	Savoonga
Hooper Bay	Scammon Bay
Huslia	Selawik
Kaltag	Shageluk
Kasigluk	Shaktoolik
Kiana	Shishmaref
Kivalina	Shungnak
Kobuk	Stebbins
Kotlik	Teller
Koyuk	Togiak
Lower Kalskag	Toksook Bay
Marshall	Tununak
Mekoryuk	Upper Kalskag
Minto	Yakutat
Mt. Village	Wales

Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

4831 Eagle Street
Anchorage, AK 99503
907-561-1818
800-478-1818



AK-105

Living Through a Pandemic

It hardly seems possible that it was eight months ago that we first heard about the new coronavirus disease that was starting to claim victims in the Lower-48. That was in mid-February. Late that month I went to a major utility conference out of state. I returned March 5, and that was the last time I was in an airport or on a plane. On March 11, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic and Gov. Mike Dunleavy followed suit by declared a health disaster. We immediately shut down our offices to the public and began equipping our employees to work from home.

Within a few days, many major events around the state were canceled or postponed and we were forced to do the same with our Annual Meeting, planned for April 8. Schools that had been on spring break extended that break by a week and never did reopen. Parents and grandparents are essentially home-schooling their kids and I hear that some of these new teachers are getting poor grades from their students!

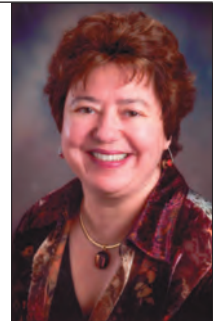
AVEC immediately instituted a moratorium on disconnections for non-pay that was extended through the end of April. We continue to offer special deferral arrangements for members who are experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic. In the meantime, Congress has stepped in with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which sent one-time cash payments to most Americans as well as \$340 billion to state and local governments.

Most tribes and local governments have received a portion of this relief money and are now allocating it to members of their community to assist with their needs. AVEC has been receiving payments from communities with credits to be applied to their members' electric accounts. We have already received funds from Alakanuk Traditional Council, Atmaultluk Traditional Council, Chevok Traditional Council, Native Village of Eek, City of Elim, Emmonak Tribal Council, Native Village of Goodnews Bay, Kasigluk Traditional Council, Kivalina IRA, City of Kobuk, Organized Village of Kwethluk, Native Village of Kwinhagak, Village of Lower Kalskag, City of Marshall, Native Village of Mekoryuk, Asa'Carsarmiut (Mt. Village) Tribal Council, Napaskiak Tribal Council, New Stuyahok Traditional Council, Ukumiut (Nightmute) Tribal Council, Native Village of Noatak, Nunapitchuk IRA, Oscarville Traditional Council, Iqugmiut (Russian Mission) Traditional Council, Aigaaciq (St. Mary's) Tribal Government, Selawik IRA Council, City of Shaktoolik, Native Village of Shungnak, Stebbins Community Association, Nunakauyak (Toksook Bay) Traditional Council, Native village of Tununak, Tuntutuliak Traditional Council, and the City of Wales.

We are working with several other cities and tribes as they consider how to disburse funds to their members so if you do not see your tribe or City in the above list, consider reaching out to them to see if they will be helping you with your electric bill this year.

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

Public Power Week 2020: Community Powered!

Each October, Lassen Municipal Utility District joins the American Public Power Association and more than 2,000 publicly owned utilities across the nation to celebrate the role of community-owned power.

As a publicly owned utility, LMUD does not operate for profit. In fact, we operate to serve the best interest of our community. That means collaborating with local government, service organizations and public safety providers to ensure safe, reliable and affordable power.

Often, our employees work side by side with fire and law enforcement personnel. This summer, during the Hog Fire and the Sheep Fire, our line crews worked with emergency responders, the U.S. Forest Service, Cal-Fire and Bureau of Land Management to ensure power lines were safely de-energized. Later, when fire-damaged trees needed to be removed from our rights-of-way, our operations center collaborated with local foresters to create a plan to remove the hazardous trees.

Whether it's working during a wildland fire or responding with the highway patrol to de-energize lines from a car/pole contact, LMUD is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, keeping our community safe.

But safety isn't the only community service we perform. LMUD employees work with city and county employees to hang Christmas lights across Main Street, or with the local chapter of Blue Star Moms installing service banners that honor local servicemen and women. Our employees are an integral part of the community we serve. That's the spirit of public power—something that makes us very proud.

Please join us throughout the month of October and help us celebrate #PublicPower. Follow us on Facebook, facebook.com/lassenmud, for a chance to win a \$100 LMUD Energy Gift Card. We will post stories and links on how, "Public Power builds better communities!"

You and LMUD are #MorePowerfulTogether!

Florida Currents

October 2020 • Volume 9, No. 12

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Message From the CEO

The Results Are In

At Escambia River Electric Cooperative, our mission is to meet your needs while providing you reliable energy services at the lowest possible cost. To serve you better, we periodically need feedback from you. That is why we recently partnered with research firm Inside Information Inc. based in Smithfield, Missouri, as well as our generation and transmission partner, PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, to conduct a residential satisfaction survey.

The results are in. I am happy to report EREC received an above-average Cooperative Attitude & Performance Score of 91 out of 100. This overall satisfaction score is benchmarked against national cooperatives of similar size. The core factors represented and EREC's scores are trustworthiness (9.1), truly cares about members (8.9) and overall management (9.0).

The survey was conducted via telephone and online with randomly selected EREC members. Those members were asked to respond to questions that would indicate what our cooperative is doing well and what areas need improvement. The survey included questions regarding attitudes and perceptions toward the co-op; satisfaction with and loyalty to EREC; perception on energy efficiency, renewable energy and environmental issues; interest in new product and service offerings; technology use and communication opportunities; and demographics.

Respondents identified key satisfaction attributes for EREC of providing reliable electric service—including prompt power restoration—having knowledgeable and friendly employees, and being committed to the communities we serve.

The survey results provide important and beneficial information. They help us determine ways to improve our performance, evaluate new services and offerings that are of interest to our members, and reveal how our members prefer to communicate with us and vice versa.

However, we do not know your thoughts and preferences if you do not give us feedback. I encourage you to reach out to us at any time and not wait two years until the next survey rolls around. I also want to express my thanks to those members who provided their valuable input by participating in the survey.



Ryan C. Campbell, P.E.

To submit topics for consideration as future CEO columns, please email CEOMessage@erec.com. Outages and any other cooperative business must be reported through the contact information on the back of this magazine.



Photo Hunt	18	Festivals	22
Adventure	20	Gardening	24

Co-op Pages: 4-8, 25-26, 28-29, 32

A Slice of Florida Goodness

Up Close, Page 10

Retreat to Nature

Spotlight, Page 12

Tasty, Versatile Cauliflower

In the Kitchen, Page 16



FKEC NEWS

OCTOBER 2020

www.FKEC.com

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MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW:

Does FKEC have your current contact info? Phone #'s speedup outage reporting; your current address ensures you receive your capital credits; and an email on file helps keep you informed. www.FKEC.com/access-your-account/

Unless otherwise noted, "FKEC NEWS" writing, design & photography by: Nikki Dunn Cullen, news@fkec.com

The Power of Quality Service

FKEC's job is to provide two types of quality service: power and customer. It is not enough to deliver reliable, safe electric. We must also offer services and programs that meet—or better yet, exceed—our members' needs and expectations.

To achieve both, we keep our membership's overall best interests as priority number one. Whether we are planning a storm hardening project or launching a new program, we base our course of action on what is best for FKEC's 28,000+ member-owners.

For example, the current pole-top repairs being made by helicopter (see page 6) ensure the reliability of our transmission system—the backbone of our power service. This project is critical to maintaining power delivery from the mainland through our territory to Marathon, and ultimately down to Lower Keys consumers. We are using the helicopter to complete the job as efficiently, economically, and with the least impact to our members as possible.

Recently we started a new phase of our long-term storm hardening. FKEC is prioritizing work in neighborhoods where the electric equipment is reaching the end of its usable life and needs to be upgraded. While we put significant planning into every project to minimize impact to our members, occasionally inconveniences are unavoidable. When those occur, we thank each of you for understanding.

The saying, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, is very true in our industry. A few members experiencing some



SCOTT NEWBERRY

Chief Executive Officer

inconvenience now can prevent an entire area from lengthy power issues in the future. It is our planning ahead and continual preventative maintenance that maintains our 99.998% reliability.

As crucial as delivering electricity is providing high-quality customer service is equally important. By customer service, I'm not just referring to a friendly voice when you call our office. Our priority is to offer you tools, resources, programs, and services that meet your energy needs.

Expanding our Residential Rebate program to meet its growing popularity is one example. Offering multiple bill pay options and keeping those services current to benefits our members is another.

At FKEC, it is a priority to listen to our members, hear your needs and interests, and do our best to offer the appropriate services.

I thank our employees for always striving to exceed our members' expectations and commend our board for being the voice of our membership.

GLADES

Electric Cooperative, Inc
Celebrating 75 Years of
"Neighbors Working for Neighbors"

CONTACT US

863-946-6200 (member services)
844-201-7203 (24-hour phone payments)
www.gladeselectric.com

OFFICES

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26733 U.S. Hwy. 27
P.O. Box 519
Moore Haven, FL 33471

214 SR 70 West
Lake Placid, FL 33852

Mondays and Wednesdays (closed 1 to 2 p.m.)
808 N. Parrott Ave.
Okeechobee, FL 34972

POWER INTERRUPTION NUMBER

Moore Haven..... 863-946-6200
Phones are answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including weekends and holidays. Please have your location or account number handy when you call.

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The Board's next meeting is at 9 a.m. October 29 at the Moore Haven headquarters office. Any changes to this schedule will be posted in the lobby of all three district offices.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

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CFO Jennifer Manning
Chief Operating Officer Travis Turner
Chief Communications Officer
Jennifer Koukos
Dir. of Safety Pedro Navarro

FL-153

CEO Message

A Permanent Disruption of Our 'Usual' Way of Life



Jeff Brewington

As I write, it is the three-year anniversary of our worst hurricane hit: Irma. Our fellow Louisiana cooperative members are still picking up the pieces from their worst hit—Laura—and it looks like it will be many more weeks before the work is complete.

Statewide associations work with each other in times such as these. We've heard from the Association of Louisiana Electric Cooperatives that more than 40 cooperative employees are without homes. They've helped us in the past, and it's time for us to help them. GEC, along with many other cooperatives, will be sending a financial contribution to ALEC to help these displaced families. You all are invited to help, too. If you are so inclined, please send your contributions made out to the ALEC Hurricane Relief Fund, 10725 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816.

We learned from Irma that our north storm staging/restoration site was less than desirable. Fortunately, we were able to acquire the Better Roads property on Old State Road 8 in Highlands County. It has been transformed to a useful staging area. In fact, due to the unknowns of COVID-19, we are making plans to use the site for a drive-thru Annual Meeting in March. Bear with us on this as everything is still in the development stage. We feel certain that using the Moore Haven auditorium for our Annual Meeting is out of question. COVID-19 has permanently disrupted our usual routine.

Another usual that has to change is our Okeechobee office. It has been shuttered since March 16. Frankly, our member services team has carried on business without a single hiccup. The cost to properly staff and maintain a fully functioning office such as this one nears a quarter-million dollars. With the technology available to us and to you, our members, we think that money can be better used elsewhere in the organization. That said, for now, GEC's Okeechobee District Office will not reopen. All payment options remain accessible to members, including accepting cash payments at MoneyGram locations in Okeechobee. Payments can be conveniently made from the comfort of your home via our SmartHub app, website, through autopay, or via phone and mail.

The closure will not impact any services in the field, including our outage response time. As always, GEC will continue to support Okeechobee youth and community programs through grants, sponsorships and donations.

As our world drifts back to a new normal, I'm sure many more changes are in store for us. Whatever they may be, you can continue to count on us to be your "Neighbors Working for Neighbors."



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 850-639-2216 or 800-333-9392

9434 Highway 77
 Southport, FL 32409
 850-265-3631 or 800-568-3667

6243 East Highway 98
 Panama City, FL 32404
 850-481-1188

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Trustees normally meet the third Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. Central. 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

October Is Co-op Month

As an electric cooperative, our priority is always to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the consumer-members we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community. This has never been more critical than in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. This is in the DNA of Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative. It sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month—a time electric cooperatives across the country highlight the many ways we “Power On.”

Who would have fathomed in March that COVID-19 would amount to a test of our community and nation? Changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created challenges and opportunities. GCEC has stepped up to help members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. We required our employees to have temperature checks twice a day and wear masks while riding in company vehicles, and provided other personal protective equipment such as hand sanitizer.

In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We adjusted our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members. We held our annual meeting virtually. While we missed visiting with you in person, we found new ways to stay connected, such as increased social media engagement efforts.

These measures were the prudent course of action for the times.

For our members impacted by COVID-19 who needed help with their electric bills, we waived late fees and worked with those hardest hit to make payment arrangements. We continue to offer assistance through our Project Helping Hand program—a fund made possible through your kind donations.

I tell you about all of these efforts not to boast about your cooperative, but because it is a reflection of how much we care about this community, where we live too. We have seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time, because that's what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, it is heartening to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1941, Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative was built by the community to serve the community. We will continue to Power On. ■



Doug Birmingham

Access your account or report a power outage 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by visiting www.gcec.com or calling our automated system:

Southport 850-265-3631 or 800-568-3667
Wewahitchka 850-639-2216 or 800-333-9392
Panama City 850-481-1188



Peace River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

www.presco.coop
800-282-3824

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

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BOARD MEETINGS

October 27, 2020
November 17, 2020
December 15, 2020

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

ONLINE E-ZINE

Prefer to receive Florida Currents online? Sign up through your online account or call us at **800-282-3824**.

FL-155

CEO Message

Power On: It's Co-op Month

As an electric cooperative, our mission is to serve our members and support our community—an especially critical mission in recent months.

One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is Concern for Community. To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Peace River Electric Cooperative and sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month. Electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we "Power On." Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a unique community like ours.

Who would have imagined in March that COVID-19 would amount to a test of our community and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have challenged everyone to operate differently.

PRECO has stepped up to help members.

As an essential service, and to ensure the reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Our line crews and other employees began working on staggered schedules to maintain separation.

Many members of our staff started working from home. In the office, we observe social distancing and are

Then. Now. Always.
We're proud to power your life.
October is National Co-op Month.



To learn more about National Co-op Month, see page 28.

modifying meetings to allow for safe separation. We adjusted in-person service calls to help protect the health and safety of our employees and valued members alike.

For members affected by COVID-19 who needed help with their electric bills, we waived late fees and worked with them on payment arrangements. Because we care about this community, our Operation Round Up charitable foundation has contributed more than \$60,000 in food assistance to local organizations.

We've seen other local businesses rise to meet similar challenges during this time because that's what communities do. While COVID-19 has impacted every area of people's lives, I'm encouraged to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1940, PRECO was built by the community to serve the community. We will continue to #Power On.

Randy Shaw



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections®

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www.oreca.org

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Corp.
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Wasco Electric Co-op
West Oregon Electric Co-op

OR-400

Case in Point

We had to decide what to take. But the real question was, “What do we really need?”

Evacuating our home was not something I had ever contemplated. Fires burned throughout Western Oregon, and several small towns served by Oregon’s electric cooperatives were incinerated, fanned by easterly winds during Labor Day weekend.

But we do not live in a rural logging community nestled in the Cascade Mountains. Our home is in a Portland suburb—a 20-minute drive from the contentious nightly protests that have divided the electorate.

Such is the Western fire season in 2020, where no place is truly safe. But at least we had advance notice, unlike many Oregonians in places near the McKenzie River or Santiam Canyon, who evacuated with only what they could carry—or in some cases, awoke to their homes on fire.

Throughout the course of that week, I marveled at—and assisted in any small way—Oregon electric cooperatives that were under siege from wildfires, giant swaths of their poles and wires destroyed by the blaze. The co-ops worked around the clock in brutal conditions, even though in some instances their directors and employees had also evacuated, often unsure if their own homes were standing.

But another stark reality in 2020 is that electric co-ops, which are best known for keeping the power on for their members, had to make the agonizing decision to shut it off to ensure additional fires did not start from trees falling into energized lines.

Even as the stories of heroism and tragedy emerged from the rubble, the threat to my family seemed distant. It was not until our home started to smell like a campfire—the air quality in the Portland area carrying the dubious distinction of being the worst in the world—did I grasp what my wife was telling me all week. A wildfire was precariously close.

We surveyed the house.

“Take our photo albums,” my wife said.

But I had no idea where they were. We loaded up our two kids and took what we could, but what did we really need? Each other, we decided, as we drove away to a destination unknown. The only thing murkier than the view from my windshield was the future of a state ravaged by wildfires and cleaved by protests, in a year like no other.



Ted Case

Executive Director