



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# West Central *Electric News*

November 2014



West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. ~ Serving our members' needs since 1939

## Co-op wraps up year-long celebration of 75th anniversary

**Keeping electric rates affordable remains a priority as EPA's comment period comes to an end**

When a company has stood the test of time for 75 years, it's a pretty safe bet that those in charge are doing a pretty good job. Your board of directors strives every day to make sure every decision they make puts our members first--just as we have from day one.

Being a part of an electric cooperative is a good place to be. Members not only have their own directors and employees looking out for them, but there is a vast network of cooperatives and their related organizations all across the country looking out for their best interests.

That could not be more true than the year-long campaign that began this time last year to send a message to the EPA regarding regulations for coal-fired plants. With the comment period coming to an end Dec. 1, big decisions are on the horizon. You can rest assured, your electric cooperative representatives will continue

to fight for you.

We also appreciate the help we have had from you, our members, who have sent in comments and urged friends and relatives to send in comments, skyrocketing Missouri to the top of the list nationwide. As of

mid-September, Missouri had submitted 259,340 comments on [www.action.coop](http://www.action.coop). We still have a few weeks, so help us help you and urge family and friends who have not signed up to visit [www.action.coop](http://www.action.coop) and help us finish strong.

### A word from the United States Chamber of Commerce

EPA is attempting to impose a new regulatory framework on states that will transform how electricity is generated, distributed, transmitted, and used. This rule threatens to eliminate the critical competitive advantage that affordable and reliable electricity provides to the American economy.

EPA itself estimates that its power plant rule will cause nationwide electricity price increases of between **6 and 7 percent in 2020, and up to 12 percent in some locations**. EPA projects annual compliance costs between \$5.4 and \$7.4 billion in 2020, rising up to \$8.8 billion in 2030. These costs don't even factor in the economy wide impacts of more expensive electricity. Because U.S. businesses compete on a global scale, rising electricity prices resulting from EPA's rule will place us at a disadvantage. Adding insult to injury, impacted businesses will choose to move overseas, taking their emissions and their jobs with them.

America will have fewer jobs, but global emissions won't decrease.

Higher energy prices disproportionately harm low-income and middle-income families. Since 2001, energy costs for middle-income and lower-income families have increased by 27 percent, while their incomes have declined by 22 percent. EPA's rule will only exacerbate this trend.

In addition, EPA's carbon rules will increase reliability risks and the potential for brownouts and blackouts at times Americans rely on electricity the most.

No matter what regulatory approach EPA takes for power plants, its impact on global greenhouse gas emissions will be minimal.

*(The above includes excerpts from the sample letter to the EPA included in the USCOC membership email blast.)*

## Electricity generation vs. environmental protection:

**Answering your questions regarding regulations and how they could affect your electric rates**

Have you been wondering what is with all the fuss on the environmental issues and coal generation? Do you want to know why the cooperatives don't just replace coal generation with wind power? Are you confused by the term "clean coal?" These are questions many members may have regarding the recent EPA proposed environmental regulations.

Continuing this month, *Electric News* features a series answering these and many more questions regarding the generation of electricity vs. environmental protection.

**What are you doing to research cleaner ways of producing energy?**

Our generator's coal plants have burned a refined coal that reduced mercury emissions voluntarily and ahead of regulations while saving \$9.7 million in 2013 for Associated Electric Cooperative. Research continues to find the most economical method for reducing mercury emissions when MATS take effect in 2016.

This research can help keep rates as low as possible for members while meeting environmental commitments.

In another project, Associated Electric has tested a technique that uses sodium bicarbonate, or baking soda, to reduce

acidic gases like SO<sub>2</sub> from emissions. The technology has the potential to save members more than a billion dollars in capital equipment costs if further emissions reductions are imposed on us.

*Additional background:*

Associated broke ground as the first to reduce mercury emissions with use of CyClean refined coal at its two coal plants beginning in 2009. The reductions, as well as Associated's conversion to low-sulfur coal, are part of Associated's proactive work to meet EPA's new Mercury and Air Toxics Standard (MATS) by the 2016 compliance date.

Associated first completed demonstration projects at New Madrid and Thomas Hill power plants in 2009 to determine whether CyClean refined coal could reduce mercury and to what extent.

Results were promising, and in 2010 Associated signed a 10-year contract to burn the refined coal. Associated employees' research and persistence also helped the cooperative capture an economic benefit under a law that encourages production of refined coal. In 2011, the first full year of burning refined coal in cyclone units at both

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### Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience



**CYCLE PRODUCES GREATER LEADERS...**(WCE's 2014 CYCLE delegates visit the Missouri State Capitol Building. (L-r) Jillian Samson of Warrensburg High School, George Cooper of Crest Ridge High School and Ali Landrum of Warrensburg High School. (Additional CYCLE coverage on page 2.)

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**24-Hour Number:**  
1-800-491-3803

**General Manager:**  
Mike Gray

*This institution is an equal  
opportunity provider and employer.*

**Board of Directors:**  
Densil Allen, President  
Clark Bredehoeft, Vice-Pres.  
Dale Jarman, Treasurer  
Robert Simmons, Secretary  
Stan Rhodes, Asst. Sect.  
Max Swisegood, Director  
Richard Strobel, Director  
Sandra Streit, Director

## Electricity generation vs. environmental protection:

### Answering your questions regarding regulations and how they could affect your electric rates

#### From page 1

plants, Associated received about \$7.3 million to offset its fuel expense. In 2012, Associated received \$8.3 million. In 2013, Associated received another \$8.3 million.

Associated conducted additional mercury controls testing in 2013 on Thomas Hill Unit 3, a pulverized coal unit that cannot use the same CyClean refined coal. The refined coal qualified the fuel for the same tax credit under a 2004 law and helped to offset Associated's fuel cost about \$1.4 million in 2013, bringing total revenue from refined coal to \$9.7 million in 2013. However, due to maintenance issues discovered with the 2013 refined coal test on Unit 3, Associated continues to research and fine-tune use

of a refined coal on that unit.

When burned, refined coal converts mercury into a form that sticks to ash particles, which are then captured and disposed in compliance with state regulations. With use of refined coal, Associated will significantly reduce the cost to reduce mercury emissions and comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) by April 2016.

#### Baking soda

While operating costs are significant for the technology using baking soda, the capital costs are significantly less. It would cost about \$1.3 billion to build traditional environmental controls called

scrubbers. Compared with conventional scrubber technology that can take more than three years to design and install, equipment installation to use baking soda can be done in less than a year, and this technology looks promising.

It continuously injects baking soda into the emission gases of generating coal units. The baking soda reacts with acidic gases, allowing them to be caught by existing plant equipment before the flue gas is released into the atmosphere. During long-term testing by Associated Electric in 2012, baking soda injection consistently achieved 60 percent to 80 percent reductions in SO<sub>2</sub>. In addition to lowering capital costs, baking soda also provides more operational and financial flexibility.

*Other research conducted by our power generator:*

#### Carbon capture and storage

Associated Electric Cooperative partnered with other Missouri utilities and the U.S. Department of Energy in a three-year project to determine the feasibility of sequestering CO<sub>2</sub> in a saline aquifer underlying most of Missouri. By year end 2010, research showed the site at City Utilities of Springfield's power station was not suitable for carbon storage. Research partners looked in their respective service areas for suitable sites. Associated Electric chose property around the Thomas Hill Energy Center and testing began in 2012. Work at the site ended in 2013. Researchers are compiling the test and research data and writing the final report on suitability of the site for carbon storage.

## CYCLE challenges students to become greater leaders

What better place to be on a hot July day than sitting in a hotel conference room with nearly 100 of your peers? NOWHERE -- if that conference is the Cooperative Youth Conference and Leadership Experience and your peers are among the best and brightest the state of Missouri has to offer!

"We want to be a leadership development stepping stone for the youth," said

Barry Hart, CEO of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, the sponsoring organization of the conference. "By us getting involved in helping develop their leadership potential, we hope these delegates go back to their communities, continue to learn from local leaders, educators and co-op staff so when they get into positions of leadership later in life, they won't forget the

cooperatives' way of thinking."

Each year, Missouri electric cooperatives send delegates to Jefferson City for three days of leadership activities, cooperative education and hands-on government. Delegates secure a spot at this award-winning youth conference through their participation in the Rural Electric Youth Tour essay contest sponsored by West Central Electric.

From the introductory "Can You Find Me?" game, students are energized and off and running from daybreak until lights out, forging friendships and discovering more about themselves.

"CYCLE was an amazing experience and allowed me the

unique opportunity to learn about government policies, state history and how to be an effective leader -- all in just three days," said delegate Jillian Samson of Warrensburg. "I had such a wonderful time, and I wish I could go back each year. I've definitely been encouraging the junior class to participate in the program! Thank you so much to West Central Electric for sponsoring this trip."

While the conference is short, CYCLE is jam-packed with activity. One of the team-building exercises is the "Build a Cooperative" game, where students are divided into teams and given a box of supplies they can use to build a model of their own member-owned business. Other activities include a boisterous game of Missouri Jeopardy,

a segment when the teams perform a TV public service announcement based on something they've read in that day's newspaper and a session where the youth learn about their personalities and character through a fun questionnaire.

Of course, what would a trip to Jefferson City be without a tour of Missouri's beautiful Capitol? While there, the students get to sit at the desks on the floor of the House of Representatives and debate a bill they've written with their CYCLE peers. Through this activity, the delegates see

how hard it is for a bill to actually go through the process of becoming a law. While there, they also par-

ticipate in a scavenger hunt designed to familiarize them with their state Capitol.

The fun continues each evening with activities such as a barbecue at the park, a hypnotist and motivational sessions with speakers such as the Rachel's Challenge group, who speaks to students about how they can start a chain reaction of compassion in their own communities. They hear about Rachel Scott, the first person killed in the Columbine High School shooting in 1999, and how she stood up and made a difference in the lives of others in just a few short years.

For more information about the 2015 Youth Tour contest or CYCLE, contact Heather Hoflander at 800-491-3803 or [heather@wcecoop.com](mailto:heather@wcecoop.com).



Ali Landrum (left) participates in a leadership activity with fellow WCE delegate Jillian Samson during the 2014 CYCLE conference.

**CYCLE 2015**  
**July 15-17, 2015**  
Information packets available on the WCE  
website at [www.westcentralelectric.coop](http://www.westcentralelectric.coop)

# Can you help us locate these people?

The following members have capital credit refund checks due them. Checks mailed to the last address on file for these members have been returned. If you can provide a current address for any of the members listed below, or the name of an heir if the member is deceased, please contact Sandy Starke at 1-800-491-3803 or 1-660-584-2131.

Angell, Randy & Rosie	84.70	Edwaeds, Paula	88.78	Kriesel, Keith & Sheila	82.09	Netz, Charles Jr & Doris	214.72
Adamczyk, Debbie	138.73	Ellis, Doris	77.01	Kuhn, David	91.07	Nichols, Zalmer & Eve	23.18
Adkisson, David & Pam	142.80	Erickson, Tom & Lisa	531.65	Kuhn, David & Marg Bowman	37.78	Nicholson, Roberta	89.48
Allen, Thomas & Jennifer	66.76	Estes, Diane	137.95	Lafauci, Andrew	81.63	Niedorf, A L	47.03
Althaus, Rhonda	120.61	Evans, Douglas	129.86	Lafever, Susan	91.24	Niermeier, Sue	56.45
Anderson, Doyné & Ruth	106.76	Farnsworth, Anna	51.58	Lane, Jimmy & Deana	66.18	Noble, Jake	52.90
Anderson, Michael	9.86	Fearing, John & Sherri	265.16	Langen, Joyce	158.87	Nolting, Scott & Christina	96.67
Aquino, Carie	209.66	Feldman, Sarah	61.80	Langley, Jerad & Caery	57.30	Norman, Aaron	62.80
Arreguin, Denise	18.94	Ferguson, Timothy & Marjorie	124.88	Langston, Michael	202.63	Northrup, Donnie & April	104.82
Asher, Paul & Kandis	36.65	Finley, Walker	67.34	Lanier, Marjorie	215.57	Novak, Michael	26.13
Baird, Duane & Linda	55.15	Flehart, Dean	99.92	Larocque, Dean & Janice	87.03	Oak Grove Golf Club % Kruger	1,741.79
Bales, Everett Est	77.03	Foust, Edward & Tina	17.56	Lawson, Alfred Jr & Vivian	127.92	O'Dowd, Robert & Vivian	35.21
Barker, Cary & Melody	74.41	France, Mark & Brenda	7.95	Lazarow, Gerald II & Kimberl	83.86	Overton, Patricia	136.46
Barnes, Randy	5.40	Freed, John	44.41	League, Stephen & Bonnie	166.94	Owen, Bobby & Rhondia	69.72
Barnhart Industries	175.01	Frizzell, Georgia	148.60	Lee, Barbara	82.43	Owens, Edward	36.87
Barton, Tammy	124.49	Furlong, Eddie	22.92	Lee, Brett & Rhonda	63.18	Owens, Steven	128.45
Baxter, Frank & Irene	17.98	Fyfe, Mary	208.99	Lees, Robert & Mary	54.83	Paad, Tommy & Jenny	23.36
Beddow, Kathy	8.85	Gabbard, Lynn	4.78	Legacy Ltd % Bernadette Waite	38.79	Pack, Donna	73.00
Bell, Susan	28.77	Gallagher, Joyce	0.50	Legg, Tammy	233.47	Paddock, Evelyn	49.80
Bergsicker, Larry & Tammy	8.26	Galvin, Andrew & Tresia	141.02	Lewis, Adam & Theresa	31.27	Page, Michael & Betty	68.18
Bergsicker, Tammy	80.03	Garcia, Dennis	62.41	Lichtenthaler, Emma	37.69	Parkhurst, Byron	67.69
Bishop, J.D.	10.97	Gardner, Kathy Sue	8.78	Lightfoot, Dennis & Sherry	5.70	Parr, Christopher	56.43
Blanton, Cheryl	89.64	Garner, Robert	19.02	Limback, L James Jr	90.02	Patrick, Georgia	66.56
Born, Paula	61.58	Gartman, Wendall & Kimberkin	51.13	Lindley, Mike & Debbie	193.07	Patrick, Steve	66.56
Bott, Bill	181.39	Gasperino, Barbara	32.79	Lindsey, W H & Claire	7.96	Patterson, Jodee	20.24
Bott, George Jr	172.43	George, Brian & Beth	269.95	Loe, Brian & Heather	80.21	Patterson, Kristy	45.33
Bowman, George Jr	23.56	Gibson, Henry Jr	434.85	Loerenz, Deborah	118.59	Pedigo, Diane	45.87
Bradbury, Judith	113.49	Gieselman, Nancy	132.45	Long, John & Martha	16.16	Peel, Darlene	63.41
Bradley, Terry	112.57	Goodman, Rocky & Kelly	57.59	Lukenbill, Chester	83.08	Pemberton, Kathy	81.72
Bratten, John & Mary	104.32	Green, Ethelon	30.59	Lustig, Josef	69.15	Pemberton, Stephen	16.85
Breitenacher, Curtis	96.88	Greer, Bruce & Robena	108.24	Lutz, Tracy	39.75	Penning, Doyle	51.33
Bridge, Alice	9.91	Grimes, Lester & Raylene	278.61	Lynch, Robert & Teresa	195.55	Perry, Elberta	66.36
Brockmeyer, John & Debbie	37.82	Gumbert, Daniel & Wilma	52.55	Lynn, Doris	103.16	Perry, Jason & Tonya	83.16
Brumbe, Evan & Debbie	140.57	Hackney, Dennis & Pamela	48.74	Lynn, Kimberley	74.28	Petentler, Jared	25.12
Bruns, Coleen	18.61	Hadley, Carwin & Mari	57.74	Major, Andy & Sheri	38.28	Peterson, Jeffrey	88.06
Brusseau, Sandra	7.64	Hailey, Susan	61.01	Major, Crystal	57.72	Pfeffer, Julie	23.61
Bryant, Catrina	4.64	Hall, Noble	4.29	Malcolm, Les	138.64	Phelps, Thomas & Karen	270.15
Buford, Don & Helen	7.83	Hammond, George & Marie	324.30	Mallory, Wallace	25.01	Phillips, Judith	104.52
Burgess, Brian	96.11	Hangley, Mrs Jack	162.94	Malone, David & Kimberly	128.68	Polen, Thomas	162.75
Butler, Robert & Donna	105.55	Hardy, Tim	122.25	Mann, Michael & Jackie	22.77	Pool, Jason & Bethany	84.17
Bybee, Kenon & Karen	107.19	Harper, Gale & Deedee	51.05	Manning, Mark & Kathy	245.03	Porter, David & Christine	282.53
Campbell, Laura	106.16	Harris, Claude	127.00	Martin, Dana & Laura	81.11	Porter, David & Sara	80.58
Cannon, Jeanette	49.59	Harrison, Brett	107.29	Martin, Gary	90.99	Porter, Todd	80.27
Card, Wanda	135.03	Harvell, Gary Jr & Connie	62.71	Masden, Thomas	49.64	Potter, Christine	98.96
Carpenter, Lybbie	108.54	Hau, Gary & Tracy Disney	26.41	Maupin, Micky	72.78	Price, Harold	398.06
Carrolls Auto Sales	26.08	Heckert, O Dean & Ruth	11.22	Mayfield, Justin & Valeria	91.08	Priest, Ricky & Allison	261.36
Cartwright, Robert	93.86	Helphrey, Donald & Irene	56.90	Mayfield, Keith & Dianna	63.30	Pruett, Kenneth & Donna	57.62
Central Cooperative	123.89	Hilburn, Richard	4.83	Mcalister, Don	665.17	Quisenberry, Dennis	146.26
Ceramics & What Not Shoppe	109.57	Hill, Don	36.35	Mcauley, Roy	366.34	Radford, Linwood	401.28
Clardy, Ruth	127.33	Hill, Timothy	9.40	Mcbride, Denelle	66.18	Rains, Gilbert & Carmen	74.66
Clark, Robert & April	13.63	Hohenfeldt, Anthony	96.81	Mccabe, Carrie % Chris Mccabe	292.77	Randolph, Carleen	8.99
Cobb, William & Karna	204.40	Holliday, Raymond & Melissa	99.58	Mccabe, Ken	125.71	Randolph, Larry & Donna	6.99
Combs, Mayme	75.85	Houten, Mary Van	25.15	Mccall, George Sr.	11.31	Ray, Anthony	61.10
Cooperider, George & Nina	109.52	Howell, Kimberly	8.31	Mccarty, Genie	123.08	Raymond, Robt & Jerry Raymond	154.72
Copenhaver, Judy	132.00	Hubbard, Anthony & Marilynn	33.89	Mccormick, Michael & Kathryn	99.20	Reed, Jay	15.39
Core, Ronald & Jerry	15.33	Hudson, Alfred & Barbara	147.85	Mccune, Don	166.04	Reed, Kimberly	51.40
Cornett, Daryl	7.17	Hudson, Bill & Gwyn	195.24	Mcgrory, Marcia	148.29	Reeder, Matthew & Karla	67.35
Correll, Johnny - Estate Of	66.88	Hunt, John Jr & Joyce	296.92	Mclaughlin, J C & M A Flag	103.56	Reil, Jerry & Sande	10.83
Cottrell, Linda	53.09	Iams, Tim & Jodie	154.80	Medlin, Theresa	73.88	Rhoden, William & Jeannette	157.96
Cottrell, John	53.10	Irvine, Gerald & Linda	121.99	Melendez, Jonathan	46.77	Rhodes, Curtis & Menlinda	84.00
Courtney, Steve	289.20	Ixc Carrier Inc	1,277.30	Mell, Debra	96.17	Richards, Steven	196.19
Cousins, William & Sandra	18.63	James, Willard	139.73	Melsom, Jerome III	102.45	Rick Peters Construction	57.24
Cowherd, Kevin & Sherry	156.76	Jenkins, Donal	497.01	Mendez, Marty	68.62	Rider, Kenneth & Lora	11.82
Cox, Gene	58.77	Johns, Tom & Sylvia	69.60	Merrick, Janet	23.17	Ridge, Robert	9.36
Coy, Carol	2.47	Johnson, Brian	67.98	Merriman, Jason & Traci	35.66	Ridley, Glenn & Phyllis	95.77
Crane, David & Mary	19.84	Johnson, Jennifer	37.62	Middleton, Sharell	109.14	Riley, Sara	19.55
Dady, Connie	93.12	Johnson, Mrs Jim	51.50	Miller, Bryan	94.07	Riling, Wanda	80.73
Davis, William	11.70	Johnson, Patricia	95.10	Miller, David & Marilyn	540.80	Ring, Dennis	47.13
Debo, Timmie Lee	76.02	Johnston, Heather	81.76	Miller, Leonard & Melissa	86.67	Ripley, Warren	122.34
Denney, Kenneth Est	68.64	Jones, Bill	315.29	Milliagn, Everett & Connie	315.83	Roark, Jackie	41.82
Dickerson, Dennis & Kristie	20.30	Jones, Brian	226.99	Mills, Margie	78.35	Roark, Zenaide	126.69
Dillard, Harlin Jr & Tracey Shanks	0.25	Jones, James Jr	95.52	Millsap, Carol	178.45	Robb, Kimberly	65.11
Dowd, Regina	6.56	Kansas City Capital Proj % Mved	1,441.10	Millstead, Jerry & Phyllis	360.03	Roberts, Glen Roy	61.20
Dubreuil, Michael	57.16	Kanter, Carol	223.82	Mitchell, Bobby	93.31	Robinson, Stephanie	121.70
Ducklow, Patti	81.62	Kean, George & Beverly	149.51	Moeller, Bryan & Natalie	34.13	Rodd, Lauren & Wanda Rodd	59.20
Dugger, Grant	18.83	Keck, Kenneth	133.86	Monroe, Mike	31.20	Rodewald, Larry & Teresa	48.31
Dugger, Richard Est	8.34	Keckler, Charles & Julie	251.98	Montgomery, Pia	76.06	Rogers, Kristina	333.50
Dukes, Jackie & T Klein	45.31	Keith, James	31.44	Moody, G Eleanor	54.55	Romaker, Jerry & Sharla	22.29
Duncan, Cathy	51.28	Kennedy, Carla	219.06	Morain, Theo & Reba	16.72	Rose, Frank Jr	24.79
Duty, Kristin	110.06	Kerivan, Mark	31.35	Moreno, Rodolfo	141.75	Rose, Richard Jr & Kelli	125.48
Dyke, Steve & Cindy	265.66	Kerr, Mark & Vicki	132.02	Morris, Marc	178.23	Rose, Ruth	2.69
Dykes, James	99.91	Kidd, Christopher & Elizabeth	23.81	Morton, Willard	80.97	Rowan, Kyle & Kristyn	107.57
		King, Brenda	95.32	Moss, Steven & Debra	152.62	Rupard, John	9.75
		King, Laura	55.44	Mott, Don	106.13	Ryan, Lindsey & Gladys	58.21
		King, M Gail	223.47	Mumma, Kathleen	224.52	Sabato, Eric & Regina Stark	189.52
		King, Patricia	52.42	Murphy, Frances	92.31	Saltz, Ervin Jr	204.64
		Kingston, Donald & Donna	23.19	Murray, Alesha	112.68	Sapp, Garold Est.	194.88
		Kirkbride, Michael & Brenda	627.16	Murray, Irma	58.39	Saucy, James	170.47
		Kleoppel, Karen	33.67	Naylor, Jerry	2.40	Sawyer, Jeanine	31.69
		Knight, Brooks	449.22	Neal, Rick	104.55	Sawyer, Jerry	189.16
		Knoblock, Shawn	54.83	Neighbors, Kathryn	117.35	Scaggs, Ray	213.23
		Koehler, Osa	76.82	Nelson, Lance	151.32		
		Koenig, Margaret & Ron Brown	29.92	Nelson, Ronald & Debra	350.16		
		Kopp, Henry & Vera	123.98	Nelson, Terry	16.29		

\*This list will continue beginning with "Sch" in the December issue of *Electric News*.



## From the Boardroom...

Regular meeting of the Board of Directors held August 28, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Densil Allen. Robert Simmons, Secretary of the Cooperative, caused the minutes of the meeting to be kept. The following Directors were present: Max Swisegood, Clark Bredehoeft, Dale Jarman, Richard Strobel, Densil Allen, Robert Simmons, Stan Rhodes and Sandra Streit. Also present were General Manager Mike Gray and general counsel Shawn Battagler.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

After discussion, the Agenda was approved.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The unapproved minutes of the regular meeting of the board of directors held July 24, 2014, were approved.

### REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES FOR JULY

An itemized list of expenditures for June was presented to the board, and the payment of the bills was ratified.

### APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The following July 2014 reports were approved: Operating Report (RUS Form 7) and Comparative Operating Statement including the Financial Statistical Report with month and budget comparisons and statistical data pertaining to operating revenue, expenses, margins, assets, liabilities, and KWH sales; Treasurer's Report; the written monthly Construction, Retirement, Maintenance and Operations Report and the Safety Report, which included no lost time accidents during the month.

### MEMBERSHIPS

The applications submitted for membership in the cooperative were accepted and approved. Directors reviewed a list of requests for termination of membership in the cooperative which, along with their requests that their billings be deducted from their deposits and the remainder, if any, be refunded to them, were accepted and approved.

### N.W. ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE, INC. REPORT

Gray and Swisegood reported on their attendance and shared highlights from the recent NW Board meeting, including Dave McDowell being hired as the new CEO of NW, and an update on AECl activities.

### AMEC REPORT

Gray and Bredehoeft reported their attendance and shared highlights from the meeting including James Ashworth being elected to the Federated board, legislative activities, regulatory issues, grassroots activities, State Fair involvement, Youth Tour and CYCLE information, salary information for AMEC employees, AECl report, budget review, disaster assistance, mapping coordination and awards were announced for the upcoming annual meeting.

### ANNUAL MEETING

Gray reviewed expenses from the annual meeting, and the board discussed recommendations for further meetings.

### OPEN DIRECTOR POSITION

The board discussed the open director position and the process of identifying and appointing a member to fill the vacant spot. A motion was made to fill the position, however, the board tabled the motion until the next regular board meeting. Directors discussed a member who has expressed interest in filling the vacant seat.

### COMMITTEE REVIEW

The board appointed the following committees for next year: Scholarship: Robert Simmons, Densil Allen, Jr., Stan Rhodes and Dale Jarman; Wage and Salary: Densil Allen, Jr., Sandra Streit, Richard Strobel and Clark Bredehoeft; Bylaws: Max Swisegood, Dale Jarman and Robert Simmons. The Wage and Salary Committee meeting was scheduled for Sept. 18.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Mike Gray provided his Manager's Report for the month. He reported on policies regarding disbursement of health insurance premiums relating to retirees, calendar, solar net metering, billing and payment types, union representative changes and investment fund updates.

### BOARD MEETING DATES SET

Upcoming board meeting dates were set for: Thursday, Oct. 30, Tuesday, Nov. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 30.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Richard Strobel raised the issue of recognizing Paul Nolte's service to the board. Management was authorized to take actions to acknowledge Nolte's outstanding service to the board and the cooperative.

The board discussed the process for reviewing the manager's evaluations.

### NEW BUSINESS

None.

### MEETING ADJOURNED

## As the temperature goes down, outages and blinks caused by animals will increase

The air is calm and crisp and the day is clear, when suddenly your power goes off. You wonder what could have caused such a thing. There's not a cloud in the sky.

The bad news is, there doesn't have to be a cloud in the sky or a storm in the air to cause a power outage. Although a number of outages may be caused by high winds blowing tree limbs onto lines, the culprit in the fall of the year is likely to be of the furry or feathery variety.

"When the air begins to turn cold, a lot of times we see an increase in the amount of outages on our system that we can attribute to animals," Line Superintendent Randy Burkeybile said.

The number of outages attributed to animals can increase in the fall when squirrels begin preparing for winter. Squirrels and other animals climb on equipment, such as transformers and fuses, and the equipment shuts down in order to protect the rest of the system.

"The reason these instances sometimes tend to increase in the fall is because the transformers put off heat," Burkeybile said. "Squirrels, raccoons and other animals will climb onto the transformers for warmth, and they get into places they shouldn't be. Before you know it, there is a power outage."

Animals on the transformers can also cause the monotonous "blinks" that keep the lights off only long enough to force you to have to set every digital clock in the house.

"Even a wasp in the wrong place at the wrong time can blink an entire line," Burkeybile said.

Your cooperative is doing what it can to reduce outages due to animals by installing insulated "bird wire" and wildlife protection devices to prevent animals and birds from making contact with electrical equipment. These devices are not only meant to protect the electrical system, but also the birds and animals.

"Wildlife protection devices are a plastic insulating cap that goes over the exposed electrical components on transformers and breakers," Burkeybile said. "We have installed the same insulated wire and wildlife protection devices where we can in our substations."

Your cooperative is working hard to reduce the number of outages experienced by our members. **When calling in an electrical outage, please be sure to have your map number available. It can be found under the "service information" section located in the center of your billing statement.** Outages may be reported at 800-491-3803 or 816-565-4942.

**WCE offices will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 for Veterans Day and Thursday & Friday, Nov. 27-28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.**

### FINANCIAL REPORT • Statement of Operations • August 2014

	This month	YTD 2014	YTD 2013
Revenue	2,885,077	5,980,984	5,176,237
Power Bill Expense	1,562,357	3,234,302	2,913,458
Operation & Maint. Expense	191,124	392,187	430,833
Depreciation Expense	150,919	301,236	293,155
Interest Expense	103,514	214,086	183,080
<b>Total cost of Srvc. (Total Expense)</b>	<b>2,007,914</b>	<b>4,141,811</b>	<b>3,820,526</b>
Operating Margins (Revenue less Expenses)	622,729	1,323,851	879,451
Other Margins	17,455	34,570	26,418
<b>TOTAL MARGINS</b>	<b>640,184</b>	<b>1,358,421</b>	<b>905,869</b>