




news & views

from Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Lincoln Electric 68th Annual Meeting Recap

Photos By
Gary Henderson



The 68th Annual Meeting of the Members was called to order at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at the Lincoln County High School Auditorium.

The attending members received a report on the 2016 year-end financials of LEC. A copy of this information can be found on our website at www.lincolnelectric.coop.

Gary Wiens, Assistant Manager of the Montana Electric Cooperatives Association, provided a legislative update. To keep up to date with the issues facing Montana cooperatives, please visit www.montanaco-ops.com.

The manager's report by General Manager Ray Ellis centered mainly around the upcoming rate change. As detailed in past issues of your Rural Montana and our March Community Meetings, this change is vital.

By moving toward a full COSA (Cost of Service Analysis) rate, LEC will improve

financial stability in the future. It also helps to ensure all members are contributing fairly and equitably toward their cooperative.

One of the main duties of members at the Annual Meeting is to conduct the business of the cooperative. This year, there were four Trustee positions up for election.

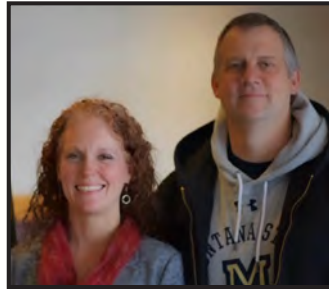
Three of the Trustees were re-elected by acclamation. They were Marianne Roose, District 3; Myra Appel, District 1; and Wesly Loughman, District 4.

There were two nominations for the fourth Trustee position for District 5 - Eugene Jarrell and incumbent Mike Workman. Upon voting of the members, Mike Workman was re-elected for District 5.

The membership also voted on seven By-Laws changes, which were all approved. Please see the sidebar for a brief description of these revisions*.

After the voting recess, member questions were answered by LEC Trustees and employees. No new business action items were needed.

Drawings were made for



Jenny and Ron Komac won the grand prize of free electricity for a year (some restrictions apply).

14 \$1,000 Luck of the Draw Scholarships. These are funded by unclaimed capital credits. Including the 2017 scholarships, LEC has used unclaimed capital credits to donate over \$167,000 to education endeavors in our communities

The Luck of the Draw winners were Ryan Price, Connor Harmon, Ashlyn Waldo, Gina Williams, Emily Billow, James Dunn, Courtney Harmon, Derek Hickman, Kaylee Kronsperger, Cole Pickering, Braden Thier, Taylor Pacella, Bradley Stein, and Jaimie Soderling.

*For a full copy of the By-Laws revisions or a video of the Annual Meeting, please contact LEC at 406-889-3301 or memberservices@lincolnelectric.coop.



By-Laws Revisions

Revision 1

Remove the requirement for LEC to provide and track Membership Certificates.

Revision 2

Add the option of holding the Annual Meeting in April, instead of restricting to only March.

Revision 3

Add another delivery option for notice of members' meetings if so requested in writing by the member.

Revision 4

Modify to make it a requirement that a member meeting must be adjourned if a quorum of members is not present.

Revision 5

Simplify the Trustee term description now that all Trustee terms have been converted to three years.

Revision 6

As LEC is no longer indebted to the United States Government or Rural Utility Services, remove references regarding reporting to, or complying with the regulations of, these agencies.

Revision 7

General housekeeping and language revisions that do not affect the intent of the By-Laws, but create a more cohesive and uniform document.

LINCOLN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Member Participation is the Key to Cooperative Success

The strength of Lincoln Electric lies in its relationship with its members. The ability to band together and democratically control the organization for the benefit of all is the single most important aspect of the cooperative. It is the ultimate in consumer advocacy where the members can choose the direction of the company they have helped build by electing its

Board of Trustees and controlling its foundational document, the By-Laws.

On March 25th of this year, that process was once again put into action. Our Annual Meeting was well attended and the business of the cooperative was transacted. It is always good to be able to meet with the members and see the faces of those we fight for, whether on the political front or against Mother Nature.

I very much appreciate the efforts

of everyone involved. The staff puts in a great deal of time and energy to bring the event together and the Board of Trustees provide guidance and direction. The most important participants are you the members.



Manager's Notes
by Ray Ellis

I want to thank you for your attendance and active participation. It's what makes us a successful organization and ensures that the legacy of the founding members continues into the future.

Thanks for your membership,
Ray



News & Views

Published monthly by Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Lincoln Electric's Board of Trustees hold regular meetings monthly at the Eureka office. These are typically scheduled on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have any items of interest, please contact the general manager prior to the meeting.

Next Meeting Date:
Monday, May 15, 2017

Board of Trustees

- **Mike Workman** - President, Dist. 5, Kooconusa Shores-Pinkham
- **Wesly Loughman** - Vice President, Dist. 4, Eureka-Tobacco Plains
- **Courtney Pluid** - Secretary, Dist. 3, Fortine-Glen Lake
- **Myra Appel** - Dist. 1, Flathead
- **Joel Graves** - Dist. 5, Kooconusa Shores-Pinkham
- **Tom Klyver** - Dist. 1, Flathead
- **Marianne Roose** - Dist. 3 - Fortine-Glen Lake
- **Tina Taurman** - Dist. 2, Trego-Stryker
- **Terry Utter** - Dist. 4 - Eureka-Tobacco Plains
- **Ethel White** - Dist. 4 - Eureka-Tobacco Plains

General Manager Ray Ellis

In case of power outage:
Always call 406-889-3301

312 Osloski Road
PO Box 628
Eureka, MT 59917
www.lincolnelectric.coop
info@lincolnelectric.coop

BUSINESS AND BOARDROOM BRIEFS

The regular meeting of the board of trustees was conducted on March 20, 2017. A quorum of trustees was present and the board took the following action:

- Approved changes to policies 206, 207, 208, 401, 402, 406, 408, 410, 414, 415, 416, 502, 505 and 506.
- Approved Board Resolutions 2017-1 through 2017-7.
- Awarded the right of way contract to Persson Tree Services.
- Approved a \$750 donation to the Eureka Chamber of Commerce for Rendezvous Days.
- Approved a \$525 donation to the Sunburst Foundation for Shakespeare in the Park.
- Approved a \$175 donation to the Kootenai Valley Rangers.
- Authorized the addition of a two-part rate for traditionally billed accounts.

	Year to Date 02/28/2017	Year to Date 02/29/2016
Year to Date kWh Sales	31,097,675	24,055,087
Year to Date Revenue	\$ 2,433,090	\$ 1,983,169
Year to Date Cost of Power	\$ 1,370,342	\$ 1,055,202
Year to Date Operating Exp	\$ 809,061	\$ 798,789
Year to Date Margins	\$ 256,554	\$ 122,262
Number of Members	4,499	4,414
Number of Meters	5,820	5,723
Miles of Line	955	949
Total Utility Plant	\$ 31,613,853	\$ 32,698,455
Member Equity	\$ 9,516,435	\$ 8,798,326
Feb. Average Residential Use (kWh)	1,979	1,536
Feb. Average Residential Billing	\$161.93	\$132.93

**BPA has scheduled a SYSTEM-WIDE OUTAGE
from 11:00 pm on Wednesday, June 28, 2017
until 5:00 am on Thursday, June 29, 2017**

**ALL Lincoln Electric members will be without power
during this time while BPA makes crucial repairs on the
transmission line. We apologize for any inconvenience.**

Unclaimed Capital Credit List

As part of a cooperative, our members are entitled to a refund of margins for years they had economic participation in the cooperative. These are returned in the form of capital credit checks. However, when members move, they sometimes fail to notify LEC of their address change and the checks are undeliverable. In order to make every effort possible to find those that have capital credit funds due to them, we are asking our current members to lend us a hand. Please look over the unclaimed capital credit list of names that will be published in your May, June, and July *Rural Montana's*. If you have a way to contact any of these folks, please contact LEC at 406-889-3301 or info@lincolnelectric.coop. Thank you for being great members!

—A—

AABERGE, JAY
ABW INC.
ADAMS, EDWARD A
ADAMS, THOMAS L
AESTHETIC LOGGING
ENTERPRISES
AHL, LARRY
ALAVANA, JACK
ALBA FARO CO. INC.
ALEXANDER, LEWIS G
ALFSON, JANICE
ALLEN, EDWARD
ALLEN, JAMES F
ALLEN, JONATHAN E
ALLEN, KAREL A
ALLEN, STEVEN D
ALLEN, VERNA G
ALLISON, BRUCE
ALPINE CONSTRUCTION
INC.
ALSIPPI, PAUL M
ALVERSON, JIM
AMBELLAS, KIMBAL
AMBROSE, GARY G
AMELON, PEGGY S
ANDERSEN, HANS
ANDERSON, DEENA A
ANDERSON, LARRY D
ANDERSON, MICHAEL
ANDERSON, NATHAN S
ANDERSON, ROBERT
ANDERSON, TIMOTHY J
ANDERSON, WENDY L
ANDOR, LAVERTA
ANDREANI, PABLO
ANSORGE, BETTY

ARMBRUST, PAUL
ARMOUR, NORMAN H
ARMSTRONG,
MARGARET A
ARNOLD, MICHAEL D
ARROE, BEATRICE
AURICH, TRICIA
AUSTIN, VAL
AVCO FINANCIAL
SERVICES

—B—

BACHUS, RAY
BAIN, DAN J
BAKER, BARBARA H
BAKER, DAN W
BAKER, DENISE R
BALMER, JOHN T
BANEY MEATS
BANKUS, JACK
BARBER, MARION
BARCLAY, PAULA
BARK, R.M.
BARKER, TED
BARTLEY, WILLIAM J JR
BATCHELOR, NATHAN
BATES, BARRY A
BEAR, MARVIN L
BEARDSLEY, WM. E
BECK DRILLING ENVIR.
SERV.
BECKER, JILL
BECKETT, FRANKLIN
BEDNAR, ELIZABETH
BEEMAN, TRACY A
BEICK, SHIRLEY L
BEILER, DAVID B
BELL, BOB

BELL, JAMES R
BELSTAD, REBECCA L
BERGER, SID L
BERGET, CHARLES
BERKLUND, DENNIS
BERNEKING, H.F.
BERRETH, HERBERT
BETHEA, MICHAEL A
BETTCHER, DONALD
BIANCHE, DAVE
BICKEL, NORMAN
BILLOW, JOSEPH D
BIOSYSTEMS ANALYSIS
INC.
BISHOP, MIKE
BLACKBURN, HOWARD E
BLACKBURN, STEVEN B
BLAIR, TERRY A
BLANCHARD, BRIAN G
BLANCK, DAVE
BLANKERS, KATHRYN E
BLODGETT, SANDRA
BLOMQUIST, GUS
BLOOMSTINE, MAURICE H
BLUE, JOHN
BLYMAN, GEORGE
BOCK, GERHARD
BOEKE, JOHN
BOGARDUS, DIANE R
BOGUMIL, JESS W
BOHMAN & SUTLEY
BONER, PAUL H JR
BONNER, EUGENE S
BOONE, BILL E
BOREN, DON
BOWANS, COLBY L
BOWDEN, WILLIAM
BOWERS, JAMES W

BOWLAND, ANTHONY
BOWMAN, ARTHUR R
BOWMAN, JOE
BRAMMER, MARK
BRAS, CLARENCE
BRAUN, TIM E
BRAUNSCHWEIG, TODD
BREAKWELL, ROBERT
BREANAN, SEAN M
BRENNEMAN, IRENE
BREZINA, KEVIN R
BRITT, EDDIE C
BRITTON, WENDY J
BROADHEAD, JASON
BROCK, DAVID
BROCKEL, VICKIE K
BROCKMAN, HANNAH D
BROCKSTEDT, LUTZ
BROUSSEAU, FRANK J
BROUSSEAU, MAURICE
BROWN, HEIDI J
BROWN, THOMAS
BRUNS, SHAWNDA R
BRYANT, ALYCE R
BURDE, BEN JR
BURFOOT, DAN
BURGMEIER, STEVE M
BURKE, JOSHUA A
BUSCIGLIO, JOHNNY
BUTLER, D.J.
BUTLER, SHARRON L
BUTRICK, DEVERETT
BUTTERFIELD,
DOROTHY R
BUTZ, MICHELLE
BUZZELL, SUSAN A
BYE, SCOTT

Continued on page 6

Unclaimed

Continued from page 5

BYERS, JUNE M
BYLER, JOSEPH
BYRNES, CHANDOLINE

—C—

CABELL, GARY J
CAFFEE, TOM
CAMPBELL, LARRY
CAMUS, ALICE
CAMUS, GINGER J
CANFIELD, GRANT
CANFIELD, KEN
CANUSA GARDENS
CARDANI, LISA A
CAREY, DONNA F
CARKHUFF, DAVID
CARLOSS, JOHN N
CARLSON, BEN R
CARMAN, RONALD L
CARTER, VINCENT
CARVEY, SHARON E
CASEY, RICKY D
CASPERSON, DANIEL J
CASTONA, DENNIS
CENTURY 21
CHATMAN, DONNA L
CHEEVERS, TOYE V
CHEFF, PATRICK J
CHRISTIAN, JAMES A
CICCOLELLA, MALCOM
CLAIR, RICHARD D
CLARK, CYNTHIS H
CLARK, DALE R
CLARK, DUANE JR
CLARK, GERALD
CLARK, NORMAN C
CLARK, WM. R
CLARKE, BOB L
CLARKE, DIANNE
CLAYTON, CLAUDIA A
CLEMENT, TERESA
CLEMENTS, RICK
CLIFFORD, ALLEN
CLP HOLDINGS INC.
COATS, PAUL B
COCHRAN, DOUGLAS W
COCHRAN, JEM R
COE, JOANNE L
COFFMAN, RANDALL A
COHEN, WILLIAM F
COLASUONNO,
DOMENICO
COLE, ESTHER W
COLE, LYA
COLE, ROBERT L
COLLINS, ROBERT
COLONNA, LAURA A
COMBS, R.E.
COMBS, ROGER D
COMPTON, MITCHELL C
CONAT, RICHARD A
CONNELLY, ROBERT M

CONYERS, WILLIAM W
COOK, HAROLD
COOK, MARION
CORNERSTONE DEV
GROUP LTD
CORNISH, MAGHA F
COSTICH, THOMAS F
COTTRELL, PAUL T JR
COUGHLIN, SEAN
COX, CRYSTAL L
COX, EULA L
CRAIG, ROGER
CRANE, TERROL L
CRAWFORD, RUDY
CRISPO, CAROL M
CROCKER, CY
CRONIN, GARY
CROSS, JODIE
CRUMAL, CHRIS
CURTIS, TIM
CURTISS, RITA

—D—

DAGGETT, CHARLES
DAIGNEAU, ALLAN
DAKOTA LYTE
DAMM, TERESA
DANIELSON, MARVIN
DARIGOLD DIST. OF
KALISPELL
DARLING, ALLEN N
DAVID, KARL V
DAVIDOW, CLIFFORD D
DAVIS, DEBRA
DAVIS, GEORGIA A
DAVIS, MONICA L
DAVIS, RANDAL E
DAVIS, STEPHEN
DEAN, LINDA
DEGEORGE, TRISTAN A
DELANEY, DAVID
DELONG, DORIS I
DICK, CLEO A
DICK, M. LILIAN
DICK, WILLIAM E
DICKSON, LEIGH A
DIERMAN, CLARA B
DIERMAN, DARBY L
DIERMAN WAPLES,
DEANNA L
DIERS, WILLIAM
DODGE CREEK WATER
USERS
DODSON, REYES K
DOHERTY, JOE
DONALDSON, KEVIN M
DONALLY, KIRSTEN
DONSBACH, RONALD A
DOOLEY, SUSAN K
DORMAN, STEVE
DOUGLAS, KIRK
DOW, KATHLEEN
DOWELL, MABEL
DRUMMER, ALAN G

DRURY, BEVERLY J
DRURY, TRACY
DULEY, DIANA B
DUNCAN, EDWARD
DUNCAN, JAMES
DUNN, GARY M
DUNN, MICHAEL
DUPONT, JAMES M
DUSCHKA, PAUL E
DYKSTRA, DAVID A

—E—

E G & G DYNATREND
EASON, MARJORIE
EASTER, CONNIE F
EBERT, WILLIAM
ECKLUND, DOUGLAS M
EDDY, DOUGLAS
EDENFIELD, PERRY E
EDMONDS, JEFF M
EDWARDS, DUNCAN W
EGAN, GARY M
EHRlich, DONNA I
EICKHOFF, JAMES D
ELLCEY, RONALD F
ELLIS, JAMES D
ELLIS, KENNY L
ELLIS, ROBERT A
ELLIS, WAYNE I SR
ELOFF, IAN
EMERALD ESTATES INC.
ENDEMANN, FRED
ENDEMANN, PYHLLIS M
ENGLERT, BILL R
ERBA, ANTHONY
ERETH, J.O.
ERIE, VIOLA
ESLICK, DONAL R
ESTES, TIM E
EVANS, RAY E JR
EVANS, SCOTT N
EVANS, TERESA
EVJENE, JERRY

—F—

FENN, ROBIN J
FERGUSON, TIMOTHY S
FIFIELD, SHERMAN
FIKSE, JUDITH A
FINCH, SUTTON
FITCH, RUSSELL E
FITZGERALD, BARRY C
FITZGERALD, MICHAEL E
FLECK, DONALD H
FLEET FUNDING CORP.
FLEET MORTGAGE CORP
FLESCH, DAN
FLESCH, KENNETH N
FLESCH, LEO W
FLETCHER, SUSAN
FLOOD, TERRENCE J
FOLLENSBEE, PATSY
FOLTZ, JULIA
FORSGREN ASSOCIATES,
P.A.

FOSTER, SUSAN
FRANK, ROBERT J
FRANKLIN, TIM L
FRASER, CARL A
FRAZIER, KATHY M
FREEMAN, RONALD
FRIDAY, BERDINE
FRIGGE, JIM
FRONTIER WEST
FUNKE, MARCHITA A

—G—

GALLOWAY, RONALD E
GALUSZKA, JIM
GAMBLE, DOUGLAS M
GANNON, CLARISSA K
GARBUIT, GORDON
GARDNER, BENNY
GARRISON, BARRETT L
GARRISON, DAVID L
GARRISON, RACHEL
GASKIN, DOUGLAS H
GASSER, GEORGIE
GATES, BEN M
GEE, DARRELL W
GENTRY, CANDACE
GENTRY, JAMES W
GIBBS, CHARLES F
GIBSON, SPENCER I
GIFFIN, BONNIE K
GILES, GLENDA W
GLASS, DREW
GODKIN, SAM
GODLEY, LESLIE
GOHEEN, DAVE
GOODELL, CHRIS
GOODIN, GERALD H
GOOSEY, ERIN D
GORHAM, ROGER
GOTCHER, MITZI
GRADNIGO, CAROL
GRAHAM, ROBERT E
GRANDI, RENEE
GRANMO, JAY
GRANNUM, WILLIAM Q
GRAUE, SUSAN J
GRAVELLE, JAMES A
GRAVELLE, JUANITA R
GRAWUNDER, LEE
GREAT NORTHERN
ENTERPRISE INC.
GREEN, BRIAN
GREENE, CHARLES
GREGG, WESLEY
GRIFFIN, KRISTIN
GRIFFITHS, AARON W
GRILLO, VINCENT
GROB, RUFUS A
GRONEBERG, JENNIFER
GROSS, SHAWN
GROVER, DAVID
GTE NORTHWEST
GUYNES, SAMUEL J

Continued in June

RURAL MONTANA