



CLARKE
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Safety Driven • Energy Smart • Community Invested

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Volume 83, No. 7 | July 2023

HEADLINES

SAFETY DRIVEN | ENERGY SMART | COMMUNITY INVESTED

THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

Report of the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee met June 22 to select candidates to run against the incumbent directors. Board elections will be held at the Annual Meeting of the Membership Sept. 11.

Committee members are:

District 1 – Lori Lawyer and Jory Hunnerdosse

District 3 – Billie Jo Henrichs and Terrinda McIntire

District 7 – Gary Alley and Larry Jackson

The committee meets to find candidates who are interested and willing to serve on the board, following guidelines in the by-laws to have at least one candidate run against the incumbent candidate when possible.

This year, Larry Jackson (District 7), will be ineligible for re-election having served 15 years, the limit as stated in the by-laws. With that district open, the nominating committee will work to have at least two candidates from that district if possible.

If you have an interest in serving as a board member, please contact the cooperative. 11-13-05-02



ANNUAL MEETING
Sept. 11

COMMUNITY INVESTED

Operation Round-Up Helps Local Animal Shelter

Clarke Electric Cooperative and its Operation Round-Up® Board have proudly donated \$2,000 to Almost Home Animal Rescue in Lucas County.

Thanks to a group of highly motivated animal lovers, the former Humane Society of Lucas County is now Almost Home Animal Shelter after the Humane Society made the difficult decision to cease operation in August, 2022, due to low funding, lack of volunteers and needed repairs.

Later that year, the Humane Society board agreed to turn over the assets to a new Board of Directors who organized as the new entity. Since then, the group has worked to raise funds, enlist volunteers and make improvements to pass state inspection so they can open the doors.

For more information on how to get involved, contact Jena Wiley, (641) 203-9824.



CEC's Sam Walkup presents the Operation Round-Up check to Board President Jena Wiley and Board Member Lori Johnson.

Reading pays! We have hidden two of our members' account numbers in this issue. If you find your member location number, call during July to have \$10 deducted from your monthly energy account.

2022 CIPCO Power Supply Report

In 2022, the American electric utility industry raised significant concerns about the stability of our electric grid amid rising calls for the early closure of dispatchable generation sources.

Dispatchable generation, namely from fossil fuel resources, can be fired up and dispatched to the grid on demand at the request of power grid operators, according to market needs. In 2022, our power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), continued to study ways in which it could reduce the risk of purchasing energy in a volatile market and bridge the resource gap left by the early closure of Duane Arnold Energy Center in 2020. To do this, CIPCO won't be able to rely on the dwindling dispatchable generation supply across the industry in the next decade, but rather seek out new, intermittent renewable energy assets to meet this need.

The stability of the grid and the ability of regional grid operators to meet power demands were put to the test not once, but twice in 2022, when the Mid-Continent Independent System Operator (MISO) forecasted potential capacity shortfalls during both the summer and winter months. MISO warned of a potential summer peak electricity demand of 124GW, or 5GW more than what was projected to be available, prompting CIPCO and its Member-owned cooperatives

to stress the importance of energy efficient practices among its member-consumers like you.

Later in the year as many of us were readying for the holidays, we faced Winter Storm Elliott, a "bomb cyclone" of intense wind, snow and frigid temperatures that settled in across Iowa over the course of several days.

The skyrocketing demand during those times sent energy market prices soaring. The electric industry's reaction to two instances of extreme weather over the course of one year underscored the value of an "all-of-the-above" strategy that includes coal generation as one of many options during times of intense demand. Using all its available resources – including coal – CIPCO met all capacity requirements set forth by MISO.

CIPCO's commitment to reliability led to a system-wide outage rate of 0.34 hours per consumer. For 2022, Clarke Electric's was 0.37 hours per member-consumer.

Despite volatile energy costs in 2022, both Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings maintained CIPCO's 'A' ratings which confirm CIPCO's financial strength.



RANDY ROUSE
Representative on
CIPCO Board of
Directors

continued on pg. 4

Register Now for Free Chicken Dinner

Clarke Electric invites all our member-consumers to join us for a drive-thru Annual Meeting Sept. 11, 2023, at the cooperative headquarters, 1103 N. Main, Osceola. The drive-thru will be open from 3:30-5:30 p.m., followed by the business meeting of the members starting at 5:30 p.m.



Those who attend the drive-thru or annual meeting will be given a FREE chicken dinner from Thelma Saxton's Cater 2 U as well as a gift. Those who attend the business meeting and who have turned in their annual meeting election ballot will be entered into a giveaway for cash prizes. 33-14-02-02

Please register for the event so we can make sure we have enough food. You can register by calling the cooperative at (641) 342-2173, sending an email to clarke@cecnet.net, or using the QR code at upper right. Simply point your phone camera at the QR code and click on the cecnet.net web address that comes up to fill out the online registration form.

Summer Interns Help Out



Clarke Electric summer interns are, from left: RJ McCoy, Wilbur Walkup and Wade Porter.

Please join Clarke Electric Cooperative in welcoming three summer interns who will work with our linemen as groundworkers. RJ McCoy, Wilbur Walkup and Wade Porter will spend the summer assisting linemen while working from the ground, setting poles, and operating equipment.

Each of the three interns are currently enrolled in a powerline program to become linemen. The internship is a great way for them to get real life experience working alongside experienced linemen, and the cooperative gets extra help during the busy construction season.

Preparing to Serve You Better

Providing reliable power to you is, and will always be, top priority for Clarke Electric. With summer storm season upon us, I thought it would be a good time to tell you about a few measures we're taking to ensure you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

While trees provide shade and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounts for about a third of all power outages. That's why we strive to keep the co-op's power lines clear in right-of-way (ROW) areas. An ROW area is the land a co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. Our overall goal is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the landscape.

Modernizing Vegetation Management

Generally speaking, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Proactive trimming, pruning and spraying keeps lines clear to improve power reliability. But doing that is costly and time consuming, so Clarke Electric identifies

one substation area per year to be cleared and sprayed as part of its reliability work plan.

Planned Outages Improve Reliability

Although it may seem counterintuitive, we also maintain power reliability through planned, controlled outages. By carefully cutting power to one part of our local area for a few hours, we can perform system repairs and upgrades, which ultimately improve electric service. We will always notify you in advance of a planned outage, so make sure we have your correct contact information on file to receive the latest information.

Vegetation management is an essential tool in ensuring power reliability and minimizing the risk of outages. As equipment technology advances to make this job easier, your cooperative will continue doing all it can to ensure you have safe and reliable electric service.



DAVE OPIE
General Manager

A Look Back: The 9th Annual CEC Meeting

At different times, I like to look at cooperative historical information. I came across this article from the August 1949, *Along Your REA Lines News*. The article is titled, "Here are the Reasons Why." I will not print it in its entirety, but just enough for you to get an idea of what the annual meeting was like 74 years ago.



JODEE ECKELS
Communications / HR Manager

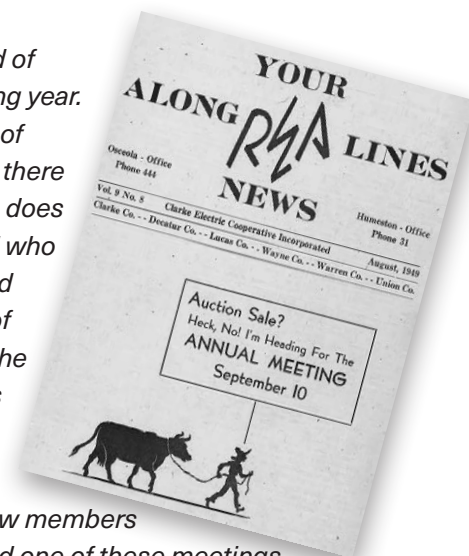
Why attend the Annual Meeting of the members?

Maybe that is a question in some minds who are not familiar with the workings of a member owned organization. We sincerely hope, however, that you are better informed than that.

The Annual Meeting of the members is the adding up day for your organization. That is the time when you hear reports of officers, employees and others on the condition of your Coop. We grant all is well today and we hope it will always be so. Since it is giving more than you expected now maybe this is a good time to learn all you can about it. There may come a time when you will need all the knowledge you can get on your Cooperative. So be in Osceola on Saturday, September 10, 1949.

You will elect your Board of Directors for the following year. If you will review the list of Candidates you will find there is a man on that list who does not live far from you and who you will agree is qualified to serve on your Board of Directors. The only way he can not get votes unless you attend the meeting and vote for him.

For the benefit of the new members who have never attended one of these meetings we have a good time. We start at 10 a.m. You bring the basket dinner and the co-op furnishes the ice cream and coffee. We all eat together and visit together. We get down to business for about 2 hours then play some more. You will enjoy yourself and at the same time gain some valuable knowledge and you may gain something else. It will be there for you if you're lucky.



see more on pg. 4

May Outages

Lightning: 4

Equipment/maintenance failure: 3

Trees: 3

Unknown: 2

Customer caused: 1

Motor vehicle: 1

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? @ cecnet.net



Statewide
outage map



Leased Light
Program



SmartHUB



Rebates &
Online Forms



Operation
Round-UP



Call Before
You Dig



Email
newsletters



RECare

Power Supply...from pg. 2

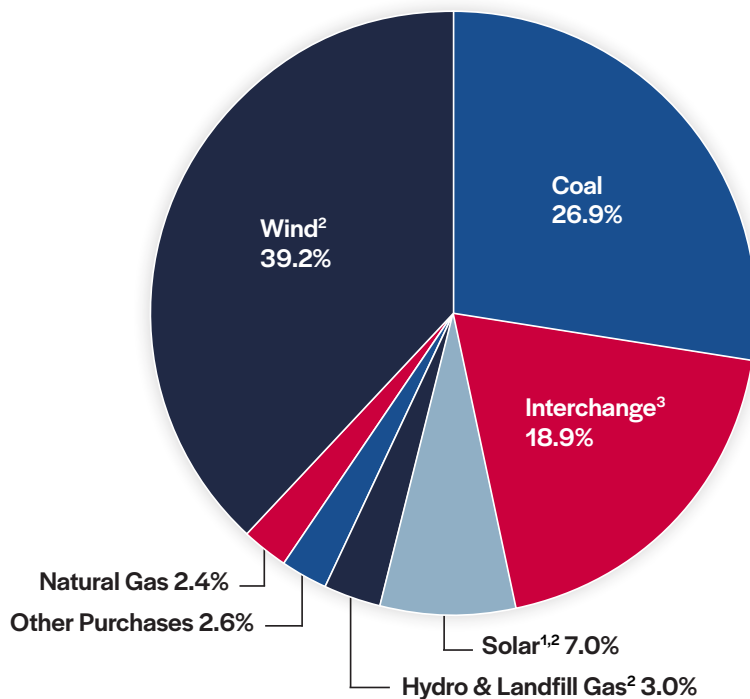
CIPCO remains dedicated to sound financial practices that allow margins to be returned to its members in the form of patronage, a key component of the cooperative business model. In 2022, CIPCO returned patronage totaling \$294,643 to Clarke Electric.

As a CIPCO director, I'm committed to guiding the organization through the industry challenges we

anticipate in the coming years. I'm confident CIPCO is well-positioned to navigate these challenges, allowing both CIPCO and Clarke Electric to thrive. As a member-consumer, you can rest assured your electricity needs will be met now and in the years to come with safe, reliable and cost-effective power when you need it most.



A BALANCED PORTFOLIO OF ENERGY SOURCES



¹ CIPCO's purchase power agreement for Wapello Solar, LLC, locks in stable, long-term pricing and avoids the risks associated with rising fuel costs. Renewable energy credits (RECs) are not included in this agreement.

² CIPCO invests in the development of renewable energy projects in several ways. We operate six small-scale solar arrays near communities we serve and retain the renewable energy credits associated with each. We also contract with energy producers for the electricity output from wind, hydro, and methane gas from a landfill (converted into electricity). CIPCO cannot claim these resources as renewable within our supply portfolio as we have either sold to third parties or do not receive the renewable attributes associated with the electricity produced from these renewable power sources. By selling these attributes (RECs), we not only support other organizations in meeting their renewable energy goals, we also generate revenue to help us lower our wholesale power rate to our 12 Member-owner distribution cooperatives and 15 municipalities.

³ A percentage of market purchases exist within the portfolio to meet additional supply needs not covered by existing contracts or CIPCO-produced generation. Weather volatility and unplanned operational events at power plants may also impact market purchases.

Operations Corner



Working weekends is sometimes part of a lineman's job when it comes to keeping the electricity flowing to our member-consumers. On a recent Sunday, Line Foreman Cory Dommer worked to repair an outage caused by a faulty pole top. The outage affected member-consumers west of Medora.

1949 Candidates for Director

(name and township, by county)

CLARKE COUNTY

H.C. Baker, *Franklin*
George Casey, *Fremont*
Bob Colley, *Osceola*
W.E. Day, *Knox*
A.F. Klein, *Fremont*
Arcel Luce, *Knox*
Doyce Miller, *Osceola*
Harold Smith, *Madison*

LUCAS COUNTY

O.R. Clevenger, *Warren*
Homer Curtis, *Warren*
O.W. Morris, *Union*
Geo. W. Wright, *White Breast*

WARREN COUNTY

James E. Hatcher, *Virginia*
Neil Morrison, *Virginia*

DECATUR COUNTY

Orville Burchett, *Richland*
Gerald West, *Richland*

WAYNE COUNTY

W. Ray Evans, *Richman*
G.C. Richardson, *Jefferson*



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(641) 342-2173 | (800) 362-2154
cecnet.net

OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 AM - 4 PM | Outside depository available 24/7

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ed White
Vice President: Randy Rouse
Secretary: Larry Keller
Treasurer: Lydda Youmans
Asst. Sec./Treasurer: Randy Barnard

Directors
Larry Jackson
Marni Kelso
Cody Miller
Natalie Rydl

GENERAL MANAGER

David Opie

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.