

Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* NEWS

April 2020



PROUD TO POWER YOUR LIFE

#LineworkerAppreciationDay

April 13, 2020



THIS IS YOUR PRIZE AND REGISTRATION STUB!

Please detach this mailing label along the dotted line and bring it with you to the annual meeting. This stub will also enter you into the prize drawings for a **CHANCE TO WIN UP TO \$500 IN ENERGY CREDITS!**



Jump River Electric
Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

www.jrec.com

Notice of the 2020 Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

Ladysmith Middle & High School Auditorium
1700 Edgewood Ave E., Ladysmith, Wisconsin

Meeting Registration: 9 a.m.
Membership Business Meeting: 9:30 a.m.

Action will be taken on the following items of business:

1. Approval of minutes.
2. Reports from the directors, employees, and special guests.
3. The election of three directors for a three-year term: one each from districts 3, 4, and 9.
4. Voting on a Proposed Article & Bylaw Amendments and on Proposed Advisory Resolution.
5. Such other business, special or regular, as may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

TWO VOTING OPTIONS – One Vote Per Membership

- **Absentee Ballot** – mailed to each membership. In accordance with the bylaws, any member unable to attend the meeting may vote by mail. Absentee ballots must reach JREC by mail or be dropped off at one of the offices by 4 p.m. on April 24, 2020.
- **Meeting Day Ballot** – Members attending the 82nd Annual Meeting who have not voted by absentee ballot will receive a “meeting day” ballot at the registration table.

PRIZES

- **\$1,200 IN ENERGY CREDITS** – Drawings will be held at the end of the meeting. Members have a chance to win one of the seven \$100 energy credits being given away or the grand prize, which is a \$500 energy credit.
- **\$10 ENERGY CREDIT** – A \$10 energy credit coupon and a cinch tote will be given to each member (one per membership) who attends the business meeting. *Members must be present to receive a prize.*



PLEASE NOTE: The health and safety of our members and employees are our primary concerns. We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation, and if we need to change the location or postpone the annual meeting to help prevent the spread of this disease we will do so. Please check www.jrec.com, our Facebook page, and local newspapers for updates on the annual meeting.

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 **Jump River Electric
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**IMPORTANT
REGISTRATION
CARD**

PLEASE PRESENT THIS CARD TO REGISTER AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Bring this registration card with you to the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 25, 2020. This card will assist us in registering you and will enter you into the prize drawings held that day. **PLEASE PRESENT THIS CARD TO REGISTER.**

Only JREC members and their immediate family members are eligible for prize drawings. You **MUST** be present to win.

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 25



James Anderson General Manager/CEO

When a group of individuals founded Jump River Electric Cooperative 82 years ago, they envisioned a future

where electricity was available to everyone who wanted it. It took a lot of hard work and a clear vision by all individuals involved to make this happen. Now 82 years later we continue to look for new tools and new ways to provide you with safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

As our nation responds to COVID-19, we know that the most important thing we can do to help is to keep your power on. We want to assure you that we have plans in place for the continued delivery of reliable power to your homes and businesses. We are following CDC guidelines and have taken steps to reduce face-to-face contact to help protect our community and keep our employees safe, healthy and on the job for you.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation, and at time of the release of this magazine are planning on holding a shortened version of our annual meeting. However, if we need to postpone the annual meeting to help

prevent the spread of the disease we will do so. Please continue to check our Facebook page and website as well as the local newspapers for any updates or postponements to the annual meeting.

Registration will be at 9 a.m. with the business meeting starting at 9:30 a.m. The notice of the meeting along with an outline of what will take place can be found on the inside front cover.

Members will be sent an absentee ballot in early April. Members who are unable to attend the meeting and would like to vote can do so by casting an absentee ballot. Members who attend, will

hear reports and be able to elect directors and vote on proposed bylaw amendments and an advisory resolution.

All members who attend will have an opportunity to win one of the seven \$100 energy credits and the \$500 energy credit that will be drawn at the end of the meeting. No one walks away empty handed. A \$10 energy credit and a cinch tote will be given to members attending the meeting.

Thank you to the current board of directors who have served the cooperative throughout the year. The district and years served follow their names below.



Front Row: Jane Reich, District 1 (8); Bill vanDoorn, District 5 (2); Sandy Schara, District 9 (3). Back Row: Joe Lorence, District 3 (3); Walter Kruk, District 8 (4); Jerry Carow, District 4 (6); John (Jack) Cerman, District 6 (3); Myron Brooks, District 2 (4); and Jason Weaver, District 7 (1).

VOTE BY MAIL OR IN-PERSON

One of the advantages of co-op membership is democratic member control. You have a voice in the way your electric cooperative business is run, and you can exercise that right by voting for those who you think will best represent you on the board of directors. You can also vote on proposed bylaw amendments.

You can vote by mail, by completing an absentee ballot or you can attend the annual meeting where you have an opportunity to meet the candidates and then cast your meeting day ballot. Either way, use your voice and vote!

Watch your mail for the Absentee Ballot booklet that will arrive in early April. Inside you will find information on director candidates, proposed bylaw amendments/advisory resolution, and your absentee ballot. If you decide to vote by mail, complete the absentee ballot and return it to our office so that it is received by April 24, 2020.

The results of the election and bylaw amendments/advisory resolution will be announced on annual meeting day after the voting has taken place and in the May issue of this magazine.

Why should you vote in JREC's director election and on bylaw amendments?

It's a privilege. Voting for the directors who represent your interests is one of the benefits of co-op membership. If you got your electricity from an investor-owned utility, you'd have no say in the matters involving your utility.

It's your responsibility. You're not a customer of Jump River Electric—you're a member, and that makes you a part owner. You share a responsibility in the co-op's well-being.

It matters. Many elections have been decided by just a handful of votes. Every vote counts.

It's healthy, and not just for your co-op. Studies have shown that those who vote regularly report greater well-being and life satisfaction, and stronger social connections.

It's easy. JREC directors are elected by ballot. You can vote by mail, using the absentee ballot that is mailed to you, or you can cast your ballot at the annual meeting.

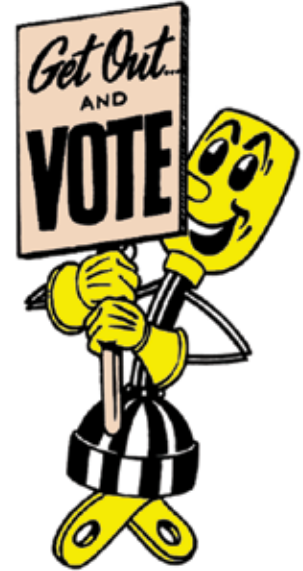
MEET YOUR DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

As a member-owned business, JREC is governed by a board of directors, which is elected by the membership. Three seats on the board are up for election and each director elected serves a three-year term. Elections will be held at the annual meeting on April 25 at the Ladysmith Middle & High School auditorium. You can vote one of two ways: at the annual meeting or by absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots will be mailed in early April to each member. The absentee ballot is only to be used if you wish to cast a ballot prior to the annual meeting. Follow the instructions on the ballot. Absentee ballots must reach us by mail or dropped off at our offices by close of business on April 24, 2020. Copies of the absentee ballot will not be accepted.

More information on your director candidates are below. As a member, you can vote for one person from each district.

Please note: The health and safety of our members and employees are our primary concerns. We are monitoring the COVID-19 situation, and if we need to postpone our annual meeting we will do so. Please watch www.jrec.com, our Facebook page, and local newspapers for updates.



District 3

Joe Lorence, Sheldon, Incumbent

I can't believe how fast the last three years have gone by, but here I am at the end of my first term as director for District 3. It has been an amazing experience learning about the rural electric co-op world and how it affects our daily lives.

JREC began as an idea in April of 1938 when Town of Jump River Chairman D.C. Boeckler called a meeting to see what they could do about getting electricity in the Jump River area. They soon found out that no utilities were interested in extending electric service to this rural area. They were able to get financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration office established by a Presidential Executive Order on May 23, 1938. After many disappointments, efforts and determination, their dreams paid off when on Jan. 30, 1940, the system was energized and provided electric service to 179 members on 150 miles of power lines that were built. I do not know the exact date, but my family got electricity outside of Sheldon in the later '40s when the lines were put in. As more miles of line was added, it became necessary to move the office in Jump River to a more central location in Ladysmith. Office space was rented until March 1953 when the current headquarters was built in the Town of Thornapple, just north of the City of Ladysmith.

So here we are in 2020 building a new headquarter building in Ladysmith that will be operational in the next month. We have approximately 8,500 members on 1,770 miles of power lines. We have grown with the changing times and are



continuing to make changes so we can be viable in the rapidly changing future. This is an exciting time to be involved in the power industry as it faces many challenges on how to remain competitive and keep rates affordable.

Computers have taken over our lives, and the electric industry is not immune either. Smarter meters to do more accurate billing and detect line loss. Possible rate changes to "Time of Use" rates may be in the horizon. A larger portion of our power supply is coming from renewable sources such as wind and solar as Dairyland is moving to shut down the G-3 coal-fired plant in Genoa as it is approaching the end of its life. Smarter appliances and electronics are getting more efficient, and now we are looking at the introduction of electric cars and how we are going to adapt to their charging requirements. I am fortunate to be involved at a very changing time in the electrical industry, and although my contribution is minimal, we are at a crucial time for sound decisions to move us forward.

For those of you that do not know me, I am a lifelong resident of Sheldon. I was chairman for the Town of Marshall for 24 years and currently am the town treasurer. I've been a realtor for Edina Realty for the past 14 years. I have sat on many local committees and have even had some involvement with Wisconsin Department of Transportation on road improvement grants. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve my friends and neighbors and give back to a community that has been good to me. I appreciate all the votes I get and will continue to do the best job I can representing the members at JREC if you allow me to continue. We as a co-op have come a long way, but there is still more work to do and I hope to be a part of the decision making.

District 4

JERRY CAROW, Ladysmith, Incumbent

Forty-some years ago, my wife, Paula, and I decided to move to the Rusk County area of Wisconsin. We have never regretted that decision. We raised our three children here and involved ourselves with many of the community groups along the way. Like many of you, that participation introduced us to new people, new thoughts, and the understanding of “when we do it together” good things happen.

Early on, we attended a Jump River Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting at the then middle school in downtown Ladysmith. I can still remember walking around the crowd that day thinking everyone is just happy to be here, and it would be an easy decision, when the time was right, to try to be a part of that feeling. That first election was five and a half years ago, and it seems like yesterday.

I’ve been retired almost 19 years, after serving 30 years as a conservation warden with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Those days never felt like work; it was just life the way it was supposed to be. And a big part of the job was to connect with the many sides of the public and work on the things they thought were important to them while holding to the values of doing what’s right. The same focus holds true within your cooperative, except that in those workdays I heard from the people much more often. The cooperative system is built on community participation and involvement, and we as board members need to hear more from you, the member-owners, to help guide the decisions we make. We are in this thing together.

Has your board made mistakes? We have. But we have done other things to set the table for rate stability and growth of the cooperative. While it may not seem that investing in a new headquarters building and other ideas can keep your electric rates in check over the long term, that is exactly what your board and management have attempted to do. Whether it is the new facility, different meters outside of your homes, the changes made to substations to influence the rate we pay to Dairyland, the continued movement to upgrade services and plant, overdue software upgrades or the possibility of time-of-use rates, the building blocks necessary for a bright future have been laid. But there is so much more to do to realistically anticipate the future, while controlling the costs of today—spend what you need but cut what you can.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in me. And we can do this thing together.



District 9

SANDY SCHARA, Hayward, Incumbent

Hello everyone,

My name is Sandy Schara and I am running for the director position for District 9. I have been a Jump River member for 32 years. Besides being the current District 9 director, I am also a supervisor on the Town of Round Lake town board and have held that position for almost 20 years. I really have enjoyed my time as your director and my years on the town board because I like working with and meeting new people.

What I can offer you is my years of public service and my ability to work well with others. I am now retired, but previously I was a business owner for 20 years, operating my own hair salon, which was in District 9. I feel I have good communication skills because of the career I had chosen in my working years and for the experience I’ve gained from being on this board, and the town board as well.

I’m just finishing my first term of office on the Jump River board and am hoping I have earned your trust and respect. I would very much like to continue this journey with all of you. I have finished the required classes to earn my first set of credentials and am looking forward to the continuing education. The cooperative world is a complex industry with so much to learn. I’ve only just begun and would very much appreciate your support to serve you again.

As a board, we have tried very hard to achieve transparency. This is your board and your cooperative. You each should feel free to address this board with any questions you may have. We welcome your interest and your concerns.

This has been an awesome experience for me, and I have enjoyed talking and meeting with members. I would very much appreciate your vote and I promise to work diligently for the best interest of Jump River Cooperative and all its members. Thank you so much.

JIM STRANLUND, Hayward

Hello, my name is Jim Strandlund, and my wife, Kari, and I live on Moose Lake in the Town of Round Lake, Hayward. We moved here in 2018 and previously lived in Minnesota. I am a graduate from Dunwoody Technical College, graduating with honors from the refrigeration technician course.

I worked for a commercial refrigeration contractor after graduation until I joined Strandlund Refrigeration, the family business in 1983. In 1989, I took ownership of the family business where I added heating to our services and became Strandlund Refrigeration, Heating and Cooling, LLC. In 1997 I added Geothermal heating and cooling systems to our offerings. I sold Econar and GeoComfort heat pumps up until selling my company in 2017. During my ownership I was able to service and install residential heating and cooling systems, commercial grocery stores, and industrial plastic injection companies.

(Continued on page 16d)



March 10, 2020

TO: The Membership

Resolution and Articles and Bylaw

As provided in the Bylaws, the Committee considered the proposed amendments and the proposed resolution to determine: 1) whether each is legally “in order”; 2) whether additional information should be presented to the membership to ensure a full airing of the issue and an informed decision; and 3) whether to make a recommendation to the membership concerning adoption or rejection of each of the proposals. The full text of the five proposals is printed below, along with an explanation of the Committee’s recommendations.

Annual Meeting Rules

The Committee reviewed the 2019 Annual Meeting Rules. The rules worked well last year. Berman explained that due to a bylaw change in 2019 the chair is no longer required to declare the registration closed in order to allow for the tellers to begin opening and counting the mail ballots; therefore he recommended that be dropped from the list of rules. The Committee then, on an 8-0 vote, adopted the 2020 Annual Meeting Rules as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

Rules and Resolutions Committee:

Gene Ludvigsen, Chair	Kathy Overman	Gary Beadles
Henry Lew	Vickie Palya	Ken Hodowanic
Fred Stendel	Walt Lang, Jr.	

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Editor’s Note: The four proposed amendments to the Bylaws this year were submitted by the board of directors and management. The committee’s explanation of its recommendation is shaded in green. Underlined text within the proposed amendment indicates language that’s been added; text with a line through indicates language that’s being removed.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment 1:

Amend Article III, Section 7 of the Bylaws by creating a new subsection (g) to read as follows:

(g) A member may not withdraw an absentee signed ballot or an electronic vote he, she or it has submitted on election of directors, on any proposed resolution, or on any other matter acted on at a meeting of the membership; a member may not substitute an in-person ballot for an absentee signed ballot or electronic vote that he, she or it has timely submitted.

Article III, Section 7(g) of the Bylaws would be created to remind members an absentee ballot or electronic vote for the election of directors and for other matters acted on at the meeting of the membership cannot be withdrawn and a meeting day ballot substituted. The Rules and Resolutions Committee agrees with this proposal and (on an 8-0 vote) **recommends that the membership vote for adoption** of this Bylaw amendment.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment 2:

Amend Article IV, Section 11 of the Bylaws as follows:

Section 11. Executive Committee. The elected officers of the Board of Directors may elect and shall constitute the Executive Committee to consist of three or more Directors, authorized to act for the Board during the interim between board meetings. . . .

The amendment to Article IV, Section 11 of the Bylaws would automatically constitute the elected officers as the Executive Committee of the Board without need for further action. The limitations as to when and on what matters the Executive Committee may act would be left unchanged. The Rules and Resolutions Committee agrees with this proposal and (on an 8-0 vote) **recommends that the membership vote for adoption** of this Bylaw amendment.

Proposed Article and Bylaw Amendment 3:

Amend Article VI of the Articles of Incorporation as follows:

Article VI
Directors and Officers

The business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a board of directors. The number of and qualifications for directors shall be specified in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide that directors be from specified territorial districts.

The principal officers of the cooperative shall be a chairperson, a vice chairperson, a secretary and a treasurer, or such other titles as the bylaws may provide. The bylaws shall also govern the manner of election of the officers, their authority and responsibilities, and the possibility of assistant offices or the combining of offices.

AND

Amend Article III, Section 3, Article V, Section 2, and Article VI, Sections 1, 5 and 6 of the Bylaws to change “President” to “Chairperson” and make similar changes wherever else the term “President” may appear in the Bylaws.

AND

Amend Article VI, Section 9 of the Bylaws to change “manager” to “CEO” and make similar changes wherever else that position is referred to as “manager” in the Bylaws.

The amendment to Article VI of the Articles of Incorporation and Article III, Section 3; Article V, Section 2; and Article VI, Sections 1, 5, and 6 of the Bylaws would update the titles of the principal officers of the Cooperative to change “President” to “Chairperson” and “Vice President” to “Vice Chairperson” wherever the term “President” and “Vice President” may appear in the bylaws. The Rules and Resolutions Committee agrees with this proposal and (on an 8–0 vote) **recommends that the membership vote for adoption** of this Bylaw amendment.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment 4:

Art. 1, Sec. 1: ... Two or more persons may hold a membership as ~~tenants in common~~ or as joint tenants with right of survivorship ... The provisions of Sections 3(c)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7) of this Article shall apply to a membership held by ~~tenants in common~~, and to a joint membership where the holders thereof are not husband and wife.

Art. I, Sec 3 [heading]: Joint Membership and Membership Held as Tenants in Commons.

Art. I, Sec 3(c): The term “member” as used in these bylaws shall be deemed to include a husband and wife or other persons who hold a joint tenancy or ~~tenancy in common~~ membership ...

Art. I, Sec. 3(d): The records of the Cooperative shall show all single; ~~or joint; or tenancy in common~~ memberships and the names of all persons holding such membership.

Art. I, Sec. 5: ... a membership in the name of one person; ~~or a joint membership; or a membership as tenants in common~~ may be converted to a membership of another of the ~~three~~ other types. ...

Art. 1, Sec. 8(c): Upon the legal separation or divorce of the holders of a joint membership, ~~or the holders of a membership as tenants in common;~~ ...

Art. III, Sec. 4: ... In case of joint memberships, ~~or memberships as tenants in common;~~ notice given to either joint tenant member ~~or either tenant in common member~~ shall be deemed notice to both members.

Art. III, Sec. 5: ... In case of a joint membership ~~or a membership held by tenants in common,~~ the presence at a meeting by either joint member ~~or by one of the tenants in common;~~ shall be regarded as the presence of one member.

Art. III, Sec. 6: ... Two or more persons holding a joint ~~or tenancy in common~~ membership shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote ...

Art. IV, Sec. 3(b)(9): When a membership is held jointly ~~or by tenants in common,~~ one of the joint tenants ~~or one of the tenants in common,~~ but not more than one, may be elected a director, provided, however, that such person shall not be eligible to become or remain a director or hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless both joint tenants ~~or all tenants in common~~ shall meet the qualifications hereinabove set forth. ...

Art. IX, Sec. 1: ... In case of a joint membership, ~~or a membership held by tenants in common;~~ a waiver of notice signed by one joint tenant ~~or one tenant in common~~ shall be deemed a waiver of notice of such meeting by all joint ~~or tenant in common~~ members.

This amendment to the Table of Contents; Article I, Sections 1, 3 (heading), 3(c), 3(d), 5 and 8(c); Article III, sections 4, 5, and 6; Article IV, Section 3(b) (9); Article IX, section 1; and wherever else the term may appear in the bylaws would eliminate references to memberships as tenants in common, since all joint memberships on the books of the Cooperative are held as joint tenants with right of survivorship. The Rules and Resolutions Committee agrees with this proposal and (on an 8–0 vote) **recommends that the membership vote for adoption** of this Bylaw amendment.



PROPOSED ADVISORY RESOLUTION

Resolved, that the membership of JREC hereby urges the Board to approve a five-year moratorium on spending money on free lunches, gift giving, scholarships, and charity. Then these savings could be used to lower our electric bills.

One member-proposed advisory resolution was submitted this year. The resolution would urge the Board to approve a five-year moratorium on free lunches, gift giving, scholarships, and charity. The committee discussed this proposal, agreeing with the concern over costs but noting the small amounts involved and the value of the specific expenditures mentioned in the resolution. The Rules and Resolutions Committee disagrees with this proposal and (on a 7-1 vote) **recommends that the membership vote against this advisory resolution.**

The Bylaws provide that the Rules & Resolutions Committee shall meet prior to the Annual Meeting, to adopt rules and procedures for conducting the annual meeting and to review the resolutions to be presented to the annual meeting. The Committee shall consist of not less than 5 members, which shall not include any continuing director or candidate for director. The rules adopted by the committee are as follows:

2020 Annual Meeting Rules

1. As provided in the Bylaws, no resolution on policy affecting Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc., may be submitted by any member unless written copies have been submitted not less than sixty (60) days in advance of the meeting so as to permit review by the Rules & Resolutions Committee and its recommendation to the meeting as to approval or rejection. Resolutions to this meeting have been turned in by February 25, 2020. Notice to this effect was included in the December, January, and February *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News (WECN)* mailed to each member.
2. The Meeting will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, as supplemented by these Rules; and, the President has appointed the Cooperative's Attorney, Niles Berman, to act as Parliamentarian of the Meeting.
3. Any speaker must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.
4. Only members will be recognized by the Chair; and, each member must give his or her name and address.
5. Members are to limit their comments to three (3) minutes with any rebuttal limited to two (2) minutes. The Chair shall be responsible for maintaining decorum during the meeting.
6. Comments from members will be in order during old and new business sessions and after the President's, Manager's, and Financial Reports have been given.
7. The tellers may begin opening and counting the mail ballots, prior to the opening of the meeting, to avoid unnecessarily extending the length of the meeting. Members who have not cast mail ballots may continue to register and cast meeting-day ballots until the balloting is declared closed.

Jim Strandlund (Continued from page 15)

I worked with several electric co-ops through my career and was very close with East Central Energy out of Braham, Minn. I also worked with Connexus Energy, Xcel energy, Minnesota Power, and Great River Energy. I worked with these co-ops and their energy management, training and rebate programs when providing services to my customers. My passion for geothermal heating and cooling systems enabled me to become a founding member and first president of the Minnesota Geothermal Heat Pump Association (MNGHPA). I continued my passion with the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA), where I still maintain my credentials of Certified Geothermal Inspector, Trainer, Designer and Installer. I also maintain membership with the Wisconsin Geothermal Association. I currently work for a leading geothermal manufacturer and solar distributor Enertech Global, LLC as one of their technical service representatives.

Why do I want to become a director of Jump River Electric Co-op? I feel my strong background in the mechanical contractor industry and close working relationships with many electrical co-ops would make me a valuable contributor. Owning and operating a corporation with eight-plus employees gave me strong leadership skills.

My technical background and trainings give me a strong electrical service understanding, which can help lead Jump River into the future of environmentally beneficial electrification. Our country is heading into a new era where fossil fuels and energy conservation will become a priority. The past several years we have seen government mandates for cleaner energy and the advancement of solar systems, windmills, and electrical vehicles. This shows a glimpse into our future.

It would be an honor to serve as a director of Jump River Electric Co-op and help lead our members into the changing future. I would greatly appreciate your vote in the upcoming election and thank you in advance.



WE'RE MORE THAN YOUR LOCAL CO-OP

We are your resource for information and other services.

Here are a few of the ways your cooperative is at work for you.

Is it time for an energy-efficient upgrade? Jump River Electric Cooperative (JREC) has joined Dairyland Power Cooperative (wholesale provider) and eight other electric cooperatives to provide you with access to ElectricSense—an online store that will deliver energy-efficient products right to your door.

ElectricSense was designed with member convenience in mind. Many of the products are eligible for the cooperative's Energy Sense incentive/rebate program. In addition to free shipping on all orders over \$25, the prices listed on qualifying products are discounted to reflect available incentives.

Occasionally we have members submit an incentive form and paperwork, but the product they purchased doesn't qualify, and that is disappointing to both the member and your cooperative. Having some of the products available on the ElectricSense Online Store that are already part of our



incentive program saves members and cooperative employees time, which is valuable.

We are excited the online store has expanded its product offerings

to help members embrace “smart home” technology, such as smart thermostats, sockets, and LED bulbs. When you can sync these devices to your smart speaker or smartphone, it's eye-opening to see how you use your energy and figure out better ways to use electricity wisely.

As the year goes on, members should watch our website (jrec.com) and this magazine for promotions and special pricing on certain items. Products with incentive pricing included online are a variety of LED bulbs, water conservation resources, and advanced power strips. Some of this year's expanded inventory of energy-saving items does not currently qualify for an incentive, but JREC wants to be a trusted resource for purchasing these smart products.

Members with smartphones will be able to download a corresponding app to remotely control these items from their phones, as well as set up timers and schedules for devices. Added features within the smartphone applications will help guide members to making wise energy-efficient decisions, which can help save them money.

To shop and view informational blogs related to these new products, visit the ElectricSense Online Store at <https://electricsense.amcgmarketplace.com>. A link to this store can also be found online at jrec.com/energy-sense-rebates. To make a purchase, a member must create an account and identify as a JREC member; the store accepts VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and PayPal.

COMMUNITY CENTS

Your change can make change!

Join fellow members who have decided to take part in this new Community Cents program that began in January 2020. The Community Cents program is designed to help make a difference for some of our members who need a hand up and not a handout. The program is operated and funded independently from Jump River Electric. This program relies solely on the contributions from our member-owners who have opted to have their bill rounded up. The average member will see about \$6 a year go towards this program.



The funds that are collected through this program may be applied for by members and nonprofit organizations in the JREC service territory. You can find out more about this program as well as sign up by going to jrec.com/community-cents. An opt-in form can also be found on the back of your energy bill.

Energy Sense

Together we can... Together we will



Along with the ElectricSense store, members can receive rebates through the Energy Sense program on appliances, lighting, water heaters, heat pumps, home energy audits, dairy rebates, and renewable grants. For a full list of rebates available, go to jrec.com/energy-sense-rebates.



20 years of Renewable Energy for Your Lifestyle

Setting goals to be powered by 100 percent renewable energy isn't a concept that was recently dreamed up in the conference rooms of Google, Apple or IKEA. Jump River Electric Cooperative's (JREC) members have had access to renewable energy since 1998 through the Evergreen program.

Evergreen was developed to provide members an opportunity to voluntarily contribute to the increased use of renewable energy sources without the financial burden of installing their own larger system. Starting at \$1 per month, a member is assigned one Evergreen block of 100 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of clean, renewable energy. Evergreen will appear as a line item on the participating member's monthly electric bill.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of Evergreen, JREC members have more opportunities to participate in ways that fit their lifestyle or budget.

- *Evergreen Everyone:* Members can support renewable energy in increments of 100 kilowatt-hour (kWh) blocks for just \$1 per block per month (\$0.01 per kWh).

- *Evergreen Everyday:* Members who enroll in a storage strategy for their electric water heater will receive up to four Evergreen blocks to help keep their water hot.
- *Evergreen Everywhere:* Members who charge their electric vehicle during off-peak hours will receive up to four Evergreen blocks.
- *Evergreen Everything:* Being 100 percent powered by renewable energy isn't just for large corporations. Through Evergreen Everything, members can choose to have 100 percent of their electricity use generated by renewable energy for \$1 per 100 kWh block. The average cooperative home uses around 1,000 kWh per month, which equals \$10 per month to be a green home.

We understand purchasing a private system—whether a wind turbine or solar array—is not feasible for all members due to financial or location constraints. For example, a member may have trees that shade their home during the summer—which is a great energy efficiency strategy—and that means rooftop solar is not a viable option. With Evergreen, members still have the opportunity to support renewable energy and enjoy their landscaping.

Each Evergreen block is tracked monthly and reinforces that Evergreen is for all members who want to do more to increase the use of renewable energy sources. Evergreen subscriptions are in addition to any federal or state required renewable portfolio standards. Currently, renewable energy makes up 18 percent of Dairyland Power Cooperative's generation portfolio, which includes solar, wind, hydro and biogas. Dairyland is JREC's wholesale power provider. For more information about participating in Evergreen, contact us at 715-532-5524 or go to jrec.com/evergreen-program.

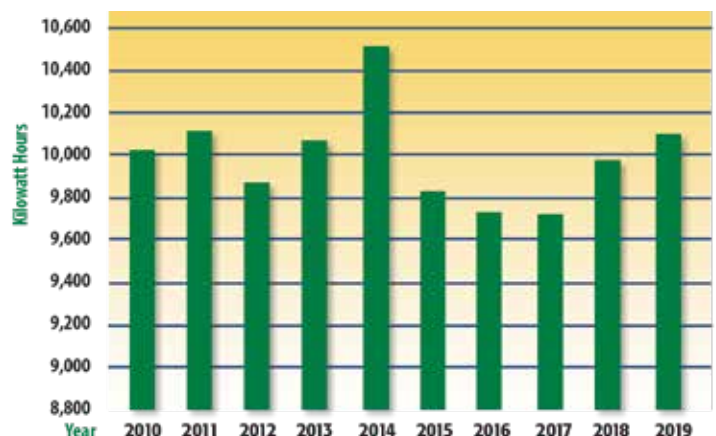


Find more information about JREC's services, along with how you can participate in our load management programs at jrec.com. You can also find electrical safety and energy efficiency tips, cooperative news and events, and much more at www.jrec.com.

What We Did During 2019

New Services Built.....	61
Miles of Overhead Line Built/Removed	-4.8
Miles of Underground Line Installed/Removed.....	15.67
Transformers Installed and/or Changed to Larger Size	127
Poles Installed or Replaced	359
Meters Tested.....	2040
Services Changed for Increased Capacity	76

Average KWH Per Member Per Year



Balance Sheet (December 31, 2019) (Subject to Audit)

ASSETS	2019
Electric Utility Plant	\$50,346,775
Less Reserve for Depreciation	(14,312,257)
Net Utility Plant	36,034,518
Patronage Associated Organizations	5,832,916
Investments Associated Organizations.....	713,965
Other Investments	8,036
General Cash	112,516
Temporary Cash Investments	2,534,179
Accounts and Notes Receivable (Less Reserves)	1,346,061
Materials and Supplies	333,677
Other Current and Accrued Assets	97,790
Deferred Charges	339,703
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$47,353,362</u>
LIABILITIES	2019
Long Term Debt (RUS-NRUCFC)	\$18,368,378
Notes and Accounts Payable	\$10,028,318
Customer Deposits	343,292
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	620,673
Deferred Credits	204,210
Total Liabilities	29,564,871
Patrons' Capital Credits	\$23,136,584
Less Capital Credits Retired	8,835,053
Balance Capital Credits Outstanding	14,301,531
Retired Capital Credits—Gain	795,147
Membership Fees	53,640
Other Equities	2,638,173
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES.....	<u>\$47,353,362</u>

Operating Report (Subject to Audit)

	For the Year	
	2019	2018
Total Operating Revenue	<u>\$14,813,680</u>	<u>\$14,502,464</u>
Operating Expenses:		
Cost of Power	\$7,864,032	\$7,689,794
Operations and Maintenance Expense	\$2,405,361	\$2,147,959
Collection and Billing Expense	\$535,455	\$417,454
Customer Service and Informational Expense	\$88,036	\$96,755
Sales Expense	\$68,802	\$64,767
Administrative and General Expense	\$1,501,170	\$1,547,348
Depreciation	\$1,240,906	\$1,130,105
Taxes	\$227,310	\$227,192
Interest on Long-Term Debt	\$691,748	\$649,381
Other Deductions	\$118,672	\$46,736
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$14,741,492</u>	<u>\$14,017,491</u>
Net Income from Operations	\$72,188	\$484,973
Patronage Capital Allocations (DPC-NRUCFC) and Other Non-Operating Income	\$443,422	\$294,334
TOTAL MARGINS FOR THE PERIOD	<u>\$515,610</u>	<u>\$779,307</u>

ANNUAL REPORT

Who Are Our Members?

Residential	4,229
Seasonal	4,300
Commercial	629
Farms	310
Schools, Halls, Etc	44
Water Pumping	37
Industrial	21
Street Lights	4
Total Meters Connected	<u>9,574</u>

2019 Interruptions of Electric Service

Caused by:

Tree and limbs	113	Material or Equipment	
Member's Equipment.....	7	Fault/Failure	53
House Fire	2	Power Supplier	5
Vehicles	6	Planned Outage	2
Birds and Animals	76	Unknown.....	33
Storms	53	Total.....	<u>353</u>
Miscellaneous	3		



THEY'RE MORE THAN LINeworkERS

The history of the power industry is rich with references to Thomas Edison and the light bulb, Nikola Tesla and alternating current, and even Benjamin Franklin and the lightning rod. But those who have worked in the industry know that lineworkers have always served on the frontlines of our nation's energy needs, and that is why on April 13 Jump River Electric Cooperative, along with other electric cooperatives across the country, will honor the brave men and women who work hard to keep the lights on.

Top 10 Reasons We Appreciate Lineworkers

Although all employees are appreciated at Jump River Electric Cooperative, it takes a special kind of person to be an electric lineworker. Lineworkers work in all sorts of weather conditions, at all hours of the day and night, and on any day of the week. Lineworker Appreciation Day allows us to celebrate them and their hard work. This month, we'd like to look at the top 10 reasons we appreciate our lineworkers.

10. They are specially trained to work on power lines and related equipment.
9. They are dedicated to safely and efficiently restoring power when extreme weather or other conditions cause the power to go out.
8. They are willing to work overtime or get up in the middle of the night to help restore power.
7. They enjoy serving our community.
6. They aren't afraid of heights.
5. They are willing to help other utilities with major outages at a moment's notice.
4. They often lend their talents to help other countries with less established or damaged electrical distribution systems.
3. They enjoy working together and have each other's backs.
2. They are trained to work on both dead and live power lines and are always be dedicated to safety.
1. We couldn't provide excellent service without them or any of our other dedicated employees.



The Many Hats They Wear

Lineworkers wear hard hats to keep them safe on the job, but outside the job they find themselves wearing many other hats as they serve the community in which they live. JREC employs 13 linemen and amongst them they can be found coaching wrestling, hockey, football, softball, baseball, and even T-ball. A few have been involved in mentoring youth hunting programs as well as teaching hunter safety. Local youth camps; snowmobile, archery, and bass fishing clubs; sports centers; Wildlife Restoration Association; Miller Dam Lake Association; Wisc. Conservation Congress; and the Chequamegon Fat Tire race have all benefited from their volunteerism. On the job, many of the linemen take part in teaching electrical safety at the local elementary schools as well as to EMS personnel.

Thank you to all the lineworkers and JREC employees who work hard to keep the lights on. Join us April 13 in honoring our lineworkers by acknowledging the many contributions they make to our lives and local communities. You can use #ThankaLineworker on social media to show your support, or if you see them and their families in the grocery store or around town, please offer them a thank you as well.

CAPITAL CREDIT ALLOCATION

The energy bill mailed in April will contain your 2019 capital credit allocation information. The graphic below explains how capital credits are allocated and then subsequently paid out. Please note this is not a bill or a credit that can be used to pay an electric bill. The allocation amount represents your share of the operating margins.





The earth is what we all have in common. – Wendell Berry

Earth Day has been celebrated on April 22 each year since its inception in 1970, and is considered one of the world's largest civic events. Earth Day continues to grow as a worldwide phenomenon focused on promoting clean living and a healthy, sustainable environment. On April 22, we can all be part of this global movement to help the environment.

How will you celebrate Earth Day?

There are so many things we, as individuals, can do to help the environment and the community in which we live. Some are easier than you'd think. You can plant a tree, plan a garden, pick up trash in your area, and generally just be aware of your surroundings and do your part to keep it clean. The importance of doing this really hit home for me when I was in seventh grade (more than a few years ago) and my class took a field trip to a local fishing spot. I couldn't believe the trash not only in the water, but all over the ground. This was supposed to be a place for recreation, but it had literally turned into a dump.

Jump River Electric Cooperative employees have adopted a two-mile stretch on State Highway 27, and we see the impact of littering, especially each spring when we do our first highway clean-up. Litter along the road, on the streets or by the litter bins contains toxic materials or chemicals that can be blown or washed into rivers, forest lands, oceans, lakes, and creeks and eventually pollute the land and waterways.



Traditionally, April brings a ground swell of outdoor work, which often includes digging. Whether it is a small project or a large home-improvement project, National Safe Digging Month is

a way to remind us all to call 811 before starting any digging project.

Did you know, every six minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone decided to dig without first calling 811? The risk of injury, or even death is serious. Beyond the devastating risks of death or injury, consider the costs of repair, fines and even inconvenience. From putting in a fence, planting a tree or building a deck, knowing where the power and water lines are before you dig will save a lot of time, money, and pain later.

Here are the four main things to remember if you plan to dig this month (or any month, for that matter!)

Not only can we help keep our world clean by not littering, we can also help fix the damage done by picking up trash when we see it. Recycling and reducing water and energy consumption are ways we can conserve our world's resources. Here are a few simple actions you can take now:

- **Make Earth Day crafts** with your kids or grandkids and recycle materials around the house. You can find all sorts of ideas online, such as pinterest.com or weteachers.com.
- **Start or finish one of those DIY (Do It Yourself) projects** that give new life to used materials.
- **Paper or plastic?** Pick paper, or better yet, bring your own grocery bag made out of recycled products.
- **Audit your light bulbs.** Swapping out any remaining incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs can make a big difference in home efficiency, and it's one of the easiest ways to reduce your energy bill.
- **Maintain your HVAC system.** Replace your home air filters to allow your HVAC system to run more efficiently. Air filters prevent dust and allergens from clogging your HVAC system.
- **Examine your smart or programmable thermostat.** This is one of the best tools at your fingertips; however, you can only achieve efficiencies and savings if it is programmed properly and adjusted periodically to keep pace with changes in the season and household routines.
- **Seal window and doors with weather stripping and caulk** to keep cool air indoors during warm months and prevent cold air from penetrating the indoors during colder months. Sealing gaps around piping, dryer vents, fans, and outlets also help to seal the envelope.

While these suggestions may not be glamorous actions worthy of a press release or event, they do make a difference. And we're always here to help if you want more information on how you can save energy. Stop by our office, look on our website, or give us a call.

As we celebrate Earth Day this April, let's continue to work together and make a positive impact on our local community—and our beautiful planet.—*Denise Zimmer*

1. Call 811 **three** days before you plan to dig. All you must do is give the address or general location of the project, when you plan to start, and how much digging you'll be doing.
2. Make sure you **dig parallel with the utility line** and use precautions when you are removing soil from near the utility line.
3. **Use smaller hand tools** while digging within 24 inches of the outer edge of underground utility lines.
4. Keep an eye out for signs of a natural gas leak. If you smell something like rotten eggs, or hear hissing, whistling, or roaring, it's likely a leak.



HEADQUARTERS BUILDING UPDATE

By the time this magazine reaches your door, the finishing touches will have been completed on the new headquarters and the move made. We are pleased to report that this building was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. We expect the new office to open for business on March 27, if not before. An open house is being planned for later this summer.



YOUTH PROGRAM BUILDS LEADERS

As the name of the conference implies, Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) provides high school students with a great opportunity to learn more about cooperatives while building their leadership skills. The co-op has sponsored many students over the years and is hoping to do so again this year. The conference will take place July 14–16 at UW-River Falls.

The YLC program introduces students to cooperative business basics, demonstrates the value of cooperation in everyday life, and offers sessions to help develop leadership skills. Not only does this program build better leaders but it also helps to build strong citizens.

The cooperative covers all the expenses for this conference and provides transportation to and from River Falls. If you are a high school sophomore or junior and are interested in attending, please contact your high school guidance counselor for all the details and to obtain an application. You can also contact Denise at 715-532-5524 if you have questions or would like more details.

James Anderson, General Manager

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After-hour emergency service, call 866-273-5111

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EMPLOYEE RECIPE CORNER

In 2005, Kurt Harris began working as an 1,000-hour summer employee before being employed full-time at Jump River Electric Cooperative as an apprentice lineman. Now, 15 years later, he is the general foreman and continues to work out of the Ladysmith headquarters.



Kurt describes himself as a married father of two who loves spending his spare time with his family outdoors. “I love to hunt and fish. We spend much of our summers fishing Lake Michigan out of Algoma. Our kids love to see the big salmon and trout and ‘helping’ to bring them in. Year-round, we love to take family outings anywhere that gets the kids excited,” explained Kurt.

When asked what was at the top of his bucket list, he replied, “I would love to moose hunt. It would be my dream to experience the excitement of seeing a big moose and having the opportunity to hunt one!” Traveling to British Columbia to see the amazing terrain and, of course, moose hunt is a close second on his bucket list.

Not only does Kurt spend a lot of time with his family, but he enjoys mentoring kids every spring for the youth turkey season. He also helps his wife, who helps coordinate her school’s cancer benefit, when needed. Kurt is passionate about what he does at Jump River Electric Cooperative, so it is no surprise that he has volunteered to talk with local students about his career, to help them decide if it is the path for them.

Talk about being passionate about something, you could say Kurt is passionate about oatmeal cookies and this is easily his favorite “food.”



Oatmeal Cookies



- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 cup butter | 1 tsp vanilla |
| 1 cup brown sugar | 1 tsp soda |
| 1 cup white sugar | 1 tsp salt |
| 2 eggs | 1 ½ cups flour |
| 3 cups quick cooking oatmeal | |

Instructions: Cream butter and sugars until creamy. Add the rest of the ingredients and stir until well mixed. Cook at 350 degrees. Makes 4 to 5 dozen cookies.



Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Since 1938

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Offices will be closed April 10, 2020, due to observance of Easter.

MINUTES OF THE 81ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP • APRIL 27, 2019

The 81st Annual Meeting of the Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as the "Cooperative") was held at the Ladysmith High School, Town of Flambeau, Rusk County, Wisconsin on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Registration began at 9 a.m.

President Jerry Carow called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. The Presentation of Colors were made by members of the American Legion followed by the playing of the National Anthem. President Carow welcomed the cooperative members to the 81st Annual Meeting and thanked the American Legion for the presenting the colors.

President Carow announced that registration was closed, which permitted the counting of the ballots to begin.

Secretary-Treasurer Joe Lorence reported there were 101 members registered and declared there was a sufficient number to constitute a quorum and hold an official meeting.

President Carow thanked the following guests for being in attendance: David Anglemyer, Clyde Shipmann, Mary Erickson, Nate Bennington, David Wozniak, Linda Powers, Barb Nick, and Chuck Zenner.

President Carow announced Attorney Niles Berman would act as Parliamentarian of the meeting. Attorney Berman then read the Rules of the Meeting to the membership. Attorney Berman next read the proof of notice of the annual meeting. The official notice of the meeting was included in the *Wisconsin Electric Cooperative News (WECN)* magazine, mailed to all members on March 29, 2019.

Attorney Berman stated members received a copy of the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes in the Annual Meeting Notice that was mailed to them in the *WECN* magazine and entertained a motion to approve those minutes as distributed. A motion was made and seconded by the members to approve the 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. Unanimously carried.

President Carow introduced the election inspectors: Jerry Geisler, Arian Knops, Jackson Reeder, Florence Selonke, and Kathy Titera.

President Carow introduced the current directors, being: Jane Reich, District 1; Myron Brooks, District 2; Joe Lorence, District 3; Jerry Carow, District 4; Bill van Doorn, District 5; John Cerman, District 6; Lori Taguma, District 7; Walter Kruk, District 8; and Sandy Schara, District 9.

Attorney Berman read the qualifications of the directors of the cooperative and introduced the current director candidates, being: District 2 – incumbent Myron Brooks, Gilman; District 7 – Jason Weaver, Hayward and incumbent Lori Taguma, Hayward; and District 8 – incumbent Walter Kruk, Hayward. Brooks, Weaver, Taguma, and Kruk addressed the membership.

Attorney Berman called for questions on the Director Ballot. There were no questions asked, so Berman asked the members to mark their ballots and then closed the director balloting.

Attorney Berman acknowledged and thanked the Rules and Resolutions Committee: Gary Beadles, Sue Farrell, Ken Hodowanic, Peggy Kuehne, Henry Lew, Gene Ludvigsen, Kathy Overman, Vickie Palya, and Fred Stendel.

Attorney Berman reviewed the proposed Bylaw amendment. As reported in the meeting notice, the Rules and Resolutions Committee recommends approval of the Bylaw amendment. A motion and second were then made for adoption of the bylaw amendment as proposed and included in the meeting notice. Attorney Berman called for questions and/or comments on the proposed bylaw amendment. A question was asked on how the cooperative would set policy and establish very specific rules for making the credentials correct for those members voting online. Another was why a motion was being requested to adopt this proposed bylaw amendment. When the discussion concluded, Attorney Berman asked the members to mark their ballots for or against adoption and then declared the proposed bylaw amendment balloting closed.

Attorney Berman next reviewed the proposed advisory resolution. As reported in the meeting notice, the Rules and Resolutions Committee recommends that the membership vote against adoption. A motion and second were made to approve the resolution as proposed. Berman called for questions or comments on the proposed advisory resolution. Questions were on the thought process behind this resolution and it was explained that this was just a suggestion to the board and not a proposal to amend the bylaws. Members also asked if the Hayward office was recently constructed and why was a change needed. The membership was told that the office area was originally constructed to house appliances. When the discussion concluded, Attorney Berman asked members to mark their ballots for or against adoption of the resolution and then declared the proposed advisory resolution balloting closed.

General Manager/CEO Jim Anderson introduced David Wozniak of CliftonLarsonAllen. Mr. Wozniak stated the Cooperative's books were in good standing and kept accurately. A copy of the financial report was sent to each member in the *WECN* Annual Report and Wozniak reviewed the report.

General Manager/CEO Anderson introduced President Carow. Carow recognized former board members John Kmosena and Stanley Kromrey. He stated as member-owners of Jump River Electric Cooperative, we all should rightly expect affordable rates, great service, and electricity when we need it. Carow then addressed the membership and highlighted the

following: strategic planning objectives, cost control, resolution of issue with LCO, increase efficiency and system modernization, improved communications with our members, broadband, electric vehicle use has been on the rise, outpost buildings, alternative energy sources, sharing among cooperatives, and YOU!

Anderson recognized Mike Schaefer from Taylor Electric and the employees of JREC. He then addressed the membership and reported on the cooperative's mission and value statements, seven cooperative principles, strategic planning objectives, new billing system with multiple billing cycles, pre-paid metering, power cost adjustment, community cents, operations, management and board working together effectively, rates, and average monthly cost comparison.

Anderson introduced Linda Powers from River Valley Architects. Powers presented to the members an existing facility assessment of the current headquarter facility site, space need study results, design priorities, building design, cost, and what was next. She stated that the design was complete, bids received and awarded, board action was needed to move forward with the project, and construction may start as early as June 2019.

President and CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC), Barb Nick was introduced by Anderson. Nick touched upon DPC and stated they were a generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale electrical requirements and other services, evolving industry, declining usage and members, resource diversification, and plant decommission of LACBWR (La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor) and the Alma Station.

President Carow called for comments and questions on reports and submitted questions. Billing Clerk Sebastian Halmstad and Finance Manager Lori Davis along with Carow, Anderson, Powers, and Nick addressed questions on the implementation of new billing software, what happens to the old credit card and payment information and new options available; and building questions received on the floor plans being available for member viewing prior to board decision, how are we going to fund the building project if rates aren't going up, approximate cost of building, acreage of facility site, if contractors up for bid had been made public and a request received to use as many local contractors possible. A comment was also received regarding the amount of money spent and how the structure must be very impressive. Questions continued regarding the extra space for rent in Hayward, moving the rock from Hayward to Ladysmith, average office space, and a comment received on the energy conservation incentives. Involuntary shut offs during peak times, solar systems, solar panels efficiency in Wisconsin, and the new generation gas plant in Superior were additional questions received from the membership.

President Carow called for unfinished business. There was none.

President Carow called for new business. There was none.

Attorney Berman reported on the director election results. Based on the initial count, Attorney Berman declared the following directors received the highest number of votes in their respective districts and would serve their respective districts for three years, the term specified in the bylaws of the Cooperative, or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified: District 2, Myron Brooks, Gilman; District 7, Jason Weaver, Hayward; and District 8, Walter Kruk, Hayward. Attorney Berman explained that to ensure complete accuracy, the ballots were counted twice and that the final counts will be reported in the meeting minutes. Final election results were: District 2 – incumbent Myron Brooks, 203 votes; District 7 – Jason Weaver, 128 votes and incumbent Lori Taguma, 100 votes; District 8 – incumbent Walter Kruk, 195 votes. Directors Brooks, Weaver, and Kruk were seated.

Attorney Berman then announced the proposed bylaw amendment received the majority of votes in favor and was adopted. The proposed Advisory resolution was voted against adoption. As with the director elections, to ensure complete accuracy, the ballots were counted twice and that the final counts will be reported in the Minutes of the meeting. Final results were as follows: Proposed bylaw amendment was adopted, with a vote of 188 for, and 24 against. The proposed advisory resolution failed with a vote of 89 for the advisory resolution and 128 against.

Attorney Berman stated the ballots were to be held for 30 days following the meeting and destroyed after that retention time unless directed differently by the membership. No objection or comments were made, and Berman declared the ballots to be retained for 30 days. General Manager/CEO Jim Anderson reminded the members to turn in their red ticket stub to redeem their attendance gift, which was a \$10 energy credit and to pick up their chicken dinner voucher to JS Supper Club.

Prize drawings for seven \$100 energy credits were conducted with winners being: Don & Dorothy Stevens, Richard & Donna Gilbertson, Michelle Cyr, Jackson Reeder, Florence Selonke, Tom and Susan van Doorn, and Kenneth Winger.

The grand prize winner was Wayne and Betty Blumenstein winning a \$500 (\$100 per month) voucher towards their energy bill.

Being there was no further business to come before the meeting, President Carow accepted a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 p.m. Motion carried. Final registration was 101 members.—*Joe Lorence, Secretary – Treasurer*

Is one of the actions you're planning to take in honor of Earth Day planting a tree?



Then be sure to take Willie Wiredhand's advice. He reminds us that we need to be careful where we plant trees, because if we plant the wrong tree in the wrong place it can be a hazard. As you plan your tree and landscape plantings, consider that trees and shrubs need space to grow both above and below ground. Reduce fire hazards, power outages, and the need for frequent pruning with proper selection and planting of trees near utilities.

Be safe! Always call 811 before you dig to locate any buried utility lines. You also find planting guides online at jrec.com/right-way-maintenance.

