



# HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

## PCEA Returning \$186,150 Back to Members

*Check your bill this month to see your capital credits!*

When you signed up for electric service from PCEA, you became a member-consumer of a not-for-profit business. At the same time, you became an owner of the cooperative. As a result, anytime the cooperative has margins, they are allocated to the member-consumers and eventually retired.

At the November board meeting, the PCEA Board of Directors approved the retirement of \$186,150 in capital credits to you, our members. The amount of credits you received is determined by the years you were a member, as well as the amount of energy you purchased during those years.

This month, current members during the years 2003 and 2020, will receive their capital credits on their December bill as credit. Former members who have built up at least \$25 worth of capital credits will receive their money as a check in the mail. So, you may have a smaller payment just in time for the holiday season!

To learn more about capital credits, visit [www.pella-cea.org/capital-credits](http://www.pella-cea.org/capital-credits).

Thank you for being a PCEA member. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year!

Doug Stewart,  
PCEA CEO



Doug Stewart, CEO

## Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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1-800-619-1040  
[www.pella-cea.org](http://www.pella-cea.org)  
[service@pella-cea.org](mailto:service@pella-cea.org)



Open weekdays: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm;  
excluding holidays



### Board of Directors

President  
Duane Ver Ploeg

Asst. Secretary/Treasurer  
Darrell Boot

Vice President  
Steve Inskeep

Director  
Carroll Hoksbergen

Secretary  
Bryce Arkema

Director  
Jon Van Woerkom

Treasurer  
Bob Van Soelen

CEO  
Doug Stewart

*Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See [pella-cea.org](http://pella-cea.org) > Non-discrimination Statement for more information.*

# Board Positions Up For Election

One of the cooperative business functions that sets Pella Cooperative apart from municipal or investor-owned utilities, is the Cooperative's Board of Directors. These men and women are elected by the membership, and guide and govern the co-op.

Two positions on Pella Cooperative Electric's Board of Directors are up for election at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Any members who have ever considered serving on the board and would be interested in helping drive the direction of your cooperative should consider running for a director seat.

All PCEA board terms are three years. Currently, District 3 represented by Steve Inskeep and an At-large position filled by Bob Van Soelen, will be on the ballot.

District 3 represents members to the west and southwest portion of the service territory and the At-large position represents the entire service territory. See page four for the map of the districts.

The current board has assembled a nominating committee that will help identify qualified candidates interested in putting their name on the ballot. Any member who can get more than 50 signatures can petition their name to be on the ballot as described in the PCEA Bylaws, Article III, Section 3:

*"Any fifty (50) or more member-consumers may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than thirty-five (35) days prior to the meeting at which the directors are to be elected, and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted; such nominations made by such member-consumers to be subject to the same qualifications, district and residence requirements as nominations by the Nominating Committee heretofore prescribed."*

The Board of Directors serves as a voice for the co-op membership, and each position is critical in governing and maintaining a stable and successful organization. Look for more information in the near future about voting in 2022.



## Get Your Energy Savings in 2022

PCEA is kicking off another year of providing energy efficiency rebates for members. New this year is a rebate for electric range ovens! Full rebate requirements are listed online at [pella-cea.org](http://pella-cea.org). Contact Member Relations Manager Stan Eysink at (800) 619-1040 for questions.

### RESIDENTIAL

- Free water heater program
- Electric clothes dryer
- Electric range oven
- Ground source heat-pump
- Air source heat-pump
- Outdoor lighting

### AGRICULTURAL/COMMERCIAL

- Horticulture LED lighting
- Electric vehicle chargers
- Electric forklifts
- Heating and cooling ventilation



- The Board approved the October financial report, the 2022 rebate program, reviewed the draft of the 2022 budget, and discussed the 2022 IAEC legislative agenda.
- The operations department reported ongoing construction and maintenance projects at the Thunder Creek and Peoria Substations.
- The Board appointed Carroll Hoksbergen as PCEA's voting delegate for the upcoming Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting held in Des Moines on December 2-4.

# Pella Cooperative Electric Presents Grant to Forward with Faith for New Women's Home

Earlier this year, Pella Cooperative Electric Association (PCEA) and Forward with Faith received a grant through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Economic Development Grant program to build a women's home for adults living with disabilities. On November 10, PCEA presented the \$360,000 check to Forward with Faith for the project.

"Forward with Faith is an outstanding example of why our cooperative participates in the USDA economic development programs," said Duane Ver Ploeg, PCEA President. "We're proud to be able to bring these funds directly to our communities and enhance lives right here in Marion County."

Duane Ver Ploeg, alongside PCEA Secretary Bryce Arkema and CEO Doug Stewart, awarded the check to Forward with Faith Board President Jerry Fynaardt, Secretary Jill Neil, and board members Lois Branderhorst and Kelly Mitchell on Wednesday, November 10 at the PCEA office.

Forward with Faith is a non-profit organization dedicated to building homes where adults with disabilities can lead lives of dignity as their specialized physical, emotional, and social needs are met.

"The cooperative is honored to provide \$60,000 from our revolving loan fund and a \$300,000 grant from the USDA totaling \$360,000 in funds for this non-profit," said Ver Ploeg. "They are truly changing lives one by one."

USDA's Rural Economic Development Grant program provides grants to rural utility providers, such as Pella Cooperative Electric. In turn, the money is re-lent at zero percent interest to non-profit organizations within their communities. For non-profits to be approved, the organizations must demonstrate diversification in the local economy, job creation and retention, or upgrading the public infrastructure to improve health, safety, and/or medical care of rural residents.

"These homes wouldn't be possible without the support of our community," said Forward with Faith Board Secretary Jill Neil. "Through PCEA's generous programs, we're able to create a safe haven for these residents with special needs and allow them to continue forward in life, with faith."

Forward with Faith was established in 2016 by Judy and Jerry Fynaardt after their son, Caleb was in an accident. At the time, Caleb had been living in a facility designed for adults with special needs. However, after his accident and recovery time, he needed to be moved home. The Fynaardts were happy to have him home, but soon realized Caleb needed more assistance and an adult life experience with opportunities of his own.

Forward with Faith's initial home for male adults was completed in 2019 through a USDA revolving loan fund loan with PCEA and Southwest Iowa REC. Currently, the home houses four men in Pella who receive 24/7 care, tailored to each of their special needs. The women's home is now under construction in Pella and will reflect the same footprint and services as the men's home.

This is PCEA's 14th USDA economic development loan project. The program has sparked over \$5 million dollars of additional investment and has helped retain and create over 100 jobs in Pella and surrounding communities. This is the second USDA loan project between the electric cooperative and Forward with Faith. For more information on how to volunteer or donate to Forward with Faith, visit [forwardwithfaith.org](http://forwardwithfaith.org).



*From left to right: Kelly Mitchell, Jill Neil, Lois Branderhorst, Jerry Fynaardt, Judy Fynaardt, Duane Ver Ploeg, Bryce Arkema, & Doug Stewart.*



# Nominating Committee Selected & Searching for Candidates for District 3 and At-Large

The 2022 Nominating Committee has been selected and began recruiting interest for director candidates to fill two board positions whose terms expire at the 2022 Annual Meeting on April 5.

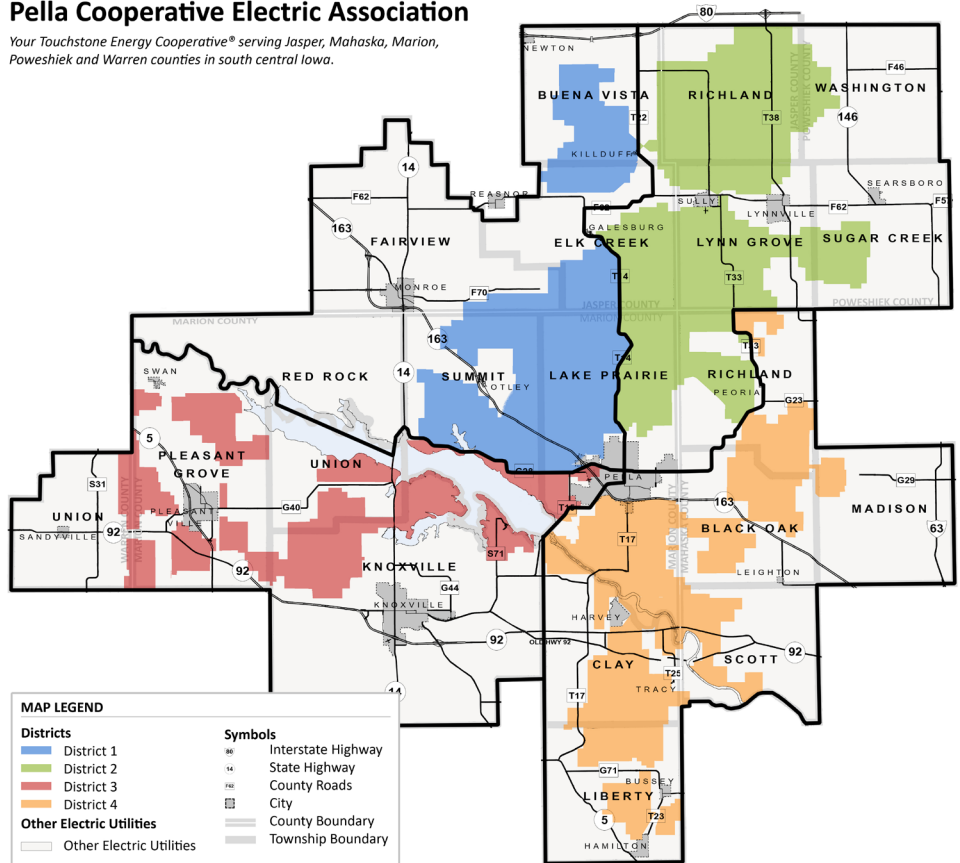
Thank you to these members for your willingness to serve: **Joel Braafhart, Vaughn Newendorp, Ruth De Bruin, Dennis Goad, Michael Montgomery, Doug Maasdam, David Way, Maury Van Der Wilt.**

The Nominating Committee considers the points listed below when reviewing qualifications for candidates. View the full requirements in the Cooperative's bylaws online at [pella-cea.org](http://pella-cea.org). Any person, to become and remain a Director of the Cooperative, shall, among other things:

1. Comply with applicable requirements of law, the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Cooperative's duly adopted policies, and the Cooperative's duly made decisions;
2. Assume a fiduciary duty to act, in good faith, in the best interests of the Cooperative and its member-consumers;
3. Be loyal to the Cooperative and not have conflicting commercial or personal interests;
4. Possess the minimum knowledge and skills necessary to manage the affairs of the Cooperative;
5. Be willing to devote such time and effort to the duties of a Director as may be necessary to manage the Cooperative's affairs;
6. Be able to represent the entire membership on an impartial basis;
7. Be willing and able to attend regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Board of Directors, national, state, and other meetings of organizations with associated interests that further the Cooperative movement; training institutes or seminars, which will aid in keeping him/her well informed on matters affecting the Cooperative; and
8. Not use, or cause to be used, his/her position as Director to further any political or business ambition.

## Pella Cooperative Electric Association

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative® serving Jasper, Mahaska, Marion, Poweshiek and Warren counties in south central Iowa.



# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our office will be closed December 23 & 24 and December 30 & 31