

HIGHLINES

July 2020

A publication for members of Pella Cooperative Electric

Congratulations, Survey Winners!

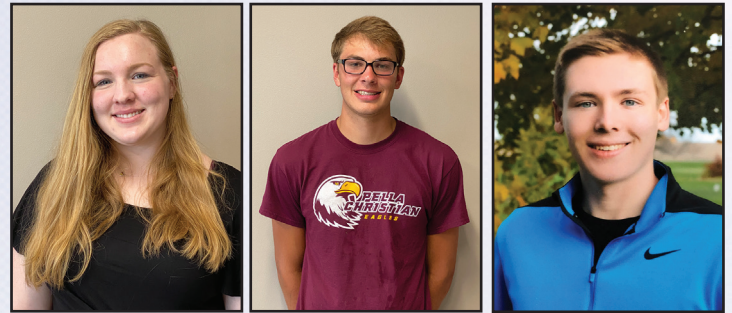
Pella Cooperative Electric would like to say thank you and congratulations to the following people who completed and returned the survey sent this spring to random residential members:

- Ron Hoekstra
- Shellie Hawkins
- Kurt Furr
- Michael Donnelly



Winners were selected at random from all surveys returned and will receive a \$25 credit off their next electric bill. The Load Forecast and End-Use Survey was a partnership between PCEA and its power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative. Results will help the cooperative understand the energy needs of members across the service territory.

Over the years, the increasing efficiency of new technology for electronic devices and appliances has impacted energy sales. The information obtained from the survey will help Pella Cooperative Electric plan for future energy demand and consumption.



Van Norden

Vande Haar

Roe

PCEA Awards Scholarships to Area Seniors

Pella Cooperative Electric is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's scholarship:

Emily Van Norden, Pella Community High School

Ryan Vande Haar, Pella Christian High School

Isaac Roe, Pleasantville High School

Each year, the cooperative awards \$1,000 each to three area high school seniors. Scholarships are awarded to two students through the Dollars for Scholars program: one senior from Pella Christian High School and one senior from Pella High School. The third scholarship is given to a senior at any other high school or home-schooled student. All applicants must have a parent or guardian who is a member of Pella Cooperative Electric and plan to attend a two- or four-year college.

The cooperative congratulates the 2020 recipients and is proud to reward the students for their academic success!

Drive Through Presentations

Due to the pandemic, Pella High School and Pella Christian High School held "drive through" scholarship award presentations May 13 and 20 to recognize them for their accomplishments. PCEA Member Relations Manager Stan Eysink made the presentations on behalf of the cooperative.



Pictured is Stan Eysink presenting a scholarship to Emily Van Norden at the Pella High School scholarship presentation drive through.

Changes to Bill Pay Options

In order to protect your personal information and to be Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliant, Pella Cooperative Electric employees are no longer allowed to take credit card payment over the phone.

Members who choose to continue to pay their electric bill by calling the cooperative office will be transferred to the bill paying service. Interactive Voice Response (IVR) is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling 1-888-480-9707.

Members are also encouraged to make online payment through SmartHub. This option allows users to view usage data and manage their accounts right from their mobile device. SmartHub is fully integrated with Pella Cooperative and delivers account information, mobile payments and more in a safe, secure environment.

continued on pg. 4

2019 Central Iowa Power Supply Report

If 2018 was a groundbreaking year for Central Iowa Power Cooperative, then 2019 was a year of executing on strategy. The opportunities afforded by change produced strategies to sustain connections within our broad electric cooperative network as well as connections to CIPCO's proud past and future vision. The organization got to work implementing new strategic priorities and new generation projects designed to partially replace output from one of CIPCO's primary sources of energy, the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), set to close in October of 2020.

These new generation projects fall right in line with CIPCO's goal of providing a diverse, 24/7 energy portfolio. In particular, progress continued on Wapello Solar, a 100 MW facility on 850 acres in Louisa County, from which we will purchase 100 percent of its output. Developed by Clēnera, LLC, Wapello Solar is Iowa's largest solar project. In 2019, we completed a transmission system impact study for when Wapello Solar is placed into service and worked with the developer as they obtained zoning approvals along with a generating certificate from the Iowa Utilities Board. We expect Wapello Solar to come online in late 2020. In addition, an \$85 million repowering



Work at Summit Lake Generating Station in Creston moves forward.

project is taking place at the existing Summit Lake Generating Station in Creston. The modernization project for the 70-year-old plant will add 55 MW of efficient natural gas-fired reciprocating engines to CIPCO's portfolio, while retiring the old steam engines. Significant work took place throughout the year, with Creston transmission crews rerouting substantial lines in preparation for the Summit Lake North substation deconstruction and rebuild. The new engines are expected to be in place and operational in late 2020.

Pella Cooperative Electric and CIPCO strive to provide safe, affordable and reliable power to our members across the system. When it comes to safety, we're proud of CIPCO's achievement of two million hours worked over 10 years without a lost-time injury. In addition, the implementation of the Low Voltage New-To-Replace-Old (NTR) program in 1986 and the expansion of it in 1995 includes over 845 miles of rebuilt line. NTR, along with sound operating and maintenance programs, helps ensure our power supply system attains the high degree of reliability our members expect and deserve. CIPCO's system-wide 2019 outage rate was 0.44 hours per



member. This is the eighth consecutive year in which outage totals were less than the target of one hour per member. CIPCO's average outage total

for 2019 for PCEA was 0.38 hours per customer.

Financial strength is integral to our success and has led to strong credit ratings, stable rates that are now the lowest among G&Ts in the Midwest, and access to borrowing capital to complete system upgrades and enhancements cost effectively. Fitch Ratings recently completed its annual review and affirmed CIPCO's "A" Issuer Default Rating and its Rating Outlook as Stable. The unexpected early closure of DAEC underscores the important actions taken over many years to manage risk and position CIPCO to withstand the loss of a vital generation resource. As a result, CIPCO has managed through this period of change by adjusting its future resource strategy while maintaining stable or declining rates as new cost-effective resources are secured. In fact, CIPCO's 2019 average system rate was the lowest in more than 10 years.

Returning patronage capital is a fundamental component of the cooperative business model. CIPCO remains dedicated to sound financial practices that allow margins to be returned to its members in the form of patronage. During 2019, CIPCO returned patronage totaling \$221,134.53 to Pella Cooperative Electric.

In today's energy-conscious world, CIPCO and Pella Cooperative Electric are committed to ensuring members use energy wisely and utilize available options to reduce excess energy consumption. As a result of these efforts, CIPCO and its member system issued energy-efficiency rebates saving approximately 13,233,348 kWh. In comparison, the average house uses nearly 11,000 kWh a year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. That includes 361,647 kWh savings for Pella Cooperative Electric members.

I'm proud of the actions taken in 2019 to sustain our connections within the rural electric industry. Our actions have strengthened CIPCO's mission to provide members with wholesale power and services in a safe, reliable, and cost-effective manner. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your representative on both the local board of directors and the CIPCO board of directors. I am proud to say, as a result of decisions made in 2019, Pella Cooperative Electric's members, as well as the entire CIPCO system, will be well-served now and into the future.



Duane Ver Ploeg
Representative on
the CIPCO Board of
Directors

- Allocated margins
- Tree trimming continues in the northern part of the service territory
- Hired a communications director

Board
Briefs



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Pella Cooperative Electric

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2019 PCEA Annual Meeting Minutes

Pella Cooperative Electric Association Annual Meeting of Members

The Annual Meeting of the Members of Pella Cooperative Electric Association was held at the Pella Christian High School in Pella, Iowa at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd day of April 2019.

Duane Ver Ploeg, President of the Cooperative, presided and called the meeting to order.

Bryce Arkema, Secretary of the Cooperative, acted as Secretary of the meeting and kept the minutes thereof.

An invocation was offered by Director Bryce Arkema.

The Pledge of Allegiance, led by Pella Cooperative's Matt Ainsworth, was next recited by all in attendance.

It was reported by the Secretary that the members present in person had been checked, and that the following members were present in person: (list available at Pella Cooperative Electric office.) Said members constituting at least fifty members of the Cooperative. President Ver Ploeg announced that the members in attendance constituted a quorum of the members of the Cooperative.

Board Secretary Bryce Arkema, next offered to have the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members, together with proof of mailing thereof to all members of the Cooperative, as well as the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members held April 3, 2018, read by him. The meeting notice and proof of mailing were then read. A motion was duly made, seconded and carried, to waive the reading of the Minutes. The foregoing was thereupon declared to be approved and was directed to be filed in the records of the Cooperative.

Special guests in attendance, along with the Directors, spouses and staff of the Cooperative were next introduced.

The Chairman announced that the report of the Nominating Committee would be read at this time. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Kim Vande Voort, then presented the report of the Nominating Committee, nominating the following members for directors.

THREE-YEAR TERM

District 3:	At-Large
Steve Inskeep	Bob Van Soelen
	Craig Kaisand

The report of the committee of nominations was ordered to be identified by the Secretary and annexed to the minutes of the meeting.

The Chairman then appointed the Nominating Committee as Inspectors of Election.

The attorney for the Cooperative, Fred L. Dorr, then addressed the meeting to explain the election process after first reviewing the ballot for election of directors. A copy of the ballot is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

A vote for directors was then had by ballot and the ballots were delivered to the Inspectors who proceeded to count the same.

A panel discussion was then convened to discuss and review topics of interest and importance to the Cooperative's Membership. The panelists were Bill Cherrier (Executive Vice President and CEO of Central Iowa Power Cooperative); Chuck Soderberg (Executive Vice President and CEO of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives); and Jon Miles and Doug Stewart (CEO and Assistance Manager, respectively, of Pella Cooperative Electric Association). Duane Ver Ploeg, President of Pella Cooperative's Board of Directors, served as the panel's moderator asking questions relating to Pella Cooperative's safety and energy reliability practices, rates, the decommissioning of the Duane Arnold Nuclear Plant and related Cooperative and member areas of interest.

Daniel Kenyon next presented a report of his youth tour trip, sponsored by the Cooperative, to Washington, D.C. His presentation was well received. He thanked the membership for the opportunity to join other young adults from across the nation on the tour.

The Certificate of Inspectors of Election was then presented and read by the Cooperative's legal counsel, Fred Dorr, certifying that the following members receiving the highest number of votes cast, had been duly elected Directors of the Cooperative to hold office for the term specified and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified:

THREE-YEAR TERM

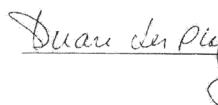
District 3:	At-Large
Steve Inskeep	Bob Van Soelen

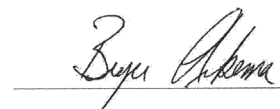
The Chairman directed the Secretary to annex the Certificate of Inspectors of Election to the minutes of this meeting and thereupon declared such members duly elected Directors of the Cooperative to hold office for the term specified and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified.

(Following adjournment of the meeting door prizes were awarded by lot).

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:


Chairman


Secretary

Bright Idea



Spending more time at home? Try an online energy audit to assess the overall efficiency of your home. Visit www.energystar.gov, then enter "home energy yardstick" in the search box to get started.

Pella Cooperative Electric Employees Train and Practice Safety Procedures

At Pella Cooperative Electric, safety is the number one priority. Our mission statement is Safety, Service and Reliability. We are proud to be member owned.

Safety is a mindset and something that we cannot do without. With no shortage of dangerous job functions and duties in our industry, PCEA takes action when it comes to safety. Fortunately, we have a thorough program designed to promote the safety of our employees.

Safety meetings, conducted by the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives Safety and Loss Control Department, are scheduled at the PCEA office on a monthly basis and cover many safety issues, from First Aid, CPR, pole top and bucket rescue, climbing competency, mayday calls and much more.

In June, after the full work force safety meeting covered topics of hearing protection and mayday calls, the line crew gathered in the pole yard to complete the annual climbing competency testing and practice bucket rescue.

Change to Bill Pay Options...from pg. 1

SmartHub features:

- Provides 24-hour access to account or accounts
- Sends an e-mail notification when a new electric bill is generated. Members can use SmartHub to review account information and pay their electric bill.
- Allows members to securely pay electronically using Visa or MasterCard.
- Displays posting of payments in real time, during office hours. Payments made after 7:30 p.m. may not update until the next business day.
- Provides current and historical billing information, payment history and use graphs.
- Allows member to enroll in paperless billing.
- Members with multiple accounts can pay with a single payment.
- Includes a free app for smartphones and tablets. Download it by searching "SmartHub" in either the Apple Store or Android Marketplace. Once the app is open, type in "Pella Cooperative Electric" as the provider. The log-in information is the same for both the website and mobile app.



Pictured, top: Line Foreman Rob Burton takes his turn demonstrating pole climbing competency as Member Relations Manager Stan Eysink looks on. Linemen must be able to proficiently climb poles while working in all types of weather, and maintain stability and the utmost safety when working around energized lines. At right, Journeyman Linemen Matt Ainsworth and Lance Fremel wait their turn during safety training.



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Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative. The co-op exists to provide electric service at cost. It is the members (anyone who gets electricity from the cooperative), not outside investors, that own and control the co-op. Cooperatives are governed by a member-elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See pella-cea.org > Nondiscrimination Statement for more information.

Board of Directors: Bryce Arkema, Darrell Boot, Carroll Hoksbergen, Steve Inskeep, Bob Van Soelen, Norman Van Zante, Duane Ver Ploeg, and CEO Jon Miles.