

CLAY ELECTRIC

CLAY ELECTRIC
CO-OPERATIVE, INC.
618-662-2171 • 800-582-9012
FLORA, ILLINOIS

NEWS

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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From the Manager

By Ed VanHoose

Last month you learned about the co-ops plans to upgrade our communications infrastructure in order to begin offering more advanced services. I am happy to announce that the first stage of those upgrades is now underway.

We have begun upgrading our connectivity here in the office. You will note from the photos that we now have a new connection in place with Wabash Telephone Cooperative, Inc. One of the cooperative principles is "Cooperation among Cooperatives" and I firmly believe that Clay Electric should support other cooperatives when it makes good business sense to do so. In this case, not only were we able to adhere to that principle, we were also able to upgrade at the same time.

The next steps require some changes in the office. In the near future, we will begin the process of changing our internal servers so that we may fully utilize the new connection. Once that is done, we can then make a few changes in equipment in our substations. After that, we will have a good base upon which to build the new service offerings. You can expect to hear about those offerings in this part of the magazine.

In addition to the upgrades going on physically, we are currently in the process of redesigning our website. Did you know that 55 percent of people now use their cell phone to access the Internet, with nearly 1

billion people globally using a mobile device as their primary connection? Unfortunately, our website just wasn't originally built to work on those devices, so accessing it there is awkward at best. The new design will allow you to view the site on any device you choose so you can find out information about outages, pay your bill or even find contact information for your cooperative.

All of these upgrades are our way of keeping you informed about what is happening here at your cooperative.

I also wanted to let you know about an ongoing campaign to let the EPA know our concerns about the rising costs associated with increasing environmental regulations. You will find information on this call to action on the following page. Affordable and reliable energy is vital to American families and businesses. These new proposed EPA regulations target existing power plants and will increase the cost of electricity. I have heard some estimates say wholesale power costs could double!

That's why I'm asking you to visit www.action.coop and make your voice heard!



Ed VanHoose
Manager

Please join us in taking action

Every day we rely on electricity. We depend on the refrigerator to keep our food fresh, air conditioning and heating to keep us comfortable and, of course, lights on a daily basis. We also depend on electricity to re-

charge our electronics. Whether it's a phone to keep in touch with relatives, a tablet for students' homework or the laptop on which we stream movies, these devices all have become integral to our daily routine.

At work, we rely on electricity to power our computers, phones, lights and productivity. Without this consistent, reliable and affordable power source, businesses would relocate, jobs would be lost and prices of goods and services would increase.

That's why Clay Electric Co-operative is concerned about the latest proposed regulations on existing power plants from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This round of rules impacts the power plants on which we rely every day.

Cooperatives are different from other electric utilities. We are owned by our member-consumers. When we look at our power

options, we are not driven to make a profit. We strive to provide the most affordable and reliable electricity possible to our members.

The EPA has drafted a regulation that adversely and disproportionately affects electric cooperatives. That's why we are telling the EPA that this regulation simply does not work for us.

When the EPA drafted regulations limiting greenhouse gases from new power plants, the agency received more than five hundred thousand emails opposing the regulation. Today we ask you once again, please join us. Visit www.Action.coop again and tell the EPA you cannot afford these new regulations.

Your voice was heard last time. The EPA took note of electric cooperatives, and our collective voice showed that co-op consumers were engaged.

That's why we're asking you to

take action again. The EPA needs to understand the impact these regulations have on the people at the end of the power lines. Electric cooperative members are uniquely situated to help the EPA understand that these regulations will cost Americans more money.

These regulations also will cost Americans jobs. These regulations will not work for rural Americans.

Please, also ask your friends and neighbors to join us. Ask them to visit www.Action.coop and tell the EPA co-op consumers cannot afford regulation. We can balance environmental needs with affordability and reliability.

America needs a healthy economy. America needs jobs. America needs manufacturing. And affordable, reliable electricity is the linchpin to these vital assets.



RENEWABLE ENERGY



NUCLEAR POWER



NATURAL GAS



CLEAN COAL

America needs an
ALL OF THE ABOVE STRATEGY
to keep electric bills affordable

**TELL THE EPA TO RECONSIDER
ITS "ALL-BUT-ONE" APPROACH**

ACTION.COOP



**THEY'RE NEVER TOO YOUNG TO
START SAVING ENERGY.**

Find out how your local electric cooperative can help you lead by example at TogetherWeSave.com.



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The Clay Electric Co-operative 70th Annual Meeting of Members will be held Thursday September 4, 2014 at Charley Brown Park Fairgrounds on Old HWY 50 west of Flora.

- Registration and meal begins at 5:15 p.m. and the business meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.
- A pork chop or chicken dinner will be provided.
- Drawing for five \$100.00 bill credits for five lucky members in attendance along with other prizes
- A \$10.00 bill credit will be given to each member that registers at the meeting

If you are a current member of Clay Electric Co-operative please come and participate in your annual meeting.



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Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular meeting June 30, 2014

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Bill Croy, Neil Gould, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolphi, Danny Schnepfer and Greg Smith. Also present were Executive Vice President/General Manager John Meng, Successor General Manager Ed VanHoose, and Cooperative Attorney Melanie Pearce.

The invocation was given by Greg Smith.

CECI Member Services Director Doug Hockman and Youth Tour Participant Meredith O'Brien entered the room. Hockman introduced Ms. O'Brien who gave a brief discussion on her recent trip to Springfield, IL and Washington, DC. She expressed her appreciation for the opportunity and discussed the highlights of her trips. Following the presentation they both left the meeting.

Approved the minutes of the regular meeting held May 27, 2014.

Accepted 20 new members for service.

Canceled 8 members no longer receiving service.

Approved work orders in the amount of \$6,167.04.

Accepted the disbursement list for the month of May, 2014.

Heard a report by Trustee Logan concerning the regular monthly AIEC Board Meeting. He disbursed for review the AIEC Executive Summary.

Heard a report by Trustee Herman concerning the recent SIPC Board meeting, including financial information, the passing of a resolution honoring CECI's John Meng for his service, the designation of Ed

VanHoose as representative of CECI at SIPC, the appointment of an Alternative Director for the AIEC Board, the renewal of property insurance, and update as to Prairie State generation, Strategic Planning meeting, progress of sale of Fidelity, status of administrative regulations, status of Norris Electric Cooperative and SIPC relationship, and Disbursed SIPC Administrative and Finance Dept. Summary.

Approved Policy "Tablet Computing Devices (TCD's) Security and Data Protection Applicable to Co-Operative Trustees and Attorney" as proposed by Gen. Mgr. Meng.

Approved Gen. Mgr. Meng's report as to financial standing, and heard reports on the window replacement project, the Marathon Project, the recent employee safety meeting on Arc Flash along with discussion on arc rated clothing options for affected employees, Financial Forecast, CFC Powerpoint presentation, entry door replacement, and fence repair replacement as suggested by Federated Insurance during recent visit.

Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. Meng and Successor Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to Manager succession.

Appointed Delegates for upcoming Region 5 & 6 as follows: for NRECA Frank Herman and Ed VanHoose as Alternate, for CFC Kevin Logan and Frank Herman as Alternate, for Federated Insurance Ed VanHoose and Kevin Logan as Alternate.

Resolved Delegation of Authority as agent, contact person, receiver

of notices, etc for Clay Electric Cooperative Inc. vested in Successor Executive Vice President / General Manager Ed VanHoose by Clay Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees upon retirement of Executive Vice President / General Manager John Meng.

Approved write-offs for the month of June 2014 in the amount of \$963.68.

Thereafter Executive Vice President / General Manager John E. Meng, concludes his tenure for Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.; after an expression of gratitude by the Board of Trustees for his service, Mr. Meng left the room.

Successor Manager Ed VanHoose assumes the role as Executive Vice President / General Manager of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Approved entry into Executive Session.

Approved return to General Session.

Approved payment of allowable moving expenses to Gen. Mgr. VanHoose

Discussed replacement of Cooperative vehicle.


Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose concerning repairs made to Cooperative vehicles by employees.

Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to his goals to modernize the data input system, increasing efficiency and reducing errors.

Disbursed Thank You cards from Meredith O'Brien, Taylor Warner, and George Bonham concerning their recent Youth Day and Youth Tour activities.

Adjournment.

**Clay Electric
Co-operative, Inc.**

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Office hours: 7:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

www.ceci.coop