



A Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# Hi-Lites

## Visit us at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur

Visit the Touchstone Energy exhibit in the Varied Industries Tent at this year's Farm Progress Show, September 1- 3, in Decatur to learn about energy efficiency measures that will save you money each month on your energy bill.

Stop by and check out the "Energy Efficiency Wall" and other energy efficiency displays. See what's new in LED lighting with security lights, and spin the wheel and win a free gift. Cooperative members who present their Co-op Connections Card will receive a special gift just for showing us your card. If you don't have a Connections Card contact your cooperative office for a new one.

Illinois Touchstone Energy Cooperatives will also be sponsoring the Live Line Safety Demo, an electric safety demonstration featuring 7,200 volts of electricity!. It is great for kids and adults and an experience you will not want to miss. It will be presented outside the Varied Industries Tent on Junior Lot #549. To learn more about Live Line Demo check out the website [www.livelihooddemo.com](http://www.livelihooddemo.com)

The Varied Industries Tent runs the length of Fifth and Fourth Progress Street and is between West Progress and Central Progress Avenue. The

Touchstone Energy Cooperative's exhibit will be on the end cap just inside the entrance across from the food court on Fourth Progress Street or half-way down on Fifth Progress Street.

The Touchstone Energy Hot Air Balloon will be flying the American Flag each morning and weather

permitting, the balloon will do a late afternoon flight as well.

Look for more information in the Prairie Farmer Magazine or to learn more about the 2015 Farm Progress Show visit the website [www.farmprogressshow.com](http://www.farmprogressshow.com).

Hope to see you there.



September 1 - 3



A publication of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

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P.O. Box 709 (104 Dewitt Ave., East)  
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Phone: 217/235-0341 or  
Toll-Free: 1-888-661-CMEC (2632)  
Office hours:  
Monday-Friday  
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

**Chairman**

Jeffery D. Hudson..... Charleston

**Vice Chairperson**

Debbie Albin.....Mattoon

**Secretary**

John Bowers ..... Lovington

**Treasurer**

Philip Meyer..... Sullivan

**Director**

Dean Robison..... Windsor  
Steve Shrader..... Westfield  
Scott Uphoff..... Mattoon

**President/CEO**

Kim Leftwich

**To report an outage**

- First check your fuses or circuit breakers and see if your neighbors have power.
- If the problem appears to be with the cooperative's lines, call the office at the toll free number (888-661-2632), give the name the service is listed under, and report any hazardous conditions.

# Board Report

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative was held at the Cooperative office at 104 Dewitt Avenue, East, Mattoon, Illinois at 7pm on June 25, 2015, pursuant to notice duly given. The meeting was called to order by Jeff Hudson, Chairman. After calling the roll, the following directors were present: Scott Uphoff, Philip Meyer, Jeff Hudson, John Bowers, Steve Shrader, Debbie Albin, and Dean Robison being a quorum of the directors of the Cooperative. Also present were Kim Leftwich - President/CEO, Jim Wallace - Director of Operations, Amy Borntrager - Chief Financial Officer, and Darla Powell - Director of Human Resources/Office Manager.

The agenda was approved as amended as well as the Consent Calendar as submitted that included the New Members, the April Safety & Training report, the 05/29/15 Board meeting minutes, and the 06/06/15 Special Board meeting minutes.

A motion was made to go into Executive Session.

The attendance of Director Robison at the NRECA Director Summer School in Branson, Missouri was approved and to also attend the AIEC training in Springfield to move toward completing his Board Leadership Certificate.

The signature cards for FMIB&T changing the name and authorized signature of the CMEC Board treasurer was approved.

Jim Wallace was selected as the voting delegate and Kim Leftwich as the alternate for the UUS Board meeting.

Steve Shrader was chosen as NRECA voting delegate and Dean Robison as the alternate at the AIEC Annual Meeting and the NRECA Region V meeting.

Scott Uphoff was appointed as the CFC Voting delegate and Debbie Albin as the alternate at the AIEC Annual Meeting.

Debbie Albin was chosen as the AIEC Voting delegate and Steve Shrader as the alternate at the AIEC Annual Meeting.

Debbie Albin was appointed as the AIEC Director and Steve Shrader as the alternate.

The regular July Board meeting was moved to August 6th at 7pm.

The motion to approve the Colorado training for Scott Uphoff was carried. Because he will be traveling and not needing hotel accommodations the Board approves the entire mileage reimbursement above the stated dollar amount in the Board policy.

It was recorded that Board Policies 37, 41 and 43 were reviewed 06/25/15.

Amy Borntrager gave the financial report.

Director Uphoff gave the PPI report.

Director Albin gave the AIEC Board report.

Kim Leftwich gave the President/CEO report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



**The Cooperative office will be closed Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day.**

## INSULATING YOUR HOME TO LOCK IN EFFICIENCY AND SAVINGS

Adding insulation in the areas shown here may be the best way to improve your home's energy efficiency. Insulate either the attic floor or under the roof. Check with a licensed contractor about crawl space or basement insulation.

- 1 Attic
- 2 Walls
- 3 Floors
- 4 Basement
- 5 Crawlspace

Source: Dept. of Energy



## LED Lighting

The Cooperative has begun installing LED member dusk-to-dawn lights and area street lights. We have been analyzing the data and it makes sense to start converting our High Pressure Sodium fixtures to LED. The LED fixtures are significantly more expensive than the old fixtures, but the price of the fixtures has come down greatly over the last several years. Plus, the longevity and durability is the key. If we can lower the labor for installations and maintenance and repair costs by a factor of 3-4 times, we can more than offset the additional upfront cost of the fixture. The LED fixtures also use less electricity.

Known for their longevity and efficiency, LED lights have an estimated operational life span of up to 50,000 hours. This equates to 17 years of continuous operation, or 34 years of 50%

operation. So if you were to use an LED fixture for eight hours per day, it would take approximately 17 years before it would need replaced.

LEDs do not contain a gas or filament of any kind. Instead, the entire LED is made up of a semiconductor, which is solid in nature and makes LEDs more durable. LEDs achieve full illumination immediately.

LEDs are ideal for outdoor use because of their durability. LED lights are resistant to vibrations, shock and external impacts such as exposure to weather, wind and rain. In addition, they are temperature resistant and operate in colder outdoor temperatures.

If you have questions about the LED Security Lights, please contact us at [info@cmec.coop](mailto:info@cmec.coop) or by calling the office at 888-661-2632.

Member  Exchange 

### For Sale

- **Canning equipment:** canning jars (quarts and pints), hot water bath, and pressure cooker. Excalibur food dehydrator. Call 217-345-5048. Charleston.

### Wanted

- **Yellow Seven Sisters rose.** Call 217-254-0221.



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TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

YOUR ELECTRICITY ISN'T SOMETHING WE TAKE LIGHTLY.



We put up the poles, connect miles of wire and flip a few switches of our own. All to make sure your life is always powered. Learn more about the power of your co-op membership at TogetherWeSave.com.

## Help Keep Our Records Updated

We need your help updating our records. When you receive your next electric bill, please verify that the telephone number in the bottom left hand corner is correct. If not, please write in the correct number. This information is especially important during outages. We may, also, need to contact you with questions concerning your bill. If there is a work number or cell number you wish to be added to your account,

please include this information as well.

In addition, we have tried to keep up with address updates as new counties add 911. This information is not automatically provided to us. Please verify that the service address on each bill is accurate as well as the mailing address.

Email addresses are also important as we move toward e-bill options and the ability to email advance outage information.

## You could be a winner!

Every other year, the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) conducts a statewide member survey project on our behalf. You may be randomly selected to participate in the project. People who complete and submit the survey questionnaire will be entered in a drawing to win one of five-\$100 bill credits.

The AIEC and the vendor used to conduct the survey do not sell or share your private information. They provide

us with the blind results, and we evaluate the information that is gathered to improve how we serve you. The more completed surveys we receive, the more accurate the information we receive will be. So please help us and yourself by participating. We anticipate that survey questionnaires will be distributed in September and October.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Looking for an easy efficiency upgrade? Additional insulation can make a difference! The Department of Energy estimates you can reduce heating and cooling needs up to 30 percent by properly insulating and weatherizing your home.

Source: [Energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)