



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

Hi-Lites

Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative celebrates National Co-op Month

Being part of a cooperative means being part of something special. Coles-Moultrie is celebrating National Cooperative Month in October, along with 40,000 other cooperative businesses serving more than 120 million people nationwide.

“Cooperatives Build” is the theme of this year’s National Cooperative Month. “This year’s theme is excellent, because there are so many ways that cooperatives help to build a stronger rural America,” says Kim Leftwich. “Our cooperative returns profits in the form of capital credits to our members. Those dollars circulate close to home, helping to strengthen the local economy.”

Cooperatives Build Trust

Most co-ops strive to adhere to seven key cooperative principles, which combine to help build trust between the co-op, its members and the community. For example, the first principle is *Voluntary and Open Membership*, which means that we are a voluntary organization open to all people to use our services and willing to accept the responsibility of membership. The second principle, *Democratic Member Control*, gives members a voice in the cooperative’s policies and decisions. Through the fifth principle, *Education, Training and Information*, we enable members to contribute to the development of our cooperative.

Cooperatives Build Community

The seventh cooperative principle is *Concern for Community*. Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through

employee involvement in local organizations, through charitable contributions to community efforts and through support for schools.

Cooperatives Build Jobs

Cooperatives generate jobs in their communities, keep profits local and pay local taxes to help support community services. Cooperatives often take part in community improvement programs, ensuring that everyone has

an opportunity to benefit from the cooperative experience.

Cooperatives Build a Better World

Through all of the above ways, cooperatives build a better world.

Please join us in celebrating co-op month. We are hosting several events, have many door prizes, and are collecting for local organizations as a way of supporting our community.



Cooperative Month Events

Thursday, October 6 Visit our booth at the Business Expo at the Cross County Mall

Tuesday, October 11 Donuts and Coffee

Tuesday, October 18 Cooperative tours
* *Several tours will be offered throughout the day. See our Facebook page for specific times.*

Monday, October 31 Red Cross Bloodmobile
2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Weekly drawings (*each Friday in October*)

All month we will be collecting canned goods for One Stop Christmas





A publication of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

P.O. Box 709 (104 Dewitt Ave., East)
Mattoon, Illinois 61938
email: info@cmec.coop
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

Steve Shrader..... Westfield

Director

Dean Robison..... Windsor

Chris Christman..... Sullivan

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.

Member Exchange

For Sale

- Seasoned firewood, cut into logs 16" - 20". 6 1/2 ft level bed - \$33, 8 ft level bed - \$38. Charleston. 217-345-5048.
- Woods rear mount mower deck, RD7200, works good - \$750. Call 217-454-0924.

Board Report

Minutes of regular board meeting August 2, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative was held at the offices of the Cooperative at 104 Dewitt Avenue, East, Mattoon, Illinois at 7pm on the 2nd day of August, 2016, 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, Chris Christman, Jeff Hudson, Steve Shrader, Debbie Albin, Dean Robison, and John Bowers being a quorum of the directors of the Cooperative. Also present were Kim Leftwich – President/CEO, Amy Borntrager – Chief Financial Officer, and Darla Powell – Director of Human Resources/Office Manager.

Motion was made by Shrader to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Christman to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted, the June Safety & Training report and the 06/30/2016 Regular Board meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Motion passed.

Kim Leftwich presented the legal report.

Motion was made by Shrader to appoint Kim Leftwich as voting delegate and Amy Borntrager as alternate for the NRECA and CFC at the NRECA Region V meeting. Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Amy Borntrager gave the financial report. She reported that the revenue exceeded the budgeted monthly amount by \$192K due to more energy sales. The cost of power is \$1M less than 2015 and \$500K less than budget due to the mild start of the year. All expense groups have minor variances from budgeted figures.

Amy also reviewed the 2015 KRTA (Key Ratio Trend Analysis) provided by CFC.

Kim Leftwich reported that no Prairie Power Inc (PPI) Board meeting was held during July, but Interim CEO Dan Breden provided an update letter:

- Prairie State had an excellent operational month through June. Combined, Units 1 & 2 produced 89,139 MWhs,

11.4% above budget. Total plant capacity factor (CF) was 92.5% and EAF was 96.3%, both above budget for June.

- Power supply sales were about 12% above budget for June. Peak demand approximately 295 MWs, slightly above June budget. The overall average power supply cost for June was \$74/MWh, some \$7/MWh under budget. PCA credit was \$2.70/MWh. Power supply revenues exceeded expenses contributing \$500,000

in margin, likely resulting in increased PCA credits for future months.

- Alsey units 1-5 were called on intermittently in June and the gas turbine at Pearl was called on but could not operate because of fuel supply issues. Now awaiting repair parts to return the unit to service.
- Alsey 6 – LM-6000 schedule has continued to slip although considerable work has been accomplished during June. Current

completion date is now the 3rd week of August. PPI leadership has continued to put pressure on ProEnergy to accomplish completion of the project.

- CEO search continues; resume submittals have been completed and review of candidates is underway. Expect to announce the successful candidate in October.

Kim Leftwich gave the President/CEO report.

President/CEO Report – July 2016 CMEC Board Meeting August 1, 2016

Mattoon Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing

- CMEC joined the community participating in the Mattoon Area Chamber of Commerce golf outing at the Mattoon Country Club, July 22nd.

INTERACT Conference

- Kim Leftwich presented the “Serve Our Coops/Serve Our Country” initiative to the human resources/benefits managers at the INTERACT Conference July 26th and 27th in Portland, Oregon.

Economic Development

- CMEC met with Coles Together, East Central Illinois Development Corporation and City of Mattoon to discuss development prospects; CMEC has nearly \$245,000 in paid back grant funds, unused for several years, that may be loaned to development projects relying on typical USDA REDLG criteria; additionally, CMEC reminded the ED groups that we may also apply for additional grants or loans through USDA to support noteworthy developments.

- A development is under consideration at U.S Route 45 and I-57; CMEC is engaged in the project.

- Charleston Stone quarry, a CMEC member, is considering significant improvements which could result in growth for CMEC; the quarry anticipates replacing a diesel generator for rock crushing with a highly efficient electric driven crusher (550 HP motor or 475kW); CMEC is working directly with the quarry and their engineer to determine the most cost efficient means to improve and expand their service.

Cyber Security/Security

- Cyber security insurance is now in force through Travelers
- PPI has instituted software patch management, the fourth in series of eight Member Security Services.

Building

- Painting has been completed; landscaping has been installed, new LED lighting is being placed including building mounted floods and parking lot pole lighting.

Lake Land College Foundation

- CoBank and CMEC contributions (\$2000) are designated as scholarships for the Innovation Lab and Technology curriculums.

Mattoon YMCA

- CMEC made a \$1000 contribution to the Y. As a result, all CMEC employees who join will be offered discounted Y memberships and the joining fee waved. Hopefully, the measure will promote better fitness and health.

Member Uncollectable Account

- As previously reported, some \$48,000 had gone uncollected since 2012, but we secured agreement for payment; the firm continues to meet terms of the agreement.

LED Lighting

- CMEC determined to replace all member security lighting with LED fixtures in April, 2015. To date, 780 LED security lights have been installed replacing a like number of mercury vapor and high pressure sodium lights; we have acquired LED floodlights to begin replacing floodlight installations in our territory as well.

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GIS Project

- Nearly 15,000 poles have been plotted including attributes on/off the poles
- GIS team visited Norris Electric Cooperative to learn about the GIS system Norris has had in place for some eight years; came away with many ideas to improve CMEC's model
- Presented the project to all CMEC employees July 25th; gave them a good perspective of the value a well-planned, coordinated project to CMEC.

Vendor Managed/Vender Owned Inventory

- Cutover to Anixter provided inventory ownership and management is underway this week, expected to be complete and operational Friday, August 5th.
- Once the transition is complete and value determined, CMEC will be remunerated for the inventory sale at Anixter cost.
- The project has been very effectively managed by CMEC Staff and Anixter.

Operations

- July 13th storm affected over 4,000 CMEC members; the first wave hit and caused outages beginning around 4 pm. Union Center substation was down due to AMEREN transmission failure for nearly 7 hours. CMEC personnel worked well into the afternoon of July 14th to restore service to all members. Most issues were the result of trees falling through the conductors and we had three broken poles.
- PPI has awarded replacement of 30 transmission poles to L.E. Meyers Co. CMEC will participate in a pre-construction meeting August 3rd with plans for the project to get underway in late August.

- A major underground cable fault in MeadowLake subdivision in Charleston requires focus on major renovations to the infrastructure in that area.

CMEC Connect

- 241 members/customers – on pace to meet our year end projection.
- An additional spur site was added July 18th near Trilla
- Ashmore and Fairgrange towers are rapidly becoming loaded after the announcement that Cell One internet service would cease operation; we are getting a number of calls from the area and plan on a marketing effort there to gain additional customers.
- CMEC has two new business class members that have both entered into the two-year contract.

Key Accounts

- Sarah Bush Lincoln inquired about installation of a car charging station and resale of energy. (Per Member Service Policy #16, energy cannot be resold without consent from the cooperative). As no policy exists regarding car charging stations, we have begun inquiring of other cooperatives about any policy they may have in effect and we

have referred an inquiry to the Ad Hoc Technology Committee of PPI for a study effort to determine a common means of managing the issue.

Website

- For July, 2039 visitors and 4349 pages viewed; 56% of viewers were first time.

Facebook

- 1464 “likes”

The Outage report was reviewed. Chairman Hudson discussed Board Policy #17 and remanded the policy to the policy committee for changes regarding daily payments for meals. Policy Chairman Robison will set a date with committee members.

Kim Leftwich discussed Member Advisory Committees with the Board. The board gave the Staff consensus to move forward with this process.

Leftwich also discussed contacting Staff members and asked that all Director requests be emailed or written so a record may be maintained when Staff is asked to alter a record or accomplish a task keeping the records clear. He also asked to be copied on the document. When requests are made during official meetings, the record made to the minutes will suffice as notice.

State of Illinois accounts that are currently in arrears were reviewed.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Don't let vampires suck the life out of your energy efficiency efforts! Unplugging unused electronics - otherwise known as 'energy vampires' - can save you as much as 10 percent on your electric bill.

Source: energy.gov