

JO-CARROLL

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  **HI-LINES**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Michael Hastings

Safety on the lines

The energy Jo-Carroll Energy provides day-in and day-out is a phenomenal resource, powering our modern lifestyles in a safe, reliable and affordable way. But energy must be respected: if safety isn't made a priority, what changes our lives for the better could change them for the worse in an instant.

At Jo-Carroll Energy, safety is everyone's business. This applies not only to those out in the field, but also to employees at all levels who make safety a top priority. Safety has been a part of the fundamental culture at Jo-Carroll Energy since day one.

During May Electrical Safety Month, let's take a moment and stand in the boots of our lineworkers who form a solid team with one job: to deliver safe, reliable electricity.

Being an electric lineworker is ranked by the U.S. Department of Labor as one of the most dangerous jobs. Linemen have to work safely, smart, and efficiently—all while 40 feet in the air wearing sturdy, thick rubber gloves.

On a typical day, lineworkers maintain electrical distribution lines or build service to new homes and businesses. They have a lot on their plates. But when our dispatch center calls crews with a problem, everything else takes a backseat.

Power restoration takes precedence on a lineworker's to-do list. These brave men are always on call. We have crews standing by to serve you 24 hours a day, in the middle of the night or wee hours of the morning, weekends and holidays.

Can you imagine getting a call at 3 a.m. telling you to work outside during bad weather? Not many people are willing to face storms. Our lineworkers face harsh elements daily, all to serve you.



Lineworkers focus on safety; the lives of coworkers are on the line. Job safety is important to everyone, no matter your occupation. But for lineworkers, there can be no slip ups or careless actions. Mistakes can cost a limb or life. That's one of the reasons linemen form a brotherhood. When you put your life in the hands of co-workers every day, they become more than colleagues. They're family.

That sense of family extends to electric co-ops across the nation. One of our principles is cooperation among cooperatives. We help other co-ops in their time of need, and they extend that service to us, too. It's reassuring to know if a severe storm strikes, a national team of lineworkers stands ready to answer the call.

To be ready to respond no matter the situation or weather conditions, linemen are highly trained. At Jo-Carroll Energy, lineworkers go through regular training to ensure they can work safely with various kinds of equipment. The equipment gets tested regularly, too.

These highly skilled men light our homes and businesses every day. They endure harsh weather and long hours, all to make our lives better. Today (and every day), please take a moment to thank them. Our lineworkers are the heart of the Co-op Nation, proud and strong.

Reader Prize

Each month we print the name of a Jo-Carroll Energy member who is eligible to win a monthly \$25 readership prize. If your name is printed in this month's edition, and not a part of any article, contact Jo-Carroll Energy and claim your prize no later than the 10th of the month following publication.

Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership

For your information

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District 10

Douglas Darby
District 10

Ronald Hallendorff
District 10

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday

Elizabeth
793 U.S. Route 20 West
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Savanna
103 Chicago Ave.
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 to 4 p.m.

Geneseo
1004 S. Chicago St.
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 - 4 p.m.

**Services and
Billing Questions:**

(800) 858-5522
www.jocarroll.com

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(800) 927-5254

Resume of Minutes

Regular Board Meeting • February 26, 2014

The board met at the Cooperative headquarters in Elizabeth on Wednesday, February 26, 2014. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The Agenda as modified and the Consent Agenda were approved.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Senn discussed that as the utility industry moves forward, the challenges we face will increase greatly and the proposed changes in the form of EPA Rules will cause an increase in costs to the cooperative and our members.

Dairyland Report – Director Stadel stated that Dairyland did not have a Board Meeting because the District Meeting was being held the following day.

AIEC Report – Director Senn reported that NRECA is looking for a 50% response from members to the EPA through Action.Coop. He also shared the importance of House Bill #4465 regarding a Carbon Tax.

APGA Report – Director Carroll reported on the recent APGA Meeting and about the number of natural gas explosions that occur every year in the U.S. and worldwide. He reported that there is a big focus on safety and training.

PPI Report – President and CEO Hastings reported on the PPI Annual Meeting.

Monthly Committee Review

a. Policy – Board Policy 127.1 Sale of Real Property (Land) was approved without revisions.

CEO's Report - The CEO reported on the following in addition to his written report:

a. Financial Operating Report – Hastings reported that the Cooperative had an unaudited margin of approximately \$869,529 in January, compared to a budgeted margin of \$238,006. The Board accepted the January Financial Operating Report for filing by general consent.

b. CFO Report – CFO Heidenreich reviewed the year-end audited financials with the Board.

c. Assistant General Manager Report – Assistant General Manager Buros gave an update on Rentech, the Gavalon Grain explosion, Broadband and the increase in wireless subscribers in Chadwick and Wisconsin. He reported on the work that

Dairyland Power is doing with new lines, rebuilds and fiber. He also touched on regulatory compliance and natural gas regulations.

d. Culture of Excellence and

Communications – Vice-President of Human Resources Sevey reported the resignation of two linemen and the success of the Northwest Academy Tour.

e. Member Services – Vice-President of Member Services Skien reported on the status of hiring a meter reader, computer upgrades and mobile apps.

f. External Affairs – Cox reported on the House Bill #4465 – Carbon Tax, the EPA law change regarding coal products and the railroad utility encroachment bill.

Board Issues

a. Allocation of 2013 Margins – CEO Heidenreich presented the Disposition of 2013 margins for capital credit allocations to the Board. The allocations of the 2013 Margins were approved as presented.

b. Dairyland Under Build – Assistant General Manager Buros reviewed the construction schedule and cost for the Dairyland under build. Board action was not required.

c. LED Lighting Rate – Assistant General Manager Buros reviewed the different lighting rates and the power costs for municipalities. The Board approved the LED rate for both area and street lighting.

d. Approval of 2013 Work Orders & Special Equipment - CFO Heidenreich presented the Work Orders and Special Equipment Reports for 2013, which were approved.

e. CRC 2014 Voting Delegate/Alternate – The 2014 Voting Delegate/Alternate were chosen for CRC.

f. NRECA Legislative Meeting - Attendees were identified.

g. Geneseo Director – An ad hoc committee consisting of Directors, Darby and Hallendorff was formed to make recommendations to the Executive Committee for a selection to fill the vacancy in Director District 10 following the Annual Meeting in April.

Reports – A report was heard on the PPI Annual Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings – TCEDA Annual Meeting attendees were identified.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 P.M.

Contractors help get the job done

Jo-Carroll Energy will have a variety of contractors working on projects throughout the service territory this spring and summer. Please feel free to contact us at 800-858-5522 if you have any questions about contractors working in your areas.

Please use caution when driving by these companies' employees and our own lineworkers and technicians as they are working along roadsides.

Underground electric line construction

J&R Underground will be working on cable replacement. J&R will provide trenching, plowing and directional boring for both electric and natural gas operations throughout our service territory. J&R Underground is located in Blanchard, Wis.

Overhead electric line construction

Kent Power will be assisting with system rebuilds. Kent Power provides transmission and distribution line construction services. They are headquartered in Kent City, Mich.

Vegetation management

Elite Tree will complete tree trimming on lines throughout our service territory.

Mapping/GIS

Davey Resource Group will be working on mapping facilities in our service territory. They are headquartered in Kent, Ohio.

Inspections

DJB Inspections will inspect and paint underground facilities (junction boxes, transformers, etc.). DJB is from Strum, Wis.

Osmose Utility Services, Inc. provides pole testing, inspection and treatment. Osmose is headquartered in Buffalo, N.Y.

AMI installation

Chapman Metering will continue to work on installation of AMI meters throughout our service territory.

Substations

Elder Power Services, Inc. (EPS) is a relay panel fabrication company that also specializes in relay programming, installation and testing. Additionally, EPS provides support in frequent relay, battery and equipment testing.



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Make your yard work for you

By B. Denise Hawkins

Location, location, location is the mantra in real estate, but it also applies to your yard this time of year when the search is on to lower energy bills and create curb appeal. Positioning the right combination of plants and trees can yield shade, beautify, and unearth energy savings. Such smart or energy-efficient landscaping, claims the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), can on average, provide enough energy savings to see a return on your initial investment in less than eight years.

Again, think location. Carefully positioned trees can reduce a household's energy consumption for heating and cooling by up to 25 percent. Using computer models, the DOE determined that proper placement of only three trees on your property can save an average household between \$100 and \$250 in yearly energy costs. This spring, make your yard work for you. Just a few simple landscaping considerations can make a big difference in your home's comfort and in the efficiency of your heating and cooling systems:

- Use trees and plants to shade a window air conditioner. Having shade can increase its efficiency by as much as 10 percent. For good airflow and access, position plants more than three feet from the air conditioner.
- Shrubs and trees can form windbreaks or protective walls that keep wind chill away from a home. That's important because wind speed lowers outside air temperatures, and ultimately saves on higher heating costs. Common turf grass and other low-growing plants are ideal barriers. So are evergreens, especially when combined with a wall or fence to deflect or even lift wind over a home. For best protection, plan on leaving between two to five times the mature height of the trees or shrubs between the windbreak and the protected home.

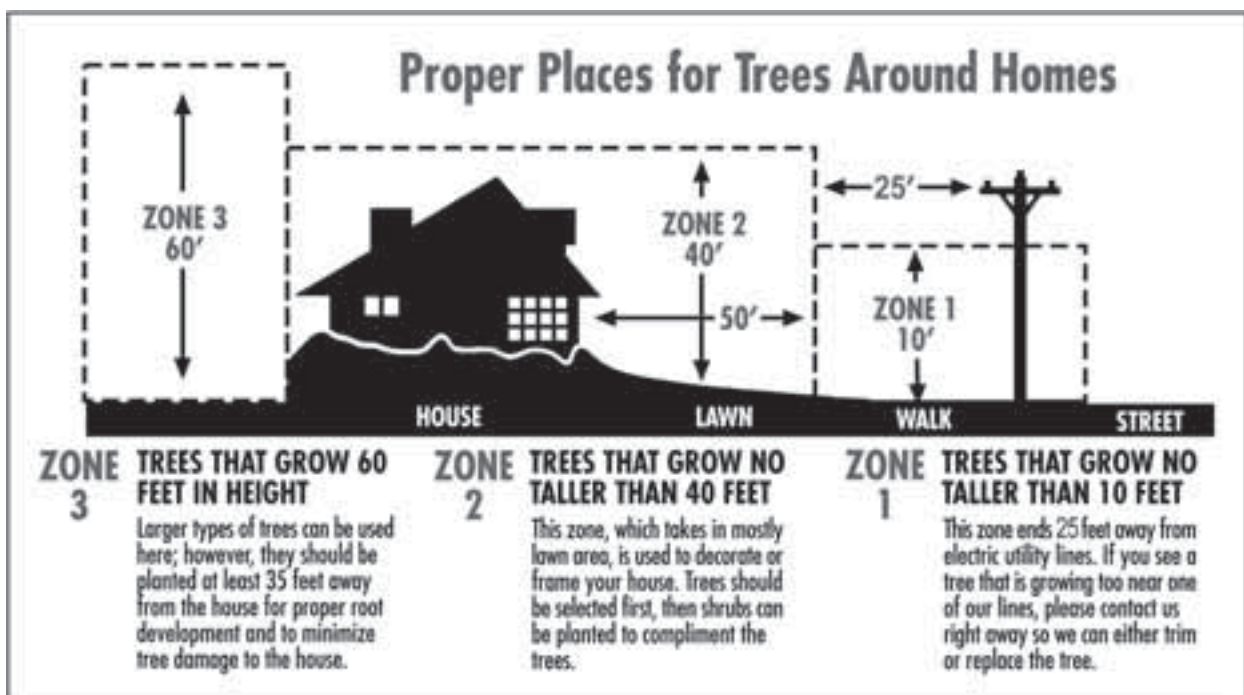
Made in the shade

Indoors, you may be protected from the sun's rays, but your energy

bill can rise as your air conditioner works harder to keep your house cool and comfortable. Planting shade trees can add to your comfort at home by dropping the surrounding air temperature by as much as nine degrees Fahrenheit. But choosing just the right tree may require a compass and patience while they grow to work for you:

- When selecting shade trees, keep in mind the mature height of the tree and the shape of its shade canopy in relation to the height of your home. These factors are important because they should influence how far from the house you decide to plant a tree. Always avoid planting near underground utility lines.
- Shading takes time—a 6-foot to 8-foot deciduous tree planted near a house will begin shading windows in a year. Depending on the species and the home, the tree will shade the roof in five to 10 years.
- Make planting shade trees due

Continued on 16e ►



west of west-facing windows your first priority.

- Select a tree that can be planted within 20 feet of the window and that will grow at least 10 feet taller than that window. If you have the space, use as many trees as needed to create a continuous row along all major west- and east-facing windows.
- Contrary to intuition, the least energy efficient place for a tree is to the south of a house.

Different trees can serve a variety of purposes. To block summer heat while letting sun filter through in the winter months, use deciduous trees or those that lose their leaves seasonally. Evergreens and shrubs, on the other hand, are ideal for providing continuous shade and blocking heavy winds. Also, keep in mind that not all shade plants are tall. Shrubs and sturdy groundcover plants also provide good shade by reducing heat radiation and cooling air before it reaches your home's walls and windows. **Steve Ohms**

Start planting savings and let your yard do all the work—a well-placed tree, shrub, or vine can deliver effective shade, act as a windbreak, and reduce your energy bills.

B. Denise Hawkins writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the



nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives. Sources: U.S. Department of Energy,

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Energy.gov



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

Is your name on our Unclaimed Capital Credits list?

As Jo-Carroll Eneergy member you have a share in your cooperative. Because we are a cooperative Jo-Carroll Energy does not technically earn profits. Any revenues over and above the cost of doing business are considered

“margins”. Sharing in margins in the form of capital credits is one of the benefits of being a co-op member-owner.

Below is a list of names of former Farmers Mutual Electric Company members for whom we have

unclaimed capital credits. If you find your name on the list, please call 800-858-5522 or email info@jocarroll.com. A complete list can be found on our website at www.jocarroll.com.

CUMMING WILLIAM G	ALGONQUIN IL	ANDERSON CECIL	BUCKLEY WA	WERNCKE WILLIAM	DAVENPORT IA
RICHTER DALE	ANCHORAGE AK	CARLSON MAURICE	CAMBRIDGE IL	SERGESKETTER RANDAL	DAVENPORT IA
SCHULTZ JOHN	ANNAWAN IL	CLEMENTS DON	CARBONDALE IL	BEAN JAMES	DAVIS CA
HODGETT ROBERT	ANNAWAN IL	GREEN CRAIG	CARMEL IN	TEEPLES GLEN	DEPUE IL
POWELL EDWARD A	ANNAWAN IL	HULTMAN DENNIS	CARTERSVILLE GA	SUNMARK INDUSTRIES	DES MOINES IA
VANDEROSTYNE RICHARD	ANNAWAN IL	CARPENTER LAWRENCE	CARY NC	ULLMARK RAY	DESOTO TX
OSBORNE LEE	ANNAWAN IL	EVERITT DAVID	CEDAR FALLS IA	ORENDORFF DANIEL	DUCK RIVER TN
MOON DONALD I	ANNAWAN IL	WEHMHOF JOHN	CHATHAM IL	KNAACK GEORGE	EAST MOLINE IL
DAVIDSON ROBERT	ARKDALE WI	TESS STEPHEN W	CLOCQUET MN	HANNON JOYCE	EAST MOLINE IL
FAIRBANKS DAN	ARVADA CO	LUBKE CLAIR	COAL VALLEY IL	WILLIAMS BOBBY	EAST MOLINE IL
SWANSON GERALD V	ATHENS IL	JOHNSON RONALD	COAL VALLEY IL	SHANNAHAN RICHARD	EAST MOLINE IL
SCHOOP RAYMOND	ATKINSON IL	MORRIS ROBERT	COLONA IL	PISMAN DON	EAST MOLINE IL
EMERY GENE	ATKINSON IL	DEWINDT CORDELIA	COLONA IL	SHERLOCK JOHN	EAST MOLINE IL
DWYER JIM	ATKINSON IL	HEBDEN ROBERT SCOTT	COLONA IL	WOODSON DARRYL	EAST MOLINE IL
NICOL MATT	ATKINSON IL	MILLIGAN BEN E	COLONA IL	SCHUETZLER VIRGIL	EAST MOLINE IL
LAUWAGIE CYRIEL	ATKINSON IL	DARIN WILLIAM	COLONA IL	GEHRING BRUCE	EAST MOLINE IL
BRALL CHARLES	ATKINSON IL	SCHAUBROECK JAMES	COLONA IL	BROMLEY BRUCE	EAST MOLINE IL
STORM EDWARD	ATKINSON IL	SAWYER JIM	COLONA IL	BULLER ELLSWORTH	EAST MOLINE IL
GRAHAM RAYMOND	ATKINSON IL	MURRY WILLIAM	COLONA IL	ANDERSON PHILLIP	EAST MOLINE IL
GOODRICH HARTWELL	ATKINSON IL	MERCER B JOHN	COLONA IL	STUCKEYS PEACAN SHOPPE	EASTMAN GA
CLAEYS ELMER	ATKINSON IL	CATOUR WALTER	COLONA IL	BODE JOHN	EDINA MO
WELVERT ED	ATKINSON IL	BOWERS JAMES	COLONA IL	ROACH GLYNN	EDINA MO
SHOEMAKER LAUREL	ATKINSON IL	GEER WALTER	COLONA IL	CARSON CHUCK	EMPORIA KS
KLUNDT ALBERT	ATKINSON IL	IL CONTRACTORS & MACHINERY	COLONA IL	DECAP MORRIS	ERIE IL
HELLER SHIRLEY	ATKINSON IL	BRUEGGER GENE	COLONA IL	DEAN BRUCE	ERIE IL
VANHERZEELE PAUL	ATKINSON IL	HILLMAN HOWARD	COLONA IL	MORRIS PAULA	ERIE IL
HARDEN FLOYD A	ATKINSON IL	FIKTER TIM	COLONA IL	NELSON JIM	ERIE IL
DEGEETER CLARENCE	ATKINSON IL	BEVER DENNIS	COLONA IL	VANZILE CHARLES	ERIE IL
CLEAIR LLOYD	ATKINSON IL	KONITZER O J	COLONA IL	BRANDT FORREST	ERIE IL
SHANNON TOM	AURORA CO	PISMAN ALFRED	COLONA IL	ROPP AIRPORT INC	ERIE IL
FEROVICK DENNIS	AUSTION TX	QUADE RONALD H	COLONA IL	BALLARD MARION	ERIE IL
MAGIC MEDIA INC	BANGOR PA	SCOTTEN LEO	COLONA IL	MIX KENNETH	ERIE IL
TIESMAN KEN	BARTLESVILLE OK	SCHOELLERMAN MARTIN	COLONA IL	NORD PAUL S	FALLSTON MD
MCCORMICK ROBERT JR	BEAMSVILLE ONTARIO CANADA	BERGESON HAROLD	COLONA IL	COLLINS CAGER C	FARMINGTON IA
ULLRICK DELBERT	BELLA VISTA AR	JOHNSON KENNETH	COLUMBUS OH	TADLOCK ROBERT L	FRANKFORD MO
CURTIS FRED	BELLEVILLE IL	LAWSON FLOYD	CORDOVA IL	ROTZ SHERMAN	FT LAUDERDALE FL
MCKENZIE M R	BELLVUE CO	JOHNSON PAUL	CORDOVA IL	PERKINS MILTON	FULTON IL
JOHNSON MORRIS C	BOILING SPRINGS PA	JEFFRESS ROBERT L	DALLAS TX	MACKEBEN GORDON L	GARDEN PRAIRIE IL
		GARDNER DAVID	DAVENPORT IA		

Co-op Connections reaches quarter million milestone in Rx savings



Each and every month Jo-Carroll Energy is proud to help save our members dollars and cents with the Co-op Connections card. In fact, those dollars and cents add up and Jo-Carroll Energy members have saved at total of over \$250,000 at the pharmacy just by showing their Co-op Connections card.

One of the biggest benefits of the Co-op Connections card is the prescription discounts you can receive on your next trip to the pharmacy. That's because with your card, you'll be able to get 10% to 85% off your prescription drugs at over 60,000 locations including national and regional pharmacy chains. Many

local independent pharmacies also accept the card. Each pharmacy contracts their discounts differently, thus the variance from 10% to 85% off.

This member benefit card may also help you save money on everyday expenses, like clothing and groceries, at thousands of local and national retailers. The Co-op Connections card can also be used online and allows members to access special partner sites for additional savings on things like grocery shopping from Coupons.com and earning cash back on online purchase through the NEW Cashback Mall. Download the shopping assistant

tool bar at www.jocarroll.foryourpeople.com/landing.

Co-op Connections: It's just another member benefit brought to you by Jo-Carroll Energy.

You can pick up a Co-op Connections card at your nearest Jo-Carroll Energy office in Elizabeth, Savanna or Geneseo, or simply call us and we'll mail you one. For more information or to locate a list of discounts and healthy savings partners in your area, visit www.connections.coop or call our office at 800-858-5522.

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EVERYDAY SAVINGS

THAT'S THE POWER OF CO-OP MEMBERSHIP

Jo-Carroll Energy

793 U.S. Route 20 West • P.O. Box 390
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Powering UP

When electricity goes out, most of us expect power will be restored within a few hours. But when a major storm causes widespread damage, longer outages may result. Co-op line crews work long, hard hours to restore service safely to the greatest number of consumers in the shortest time possible.

Here's what's going on if you find yourself in the dark.

