

Meet the Directors

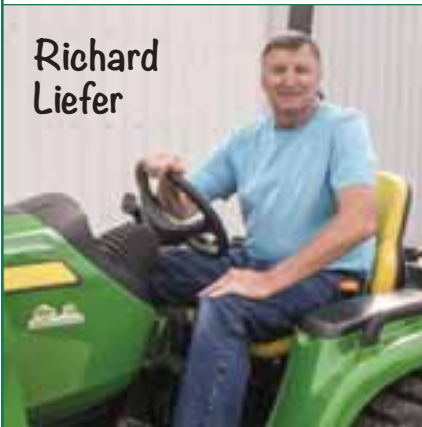
Your board of directors are just like you – business owners, farmers, working people who are concerned about our present and future energy needs and the rising cost of electric power. They pay the same rates as you do, and want to keep your power costs down while still maintaining the financial integrity of the cooperative. What affects you, the

member, affects them also. They not only meet monthly to handle normal cooperative business, but all the board members serve on other committees related to the cooperative as well. They also attend meetings and training on other cooperative issues and affairs. These people are dedicated to the membership and work hard to look

out for the member's best interests concerning safe, reliable and affordable electricity. They talk to you in the grocery store and on the street, listening to your concerns and ideas. We are featuring two board members each month and asking them a question related to their service on the cooperative board of directors.

Board of Directors - Question/Answer

Richard Liefer



Richard Liefer is retired from a life-long farming operation. He now enjoys spending time with his precious grandchildren and being the family handyman.

Q: How much time on average do directors dedicate each month to serve their cooperative? What does this time include?

A: Directors must be *willing to attend the regularly scheduled monthly board meetings*. As a general rule, most of these meetings are completed in the vicinity of three to four hours. On occasion, *special board meetings* are held but are usually much shorter in nature. Four members of the board are also elected to represent MCEC on **related boards**. This involves an extra one to two meetings per month.

Board policy *requires* all directors become certified by *completing a series of five one-day courses* offered by our national association. Completion is expected by the end of one's second three-year term. Normally each of these classes last six to eight hours and involves a one-day trip to and from Springfield.

All directors are also *encouraged to attend other annual local, state and national electric co-op meetings*. The time commitment associated with these range from a same day meeting to three nights away from home on the national level.



Richard Neff

Richard Neff owns and operates a farm, growing corn and soybeans. He also has a hog finishing enterprise.

Q: What made you interested in becoming a board member?

A: I wanted to be a board member for several reasons with the two most important being: the reliable service we always received from the co-op, and the dedicated employees I was able to meet during projects on the farm. Because our service has always been so good, I wanted the opportunity to learn more about the co-op and the decisions that had to be made to maintain that level of reliability. I looked forward to playing a small part in continuing to provide quality, economical electric service to our member-owners.

Having the chance to see co-op employees perform their duties in an efficient manner, no matter the conditions, and with attention to detail made me want to be part of the team. They always seemed to enjoy what they were doing while ensuring safety and timeliness.

 **Monroe County Electric Co-Operative**

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