



Clinton County Connection

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. • cceci@cceci.com • www.cceci.com

Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Annual Meeting Held Thursday, March 16, 2017

Members in attendance at Clinton County Electric Cooperative's 79th Annual Meeting, held Thursday, March 16, 2017 at Central Community High School in Breese, re-elected three members of the board of trustees by acclamation and heard the 2016 accomplishments as well as the financial results of CCECI. Members in attendance also had the opportunity to hear about Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Prairie State Generating Campus, and future rate strategies at Clinton County Electric Cooperative. Every registered member received a \$20 bill credit and the evening closed with three attendance prizes being awarded.

Upon motion by Jim Tebbe, seconded and a vote taken thereon, the minutes from last year's annual meeting were approved. Upon motion by Nelson Arrowsmith, seconded and a vote taken thereon, Trustees Tim Hanke from District 1, Kevin Kampwerth from District 2, and Randy Renth from District 3 were re-elected by acclamation.

Vernon Mohesky, Chairman of the Board, began his speech by talking a bit about the new President/COO Bob Kroeger. He then spoke about CCECI's accomplishments in 2016. Mohesky went on to explain CCECI has not had a lost time accident since April of 2009, which is almost 314,000 hours worked without an accident. He then focused

Annual Meeting continued on 16b



During their 79th Annual Meeting, members of Clinton County Electric Cooperative re-elected the following trustees by acclamation: (left to right) Randy Renth of Mascoutah; Tim Hanke of Carlyle; Kevin Kampwerth of Carlyle.



Clinton County Electric's Board of Trustees, President and General Counsel gathered together to conduct the 79th Annual Meeting of Members.



Annual Meeting continued from 18a

on reliability, and said “Our goal is to have no more than 1 hour of outage per member per year. 2014 was the first year we were able to attain that goal. In 2015 we almost made it. For 2016 we missed that goal with 7.46 member outage hours. The main culprit for not making our goal was a large Ameren transmission outage in January and a smaller Ameren transmission outage in May.” While on the topic of reliability, Mohelesky touched briefly on pole testing and tree trimming.

The next topic on Chairman Mohelesky’s agenda was the unbundling of the monthly electric bill that took place with the October 2016 billing. He stressed that the amount of each electric bill will not change because of this unbundling. Mohelesky stated “The changes were made to give you a clearer picture of what you are paying for.” He also mentioned the approximate \$200,000 of retired patronage that was paid to those who were members in 1991. Chairman Mohelesky spoke briefly about the Cost of Service study performed in 2015 and the Rate Change to take place in April of 2017. He closed his portion of the evening talking about Advanced Metering Infrastructure saying “A definite decision on implementation has not been made at this time. Implementation will take a couple of years and we will continue to communicate with you the member about it.”

Secretary/Treasurer Timothy Hanke said Clinton County Electric continues to return capital credit patronage back to the membership. Recently the cooperative mailed out approximately \$200,000 to those who were members in 1991. Hanke reported the cooperative closed 2016 with total revenue of \$17,279,513, total expenses of \$16,327,780 and operating margins of \$951,733.



Next Paul Furtak, Vice President for Risk & Strategic Planning at Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), which is the source of power for Clinton County Electric, started by providing a brief history of SIPC as well as an overview of the generation resources owned by SIPC. Mr. Furtak stated that the generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative continues to strive for stability and reliability. Mr. Furtak said, “The coal fired units at the Marion plant continue to operate at very high availability levels. This is due in large part to the experienced and dedicated staff at SIPC.”

When it comes to those employees, safety continues to be of the utmost importance. The primary goal of Safety First has resulted in almost 2 1/2 years without a lost time accident. Controlling costs has also been a priority at SIPC. Good management of new coal contracts and other resources are helping to reduce costs for SIPC and ultimately its distribution cooperatives and their member/owners.



Environmental regulations continue to be a challenge for coal-burning plants across the country. Mr. Furtak said, “SIPC took a proactive approach many years ago, by installing the equipment and technology to meet current and future regulation requirements.”

Mr. Furtak reported on the status of Prairie States Generating Campus (PSGS) in Marissa, in which SIPC is part-owner. “In spite of challenges, the operation and performance of the Prairie States continues to improve.”

Next, the new President/COO Bob Kroeger came to the podium and told the crowd a little about himself. He then talked about rates and all the discussion surrounding the board’s decision to implement a rate change in hopes of being “fair and reasonable”

to all members. That rate change means the Rate 1 Facility Charge will increase from \$45 per meter, per month to \$49 per meter, per month while the energy charge will decrease. This change can be seen on the bills received in April, 2017.

Then President Kroeger spoke about reliability. He said “In 2009, we became very focused on improving the service reliability to our members in three ways: replacing aging and deteriorating copper conductor; pole testing and replacement; and tree trimming.” He explained how the Construction Work Plan identifies areas of decreasing reliability within our system and the corrective actions needed to improve the deficiencies.

Safety was the next topic on President Kroeger’s agenda. He informed the membership that “the Board, management, and employees are dedicated to sending everyone home to their families at the end of the day in the same condition they were when they showed up at work.” It is that dedication that has allowed for the employees of CCECI to have worked over 314,000 hours without a lost time accident and be a recipient of the 2017 Safety Leadership Award presented at the 2017 Association



of Illinois Electric Cooperatives Safety, Supervisory, and Technical Conference.

Upon motion by Ken Holtgrave, seconded and a vote taken thereon, all the reports given by the officers and the president were approved.

Chairman Mohesky then recognized Bob Kroeger as having

completed 15 years of dedicated service to the membership. President Kroeger then gave an update concerning the employees of Clinton County Electric. Brian Taylor has completed 20 years of dedicated service; Mike Faust 15 years of dedicated service,

Annual Meeting continued on 16d





Cooperative, Inc., upon motion by Kenny Walthes, seconded and a vote taken thereon, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mohesky.

Following adjournment, four cash prizes were awarded. The winners were: Ryan & Danielle Peters, \$100; Jim & Elvira Tebbe, \$50; Albert & Barbara Warren, \$50; and Beatrice Tebbe, \$50.

The meeting concluded at 8:28 p.m.

To hear this type of information first hand, collect attendance prizes and to have the opportunity to win cash prizes, consider attending next year's annual meeting. As a member, you are an owner of this cooperative and deserve to be well informed about all of our activities.

and Harry Buller 41 years of dedicated service. With the retirement of Harry and the promotion of Brian, the Cooperative hired John Schroeder as an Apprentice Lineman in June of 2016. Due to the resignation of Mike Johnson and the resulting vacancy created in the engineering department, the Cooperative hired Jared

Kampwerth as our System Engineer in January of 2017.

The meeting drew to a close with President Kroeger giving an update on the trustees. Cary Dickinson was recognized for completing 20 years of dedicated services;

There being no further business to come before the 79th Annual Meeting of Members of the Clinton County Electric

Mark your calendar

**THE COOPERATIVE OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED ON**

Monday, May 29, 2017
in observance of

MEMORIAL

DAY



AND



Tuesday, July 4, 2017
in observance of

INDEPENDENCE

DAY

