

Clay ELECTRIC News

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

7784 Old Hwy. 50 ■ P.O. Box 517 ■ Flora, Illinois 62839 ■ www.ceci.coop ■ 618/662-2171 ■ 800/582-9012

Bylaw changes presented at 2018 CECI Annual Meeting for approval

In an effort to keep current, bylaw changes and updates will be presented to the Clay Electric Co-operative (CECI) membership at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Members in August. The last time updates were made was 2010. These changes and updates are needed to reflect changes in state and federal law, as well as to reflect the current business practices of CECI. Staff and the cooperative's attorney have been going through the current bylaws and cleaning up some language.

Some of what you can expect to see are spelling of "cooperative." Several places had a hyphen in cooperative and other places had no hyphen. (E.g. **co-operative** change

to **cooperative**.) Some sentences described the members as "husband and wife," "he or it," "his or her spouse," etc. Proposed changes update those references to "the prospective member," "individuals" or "multiple individuals."

The original bylaws with changes added in will be published in the Annual Meeting Notice that you will receive in the mail, most likely in the third week of August. We will also have a limited number available at the annual meeting.

Also, this year we will be registering members that attend the annual meeting using a barcode scanner.

A barcode will be printed on the back page of the notice, and we ask that you bring that portion of the

back page with you to the meeting.

Your registration will be used to show that you were present and entitled to the \$10 bill credit for attending. Registered members will also be eligible for the prizes given after the meeting as long as you are present if your name is drawn.

Please plan on attending YOUR Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. Annual Meeting of Members Aug. 23, 2018 at the campus of Oil Belt Christian Service Camp.



Ed VanHoose
Manager





Clay Electric Co-operative reminds members to plug into safety

In May, electric cooperatives across the country promote safety awareness to coincide with National Electrical Safety Month. Every year, thousands of accidents occur due to shock hazards, and Clay Electric Co-operative (CECI), a not-for-profit electric utility, is committed to educating the public about potential electrical dangers in the home.

In 2016, 475,500 structure fires (including residential fires) were reported in the U.S., causing 2,950 deaths, 12,775 injuries and \$7.9 billion in property damage. According

to the National Fire Protection Association, a residential fire was reported every 90 seconds. Many home fires occur when electrical equipment is outdated or improperly used.

“It is critical that the public understands their home’s electrical system and the safety concerns associated with the latest residential technologies before bringing them into their homes,” explains Luke Johnson, CECI operations manager. “With newer technologies, such as solar panels, electric vehicles and

more electrical gadgets in the home, people need to ensure they have an electrical system that’s compatible with the increased load.”

To raise awareness of the importance of electrical safety, CECI presents a “LIVE LINE” Safety Demo, which has been presented to area schools, community events, fire departments and first responders.

“Through electrical safety awareness and education, we can all play a part in preventing electrical hazards and injuries in the future. Together, let’s plug into safety this May.

Change Habits to BEAT THE PEAK

You can beat the peak (and save money!) by decreasing your power use when energy demand and prices are at their highest. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

Laundry for Less:

Full loads mean fewer cycles, and washers and dryers run in the late evenings add less heat and humidity to the home. Energy can cost less outside of peak hours.



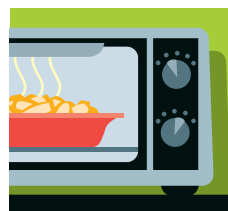
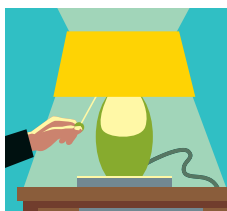
Intramural Competition:

Online gaming with each active player using their own computer, display, gaming console and internet connection gets pricey. Play each other at home on one screen and save.



Cool Off/Calm Down:

Turn off unnecessary lighting and electronics that generate heat, resist the urge to turn down the thermostat and remember, lower fan settings use less energy.



Countertop Convenience:

Range or oven cooking can really warm up a kitchen. Microwaves, convection ovens, induction cooktops, Crock-Pot® and toaster ovens put more cooking heat where you need it.

MyPI Training

At the request of the Illinois Extension Office, Clay Electric Co-operative participated in electrical safety training to students of first responder training recently held at Washington School in Flora.

The training is titled MyPI, which is the Illinois Youth Preparedness Initiative. Luke Johnson presented to the class the dangers of getting too close to downed power lines. When an accident occurs, or a storm comes through the area and takes down power lines, stay away from them.

You never know if the lines are energized or not.

Clay Electric crews have a monitoring device that they keep in their pocket when out working in storm damage that will detect when voltage is present. If you observe an accident or a fallen tree, look around and make sure there are not any electric lines present before rendering help to someone. Don't become a victim yourself. Wait on trained personnel to arrive to make sure the area is ok to enter.



Bible Grove line rebuilt

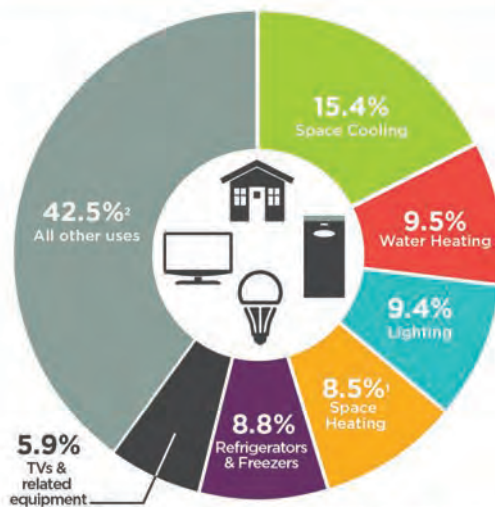
Recently Clay Electric Co-operative (CECI) rebuilt the three-phase line that delivers electricity to the Bible Grove area. As a result of this project, we will be able to depend more on the line to deliver power safely and efficiently. When the need arises, and CECI must take a substation offline for maintenance, we will be able to do so more effectively.

These types of projects are considered in our annual work plan that staff and CECI Engineering company plan for years in advance and are considered in the annual budget.

How Americans Use Electricity

Electricity is an essential part of modern life. Last year, the use of electricity in the U.S. was 13 times greater than electricity use in 1950.

The latest data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration shows the combined use of clothes washers and dryers, computers, dishwashers, small appliances and other electrical equipment accounts for 40 percent of electricity consumption in American homes.



AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2018.

¹Includes consumption for heat and operating furnace fans and boiler pumps. ²Includes miscellaneous appliances, clothes washers and dryers, computers and related equipment, stoves, dishwashers, heating elements, and motors.

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Office hours:

7:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

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Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular meeting March 5, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. (CECI) was held at the principal office of the Cooperative, R.F.D., in Flora, Illinois beginning at 12:20 o'clock p.m. on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Bill Croy, Neil Gould, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolphi, Danny Schnepper, and Greg Smith. Also present were: Ed VanHoose Executive V.P. General Manager, and Tyra Cycholl, CECI Attorney.

The meeting was opened by Richard Rudolphi, who presided and Greg Smith, Secretary, acted as secretary thereof.

The invocation was given by Bill Croy.

The following proceedings were had [all action being first duly moved and seconded, and all action taken being upon the unanimous vote of the Board or without dissenting vote of abstention unless otherwise stated]:

APPROVED the Suggested Agenda as presented.

APPROVED removing the Disbursements and Credit Card Statements from the consent agenda.

APPROVED the consent agenda as presented including the following:

REVIEWED, that the Board of Trustees hereby: (a) approve and admit to membership those 10 applicants connected for service since the last such review by the board, and (b) cancel those 16 former members shown on the Manager's Report since the last such review by the Board, said members no longer taking service.

APPROVED, the list of work orders in the amount of \$37,810.21.

REVIEWED the December Attorney Retainer.

APPROVED the December Disbursements and Credit Card

Statements.

APPROVED not participating in the CoBank Director elections.

APPROVED Ed VanHoose as the CRC Delegate.

HEARD a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose regarding the retirement of Capital Credits to the estate of 2 deceased Members.

APPROVED the retirement of those Capital Credits pursuant to Cooperative Policy.

APPROVED taking no legal action against a Member.

APPROVED the temporary office bid by Fager-McGee as presented.

APPROVED the warehouse roofing bid by Fager-McGee as presented.

APPROVED the sitework bid to the lowest bidder as presented.

DISCUSSED the by-law amendments as presented by Cooperative Attorney Tyra Cycholl.

Luke Johnson entered the meeting.

DISCUSSED the transformer issue and demand letter. Johnson then left the meeting.

APPROVED selling the Sailor Springs transformer.

DISCUSSED the NRECA Annual Meeting.

INFORMED the DFD Rate lock was executed.

INFORMED the CFC quarterly loan payment was made.

HEARD a report on the recent SIPC meeting by Trustee Herman.

HEARD a report by Kevin Logan on the recent AIEC meeting.

REVIEWED the ComEd Solar Objection and the email to Tri County Electric Cooperative regarding the same.

REVIEWED the AIEC sharing Compliance communication for John Teimeyer.

UPDATED on ACRE dues.

INFORMED of the upcoming Electric Cooperative Lobby Day.

REVIEWED the new floor plan on the new office building.

INFORMED the lease was entered for the temporary office building.

REVIEWED the CECI property Boring Sample Report.

REMINDED of the upcoming NRECA continuing education course being offered.

APPROVED entering into executive session.

APPROVED entering back into regular session.

HEARD a financial report by Manager VanHoose as to the following:

- a. December 2017 Form 7
- b. January 2018 Form 7
- c. January 2018 Cash Flow
- d. SIPC Power Delivered in January 2018 dated February 7, 2018

January 2018 Power Factor

January 2018 Power Cost Adder

January 2018 Line Loss

CRC Dividends

SEDC Patronage Dividends

HEARD a General Safety Report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose for February 2018.

REVIEWED Monday morning safety meeting sheet dated February 19, 2018.

HEARD and **APPROVED** a report by Manager VanHoose as to the following:

a. Work Comp Mod Summary Report

b. Member issue on late payment

c. Bible Grove line rebuild

d. NCSC Manager Director

e. Upcoming meetings

f. New SIEC Manager

REVIEWED four liability insurance certificates.

DISCUSSED the Auditors Report, **APPROVED** not having the Auditor Representative attend the CECI Board meeting unless issues arise in the report.

ADJOURNED