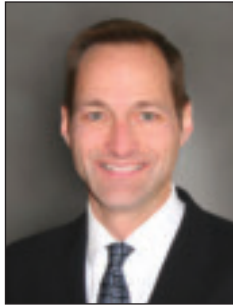


# JO-CARROLL

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



## CEO'S REPORT

by Mike Casper

**E**arlier this year, Dave Senn, Chris Allendorf and I participated in National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA's) annual legislative conference in Washington, D.C., along with more than 2,000 other cooperative leaders, where we discussed issues that are important to rural communities and to stress the benefits of the co-op business model.

We had the opportunity to discuss these issues and more with our legislators and their staff, including Senator Dick Durbin, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos and staff from Senator Tammy Duckworth's office.

In addition to advocating for protection of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding, which is vital support for many of our members, we advocated for rural economic development broadband programs in the Farm Bill and funding for rural broadband infrastructure. We emphasized that access to fast, reliable broadband is crucial for economic development and independence in our rural areas.

We delivered the message personally to Washington that America's electric cooperatives support dedicating a portion of the \$20 billion for infrastructure in the Bipartisan Budget Agreement to fund high-speed internet development in rural America.

The future of rural communities depends on their ability to keep up and compete with more urban areas. Quick access to information is crucial for finding a job, getting a better education and top-quality healthcare. With modern broadband internet technology, we can narrow the gap between rural and urban Americans in accessing these necessities, while maintaining our rural quality of life. We're already committed to providing affordable energy to our members and communities, so providing affordable, reliable high-speed access is a natural next step.

NRECA has called on Congress to dedicate at least \$2.5 billion in 2018 and 2019 and suggests the funds be provided to the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to implement the broadband deployment program. Jo-Carroll Energy followed up with a letter to each of our legislators to reiterate our position and to

provide specific language for programs that would provide funding to rural areas based on our nearly 10 years of experience of providing broadband services to you, our member-owners.

Congresswoman Bustos remains a staunch supporter of electric cooperatives and she has a deep interest in promoting rural broadband – as evidenced by her visit to Galena last October to talk about funding for rural internet access and to learn about our Sand Prairie fiber-to-the-premises project.

During the conference, we also heard from four U.S. senators and the Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, who also discussed the importance of rural broadband. Perdue said, "Rural broadband is not just a luxury – it's essential." Secretary Perdue would know, since he has lived on cooperative lines for most of his life in rural Georgia. We couldn't agree more with him.

And that's what we're doing with the Sand Prairie fiber-to-the-premises buildout. You can show your interest and support by visiting [connectSP.com/iwantfiber](http://connectSP.com/iwantfiber).

We've already connected members in fiber neighborhoods in Elizabeth and Galena, along with a few smaller areas in both Jo Daviess and Carroll counties. We want to eventually extend the service to any member who wants it, but, due to expensive infrastructure costs and without additional funding, a buildout could take many years to complete. In May, we applied for two USDA Community Connect grants that, if successful, will help us advance the Sand Prairie service to more members and serve as building blocks to expand service to ever-larger numbers of members.

With the right state and federal policies and funding, we'll be able to make fiber broadband technology available to more members sooner.

We took that message to Washington to remind our lawmakers of the rural areas they serve and to help them understand how their decisions impact the lives of our members.

As a member of Jo-Carroll Energy, you are part of a larger network of cooperative members across the country. Together we can use our collective voice to tell our co-op story, speak up for members, and enhance the quality of life in our rural communities.

## Reader prize

**E**ach 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.

## For your information

### Your Board of Directors:

**David Senn**  
*Chairman*  
District 7

**Russell Holesinger**  
*Vice Chairman*  
District 8

**Marcia Stanger**  
*Secretary*  
District 3

**Martin Werner**  
*Treasurer*  
District 1

**Joseph Mattingley**  
District 2

**Dan Tindell**  
District 4

**Patricia Smith**  
District 5

**Thomas Lundy**  
District 6

**Larry Carroll**  
District 9

**Robert Kuhns**  
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 4:30 p.m.

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

**Services and  
Billing Questions:**

(800) 858-5522  
www.jocarroll.com

**For emergencies  
and outages call:**  
(800) 858-5522

# Resume of Minutes

## March 21, 2018

The board met on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at the Jo-Carroll Energy Headquarters. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The Agenda, as amended, and the Consent Agenda were approved.

**Presentation** – Mark Prouhet, BKD CPAs & Advisors provided a summary of Jo-Carroll Energy's year-end audit results and noted that there were no deficiencies and his firm had issued a clean, unmodified audit opinion. No audit adjustments needed to be made and no deficiencies were noted. Director Mattingley inquired as to whether there were any identifiable issues beyond the scope of the engagement letter with the firm, of which Prouhet advised there were none.

**Chairman's Report** – Senn briefed the board on the Governance Task Force report presented during the NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) Annual Meeting. The importance of maintaining good governance practices and procedures within the organization was also discussed.

**AIEC (Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives) and NRECA Report** – Senn reported on upcoming proposed resolutions, as well as providing an update on topics discussed at the latest AIEC meeting.

**APGA Report** – Director Carroll provided an update on regulatory matters being followed by the American Public Gas Association (APGA).

**Dairyland Report** – Mattingley provided updates from the most recent Dairyland Power board meeting. Mattingley noted that energy sales have fallen among all Class A Dairyland members, which poses revenue challenges.

**Executive Session** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to move into executive session at 9:54 a.m.

**Out of Executive Session** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to come out of Executive Session at 10:31 a.m.

**Action Items As a Result of Executive Session** – None.

**PPI Report** – Director Hallendorff reported on Prairie Power Inc.'s (PPI) most recent generation figures and provided operational highlights from Prairie State Units 1 and 2.

**Board Policy Update** –

**Policy 116** – Board Policy 116 was discussed, and recommendations were made for a revision to update section C1, specifying that during an election, verified director candidates will receive a list of service addresses only. A motion to amend the current policy was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to amend the policy as presented.

**CEO's Report** –

**a. Financial Operating Report** – CFO Woods reported on the Cooperative's operating margins for February. The current equity of the cooperative

is approximately 24.87%, compared to 24.62% at this time last year. By general consent, the board moved to file the financial operating report with the auditor. Woods also commented that operations and maintenance expenses were slightly less than budgeted.

**b. Technical Presentation** – President and CEO Mike Casper discussed Energy Systems Integration (ESI). This is a process of coordinating the operation and planning of energy systems across multiple pathways and/or geographical scales to deliver reliable, cost-effective energy services with minimal impact on the environment.

**Operations & Regulatory/Legislative Update** –

**a. Senior Vice President and Assistant General Manager** – Buros provided information on Jo-Carroll Energy's load transfer to Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC). Jo-Carroll Energy's current Alliant load will be transferred into DPC on April 1, 2018.

**b. External Relations Update** – Chris Allendorf, Vice President of External Relations & General Counsel, provided the board with an overview of matters concerning the State of Illinois and the federal government. Allendorf discussed election results from the March primary election. NW Illinois Economic Development (formerly TCEDA) recently held their Annual Meeting on March 15. Discussions took place on the direction of the organization and the various measures to help promote economic development in the area.

**Board Issues**

**a. Discounted Estate Capital Credit**

**Retirements** – A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the discounted estate retirements as presented.

**b. 1. Prairie Power Inc. (PPI) Designation of Delegate and Alternate of the Annual Meeting of Members** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Bob Kuhns as the delegate and Marcy Stanger as the alternate delegate.

**2. Certification of Prairie Power Inc. (PPI) Candidates for Directors and Alternate Director** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve Bob Kuhns as the Director and Marcy Stanger as the Alternate Director.

**c. Dairyland Annual Meeting Attendees** – Attendees for the Dairyland Annual Meeting were selected.

**d. CFC Forum Attendees** – Attendees for the CFC Forum were selected.

**e. Bluestem Development Agreement** – A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Bluestem Development Agreement for a 9-month period.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Senn adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.

# Mark your calendars for 2018 Appreciation Days!

Save the date for one of Jo-Carroll Energy's upcoming Member Appreciation Days, set for each of our offices in Elizabeth, Savanna and Geneseo.

Have lunch on us! Your employee team will fire up the grills and be serving pork chop sandwiches and hot dogs along with chips, ice-cold lemonade and a special treat.

We will have games for adults and kids alike. Members can try their hand at a balloon pop game to win bill credits. We will have LED light bulbs to give away.

We invite you to join us for a chance to visit with board members, employees and fellow member-owners. It's our way of thanking you for the opportunity to serve you throughout the year.



Events are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates:

**June 22 at Geneseo**  
**June 28 at Elizabeth**  
**June 29 at Savanna**



## Showcase your child's artistic talents,

### Enter our summer coloring contest

Looking for something to keep your kids busy this summer? Why not visit your local library to pick up an entry form for the Jo-Carroll Energy Summer Coloring Contest?

Each year, Jo-Carroll Energy partners with our local public libraries to support our communities and to spread the word about a coloring contest for our members' children ages 5-10.

We select three winners each year, one from each age category. The winners will receive a full set of school supplies for the fall school year, plus many other fun prizes such as color-change pencils, bendy rulers and more. In addition to the child's prize, we will donate five energy-related children's books to the child's community library.

Coloring pages will be collected July 18. Please visit any of the following libraries to pick up a copy of the coloring form along with the contest guidelines.

East Dubuque District Library  
 Galena Public Library  
 Elizabeth Township Library  
 Hanover Township Library  
 Savanna Public Library  
 Mt. Carroll Township Library  
 York Township Library  
 Schmalig Memorial Library  
 Albany Public Library  
 Erie Public Library  
 Geneseo Public Library

## Enter the 2018 Jo-Carroll Photo Contest!

The 2018 Photo Calendar Contest (photos submitted in 2017-18) is open until June 30! We're looking for more of those beautiful photos we have received in previous years that depict life in our service territory.

We're looking for images that represent life in our service territory – whether they are action shots or scenic landscapes.

From the member submissions we will choose 12 photos to appear on the calendar pages along with front and

back cover photos. Several other photos will be selected as honorable mention.

All photos must be the original work of the entrant and taken within the Jo-Carroll Energy service territory. Entry deadline is June 30, 2018.

For complete rules and entry information, visit [www.jocarroll.com](http://www.jocarroll.com) or contact Peggy Francomb, manager of communications and marketing, at 800-858-5522, ext. 1218 or [pfrancomb@jocarroll.com](mailto:pfrancomb@jocarroll.com).





# Adopt the Summer Shift, help keep electricity affordable

*Make today's new habit part of tomorrow's lifestyle*

Are there products you purchase or tasks you perform on certain days of the week because that was part of the routine when you were growing up? When was the last time you thought about how your habits today can affect the next generation?

This summer, consider a new habit – one for all ages – that can be started without spending a dime, yet can help your local electric cooperative keep your electricity rates stable and affordable. It's called the **Summer Shift**.

The Summer Shift is not a new dance move. It means shifting flexible electricity use to the hours before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., during the months of June, July and August. This helps Jo-Carroll Energy keep electric rates affordable by purchasing less power when electricity is in high demand and most expensive, thus “shifting” the demand for electricity to times of the day when electricity costs less to purchase. **James O'Brien**

One of the best parts of the Summer Shift is that everyone can participate.

1. Set the thermostat to 78 degrees during the summer and raise it a few degrees when no one is home. Utilizing a programmable thermostat means one less thing to remember!
2. By starting a load of laundry after 7 p.m. (use cold water, if possible), a member could get a load (or two) of clothes washed and hung up to dry overnight before going to bed. Or, wash clothes first thing in the morning and use solar energy to



- dry your clothes outside on a clothesline during the day.
3. Start the dishwasher after 7 p.m., then open the door when the “dry” cycle begins to let dishes air dry overnight.
4. Shut off lights. Longer days have arrived, so utilize the extra daylight to delay turning on lights around the house.
5. Balance closing curtains to keep the home cool with using LED lights in lamps. Be sure to turn off lights when exiting a room.
6. Enjoy a picnic lunch and/or dinner at least once a week with sandwiches and other foods that do not require a microwave or stove to prepare.
7. Get out of the house! Check local community schedules to see if there are softball/baseball games, or concerts in the park. Is there a local library that offers fun summer activities during the week? Most of these events will be free and are

great ways to connect with local community members.

## Enroll in a load management program

In addition to the tips above, residential members can participate in Jo-Carroll Energy's load management program, which is a strategy utilized by one of our wholesale power providers, Dairyland Power Cooperative, to automatically shift electricity use and reduce demand.

As part of the program, a load management receiver is installed on eligible electric appliances, such as water heaters or (in the winter) electric heat units. During times of high electricity demand or when the price to purchase electricity is high, Dairyland will initiate a load control event, and the receiver will automatically respond by curtailing electricity to the connected appliance for a period of time. In exchange for load control participation, members may be eligible for a reduced, off-peak electricity rate or bill credit.

Load control events are designed to achieve the benefits of demand reduction and energy shifting, while balancing the impact to household comfort and convenience. Event duration and frequency varies according to the capabilities of each enrolled appliance. Many households do not notice when a load control event is taking place, especially those members who are already taking a conservation-minded approach to energy use. More information is available by contacting your trusted energy advisors at Jo-Carroll Energy.

### PEAK Alert participation options for C&I members

Commercial, industrial or agricultural members can also contribute to demand reduction, along with their residential counterparts, through the PEAK Alert load management program. PEAK Alert events are issued during the winter and summer seasons during critical time periods where the demand for electricity is expected to be at its peak for the season.

A limited number of times throughout summer (June through August) and winter (December through February), Dairyland Power will call for a full load control – or PEAK Alert – event.

During a PEAK Alert, participating commercial and industrial members will either shut down or switch their electricity needs to a generator. Agricultural members can participate further through curtailment. Contact Jo-Carroll Energy to learn more about available programs.

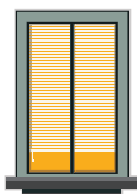
Together, local electric cooperative members can take control to help ensure their electricity remains safe, reliable and affordable.

More information about these load management programs is available by calling 800-858-5522 to talk with your trusted energy advisors at Jo-Carroll Energy.

*(Please note that these programs are not available to our Geneseo area electric members.)*

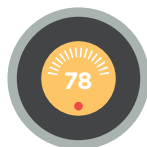
# Summer Energy-Saving Tips

Costs associated with cooling your home can make up a large portion of your summer electric bills. Stay cool and save money with these energy efficiency tips!

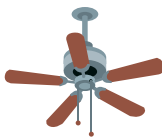


## NO-COST TIPS

Close blinds and drapes during the day to keep heat out.



Set your thermostat to 78 degrees when you are home. Set it to a higher temperature when you're away.

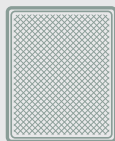


Turn off lights and ceiling fans when you leave a room.



## LOW-COST TIPS

Plant trees and shrubs to shade the exterior of your home.



Replace disposable air filters (or clean permanent filters) once a month to maximize efficiency.



Use solar lighting to brighten up your outdoor space. Solar lights are easy to install, low maintenance and provide free electricity.

# Be safe on and in the water this summer

As the summer sun heats up, water becomes a great place to cool down. Swimming in pools and spas makes for great summer playgrounds while area lakes and rivers are a haven for swimmers and watercrafts.

Before you dive in, make sure you and your family are safe when it comes to water and electricity.

- Check the weather report before heading out. Delay your plans if bad weather is expected. Some 64 percent of lightning fatalities happen during outdoor recreation activities, notably water activities and sports. Remember the phrase, “When thunder roars, go indoors.” Stay out of the water until 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder is heard.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Always look for overhead power lines before boating or fishing. Make sure you are casting a line away from power lines. Do not move a mast or antenna up when your boat is near a power line. Always be aware of changing water levels that can alter the distance between your boat and a power line.
- If the boat comes in contact with a power line, do not enter the water. The water around the boat could be energized. Stay in your boat and avoid touching anything metal until help arrives or until your boat is no longer in contact with the line.
- Do not swim around docks or marinas with shore electrical power. If you are in the water and feel the tingle of electrical current, shout out to let others know, try to stay upright, make yourself smaller by tucking your legs up and swim away from the current. Do not head for a boat or metal dock ladders to get out.
- If you see someone in contact with electricity in the water, do not immediately jump in to help. Throw them a float, then try to eliminate the source of electricity immediately by turning off the shore power connection.



- To help prevent the risk of electricity entering the water, have your boat and dock electrical systems checked regularly and make sure your electrical outlets have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs).  
Be aware of electronics near pools. Electrical appliances, equipment and cords should be kept at least six feet away from water (NFPA.org). When possible, refrain from using electrical devices around a water area and instead, opt for battery-powered electronics.  
Here are a few other tips for swimming safety:

- When you leave a pool or body of water, do not touch any electrical devices until you have toweled off and are dry.
  - Look out for underwater lights that are not working properly, flicker or work intermittently.
  - Know where electrical switches and circuit breakers are for pool, hot tub, and spa equipment and know how to operate them.
  - When cleaning the pool, know where any overhead power lines are to avoid making contact with them while using long-handled tools.
- For more information on staying safe in the water, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

# Two students to represent Jo-Carroll Energy on Youth Tour

Emily Hinrichs of Thomson and Mickenzie Bass of Scales Mound will represent Jo-Carroll Energy on the annual Youth to Washington tour June 8-15.



Hinrichs is a sophomore at Unity Christian in Fulton and Bass is a sophomore at Scales Mound High School. They will join students from across the state to travel by bus to Washington, D.C. where they will join high school students from around the country for a week-long tour of our nation's capital.

Activities include touring the monuments, memorials and historic sites, interacting with their peers and meeting representatives of Congress.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

**Laundry Tip:** Use rubber or wool dryer balls, which help separate clothing in the cycle, providing better airflow and a shorter drying time. Wool dryer balls can help absorb moisture, which also reduces drying time.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



GET CONNECTED

With

# CO-OP CONNECTIONS

Jo-Carroll Energy

## MANNY'S PIZZA

211 Main Street  
Savanna, IL  
815-273-4259

Use your Co-op Connections card at Manny's Pizza in Savanna and receive \$1 off a large pizza. This offer is good for dine-in, carry-out and delivery.

Manny's, a family-owned and operated restaurant and a local favorite offers a variety of menu items from pizza to wings to tacos and more. Manny's features two large dining rooms as well as a bar and party room for larger events.

## DILLON'S HM

701 Franklin Street  
Galena, IL  
815-777-9141

Use your Co-op Connections card when you dine at Dillon's HM and receive \$2 off any full price pizza (excluding specials).

If you're looking for a friendly and welcoming atmosphere as well as a delicious meal, stop by Dillon's and enjoy any of their daily specials, a pizza, burger, or even breakfast.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF DEALS, VISIT [WWW.CONNECTIONS.COOP](http://WWW.CONNECTIONS.COOP) AND CLICK ON B2B SAVINGS. YOU CAN ALSO USE THE CARD TO RECEIVE DISCOUNTS ON PRESCRIPTIONS AS WELL AS DENTAL, VISION AND CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES. FOR PROVIDERS CALL 800-800-7616.



*Member*  
**APPRECIATION**  
*Days*

**A**  
11 am - 1 pm

Geneseo

Fri, June 22

1004 S. Chicago St

Elizabeth

Thurs, June 28

793 US Rt 20 W

Savanna

Fri, June 29

103 Chicago Ave

At your Jo-Carroll Energy Office

*Please join us for*

**LUNCH ★ GAMES ★ PRIZES**

Pork Chop Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Chips, Cookies, Drinks



Jo-Carroll Energy

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



**Sand Prairie**

Connecting our members to the world.

[jocarroll.com](http://jocarroll.com) | [connectSP.com](http://connectSP.com) | 800.858.5522