

## Get Ready Set Vote

Director election voting is set for May 20 – June 11. Members will have a choice to vote electronically or by mail. Details will be available on our website, [www.cmec.coop](http://www.cmec.coop), and included in your ballot packet. Survey Ballot Systems, SBS, will mail, tabulate and report election results electronically ensuring integrity and transparency. Carefully follow the instructions when casting your vote.

Our cooperative is divided into seven districts. This year board districts 1 and 7 terms expire. District 1 candidates are Rebecca Moran and Bill Voyles. District 7 is uncontested for Jeffery Hudson; therefore, no ballot voting is required for this district.

Candidate profiles can be found

on page 20A and 20B. You will need to vote for one candidate in District 1. There are no proposed bylaw amendments for 2019.

Paper ballots will be mailed to all members. Members who wish to vote electronically will be able to vote by accessing the official login page as printed on each ballot. There will also be a direct link to SBS from our web page.

Each membership has one vote and each ballot will have a unique election credential. Reminder emails may be sent out to those members who have an email on file with us. Elections play an important role giving members the power to select leaders and influence the direction of our cooperative. SBS will provide

support by phone, email or chat, and their contact information will be listed on the ballot material. If you contact them after business hours, they will contact you the next business day.



## Director Election Profiles

The biographical information for these candidates has been provided by the candidates who are solely responsible for the content. Neither the Coles-Moultrie board of directors, the officers of the cooperative, or the staff contributed to these biographies or verified the content.



### District #1 Rebecca Moran

Rebecca Moran is a retired Adjunct Instructor of Psychology and Social Sciences from Lake Land College in Mattoon. She is also retired from

General Electric in Mattoon.

Rebecca received her education, an Associate in Science, from Lake Land College in Mattoon. She is also a graduate of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston. She earned a BA in Psychology with teaching credentials and an MA in Gerontology while attending EIU. This was achieved while working full time at General Electric and raising her children.

Rebecca is an experienced CMEC Director, having held the board positions of Secretary and Vice President during her tenure on the CMEC board. She has also achieved National Certification to be an active, engaged and informed member of a member owned electric cooperative. Rebecca and her husband, Donald Moran, together have six adult children and twelve grandchildren. Donald is retired from Howell Paving in Mattoon and is an active member of The Vineyard Church in Sullivan.

Rebecca looks forward to the opportunity to serve CMEC members from all districts, although she is a resident of East Nelson Township in Moultrie County. CMEC directors are elected from the votes of members from all districts and serve the members of all districts.

P.O. Box 709 (104 Dewitt Ave., East)  
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

Phone: 217/235-0341 or  
Toll-Free: 1-888-661-CMEC (2632)  
Office hours:  
Monday-Friday  
7:30a.m. - 4:30p.m.

**Chairperson**

Debbie Albin.....Mattoon

**Vice Chairperson**

John Bowers ..... Lovington

**Treasurer**

Jeffery Hudson..... Charleston

**Secretary**

Bill Voyles..... Sullivan

**Director**

Kent Metzger ..... Gays

**President/CEO**

Kim Leftwich

**To report an outage**

- First check your fuses or circuit breakers and see if your neighbors have power.
- If the problem appears to be with the cooperative's lines, call the office at the toll free number (888-661-2632), give the name the service is listed under, and report any hazardous conditions.

Send your current email  
to [info@cmeccoop.com](mailto:info@cmeccoop.com)



for a chance to win a  
\$25 bill credit.



**District #1**  
**Bill Voyles**

As a member of Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative

(CMEC) since 2001, Bill has a vested interest in the Cooperative to insure the safe delivery of electricity to members at fair and reasonable prices.

Bill has residential and commercial loads located in the Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative footprint. He is loyal to the philosophy of the Cooperative and pledges to adhere to the Cooperative principles. Bill has represented Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative as District 1 Director since July 2018. He is currently chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and serves on the Bylaws Committee and Policy Committee. Before his appointment to the board of directors, he represented District 1 on the Member Advisory Committee (MAC). He has begun the certification to be a Credentialed Cooperative Director.

In addition to his involvement with CMEC, he serves on the Moultrie County board. He is Chairman of the Personnel Committee and serves on the Insurance Committee and Road and Bridge Committee.

Bill is a native of Sullivan and a lifelong farmer. In addition to his primary occupation, he also owns an off-road and automotive shop. He is an extremely active community member volunteering in FFA and 4-H.

Voyles holds a Bachelor of Agriculture, with a minor in Agriculture Business, from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. He and his wife, Laura, reside in Sullivan with their four children.

Bill said, "Your vote in our annual board election is your voice in your cooperative, a chance to weigh in on leaders who will represent you and your interests."



**District #7**  
**Jeffery Hudson**

Jeffery Hudson was born and raised on a grain and livestock

farm north of Charleston. He grew up in one of the first Coles-Moultrie all electric homes. While he was a 4-H member, Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative invited the group to their office and assisted them in putting together a light fixture. Since then, he has had a deep regard and attachment with rural electrification.

As a Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative board director, he served as secretary, treasurer and as chairman of the board. During his time on the board, he assisted in achieving a power supply that will protect co-op members from runaway increases in power costs, predicted in the next 30 years. With his background in management, negotiating, working with leases, contracts, sales, and safety issues, along with an understanding of finances, he will continue to help the board immensely. As a board member, his first priority is to make the best decisions possible, for the benefit of all members.

Jeff and his wife Sarah currently live in Charleston. They have one son, Nick.

Hudson Agricultural Service is a business formed by Jeff Hudson. He manages farms for landowners and does farm consulting and appraisals. He has obtained the Accredited Farm Manager and Accredited Rural Appraiser titles from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. He is an Illinois real estate Managing Broker. He has served in the capacity of an Expert Legal Witness and Court Appointed Receiver. Jeff has worked with insurance companies, such as John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company, Travelers Insurance and Prudential Insurance performing farm

Our office will be closed  
Monday, May 27,  
in observance of  
Memorial Day

management, appraising properties and selling real estate.

In 1972, he graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics. Upon graduation, he worked as an Officer with the Trust Department for Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago. At the National Bank of Bloomington, Illinois, he was Vice-President within the trust department. He served as Vice-President and Market Manager for Bank of America performing commercial loans, consumer credit, and providing investment service as a securities 6 licensee. Jeff was employed at First Community Bank, Charleston, as Branch Manager and Commercial Lender. While at Regions Bank, he served as Vice-President and Commercial Lender responsible for attracting new business through the sale of commercial bank products and services.

Jeff has served as an officer, director, current member or past member of the following organizations: Coles County Economic Development Council, Charleston Chamber of Commerce, University of Illinois Extension board, Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative board, Rotary International-Charleston Club, Coles Together, Charleston Area Economic Development Foundation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Education Instructor, Coles County Farm Bureau, Walnut Grove Christian Church, Broadway Christian Church, and the Illinois Sheriff's Association.

Jeff's favorite interests are flying, fishing, assisting with Mattoon-Charleston Fourth of July Fireworks display, helping with the family farm, and spending time with his family.

## Reminder:

Lunch tickets for our 80th Annual Meeting are on sale now! Pick them up at our office or contact us, [info@cmec.coop](mailto:info@cmec.coop), for details on how to request them by mail.

# 5 OUTDOOR ELECTRICAL HAZARDS



**1. Power Lines** – Always look up and out for power lines. Keep you and your equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines.

**2. Outdoor outlets** – These should be powered by a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI), which turns itself off if it senses a current leak or a short circuit.



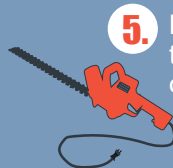
**3. Pools** – Use battery-powered electronics around the pool. Have an electrician inspect your pool, spa or hot tub before the beginning of each swim season to avoid electrical hazards.



**4. Extension Cords** – Use extension cords that are rated for outdoor use. Using an indoor cord, which cannot withstand the weather conditions, could result in a shock or fire hazard.



**5. Electric Garden Tools** – Never use electric garden tools in wet or damp conditions. Check for cracked or frayed cords before use and replace if damaged.



Learn more at [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org)

# May is Electrical Safety Month.

## Safety Starts with You.

# #ElectricalSafetyMonth

# President & CEO Report – February 2019

## CONNECT

- 419 Current Customers
- CMEC Connect experienced a major outage this past month. While this was a long process, CMEC Connect team did a great job working together and getting everyone back on. About 45 people were affected.
- Irby was here Jan. 21-25, 2019 for ring upgrades and small tower repairs.

## Marketing/Member Services

- CMEC staff member Sam Adair attended the CBA Marketing Meeting. This is the CBA's 20th year.
- CMEC participated in the EIU Science Festival. This was our first year participating in this event. We showcased our GIS and IT department at this show.
- CMEC participated in the LLC career fair. This event attracts around 750 area grade school students.

## Key Accounts

- CMEC staff member Sam Adair met with a few large power accounts this month.

## Safety

- CMEC Safety Committee met on Feb. 8 for our monthly meeting.
- CMEC employees and staff met with the AIEC on Feb. 15. All employees were given first aid and bloodborne pathogens training as well as AED training.
- CMEC Safety Committee continues to move toward finishing the safety manual for CMEC and hopes to be completed by the end of February.
- Sam Adair and Bob Schafer spoke on the WTIM radio show about electrical safety. This is a directed effort from the Safety Committee to better educate members on safety around power lines.
- 2,247 Facebook followers.

## Accounting/Finance

- Continuing work on year end processes and audit preparation. Reviewing member policies that affect the member services/billing area.

## LED Lighting

- To date, (2,207) LED lights installed replacing (443) mercury vapor and (1,673) sodium vapor lights.

## Engineering

- Manual meter reads decreased from 53 to 45 for February.
- Engineering received requests for 140 JULIE locates and called in 43. Of the 140 notifications, CMEC personnel performed nine primary and 11 secondary locates.
- 17 Report-On-Calls were received and assigned for member/new member requests.
- Field engineers are working on the following projects: U3BA mile (moving a line out of ROW that is extremely rough to traverse), L3A1 mile (relocating line from a field to the road for access since the poles in the field need replaced), W4-2 mile (replacing a one mile stretch of underground with OH conductor).
- Field engineers generated 33 work orders for the month of February, of which 20 were O&M pole replacements.
- Field engineers began training with the GIS Dept to perform distribution system updates that can be directly input into the GIS map. The updates are nearly complete.
- We began a thorough review of member policies.

## Operations

- In February, crews performed the following work: (3) new services, (1) service upgrade, (1) retirement, (4) system improvement, (63) pole replacements due to age (2), O&M (59), weather (1), relocation (1).

## Fleet

- Received a demo digger truck from Altec to be used at no charge until the new one arrives.

## IT/SCADA

- Continuing work on software updates on office computers that PPI has suggested to help eliminate known vulnerabilities.
- Continuing work on creating new SCADA user interfaces.
- Working on SCADA pilot project network setup.
- Working with Trilliant and PPI on the NEMS server transfer. After the transfer all CMEC office, GIS, and

AMI servers will be redundant, fully backed up, and on the PPI cloud.

- The Barracuda Email filtering system is now setup and running.
- Working on office PC upgrades.
- Began coordinating with the city of Sullivan on their new AMI project. The radio frequencies for the city are near the existing ones that Trilliant uses to transmit data.
- David Welsh and Jim Wallace met with Southwestern Electric Cooperative in Greenville to discuss their experience with NovaTech, the company that we intend to go with for the SCADA build.

## GIS

- In February, Shaun Vester continued to train the field engineers on how to input data into the GIS. Shaun also continued work on developing our new staking software. Lastly, Jim Wallace and Shaun were interviewed at NRECA about our GIS system.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your air-conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the A/C to run longer than necessary.

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

## Coffee on the Co-op!

Stop by 8-11 a.m. May 9 at Mattoon Starbucks or May 10 at Charleston Starbucks

Enjoy a cup of coffee & Chat about your co-op!

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on our website: [www.cmec.coop](http://www.cmec.coop)