



# Rural HILIGHTS

Local News from Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative



## Contractor Dinner

*Thank you,  
Contractors!*

The 28th Annual Contractors Dinner was held at Edgewood Golf Club in Auburn. Local contractors were able to hear what the cooperative is doing for its members and some of the challenges facing rural communities. RECC President/CEO Sean Middleton discussed pending regulations that could impact the cooperative and grant opportunities

that could become available if the RECC Board elects to pursue them. Other topics included the effects of member-generated solar, the electrification of vehicles (EVs) and the industry's efforts to prepare for a future without fossil fuels.

RECC offers a special thanks to the contractors who attended this year. The cooperative appreciates

their commitment and the service they provide to our members. The 2023 attendees included: Snell Enterprise Plumbing and Heating, Rettberg's Inc., Weidner Refrigeration, McNeely Electric, Weldon Ladage Construction, Top Notch Heating & Cooling, United Builders, Pawnee Lumber, and contractor Phill Prill.



*Sean Middleton  
President/CEO*



*Jeff Lancaster,  
Manager of  
Member Services*



Our office will be closed on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Easter.

## Edinburg Food Pantry Selected

Employees of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative donated \$280 to the Edinburg Food Pantry. Coordinator Jim Tarter was grateful to receive the donation and said it would help them serve the community. The co-op and its employees have made similar donations to food pantries in Franklin, Pawnee, Raymond, Girard, Waverly, Palmyra, Divernon, and Morrisonville. We hope the tradition continues.



RECC's Julie Waghorn and Drayton Davis (right) present a check to Jim Tarter (center).

## Experience the Power of Electricity!



RECC Directors Chris Wilcox and Cassie Eigenmann recently test drove Corn Belt Energy's new Rivian truck.

# Nominating committee selects three candidates



Nominating Committee pictured left to right: Tom Vail, Norman Moses, Brett Slightom, Galen Bailey, Susan Fuchs-Holt, Stacey Hart, and Robert Strachan.

## 2023 Nominating Committee

### District 4 — Thom Hart

Stacy Hart (Mike)  
25445 Slightom Road  
Waggoner, IL 62572

Susan Fuchs-Holt  
3250 Morrisonville Ave.  
Farmersville, IL 62533

Brett Slightom  
26257 W. Frontage Road  
Farmersville, IL 62533

### District 5 — Garry Niemeyer

John Megginson  
13950 Lead Line Road  
Auburn, IL 62615

Cathryn Seifert  
15189 Lead Line Road  
Waverly, IL 62692

Galen Bailey  
12896 Union School Road  
Auburn, IL 62615

### District 6 — Mel Repscher

Tom Vail  
1913 W. Vandever St.  
Taylorville, IL 62568

Norman Moses  
839 N. 675 East Road  
Palmer, IL 62556

Bob Strachan  
973 E. 1025 North Road  
Taylorville, IL 62568

The Nominating Committee met on March 2, 2023, and has chosen candidates for the Board of Directors for elections to be held at this year's annual meeting. The committee nominated three incumbent directors who are seeking re-election in districts 4, 5, and 6. They are:

### District 4

Thomas W. Hart  
22790 Sulphur Springs Rd.  
Atwater, IL 62572

### District 5

Garry Niemeyer  
8370 Auburn Road  
Auburn, IL 62615

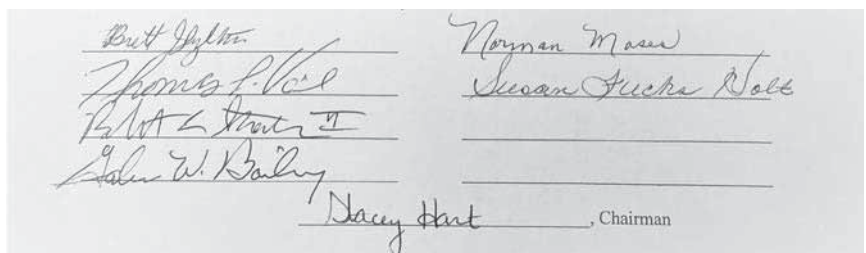
### District 6

Melvin L. Repscher  
928 E. 1090 North Rd.  
Taylorville, IL

The nominations have been posted at the Auburn office, as stipulated in the co-op's bylaws. Other candidates may be named by petition for a district, signed by 15 or more members in that district.

Petition forms are available from the co-op office in Auburn and must be returned by April 24th (45 days before the annual meeting, which is scheduled for June 8). Any persons nominated by petition will be included in the 2023 Annual Meeting Notice, to be printed in the June edition of Illinois Country Living magazine. Biographical information and a statement from each candidate will also be printed in the notice.

Thank you to these members for their time and interest in the cooperative's election process, and to the candidates who are willing to work for the benefit of all RECC member-owners!



## Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative

3973 W. State Route 104  
P.O. Box 19 • Auburn, IL 62615  
(217) 438-6197  
e-mail: recc@recc.coop  
www.recc.coop

Find us on 

### Board of Directors

Mel Repscher, Chairman  
Chris Wilcox, Vice Chairman  
Clayton Bloome, Secretary/Treasurer  
Jimmy L. Ayers, Asst. Sec.-Treasurer  
Neil Bryan  
Cassie L. Eigenmann  
Andy Goleman  
Thomas Hart  
Garry Niemeyer

### President/CEO

Sean Middleton

### Editor

Jeff Lancaster

See our web page for monthly  
Board meeting reports.

### Payment Options

- At our office front desk or outside drop-box
- Mail to: PO Box 19, Auburn IL 62615
- Set up recurring bank draft or credit card payments
- Online, with Pay Now from our website
- Use SmartHub portal, online or mobile app
- By phone to our office, using credit card or checking account
- By phone using automated payment (217) 438-6197

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## What is expected of a co-op director?

Your board of directors is chosen through elections each year at the annual meeting. Each of the nine directors is elected by majority vote for a three-year term. Terms are staggered; three directors are elected one year, three directors the next year, and three the third year.

Before each annual meeting of the members, a nine-member nominating committee is appointed. The committee consists of three members from each district where a vacancy on the board of directors is to be filled. This committee meets and prepares a list of nominees before the annual meeting. Nominations for a district candidate may also be made by petition, signed by 15 or more members in that district. Petition forms are available from the co-op office and must be returned by April 24th; 45 days before the June 8th Annual Meeting.

### List of the minimum requirements:

- Directors must receive electric service from Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative at their primary residence. They pay the same rates for electric service and follow the same policies as all other members. They are not eligible to serve on the board if they have any conflicting business interests.
- Your board of directors meets regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Directors are expected to attend these monthly board meetings held at the headquarters in Auburn, Ill.
- Directors attend all special board meetings, committee meetings, and Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative's annual meeting. Directors should also attempt to attend one National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) meeting or director's conference every year.
- Other meetings directors attend include one and two-day educational seminars. Directors are encouraged to complete their NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director's Certificate during their first term (3 years).
- Directors receive a \$150 per diem (\$250 if a director has completed Credentialed Cooperative Director training or \$350 with Board Leadership Credential). They receive the IRS mileage allowance for attendance of cooperative meetings and expenses when traveling on co-op business.
- Directors spend 23-35 days each year representing Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative.
- A director represents all members of Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative, not a geographic region.
- This board establishes the basic business policies, the same as the board of directors of any other corporation. The board employs a President/CEO, who is responsible for all the operational details.



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