



Central Wisconsin
Electric Cooperative

Your Sustainable Energy Cooperative



By Mike Wade,
President & CEO

FROM HERE TO THERE

Like many of you, I enjoy the fall season and especially the month of October. I fondly remember my kids dressing up for Halloween

and the cool weather that accompanied us as we went door to door trick-or-treating. Living in Wisconsin has given me a greater appreciation for fall because of the dramatic colors of the autumn leaves. October marks the transition from summer to winter, but it also means celebrating what it means to be a cooperative.

National Cooperative Month is observed in October by more than 29,000 cooperatives nationwide. It is a time to celebrate the advantages of the cooper-

ative business model and recognize the many benefits cooperatives bring to their members and communities. Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative is proud to be a part of the cooperative family, and we strive to adhere to the seven cooperative principals:

- 1) Voluntary and Open Membership
- 2) Democratic Member Control
- 3) Members' Economic Participation
- 4) Autonomy and Independence
- 5) Education, Training and Information
- 6) Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- 7) Concern For Community

October is also the month that your board of directors decides on the retirement of capital credits. Capital credits are the margins or revenues that remain and are assigned back to our members

once all expenses are paid. Annually, the board retires a portion of these capital credits and members will see these as a credit on their electric bill. It's just another way that cooperatives add value back to their members.

October is also a time to show our appreciation to our members at our annual Member Appreciation Breakfast. The pancake breakfast will be held on Saturday, October 28, beginning at 8 a.m. The directors and staff of CWEC want to extend our thanks and appreciation for allowing us to provide electric service to you and be an integral part of the communities in which we serve. Learn more about your cooperative, visit with your fellow cooperative members, and enjoy some of the best pancakes in Central Wisconsin. See you then.

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative was held at the headquarters in Rosholt at 7:55 a.m. on July 27, 2017. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The agenda, minutes of the June 21, 2017, meeting, new and terminated memberships, and the monthly safety report were approved.

Action Items

- a. Monthly Financial Statements and Reports were approved. Finance Committee reviewed checks written, and the board and CEO expenses.
- b. Governance Committee approved changes to Chapter 4.0 Billings, Payment and Special Charges and Chapter 5.0 Deposits and Credits, and Bylaws – Annual and Special Meeting Rules.
- c. The board set October 17, 2017, as the date for the fall committee meeting of Operation Round Up, Nominations Committee, Member Advisory Group (MAG).
- d. The board reviewed the KRTA (Key Ratio Trend Analysis) report from CFC for the period of 2012–2016, which compares our data to industry peers.
- e. The board heard highlights of the results of the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program (RESAP) observation.

- f. The board voted on their choice for the 2017 RESCO director election candidate.
- g. The board reviewed the member service programs and services to evaluate what brings the most value to our membership.
- h. The board heard results of the complete IT General Controls Audit performed by CliftonLarsonAllen and discussed next steps going forward to provide the greatest protection to our network and data.

Operations and Engineering – Completed pole inspections for 2017 with a 2.8 percent total rejected pole ratio. CT meter inspection report provided.

Accounting and Finance – June margins included two large outages and construction in full swing. Progress made towards extending DSL to the Almon Sub for our communications and meter reading systems.

Member Services – Grand total of Operation Round Up donations made to date, including scholarships, is \$451,218.

President and CEO Report – Attended an NRECA Master Class designed to help us develop and implement strategy execution more effectively.

Nick Hansen, recipient of our first Utility Worker Scholarship, stopped by the meeting to give thanks and provide an update on his future plans.

Directors reported on WECA District 1 Meeting and the 2017 CoBank Energy Directors Conference they attended. Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.



All dressed up for the Etiquette Dinner. Bryan Cook and Natasha Ockwig, Rosholt High School; Tori Weier and Rae Ballinger, Amherst High School; Jada Beacom, Iola-Scandinavia High School; and Laynie Bessette and Thompson Moser, Little Wolf (Manawa) High School.

Teens Discover the Cooperative Difference at Youth Leadership Congress

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative had the pleasure of sponsoring seven area high school students at the 2017 WECA Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) held at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls campus. The Youth Leadership Congress is co-sponsored by UW-River Falls and Wisconsin’s electric cooperatives. This year’s teens were from four area high schools: Bryan Cook and Natasha Ockwig, Rosholt High School; Tori Weier and Rae Ballinger, Amherst High School; Jada Beacom, Iola-Scandinavia High School; and Laynie Bessette and Thompson Moser, Little Wolf (Manawa) High School.

There were over 120 high school students from across Wisconsin at this year’s three-day event. The congress offers attendees the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and learn a little about cooperatives. Through a mix of workshop sessions, hands-on activities, and

I liked the relatively even mix of information about cooperatives and leadership, and the general social atmosphere with the other students there was great. I'm glad I went and I'd definitely recommend it to others!—*Thompson Moser, Manawa High School*

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to attend the Youth Leadership Congress this year. I really enjoyed meeting and interacting with all the teens involved. One of my favorite activities at the camp was the etiquette dinner; I'm sure that meal will come in handy later in life. Coming into YLC, I hardly had any idea what an electric co-op was. Now, I've learned they give all profits back to the user. I would love to attend this conference next year; it was an amazing experience. Thanks again.—*Tori Weier-Amherst High School*

team-building exercises, students were exposed to a variety of real-life issues and given the opportunity to boost and explore their leadership potential. In addition to the hands-on workshops, nationally recognized speakers motivated attendees and gave them skills and ideas to bring back to their communities and schools as strong leaders.

Craig Hillier returned with his high-energy “Breakthrough Program.” At the banquet, students learned the finer points of formal dinner etiquette. Featured speaker Adam Ludwig, assistant director of new students and family programs, UW-River Falls, gave his leadership presentation “Lead with Style”

to close the program on Friday.

Although the program is very educational, the focus is on having fun. It's an excellent way for students to make new friends from around the state and in the process make lasting memories.

The entire program is planned, and in many cases, presented by a Youth Board selected by their peers. The Youth Board selected this year, plans next year's congress.

Accompanying are comments from some of the students about their Youth Leadership Congress experience.

I would first like to thank you for sponsoring me and allowing me to attend the WECA Youth Leadership Congress. I had never done anything like this before so I had no idea what to expect but it exceeded all my expectations. Although I enjoyed every moment of the whole trip I did like the district meetings the most. Within these meetings I got to meet new people, got to know them, played various games, worked together and in more depth learned about cooperatives. I also enjoyed all the speakers that spoke throughout the conference. I learned something new from each and every one of them. I also learned a lot about cooperatives. I knew a little about cooperatives and had a general understanding of them before I attended YLC but now I know much more. Now I know things such as what a co-op actually is, what it does, who is involved, the benefits and the seven cooperative principles. Thank you again for giving me this opportunity. The experience was truly fun and educational. —*Natasha Ockwig-Rosholt High School*

I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at The Youth Leadership Congress this year! I am so grateful for this opportunity made possible by a generous sponsorship from the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (which my family is a member of). I have attended both leadership and co-op camps before but this was the most memorable! I made friends that I still follow up with. The youth board was helpful and supportive as well as all the staff involved. There were so many chances for my peers and me to step up and take leadership roles throughout the retreat. My favorite was volunteering for the hypnotist. I put myself out there and had a lot of fun! I also really enjoyed the Breakthrough Leadership and motivational speaker; I took a lot of out that seminar. I had the opportunity of running for Youth Board although I did not make it this year. I hope to have another shot next year and broaden my leadership skills by becoming a representative of WECA. Overall, I had a TON of fun and learned more than I thought I could at this amazing Leadership Congress. I'm so glad I was selected to participate and can't wait to put my new experiences to work in my future endeavors!—*Jada Beacom, Iola Scandinavia High School*

Thank you so much for sponsoring me for the Youth Leadership Congress this summer. I had a great time meeting new people as well as learning a lot about leadership and cooperatives. It was truly an amazing experience that was greatly appreciated.—*Rae Ballinger, Amherst High School*

Come join the fun, as Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will host a pancake breakfast as a way to show its appreciation to its members.



Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative
MEMBER APPRECIATION PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 28
8 – 11 a.m.
Main Office in Rosholt, 10401 Lystul Road

Door prizes, Costume Prizes, Exhibits, Bounce House, Petting Zoo, Hotline Demo, and Free Blood Pressure Screening provided by Rural Health Initiative staff.

Costume Contest Judging at 9:45 a.m.

Bike Drawings at 10 a.m.

Shred Day! (See page 18 for details)



Bring a new unwrapped toy to donate to our toy drive and we'll enter you in a special prize drawing.

Stuff the Cart!
Back to School Supplies Drive!

Bring three or more new, unwrapped school supplies and your name will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a special prize! Limit five entries per family. Items will be distributed to schools in our service area.



NEW
Craft & Gift Fair
15+ local vendors





DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER

68th Annual Potato Pancake Dinner

Sunday, October 1

Serving 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Serving homemade pies. All you can eat, take-outs available. \$9 adults, ages 6–12 \$4., 5 and under free. Tilleda Community Center. Sponsored by Tilleda Peace Lutheran Church, Tilleda. For more information call 715-851-5520.

Our Saviors Lutheran Church

Annual Fall Luncheon

Wednesday, October 4

11 a.m.–1 p.m., \$8 adult, \$3 children age 3–12, under 3 free. Hot and cold dishes, cookies and bars, coffee and lemonade. To go containers available. Our Saviors Lutheran Church dining room, Iola. Sponsored by the Women of Our Saviors Lutheran Church. Half of the proceeds will go to Hurricane Harvey Relief and the rest will go to help local needs. For more information call Pat at 715-445-2964.

11th Annual Iola-Scandinavia Chamber of Commerce Craft & Gift Fair

Saturday, October 7

Held in conjunction with Lost Arts and Taste of Norway at the Iola Historical Village, 210 Depot Street. 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Iola. For vendor information call Mary at 715-445-4005. For more information go to www.ischamber.com or on Facebook (Iola-Scandinavia Chamber/Hometown).

8th Annual Lost Arts and Taste of Norway

Saturday, October 7

Food, crafts, demonstrations, kids' fun run, games, miniature ponies and goats, horse-drawn wagon rides, classic tractors on display, and tours of the Iola Historical Society. Iola Historical Village, 210 Depot Street, Iola. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. For more information go to www.iolahistoricalsociety.org.



St. Joseph Church Galloway

Harvest Dinner

Sunday, October 8

9 a.m. Mass with polka music by Smokey Express, 10:30 a.m.–2 p.m. family-style dinner. Doors open at 8 a.m., Country Store & crafts, Cherry Bowl and raffles. Wittenberg. For more information call 715-454-6431.

Hitterdahl Pancake Supper

Saturday, October 14

4–6:30 p.m. Featuring potato and buttermilk pancakes. Adults \$7, kids ages 6–12 \$3, under age 5 free. N8808 Country Rd J, Iola. For more information call 715-445-2387.



Lutefisk Supper and Norwegian Bake and Craft Sale

Saturday, October 21

Serving 12:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m. Traditional Norwegian supper. Northland Lutheran Church, Northland. or more information call 715-445-2956.

CWEC Member Appreciation

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, October 28

Serving 8–11 a.m. Door prizes, craft and gift fair, costume contest prizes for the kids, exhibits, bounce house, petting zoo. Free blood pressure screening. Toys for Tots and Stuff the Cart School Supplies Drive. Main office in Rosholt, 10401 Lystul Road. For more information or directions call 715-677-2211.



To submit your community events email brenda.mazemke@cwecoop.com or call Brenda at 715-677-2211.

SHRED DAY

Saturday, October 28

8–11 a.m.

10401 Lystul Rd., Rosholt, WI 54473

Protect your identity by safely destroying unwanted, sensitive documents at Shred Day.

A representative from IROW will be onsite to explaining the shredding process and address and other questions you may have.

Attending Shred Day?

Here are a few tips to help you:

- You may bring up to four boxes or containers of documents.
- You should bring documents with sensitive information, for example: documents with SSN, credit card, bank statements.
- Please do not bring papers for recycling (phone books, magazines, coupons, books).
- Place paper documents in plastic containers or boxes and do not tape the containers closed.
- Staples, paper clips, rubber bands, folders, and dividers do not need to be removed from documents.
- Checkbooks and boxes can be shredded. Checks do not need to be ripped out of the checkbook.
- Please do not include non-paper items such as three-ring binders, batteries, DVDs and CDs, hard drives, or other electronics.
- All materials will be placed in a locked container on site.

IROW is the only NAID (National Association for Information Destruction) certified business within North Central Wisconsin. IROW's offsite destruction facility processes three tons of office paper per hour.

Mike Wade, President & CEO

10401 Lystul Rd., P.O. Box 100, Rosholt, WI 54473
715-677-2211 • 800-377-2932
www.cwecoop.com

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook



Central Wisconsin
Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Board of Directors

Anthony Buss, Jr. – Chairman, District 1 • Tom Smith, Vice Chairman, District 1 • Sue Rombalski, Secretary–Treasurer, District 3
Ron Onesti, District 1 (At Large) • Lee Lehrer, District 2 • Leonard Oppor, District 2 • Elaine Eckendorf, District 3