



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



By Jay A. Porter,
PE, Chief Executive
Officer

MEMBERS OFFER INPUT AT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Happy holidays, everyone!

Advisory Committee Meeting

Advisory committee meetings were held October 16 in Wautoma and October 18 in Portage. Updates were given on Advanced Metering Infrastructure

(AMI), electronic voting, and the West Riverside Energy Center. I also tasked the Advisory Committee with providing me with input on wise energy growth and energy-related services. The most popular suggestions were electric cars, electric homes, and economic development within our rural communities. We will continue to explore investments into these enterprises.

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Advisory Committee? Please join! The Advisory Committee meets a few times per year. During their meetings, committee members give suggestions and opinions to ensure the best operation of the cooperative. If you are interested, contact the director in your area.

I will touch on each of the topics covered at the recent meeting below.

AMI ACEC is investing in a new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). These systems are comprised of state-of-the-art software, which combine interval data measurement with continuously available remote communications. What does that mean? Well, these systems allow the measurement of detailed information, which helps with early detection of meter failures, billing efficiency, creating member energy profiles, reducing equipment maintenance costs, and helps with faster restoration during outages.

Cooperative Principle #2 Democratic Member Control + New E-voting

One of the things that makes cooperatives so unique is that you, as a member, retain democratic control of the cooperative by electing your board of directors. In 2018, we are introducing a brand-new E-voting option to our mem-

bers. I encourage you to take advantage of this new option if you are unable to attend our **Annual Meeting in Portage on May 15 in the Portage High School Auditorium**. Look to future publications for additional information on both our annual meeting and our voting options.

Riverside You own our cooperative, which has the primary purpose of delivering safe, reliable, and renewable electricity to you at the lowest cost. That being said, I would like to update you on ACEC's plan to purchase 30 megawatts of ownership in the West Riverside Energy Center in Beloit. This highly efficient natural gas facility is currently under

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construction and has a completion date of 2020. Investment in Riverside is in members' best interest to help stabilize rates for the future. As I highlighted earlier, our Advisory Committee discussed wise energy growth, and our invest-

ment in Riverside also includes investment in some green energy in the form of an 80 kW solar array.

We are currently waiting for approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Among many other things, FERC regulates the transmission and wholesale of electricity in interstate commerce. Once we receive FERC's approval, we will continue with our purchase of Riverside.

Shred-it Recap Thank you to all those who attended our Shred-it events in October. On average, members brought between 5 and 15 pounds of sensitive documents to be shredded. We saved our members an estimated \$7,350.

Jay's Discussion Days I have enjoyed meeting the members who have stopped in during my visits to other offices. We have discussed things like rates and renewables, and some have just popped in to see if the CEO of their electric cooperative was in fact there—willing to meet with the members! In December, I will be at Pardeeville on the 12th, and Wautoma on the 15th. Stop by!



join us
May 15th, 2018

Annual Meeting

Portage, WI
6:00 pm

e✓ote

NEW Online Voting!

We're making voting for your Board of Directors even easier!
More info to come.

Win!

ENTER TO WIN A \$50 LIGHT BILL CREDIT! JUST SIGN UP FOR SMARTHUB!

VISIT ACECWI.COM AND LOG INTO SMARTHUB. DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 15TH.



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GIVE THE GIFT OF LIGHT. A BILL
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FOR ANY ACEC MEMBER IN ANY
DENOMINATION.

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Toys for Tots

DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED UNTIL
CHRISTMAS FOR AREA CHILDREN
IN NEED. LOOK FOR THE TOYS FOR
TOTS BOX IN YOUR COMMUNITY!





The third Wednesday of November symbolizes awareness for Utilities United Against Scams Day. Many utilities are victims of scams throughout the year, and we want you to be ready in case someone targets you.

We want you to be aware of a popular scam right now; these scammers claim to be a reputable business calling to tell you that your last payment didn't go through, and that they need your personal information over the phone. Always be aware of who you are talking to. Unfortunately, scammers are very cunning and have had millions of victims fall to their crimes.

If someone is calling you demanding payment, it is best to hang up, look up the business's phone number, and call to speak to someone there. Express your concern that you may have been contacted by a scammer. They can verify if there is payment needed on your account or not.

What if someone from ACEC calls asking for a payment?

We will never call our members and demand payment. If a payment is due on your account you may

receive an automated phone call regarding a past due balance; however, this call is purely informational. If an account is past due and subject to be disconnected, we use additional forms of communication to inform members of their balance before we disconnect. However, as stated earlier, we will never call you and demand a payment.

Does ACEC give out my personal information?

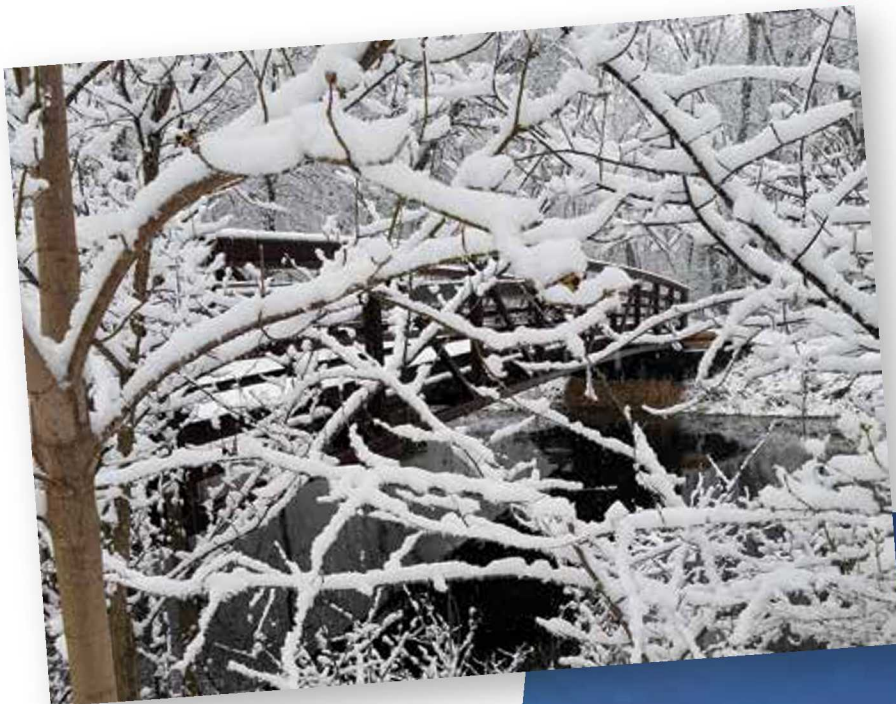
Absolutely not. Your personal information is strictly confidential and we take it very seriously. We do require personal information when you become a new member of ACEC, but once we have it, your information is not released whatsoever.

Stay up-to-date on recent scams by visiting www.ftc.gov/scams. If you are aware of a scam, visit www.ftc.gov/complaint to report it so others are aware and to stop the crooks in their tracks.



ACEC Calendar Photos

December



Columbia County

Member photo by Abby Dee

Abby Dee is a mother of three active teenage daughters, so family time is precious. As time permits, she enjoys walks in nature, usually with her camera in hand. Abby especially likes taking nature photography during any season. This beautiful winter scene was taken on the Ice Age Trail, near Portage.

Marquette County

Youth photo by Megan Platz

Megan Platz is a homeschooled high school junior. In addition to taking photos, she enjoys cooking, making cards, playing the piano, and time spent outdoors. Megan's photography tends to focus on her pets, landscapes, and sky photos. Her winning winter sunset photo was taken in the backyard of her Marquette County home.



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Customer Service & Billing	800-831-8629
Power Outage Reporting	888-928-2232
Diggers Hotline	800-242-8511

**To make a payment anytime 24/7,
please call 1-844-219-1223.**

Jay A. Porter, PE—CEO
Ashley Miller—Editor

Friendship Service Center

401 East Lake Street • P.O. Box 70
Friendship, WI 53934-0070
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30 – 4:00
www.acecwi.com

The Friendship Service Center is located in the Village of Friendship, in Adams County. From Highway 13, travel east three blocks on East Lake Street. Lake Street is also marked as County Highway J.

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative maintains operations facilities in Pardeeville and Wautoma. These facilities are not open for general business; however, drive-up payment stations are available at both locations. ACEC employees will meet with cooperative members in Pardeeville and Wautoma by prearranged appointment only.