



**By Jay A. Porter,
PE, Chief Executive
Officer**

LINWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

This month I would like to recognize our linemen, in particular on April 8, Lineworker Appreciation Day.

Like other first responders, when they get the call, these dedicated workers are ready at a moment's notice. They leave their families during holidays or family celebrations, no matter the time of day. Sometimes they are traveling out in the worst of conditions. They are exposed to the elements for long, enduring shifts, climbing poles 35 feet in the air while the rain is pouring down, snow is freezing them through, or sunshine and heat is beating down on them, always knowing one wrong move could be fatal. Not only do they restore power after storm outages, but they maintain the lines every day to try to ensure power is always there when we need it.

Lineworkers also have a special brotherhood amongst them. When our neighboring co-ops get hit with a nasty storm, we give them aid. It doesn't matter if that neighbor is an hour away or states away.

Electricity is an invisible force, which makes it easier to forget how important it is. Yet when it goes out, it impacts our lives in a huge way. Happy Lineworker Appreciation Day to all lineworkers out there. Thank you for keeping the lights on.

If you know of someone who would like to pursue a career in linework, the Jon Steinhaus Lineworker Scholarship is available now. The deadline to apply is April 12.

Annual Meeting Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative's annual meeting is just around the corner. This will be the 32nd annual meeting in Adams-Columbia's history. These meetings are held because cooperatives are governed by the people they serve. This means you, as a member, have the right to elect

the directors who run your cooperative. On the following pages you will find short biographies from the director candidates running for the board this year. Take a few minutes to read them over and come to the meeting to vote for the candidate you believe will best serve the cooperative. There are three seats up for election:

Annual Meeting Saturday, May 11

Registration: 8:45 a.m.
Meeting Start: 9:30 a.m.

Adams-Friendship
Fine Arts Center
1109 E North St,
Adams, WI 53910

District 2: Adam Jones, Ethan Olson, Patrick Connolly

District 3: Marj Colby, Aaron Hoernke

District 4: Lawrence Becker, John Church, Jon Ebert

If you can't make it to the meeting on Saturday, May 11, you can request an absentee ballot by sending in the coupon found on page 16a, or by calling the office. We will also be offering



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



eVote once again this year. Casting your vote online is quick and easy with SmartHub. Step-by-step instructions on how to use eVote are on pages 16g.

Bylaw Changes The board of directors has recently approved changes to the bylaws. At the May 11 annual meeting, members will be asked to consider the proposed changes. A summary of information on these proposed changes can be found on page 16h.

Rates The board has approved a rate increase for most demand billed accounts. The change reflects a demand charge increase ACEC has been levied on our wholesale power bill, so the increase is a direct pass through. Facility and energy (kWh) charges will remain the same as last year. The new rates go into effect April 8, 2019. You can find a chart comparing last year's rate to this year's on page 16k.

Membership Fees If you recall, when you first became a member of Adams-Columbia Electric Co-op, a \$5 membership was required from you. The board of directors recently decided that collecting this membership fee is no longer a relevant practice in today's world. In May, you will see a \$5 credit on your bill reflecting your refund of the membership fee. This does not mean you are no longer a member! As long as you are receiving service from ACEC you remain a member and will still receive patronage capital allocations and refunds.

SAFETY MESSAGE



April is distracted driving month

In this month's safety message, I would like to draw attention to something that we've become so involved with in our daily lives we don't even realize how much of a distraction it is. It's especially fresh in my mind as my youngest of seven just got her driver's license. I'm talking about cell phones and driving.

When you get behind the wheel, turn off your electronic devices and put them out of reach before starting to drive. Texting and driving is an epidemic in our fast-paced world. Data from the U.S. Department of Transportation shows that at least 3,450 people were killed in car accidents involving distracted drivers in 2016.

I also urge you to speak up if you are a passenger and your driver uses their cell phone while driving. Offer to make the call or send the message for your driver so their focus will remain on the road.

It's easy to think about all of our responsibilities while we're commuting. That email or text can wait. I would rather see my daughter walk through the door tonight than end up as one of those statistics.



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

2019 Annual Meeting Rules and Voting Procedures

Meeting Rules

1. Except as specifically modified below the meeting will be conducted in accordance with ACEC Bylaws, Board Policy #2-18, and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.
2. Any speaker must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.
3. Only members and duly registered guests will be recognized by the Chair; each person so recognized must give his or her name and show their voting card.
4. Unless otherwise approved by the Chair, those recognized are to limit their questions and comments to three minutes, with any rebuttal limited to two minutes.
5. Questions and comments from members and duly registered guests will be in order during old and new business sessions, and at the conclusion of the officer reports if invited.
6. No resolution affecting Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative may be submitted by any member unless written copies were received by the Cooperative by February 8, 2019, in accordance with the prior notification to the membership to permit review by the Rules Committee, and its recommendation to the meeting as to approval or rejection.
7. No signs or handouts will be permitted within the building of the place of the meeting, except such handouts as required for the official conduct of the Annual Meeting. Invited Legislators may distribute government issued items such as highway maps or similar information. No handouts made available outside of the building will use the name of the Cooperative, its letterhead or logo to imply that the Cooperative supports or opposes any resolution or candidate for director.
8. No demonstration shall be held within the building of the place of the meeting.

Voting Procedures

1. Voting will be done by each member holding up his or her card so that the voting card may be seen and counted by the Chair. The Bylaws of the Cooperative require that voting for election of directors must be by ballot vote.
2. Each member will be given a voting card (one card per membership), which the member should hold up to be recognized or to designate his or her vote as directed by the Chair.
3. Once cast, an electronic vote will not be discarded in favor of another voting method.
4. Only the Chairperson is authorized to vote electronically for a business entity.



**Adams-Friendship
Fine Arts Center**
1109 E North St, Adams, WI 53910



Saturday,
May 11th



Registration Start: 8:45 a.m.
Meeting Start: 9:30 a.m.

ANNUAL MEETING 2019

ELECTIONS

LEARN ABOUT THE BOARD CANDIDATES

Districts 2, 3, and 4 have director seats up for election at this year's annual meeting. Candidates running for these director seats have each been asked to submit a short, 350 word or less, biography answering the questions listed below. Candidates have provided their contact information if you would like to reach out with additional questions.

*Note that no edits have been made to the candidate's submissions.

Each candidate was asked the following questions:

Please share information about yourself including what experience or abilities you would bring to the ACEC board.

What interests you most about serving on the board?

What are some of the important issues you believe the board needs to focus on in the next few years?

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO VOTE

Express your right as a member of your cooperative and vote for your board of directors. We offer three voting options:

1. In person at the annual meeting on May 11.
2. Request an absentee ballot with the coupon below.
3. Vote online with eVote. You can find easy directions on page 16g.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ ACEC Account # _____

Signature _____

Deadline: May 10, noon

If requesting a ballot by mail, allow ample time for mail delivery to and from your home. Return this coupon with your electric bill payment, or mail it to: P.O. Box 70, Friendship, WI 53934. If you prefer, you can request a ballot online at www.acecwi.com.

Meet the Candidates

District 2

DISTRICT 2

Candidate



Adam Jones

Hello ACEC members, I'm Adam Jones and I would appreciate your vote for the ACEC Board of Directors.

I have been a lifelong resident of Waushara County. Since an early age, I was involved in 4-H and learned the importance of community service and being an advocate for your local area. As an adult I have always strived to keep the best interests of the community in the forefront.

I grew up in Wild Rose on my family's vegetable and beef farm. After attending college, I started my own construction company and built custom homes and light commercial projects for 14 years. This gave me the opportunity to work well with many different types of people while solving problems efficiently and keeping my job tasks organized and profitable. It also gave me the skills to know how to effectively invest money to better my small business.

I had the opportunity to go back into farming four years ago. With a struggling agriculture economy, I needed to make very important decisions about the future of the farm and determine the best ways to keep the farm profitable. I'm Vice President of Waushara County Farm Bureau and have completed a year-long leadership institute training. My

attention to detail, education and determination will make me a great director for members in District 2.

I am interested in serving on the ACEC board to learn more about current operations and how to make improvements to best serve the community. I would like to fully explore all of the facets of how ACEC currently provides service within our local areas. I would like to use this information and focus on having more input from members to best meet their needs.

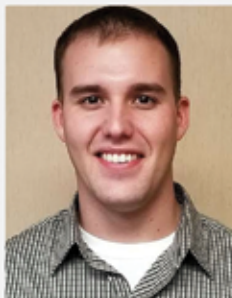
An important issue that I would like to see addressed is the growing need for power and what can be done to provide cost effective solutions. Everyone wants to keep rates low. As a board member I would like to help shape how can we continue to maintain this electrical resource, which is vital to our rural communities, while continue to grow and be profitable.

Contact information: Cell phone: 920-295-9323 Home phone: 920-787-2208

Email: adamjonesconstruction@gmail.com

DISTRICT 2

Candidate



Ethan Olson

My name is Ethan Olson and I would like to represent you on the Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative Board. I grew up in Arkdale Wisconsin, and agriculture has always been a large part of my life being involved in my grandfather's cash crop farm. I had the opportunity to attend UW-Platteville where I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture Business and a Minor in Soil and Crop Science. My fiancé and I recently purchased a home in Plainfield which is where I enjoy working as a Sales Agronomist for TH Agrichemicals. I have seen firsthand how farmers are impacted by rising costs and control issues. I would like to relay the message of why and where the costs of our power are incurred. Agriculture needs a strong voice on the Board, and I would like to be that voice for agriculture for District 2. I thank you, in advance, for considering me as your representative.

Contact information: Cell phone: 715-935-0923 Email: olson4010@gmail.com

DISTRICT 2

Incumbent



Patrick Connolly

Educational & Military Background:

Wautoma High School (1958)

USMC (1958-62) Aviation Radio Technician

Indiana Institute of Technology (1962-65) Electrical Engineering studies

Employment:

General Telephone Co. of Indiana (1964-65)

Louis Allis Co., Milwaukee WI (1966-75)

Wauhara Electric Cooperative/Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative (1975-2001)

Engineering Assistant responsible for power line design & staking

Self Employed Consultant (2001-2006) Power line design & staking

Experience and Abilities:

I have long held a commitment to active engagement in my community through both leadership and participatory roles. This service has enriched my life and, I hope, contributed to the quality of life for my neighbors. It has been my pleasure to have served in these organizations: Mt Morris Pioneers 4-H Club (Leader), Blackhawk Folk Society (Co-founder & Board Member), Wautoma Area School District Board of Directors, Mt Morris

Town Board (Supervisor & Town Chair), ACEC Board of Directors (2007-2019).

I would like to continue my service to my ACEC neighbors through membership on the Board of Directors. Cooperatives were originally formed and still exist today to improve the lives of their members. ACEC provides essential services to our member-owners by bringing safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to their homes, farms, businesses, factories, schools, places of worship, and community gathering places. I believe I can make a worthwhile contribution to continuing and improving those services.

The near and long-term future of ACEC holds many challenges, but also many opportunities. I believe emphasis on and improvement in the continuity of high quality, cost-effective service should continue to be our primary concern. In addition, we need to stay abreast of developments in potential areas of growth, such as distributed renewable generation, battery storage, and plug-in electric vehicle charging. All technological, regulatory, and political issues affecting the electric power industry will demand the close attention of the ACEC board in order to continue providing the level of service our members deserve. It would be my honor to contribute to these efforts as a member of the Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

Contact information: Email: pconnolly@acecwi.com

District 3

DISTRICT 3

Incumbent



Marj Colby

I am a retired technical college and college educator who brings problem-solving experiences and electric coop director education courses along with 11 years of board experience to the table. I have a strong background in cooperative governance as well as experience serving on other boards. My husband and I own and operate a cow-calf and cash crop farm with shared decision-making in breeding, marketing and cropping. I have been actively involved in local and state organizations including hospital foundation, sports boosters, extension homemakers, 4-H, FFA, state and national cattlemen and master gardeners.

Serving on the board has enabled me to talk coops to people all across the state, sharing concerns, ideas and solutions. It gives me the opportunity to meet, and talk coops and other rural issues, with state and national legislators. It has been exciting to work toward partnerships with other coops and to commence the part ownership agreement and the building of the Alliant Riverside generation project.

One of the issues the coop will face is maintaining our reliable, affordable service while continuing to experience member efficiency which results in flat or declining energy sales. We need to keep our infrastructure strong and up to date to meet the needs of our members. We need to keep abreast of environmentally friendly and member friendly innovations in alternative energy solutions as well as energy storage. A third issue would be developing and enhancing partnerships with other coops (Marquette-Adams for fiber communications) and

energy providers (Alliant Riverside generation project).

Contact information: Cell phone: 608-547-1722 Home phone: 608-584-5396 Email: oakwood1@maqs.net

Meet the Candidates

District 3

DISTRICT 3 Candidate



Aaron Hoernke

My name is Aaron Hoernke, and I have been a Financial Advisor with Ameriprise for the last 15 years. I am originally from Adams-Friendship, but currently reside in Arkdale with my wife and children. I have received my undergraduate degree in Finance with a minor in Economics from UW Green Bay and my MBA from UW Oshkosh. I am currently involved with the Arkdale Lutheran Church Endowment Committee, The Adams-Friendship Education Foundation, and assisting with my children's extracurricular activities.

I would like to apply for the position of Board Member here at ACEC. My goal is to serve on the board to help our community by bringing my experience and perspective. The future of ACEC is very important to our community. I would like the opportunity to help make policies and decisions that will not only impact us currently, but also focus on future ramifications of those decisions.

I believe some issues that we are currently facing include providing low cost energy to rural areas, incorporating renewables and developing low emission energy.

Contact information: Cell phone: 920-379-9553 Email: aaron.j.hoernke@ampf.com

District 4

DISTRICT 4 Incumbent



Lawrence Becker

Kathy and I have been residents of Marquette County since 1977 raising our family here. A UW graduate and a Vo-Ag teacher that farmed with family with dairy, sheep and crop enterprises. We are still raising sheep and hops. Involved with many different coops over the years, farm service, credit, processing, marketing, insurance and electric. Have served on 9 different coop and producer boards. Currently serving as Chairman of the ACEC board and representing Wisconsin on the NRECA board. In the past I have served as Chairman of the American Lamb and Wool Councils promoting those products for US producers.

I want to make sure the members interests and concerns are heard in the discussions and decisions that occur in the boardroom and I like to ask what if? In the time I have served the membership many things have changed, it has become more technical and complex but the need to listen to the members and provide reliable service at a fair price has not. I enjoy working with others to guide and govern. The way the coop operates is affected by rules and regulations that are determined by agencies and laws. I am comfortable in presenting the coops' views to the people who determine these rules/ laws and advocating for the membership.

ACEC must continue to form strategic partnerships to gain lower costs and reduce risks. We must continue to look for partners as we delve into broadband, more renewables, demand

pricing and other changes in electric service. The balancing of charging fair rates, maintaining financial stability and returning patronage/margins to the members will be a priority. ACEC is dependent on strong communities so providing opportunities for economic development to keep and develop new jobs is an important issue. Helping our youth with educational opportunities will continue to be a focus. Our members deserve openness and accountability in the management of their coop. Finally the board needs to be strong advocates of our members in the regulatory and political discussions today.

Contact information: Cell phone: 608-547-5831 Home phone: 608-297-2640 Email: clfbeccker@frontier.com

DISTRICT 4
Candidate



John Church

I have been a member of ACEC since 1983. I have 40 years of global sales and sales management experience. For 32 years I was directly involved in the in the electrical power generation industry for both standby and prime power applications. The prime movers for generator sets were diesel and gas engines and steam and gas turbines. These generator applications ranged in size from 5 kilowatts to 120 megawatts. My primary roles in the last 25 years were both from an engineering and sales management perspective. I was responsible for over \$70 million in annual sales, managing a staff of 25 people. For the last 7 years I was involved in the wind turbine power generation applications for GE.

I was on the Board of Directors of the Electrical Generating System Association (EGSA) a global organization for the power generation industry for three years.

Having just retired I now want to volunteer, giving back to my community. With my background in power generation and managerial experience I saw a good fit with the ACEC Board of Director's position.

My only experience with the ACEC has been electrical power for our home, and the installation of our geothermal system. As I prepared to seek a position on the board, I reviewed the various programs from ACEC. I was very impressed with all the various programs, especially programs

grants, business loans for economic retainment and development and support to our local agricultural farms.

I would be proud to be involved in supporting these programs, educating Coop members and maintaining a strong fiscal position for ACEC. ACEC needs to continue take the lead in helping members to look at ways to become more efficient and effective in the use of electricity, consider alternative energy sources and how best to apply alternative energy to their daily lives.

It would be an honor to be elected to the ACEC board of directors.

Respectfully submitted:

John A. Church

Contact information: Home phone: 920-787-2844 Email: jchurch000@outlook.com

DISTRICT 4
Candidate



Jon Ebert

I grew up on a dairy farm in Marquette Co. My career at Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative (ACEC) began in 1974.

My wife, Jan and I have been married 45 years and have three grown children and four awesome grandsons.

I began my career as an apprentice lineman working in the Briggsville area. After becoming a journeyman lineman and working for ACEC for eight years, I became Area Supervisor for the Montello Area for ten years. Following that position I became Area Manager for the Pardeeville Office. My next position led me to become Manager of Operations, and eventually became V.P. of Operations and Engineering, working in the Friendship Office. My management years provided opportunities to serve on many committees. The committees included the WI Job Training and Safety Committee, Chippewa Valley Technical College Apprentice Committee, Park Technical Electrical Power Distribution Board and President of the WI Line Superintendent Association. I also completed the Manager Internship Program.

One of my favorite volunteer experiences with ACEC was the training of Co-Op employees in Bolivia, Belize and Guatemala in electrical distribution and safety. This program was with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated a large portion of Louisiana. I had the opportunity to lead a crew of linemen from Wisconsin to assist in rebuilding power lines and restore power to Co-Op members.

I am interested in the opportunity to serve our members, and feel that my experience and insight would be a benefit to ACEC. Any decision as a board director would be made in the best interest of our members with honesty and integrity.

An important issue for the board to focus on is safety for our employees, members and associated organizations. Keeping our costs within the organization to be fair & competitive is another issue.

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) along with battery storage for renewable energy is important.

Term limits for board directors should be discussed during Strategic Planning.

Contact information: Cell phone: 920-295-2766 Home phone: 920-295-8949 Email: Jjebert54@centurylink.net

WAYS TO VOTE ↑

IT'S EASY!

OPTION 1: VOTE IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Attend the annual meeting and cast your vote.

Adams-Friendship
Fine Arts Center
1109 E North St.
9:30 a.m.

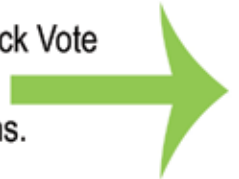
OPTION 2: REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

Call us, stop in to our Friendship office, or visit our website to request an absentee ballot. Return your ballot by May 10 at noon.



OPTION 3: VOTE ONLINE

Log in to your SmartHub account and click Vote Now. It's that easy! See the next page for step-by-step directions.



NEED TO SIGN UP FOR SMARTHUB?

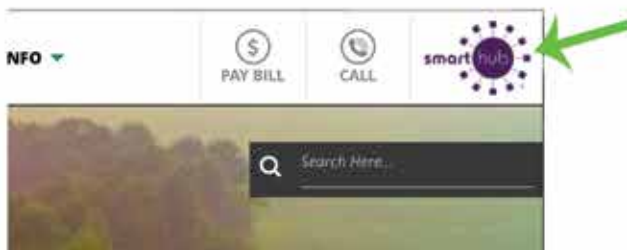
Visit www.acecwi.com/smarthub for directions or call us at (800) 831-8629, we're happy to help! There are also directions on page 18. If you don't have an account, now's the time to sign up! When you sign up for SmartHub between April 1 - May 1, you will be entered in a contest where you could win a \$50 bill credit! Drawing will be held May 2.



Can't make it to the Annual Meeting? Follow these easy steps to cast your vote online with eVote.



- 1 SMARTHUB** Visit acecwi.com and click SmartHub in the upper right corner.



- 2 LOG IN** OR create an account. One of our CSR's can help. Call (800) 831-8629.



- 3 VOTE NOW** Click 'Vote Now' in the upper right corner.



- 4 SELECTIONS** Click a box to vote. A selection can be made in each district, but is not required.



STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

eVote anytime between April 1st - May 10th

PO-OP
MY CO-OP



PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2019, at the Adams-Friendship High School Fine Arts Center. At the meeting, members will be asked to approve several proposed changes to the Cooperative's Bylaws. These proposed changes are the result of your Board of Directors' review of the Cooperative's Bylaws, in order to keep current with best practices identified in our ever-changing Cooperative industry.

Both this summary of changes and the complete Bylaws are available on our website at www.acecwi.com.

RESTATED BYLAWS OF ADAMS-COLUMBIA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE AS LAST AMENDED MAY ~~11~~16, 20~~19~~17

Updating References to Electric Service

Changes are proposed to the Termination of Membership provision and several other sections, to recognize that there may be periods when a member does not have any net consumption of energy from the Cooperative. The change clarifies that membership would not be terminated if the member continues to pay the bills for having service in place. Similar replacements of "electric energy" with "electric service" are also made to Article IV, Section 8, Article VIII, Sections 2 and 5, and Article XI, Section 4, so that uniform terminology is used throughout the Bylaws.

Amend Article I, Section 7(a)(2) ("Termination of Membership"), Article IV, Section 8 ("Change in Rates"), Article VIII, Sections 2 ("Patronage Capital in Connection with Furnishing Electric Energy") and 5 ("Classification of Business"), and Article XI, Section 4 ("Dispute Resolution") by substituting "electric service" for "electric energy" wherever that term appears.

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

Section 7. Termination of Membership.

- (a) This subsection governs termination of membership, whether by voluntary action of the member or by the Cooperative.
 - (1) Any member may withdraw from membership upon compliance with such uniform terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may prescribe.
 - (2) The membership of a member who for a period of six (6) months after service is available has not purchased electric ~~service energy~~ from the Cooperative, or of a member who has ceased to purchase ~~electric service energy~~ from the Cooperative, may be canceled by resolution of the Board of Directors or action of the Board's designee.
 - (3) The Board of Directors may, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of all members of the Board of Directors, expel any member who fails to comply with any of the provisions of the articles of incorporation, bylaws or reasonable policies, rules or regulations adopted by the Board of Directors, but only if such member shall have been given written notice by the Cooperative that such failure

makes the member liable to expulsion and such failure shall have continued for at least ten (10) days after such notice was given. Any expelled member may be reinstated by vote of the Board of Directors or by vote of the members at any annual or special meeting.

- (b) Upon the withdrawal, death, cessation of existence or expulsion of a member, the membership of such member shall thereupon terminate, and the membership certificate, if any, of such member shall be cancelled forthwith. Termination of membership in any manner shall not release a member or his or her estate from any debts due the Cooperative.
- (c) Absent any other arrangement agreed to in writing by the Cooperative, upon the legal separation or divorce of the holders of a joint membership, such membership shall continue to be held solely by the one who continues to occupy or use the premises covered by such membership, in the same manner and to the same effect as though such membership had never been joint, provided that this provision shall not affect the ownership of funds held by the Cooperative in the name of the joint owners, and further provided, that neither joint owner shall be released from debts due the Cooperative arising from the joint ownership.
- (d) In case of withdrawal or termination of membership in any manner, the Cooperative may repay to the member the amount of the membership fee, if any, paid by the member, provided, however, that the Cooperative shall deduct from the amount of the membership fee the amount of any debts or obligations owed by the member to the Cooperative.

Withdrawal of Mail Ballot at Annual Meeting

The current Bylaws allow for the possibility of a member casting an absentee mail ballot and then withdrawing the ballot at the annual meeting and asking to cast a meeting day ballot in its place. The amendment to Article III, Section 6 would eliminate that option—which has not been utilized, but which delays the counting of ballots at the meeting. The text of the proposed amendment follows.

Amend Article III, Section 6 of the Bylaws by deleting sub. (e) and re-lettering subs. (f), (g) and (h) as (e), (f) and (g), as follows:

ARTICLE III MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 6. Voting by Absentee Signed or Electronic Ballot.

- Any member who is unable to attend a meeting of the members may vote on any motion to be considered at the meeting only as follows:
- (a) If the Cooperative provides ballots for the vote on the motion to the members together with the notice of the meeting at which the vote will be taken and exact copies of the motion and any resolution to which it pertains, an absent member may vote on the motion by submitting a signed ballot. If a signed ballot has been submitted on a motion under this paragraph, neither the motion nor any resolution to which it pertains may be amended.
 - (b) If the Cooperative does not provide ballots and an exact copy of the motion or resolution to which it pertains to the members along with the notice of meeting, but makes available ballots for the vote along with exact copies of the motion or resolution to which it pertains, then a member may request a ballot and exact copy of the motion and may vote by submitting a signed ballot. However, the motion and any resolution to which it pertains may

- be amended at the meeting and, if the motion or resolution is amended, the ballot is void. The ballot may not be counted on any motion to amend or adopt as amended the motion or resolution.
- (c) A sealed envelope bearing the signature of the member and enclosing a marked but unsigned ballot shall constitute a signed absentee ballot for purpose of this section.
- (d) Absentee ballots shall be mailed or delivered to the Cooperative's principal office so as to be received at the principal office no later than noon on the last business day before the membership meeting.
- ~~(e) In the event a member voting by absentee ballot attends such meeting in person, the absentee ballot shall be discarded in favor of the member's vote cast in person at the meeting.~~
- ~~(e) If ballots for use in voting for a director are not provided members along with the notice of the meeting, a member may request a ballot from the Cooperative in such manner as the Board of Directors may specify, and use the same for voting for director in accordance with the provisions of this section.~~
- (g)(f) Where absentee signed ballots are permitted, the Board of Directors may similarly permit electronic voting, provided it has first adopted authentication procedures to govern such voting that in the Board's judgment will reasonably ensure that it is the member who is casting the vote and provided the vote is received by the Cooperative by noon on the last business day before the membership meeting.
- ~~(h)(g)~~ The failure of any member to receive a copy of any such motion or ballot shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.

ARTICLE VIII DIRECTORS

Section 8. Change in Rates.

Written notice of any proposed change in the rates charged by the Cooperative for electric **energy service** shall be as required by applicable law, regulation or contract. This requirement shall not be construed to require any prior notification for changes resulting from any automatic fuel clause or purchased power cost adjustment. Notice may be given by electronic mail or other electronic means to a member who has elected electronic billing or otherwise consented to electronic notifications.

Patronage Capital

Two changes are proposed to Article VIII of the Bylaws ("Non-Profit Operation"). The changes do not affect the Cooperative's non-profit operation or allocation of margins to the members. The changes are in current Section 10 and a new Section 9. They would update the wording in the provision on the Cooperative's security interest in capital credits and confirm when the Cooperative may retire capital credits early, at net present value.

Created new Article VIII, Section 9. Amend Section 10, and renumbered Sections 9 through 13 as Sections 10 through 14.

ARTICLE VIII NON-PROFIT OPERATION

Section 2. Patronage Capital in Connection with Furnishing Electric **Service Energy**.

In the furnishing of electric **service energy**, the Cooperative's operations shall be so conducted that all members and patrons will, through their patronage, furnish capital for the Cooperative. In order to induce patronage and to assure that the Cooperative will operate on a

non-profit basis, the Cooperative is obligated to account on a patronage basis to all its members and patrons for all amounts received and receivable from the furnishing of electric **service energy** in excess of operating costs and expenses properly chargeable against the furnishing of electric **service energy**. All such amounts in excess of operating costs and expenses at the moment of receipt by the Cooperative are received with the understanding that they are furnished by the members and patrons as capital. The Cooperative is obligated to allocate to a capital account for each member and patron all such amounts in excess of operating costs and expenses. The books and records of the Cooperative shall be set up and kept in such a manner that, at the end of each fiscal year, the amount of capital, if any, so furnished by each member and patron is clearly reflected and allocated in an appropriate record to the capital account of each member and patron, and the Cooperative shall within a reasonable time after the close of fiscal year notify each member and patron of the amount of capital so allocated to the member or patron's account. All such amounts allocated to the capital account of any member and patron shall have the same status as though they had been paid to the member and patron in cash in pursuance of a legal obligation to do so, and the member and patron had then furnished the Cooperative corresponding amounts for capital.

All other amounts received by the Cooperative from its operations in excess of cost and expenses shall, insofar as permitted by law, be (a) used to offset any losses incurred during the current or any prior fiscal year, and (b) to the extent not needed for that purpose, allocated to its members and patrons.

Section 5. Classification of Business

To the full extent allowed by law, in connection with the determination and allocation of patronage capital arising from the furnishing of electric **service energy**, the Cooperative may classify the business done with its patrons into classes of business and patronage. Those classifications shall be based on factors relating to the cost of rendering service and the rates charged for service, however, the classifications of business for determination and allocation of patronage capital will not necessarily coincide with the rate classifications in the Cooperative's rate schedules. The Cooperative shall give due regard to the level of capital contributed by each such class of business during the current or any prior fiscal year so that the aggregate capital accounts are equitably adjusted among the classes of business. No patronage capital shall be allocated to any patron within a class of business if the receipts from all patrons within that class do not exceed the costs and expenses chargeable to that class.

Section 9. Early Retirement for Former Members.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these bylaws, the Board of Directors is authorized but not required, under rules of general application and at its discretion, to retire patronage capital credited to former patrons and pay the net present value thereof prior to the time such capital would otherwise be retired under the provisions of these bylaws, upon such terms and conditions as the Board shall determine, provided, however, that the financial condition of the Cooperative will not be impaired thereby.

Section 1011. Security Interest in Patronage Capital.

The Cooperative shall have a continuing security interest in the patronage capital allocated and credited to any patron for any indebtedness due and owing from such patron to the Cooperative. The patron shall execute such documents as the Cooperative may request to create and perfect this security interest. The rights of the Cooperative under the security interest hereby granted may be exercised in the event of the default in payment by the patron of the patron's obligations, or in the event of the bankruptcy of the patron, and such indebtedness of the patron, shall be **subtracted from offset against** the capital allocated and credited to the patron in any retirement thereof made hereunder to said



patron or to his or her estate, heirs, or surviving joint member.

Upon the termination of a patron's membership in the Cooperative as provided in these bylaws, the Board of Directors, at its discretion, may immediately retire some or all patronage capital allocated to such former patron, up to the amount for which the former patron is indebted to the Cooperative, with the net present value of such retired amounts to be applied in full or partial satisfaction of the patron's outstanding indebtedness to the Cooperative; provided however, that such retirements shall only be permitted if the financial condition of the Cooperative will not be impaired thereby. The Board of Directors shall be authorized, but not required, to provide for such special retirements, and this provision shall not impair any other rights or remedies that the Cooperative may have to obtain payment for the patron's indebtedness to the Cooperative.

Section 4213. Forfeiture of Unclaimed Funds.

- (a) The Cooperative shall effect the forfeiture of all unclaimed funds, including all forms of distributions or patronage capital, membership fees, deposits, and dividends, and shall do the following in connection therewith:
- (1) No earlier than three years and no later than five years after the funds are first made available to the owners, the Board of Directors shall declare the funds forfeited to the Cooperative unless claimed by a specific date.
 - (2) After the declaration of forfeiture, the Cooperative shall give notice that states that the funds shall be forfeited if not claimed by the specified date, which date shall be a business day at least 60 days after the mailing of the notice.
 - (3) The notice under paragraph (2) shall be mailed to the last known address of each owner and shall be published on or before the date of mailing in a newspaper published in the municipality containing the service area of the Cooperative.
 - (4) The Cooperative shall dedicate any funds remaining unclaimed after the date specified in paragraph (2) to educational purposes, limited to providing scholarships or loans to students, or to charitable purposes, as the Board of Directors determines, within one year after the date the funds are declared forfeited under paragraph (1). Educational purposes shall not include political purposes as defined in applicable law.
- (b) At any time subsequent to a forfeiture under this bylaw, the owner of forfeited funds may submit a claim to the Board of Directors and if the Board determines that the person owned the funds at the time of the forfeiture, it shall refund the funds to the person.
- (c) The Board of Directors may establish a reasonable reserve for payment of claims, which reserve shall be credited to patrons in accordance with the ratio which their patronage bears to total patronage. This reserve shall be reimbursed for claims charged thereto, out of funds subsequently declared forfeited.

ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS

Section 4. Dispute Resolution.

Any and all disputes, claims or controversies arising from or related in any way to the Cooperative's provision of electric **service energy** or other services, or its furnishing of any goods or its conduct of its operations, that are not resolved by agreement of the parties, shall, at the request of any party, be resolved by binding arbitration by an impartial arbitrator or panel of arbitrators, pursuant to written procedures to be established from time to time by the Board of Directors; provided, however, that matters within the jurisdictional limits of the small claims courts may be pursued in such courts. As with the other terms of the contract between the patrons and the Cooperative, each patron, member or non-member alike, and the Cooperative agree to arbitrate all such claims or controversies according to this bylaw and the policies and procedures prescribed by the Board of Directors pursuant to this bylaw, and further agree to abide by and perform any resulting arbitration awards.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Jay Porter, Chief Executive Officer of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative. Any individual, or specific class of individuals, who feels that this organization has subjected them to discrimination may file a written complaint with this organization; the Director, Office of Civil rights, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250; or the Administrator, Rural Utility Service, Washington, D.C. 20250. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discriminatory action, or by such later date to which the Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Civil Rights or the Administrator of RUS extends the time for filing. Identity of complaints will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

2019 RATES - DEMAND CHARGE

	Old Rate Structure	New Rate Structure
Large Power 2 (LP2)	\$24.00	\$25.83
No Control Irrigation	\$35.00	\$36.83
Large Power 1 (LP1)	\$19.90	\$21.38

The board of directors has approved a demand rate increase for the accounts listed in the table.

Facility and energy (kWh) charges will remain the same as 2018. This increase is a pass through from our wholesale power supplier. New rates go into effect April 8, 2019.

TIME OF DAY PEAK PERIODS

If you are on a TOD rate, note that peak period times change on May 1.

	Dates	Time
Winter/Spring	November 1 - April 30	5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Summer/Fall	May 1 - October 31	1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Grow Your Farm's Energy Savings

When you're in for improving your farm's energy efficiency, Wisconsin is in for growing your energy savings! That's why FOCUS ON ENERGY®, in partnership with Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative, offers many ways to help you save money in 2019.



Contact us:
888.947.7828
AgSGapps@focusonenergy.com

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ASC.001.030819.V1

Financial incentives are available for:

- Variable Frequency Drives
 - Constant torque - \$20-60/HP
 - Variable torque - \$30-100/HP
- High Bay Lighting
 - \$60-160/Fixture
- Dairy Tune-Ups
 - \$50/Compressor
- And much more!

Visit focusonenergy.com/agribusiness for a complete list of incentive offerings.



Dustin H Ryan Y Jason K Garin G
 Eric J Adam P Eric K
 Brian B Garrett O Don R Steve L
 Brett K



Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 8

Bill K Brian M Tim S Bryce T Josh B
 Tom M Jason H Jesse K
 Mike H Kurt B
 Brian S Trevin J Chris C



Thanks to the ACEC crew for keeping the lights on!

ADAMS-COLUMBIA ELECTRIC CO-OP INVITES YOU TO

Member
APPRECIATION

FUN! FOOD! GAMES!

**FRIDAY,
JUNE 14**

11AM- 2PM

JOIN US AT THE CO-OP IN FRIENDSHIP

401 E LAKE ST

ENJOY BRATS, HOTDOGS, CHIPS, SODA, & WATER

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED

Win Prizes!



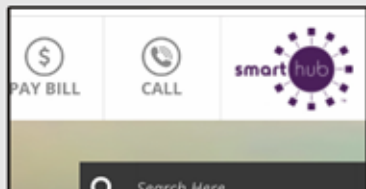
HOW TO SIGN UP FOR SMARTHUB



Take advantage of all the great features SmartHub has to offer. The usage graphs are a favorite. The graphs show how much energy you are using from day-to-day. You can also sign up for text or email notifications, Auto Pay, paperless billing, view your payment history, or pay your bill online.

Note that you will need to have your account number handy when signing up online. Feel free to give our office a call to have one of our friendly representatives help walk you through.

1 Click the SmartHub logo in the upper right corner of our website - www.acecwi.com.



2 Click **New User?** Sign up to access our Self Service site.



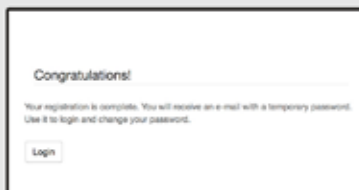
3 A new screen will ask you to enter your account number, last name, and email.



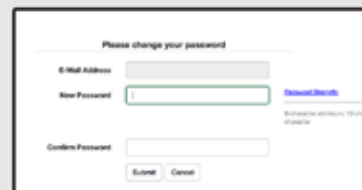
4 Confirm with your last bill amount or your zip code and check agree boxes. You may have an additional security question at this point.



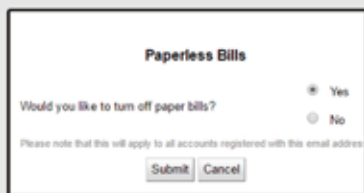
5 An email will be sent to you with a temporary password. Log in using this.



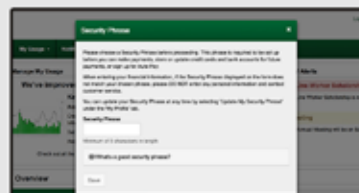
6 Update your password.



7 Select yes or no to paperless billing. No= continue to receive bills in the mail. Yes = bills emailed to you.



8 Select a security phrase. That's it! You're all signed up.



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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.