



MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

By Jay A. Porter, General Manager

Employee Spotlight



Meet Breanna! She is our office services representative. She assists with billing, collections, and customer service. She has been employed at ACEC for almost three years.

Strategic Planning Every three to five years, our board of directors goes through strategic planning exercises for the cooperative. This is done to make sure we are meeting our members' needs, discuss industry challenges, monitor trends, and forecast the demand for future electric use. Once our board gathers information, they collectively set goals to steer the cooperative in a direction for success. Topics discussed included solar options for members, member expectations, redrawing ACEC's districts, transitioning from nine board members to seven, and other future goals.

Meter Exchange Update After about a year and a half, we are nearing the completion of our meter exchange project. At the time this was written, we were 96% complete with our meter exchanges. The remaining 4% consists of meters that ACEC employees will change for things like commercial or industrial services, irrigation, and time-of-day meters. There are many services that we face challenges accessing due to flooding or other obstructions.

Although you will not see any changes to your service, installing these new meters allows us to better serve you. These meters recognize if your service is without power and may automatically notify us, though we still encourage members to call our outage number in the event of power loss.

We couldn't have completed this project without the help of Allegiant Utility Services. Their crews did a stellar job and played a big role in the deployment. I'd also like to recognize my staff involved for their efforts.

Time-of-Day and Electric Heat Rate Adjustments Rate adjustments are driven by either a financial or strategic perspective, or both. Financially, rates may need to be adjusted if there is an increase from our wholesale provider or if services require more money to construct and maintain. On the strategic side, rates are structured for certain behaviors. For example, members on our time-of-day rates are charged two different amounts depending on what time of the day energy is being consumed.

To stay consistent with industry trends and the needs of our membership, a rate adjustment has been approved by our board of directors and will go into effect October 1. Here are the rate classes it will impact:

- Electric Space Heating Time-of-Day
- Electric Space Heating
- General Service Time-of-Day
- Dual Fuel Electric Space Heating
- Second Meter Facility Charge

The purpose of this is to eliminate redundancies among our rates and to reduce administrative burden. A lot of work is put into building rate classes and monitoring them to make sure they are performing to their financial and strategic expectations. Implementing these rate adjustments will also place us in a position to allow members more opportunities to use their service while saving money and to simplify our rate offerings.

These changes will impact less than 3,000 members and we will be reaching out directly to those members.

Unclaimed Patronage Capital We are asking for your help in locating members who have moved off of our lines. Published on our website is a listing of former members with unclaimed patronage capital. When people move off of our lines, they forget to keep their address updated with us. Please take a moment to look through this list to help us track down these individuals. If you see a name you recognize, please ask them to contact us directly.

Member Events Update For the safety of our members and employees, we are postponing craft and cork until spring of 2021 due to COVID-19. New registration will be required. We will have the same registration process on our website in 2021 for this event. Dates for registration will be posted on our social media pages, on our website, and in future publications. We apologize for any inconvenience and will keep you updated as we plan this event.

Our electronic recycling event has been rescheduled for October 2, 9, and 16. Members may bring up to five items per membership including one TV or monitor. Visit our website for more details.

SAFETY MESSAGE



This month I'd like to point out August 11. The importance of this date is that the numeral date is 8-11, which is the phone number for Diggers Hotline. Too often we have people digging without contacting Diggers Hotline to locate underground facilities which may result in damage to our equipment, power outages, or injuries. Please remember to call 8-1-1 at least three business days in advance before you dig.

June



DAIRY DONATION

We understand that our members have experienced some of the toughest times of their lives through the COVID-19 pandemic. Many members have lost their job, been laid off, or own a business that may not have survived the pandemic. The need for assistance has grown drastically in all aspects of life. We knew it was necessary for us to get involved.

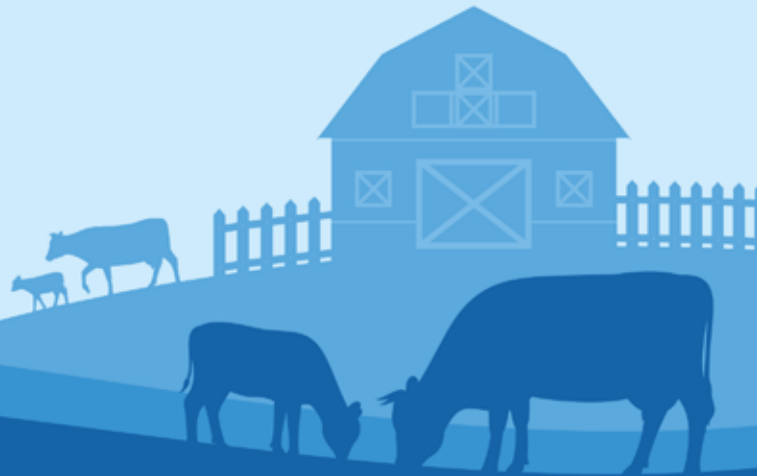
That's why we decided to step up and support our local food pantries, grocery stores, and dairy farmers by donating dairy products in honor of June being Dairy Month.

We're happy to say we were able to make a difference for those in need at the following food pantries:

- Adams-Friendship High School Food Pantry
- CWCAC Rio Area Food Pantry
- Grand Marsh School Food Pantry
- Prairie Pride Food Pantry (Arlington)
- St. Vincent De Paul (Portage)
- Waushara County Food Pantry



Donation to Waushara
County Food Pantry



GROCERY LIST

5,600 - Sticks of Butter

4,800 - Packs of String Cheese

4,800 - Eggs

1,400 - Yogurt Cups

1,000 - Cups of Cottage Cheese

400 - 1/2 Gallons of Milk

Funding for this donation came from the Federated Youth Foundation. Unclaimed patronage capital gets deposited to this foundation and is used for our scholarships, donations, and community support.

Together, we will transition back to what our "new normal" will be. We are committed to supporting our communities any chance we get.

MARQUETTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECEIVES GRANT FROM OPERATION ROUND-UP



A missing person mission in Marquette County in September of 2019 was successful thanks to the help of the Green Lake County Sheriff's Office and their drone team. After the relief of finding the missing person, Sheriff Joe Konrath and his staff at Marquette County Sheriff's Office were inspired by their friends at the neighboring county to develop a drone team of their own.

After several meetings with Detective Sergeant Josh Ward from Green Lake County, Sheriff Konrath soon discovered they would need assistance to purchase the drone equipment needed. Their goal was to raise \$30,000, as one camera for the drone costs nearly \$13,200 alone. To date, they have received \$21,500 thanks to generous donations from the Brakebush Family Foundation, Marquette-Adams Telephone Cooperative, and our Operation Round-Up program.

With the funding they were able to purchase a DJI Matrice 210 drone, a thermal camera, and a Zenmuse Z30 zoom camera, which can magnify the image nearly 30 times. The drone can fly for about 25 minutes and up to three miles away. Marquette County Crime Stoppers graciously allowed the Sheriff's Office to use their trailer to house the drone equipment when responding to calls and for training purposes.

In order to fly the drone, the staff on the drone team had to obtain their Part-107 FAA pilot license. On June 25, Sheriff Konrath presented the team with a pilot wing pin for their hard work in obtaining their pilot license and for the skill set they bring to the communities they serve.

As of June 25, the drone team has been dispatched three times, one of which was to locate a suicidal subject. The drone team worked with their officers and the K-9 unit to find the subject. The joint effort of the drone team, officers responding to the call and assistance from the K-9 unit made recovering the subject a success. As Sheriff Konrath stated, "It's nice to have tools!"

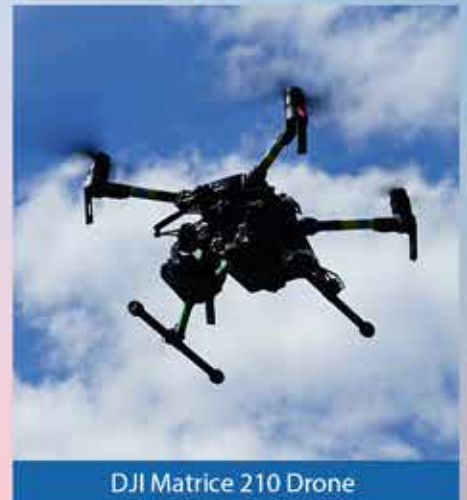


Marquette County Drone Team

WHAT IS THE DRONE USED FOR?

Besides being used to search for missing persons, a drone can also be used for:

- Natural disasters
- Flood monitoring
- Community events
- Fire scene situations
- Evidence gathering
- Assist with K-9 training
- County GIS



DJI Matrice 210 Drone

This story is one of the many ways that your Operation Round-Up dollars are spent and the impact they have on the communities we serve.



Board Meeting Summary

May 27, 2020

The monthly board meeting of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at 5:45 p.m. The meeting was held at the Friendship Service Center, practicing safe distancing due to COVID-19.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Director Olson's invocation. A Safety Message was provided by Director Gibeaut.

All directors were in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting activities:

The agenda, consent agenda items, board expense vouchers, and the minutes of the April 30, 2020 regular board meeting minutes were approved.

Director Reports: Hoernke welcomed the new board members. Porter thanked the board for their willingness and adaptability during these past months with the COVID-19 "Safer at Home" restrictions. He noted the main lobby was open as of May 26, 2020. Several board members had interactions with members regarding high-capacity well and the new AMI meters.

Board Action Items:

- Board approved an economic development loan for \$420,000. Hendricksen noted ACEC would have first position on the property, personal guarantees, and the projected complete project would be valued at \$690,000. Hendricksen also reviewed the remaining balances of loanable economic development funds.
- The next board meeting will be held after the Strategic Planning Session on June 25, 2020, at the Friendship Service Center, time to be determined. Directors are to complete a survey from CFC to help with planning the agenda for the Strategic Planning Session.
- Vedder and Gibeaut will draft changes to Board Policy #2-19: Attendance by Members or Other persons at meeting of the Board of Directors and this policy will be added to June's agenda.
- Board approved the redlined review of policy #2-13 General Manager Evaluation Process and Compensation Program.
- Board approved rescinding policy #3-4 Open Account Credit Agreement.
- Board approved the Resolutions of Appreciation for Fahey's service to the board and employee Jerry Reuterskiold's retirement.
- Transparency of IRS 990 tax return on the website will be added to Strategic Planning.
- Gibeaut will email the new board members the board's recent self-assessment. Hoernke noted that after Strategic Planning it will be easier to determine SMART goals for Porter.

Departmental Reports: Departmental reports were reviewed. Roberts shared the outstanding progress on the AMI meter installations, almost a year ahead of schedule by our contracted firm. In-house staff are completing the large power, time-of-use, and renewable meters.

Hendricksen updated the board on the internal financial controls and the decision that a BOD finance review committee was not deemed necessary by our contracted auditing firm, Bauman Associates.

Roberts provided the historical reasoning for closing the Pardeeville and Wautoma Service Centers to daily traffic. It was noted that members can visit Porter on his monthly discussion days or make an appointment with any employee. Board in agreement, times have changed, and member involvement is a challenge.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Board approved the May meeting minutes on June 25, 2020.

Please note any confidential or sensitive information has been edited for this summary.



Adams-Columbia
Electric Cooperative

Friendship Service Center

401 East Lake Street • P.O. Box 70
Friendship, WI 53934-0070

Office Hours: Monday – Friday,

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

www.acecwi.com

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—GM

Haley Melby—Editor

ACEC Board of Directors

District 1

Gene Alexander

Term Expires 2021

District 2

Ethan Olson

Term Expires 2022

District 3

Aaron Bonnett

At-Large

Term Expires 2023

District 3

Aaron Hoernke, Chair

Term Expires 2022

District 4

Jon Ebert

Term Expires 2022

District 5

Gary Skolarz

Term Expires 2023

District 6

Cheri Gibeaut, Secretary

Term Expires 2021

District 7

Dietrich Vedder, Vice Chair

At-Large

Term Expires 2021

District 7

James Kelly, Treasurer

Term Expires 2023