



THE WIRE



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • July 2022

GAS PRICES IMPACT COST OF ELECTRICITY

The cost of natural gas has gone from roughly \$2 per unit to \$7 per unit, having a significant impact on the cost to produce electricity.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?

One part of your electric bill each month is the power cost adjustment (PCA). The PCA is a variable cost that changes each month based on how much it costs to generate the power we purchase from Alliant Energy. If the costs to generate power are lower, the PCA may be a credit, but if the costs are higher, the PCA may be a charge. This is where the rising costs of fuel are impacting your electric bill.

Over the past several years the PCA has been a credit or a fraction of a cent per kilowatt-hour on your bill. With the spike in fuel costs, the PCA is now a charge that is much higher than we've seen in recent years.

WEST RIVERSIDE ENERGY CENTER REDUCES THE IMPACT

In 2016, we invested in the West Riverside Energy Center (WREC) to help stabilize rates for our members. Had we not invested in WREC to help offset energy costs, the PCA would have been even higher.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The PCA is a per kilowatt-hour charge. The less energy you use, the less impact it will have on your bill. For energy-saving tips, please visit our website at www.acecwi.com/energy-saving-tips.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The 2022-23 school year will be here before you know it and we need your help. We're collecting school supplies for local students in need. School supplies and monetary donations may be dropped off at our Friendship office until July 29. A list of school supplies needed is on our website at www.acecwi.com/stuff-the-bus.

If you'd like to mail in monetary donations, please make checks payable to ACEC, but write Stuff The Bus on the memo line. Monetary donations can be mailed to **ACEC, Attn: Marketing, P.O. Box 70, Friendship, WI 53934.**

Donations will be given to the Adams-Friendship School District, Pardeeville Lions Club school supply drive, and Waushara County's Back-To-School Bash.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 13 & AUGUST 17

Stop by our Wautoma office from 8 – 11 a.m. or our Pardeeville office from 1 – 4 p.m. to chat with our general manager, John. Members may schedule an appointment to meet with John at our Friendship office as well.

AUGUST 1

Encourage educators you know to apply for our STEM Grant so they're ready for the new school year.

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Our bylaws state we must provide the annual meeting minutes to the membership via our newsletter before the minutes are approved. Members have not less than 30 days to request corrections to the minutes as published. If corrections are requested, the Board then considers any proposed corrections and may take any action that in the Board's reasonable judgment is appropriate.

The Annual Meeting of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative was held at the Pardeeville High School Lenz Auditorium on Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Board Chair Aaron Hoernke called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

The meeting was conducted in accordance with the Meeting Rules and Voting Procedures that had been adopted by the Rules Committee and provided to members prior to the meeting.

The National Anthem was played and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Director Adam Jones gave the Invocation. Safety and Environmental Coordinator Eric Johnson gave a safety message, played a safety video by Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange, and spoke about our hotline demonstration availability.

Attorney Niles Berman announced that there were 50 voting members registered at the commencement of the meeting. There were no absentee ballots or electronic votes cast for this election.

Board Secretary Gary Skolarz read the Affidavit of Notice of Annual Meeting and Proof of Mailing. The minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting had been approved by the Board prior to the meeting, as provided in the Bylaws.

General Manager West recognized the current board of directors, past directors, current and former employees, board members of Operation Round-Up, Rules Committee members, and advisory committee members. Special guests in attendance were Representative Alex Dallman, from the 41st Assembly District, Tim Clay from WECA, and Michael Greiveldinger and Brian Hood, representing Alliant Energy. General Manager West then provided highlights of 2021.

The meeting was turned over to Attorney Berman to handle the director election process. By unanimous consent, Aaron Hoernke was re-elected to District #3 and Jon Ebert was re-elected to District #5.

General Manager West took questions from the audience.

There is no unfinished business from the 2021 meeting and no new business.

Motion by James Bays and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING SUCCESS

We gladly helped members recycle their household electronics June 1-3 at each of our offices. Nearly 76,160 pounds of electronics were recycled into 13 dumpsters over the span of the three-day event, including collecting 820 TVs and monitors.

Thank you to everyone who attended these events!



SEVERE STORM STRIKES



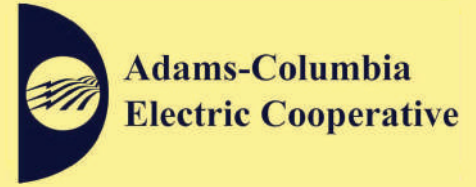
Winds gusting from 60-80 miles per hour traveled through our service area on June 15, resulting in roughly 6,300 power outages (approximately 15% of our membership). By June 16, nearly 4,500 outages were restored and outages were reduced to less than 700 by June 17.

Most of the damage included trees on power lines, broken poles and cross arms, and damage to homes requiring repair before power restoration. Great progress was made after trees were removed from power lines, power lines were put back on poles, and broken poles were changed out.

ROPE (Restoration of Power in an Emergency) was requested for additional assistance. Crews from the following cooperatives helped restore power for our members, as well as our tree trimming contractor, Zielies Tree Services.

- Clark Electric Cooperative (Greenwood)
- Eau Claire Energy Cooperative (Eau Claire)
- Riverland Energy Cooperative (Arcadia)
- Jackson Electric Cooperative (Black River Falls)
- Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (Lancaster)

We want to extend a big thank you to all members affected by these power outages for your patience and kindness while crews worked safely to restore power. We also wanted to recognize our line crews, additional line crews from ROPE, and the rest of our staff for working diligently to assist members.



CONTACT US

Customer Service & Billing
(800) 831-8629

IVR Payment
1(844) 219-1223

Power Outages
(888) 928-2232

Diggers Hotline
(800) 242-8511 or 811

Email
acec@acecwi.com

Website
www.acecwi.com

Follow us on social media
@ACECWI

Business Hours
Monday - Friday,
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friendship Lobby Hours
Monday - Friday,
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Friendship Office
P.O. Box 70
401 East Lake Street
Friendship, WI 53934

Pardeeville Office (Drop Box Only)
W6290 State Road 33
Pardeeville, WI 53954

Wautoma Office (Drop Box Only)
N1519 State Road 22
Wautoma, WI 54982

Pin point when you're using the most electricity by reviewing your daily usage in SmartHub



SAFETY MESSAGE

Keep your family safe in your home by brushing up on how to use electricity safely and by periodically giving your home an electrical checkup:

Replace missing or broken wall plates so wiring and components are not exposed.

If fuses blow or trip frequently, have a professional determine the appropriate service requirements for your home.

Make it a habit to remove a cord from the outlet by pulling on the plug rather than the cord itself.

Briefing of the Board Meeting

April 26, 2022

Board Action Items:

- Approved policies
- Director Ebert will be voting delegate for CFC, NCSC, and CRC
- Approved participating in the Cooperative System Integrity Fund
- Approved not proceeding with a member drafted letter
- Approved the proposed special general retirement for \$5.5 million
- Approved board expense vouchers
- Approved hiring Cooperative Building Solutions to provide facility planning

View the full meeting summary on our website:
www.acecwi.com/news-information/meeting-mins



Employee Spotlight

Tom Monacelli
Journeyman Line Technician

Tom is a lineman at our Wautoma office and has been employed at the co-op for nearly 15 years.

He works on a variety of jobs including installing and retiring electric services, area overhead and underground projects, changing poles, and any other service orders for the Wautoma area.

Thanks for all you do for our members, Tom!

SOUTHERN RIBS WITH SAUERKRAUT

PREP TIME - 20 MINS | COOK TIME - 4-6 HOURS

INGREDIENTS

- 6 pork southern style country ribs
- 1 27 oz can of sauerkraut
- 1/2 lb mushrooms, sliced
- 4 potatoes, quartered

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Brown the ribs either on the grill or in a frying pan, 10-15 minutes per side.
2. Layer all ingredients in a crockpot. Let it cook on low in a slow cooker for 4-6 hours and enjoy! If you don't like mushrooms, don't add them. It's just as good without them.

Recipe from Darlene Sanew of Burlington, WI

