

THE WIRE

Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • December 2022

Annual Meeting

When - Saturday, May 6, 2023

Where - McComb/Bruchs Performing Arts Center

Call for Nominations

Now's the time for action if you're interested in getting involved with your co-op! Board positions for districts 4, 6, and 7 are up for election in 2023. If you live in one of these districts, you may be eligible to join our board of directors. The process to run for a board position is done through our nomination by petition process. You must get signatures from 25 memberships (1 signature per membership), submit a photo of yourself, a paragraph explaining your background and experience, and why members should vote for you.

District 4 Townships

- Adams
- Easton
- Jackson
(north of 82)
- Lincoln
- Newton
- New Chester
- Quincy
- Springfield
- Westfield

District 6 Townships

- Baraboo
- Caledonia
- Delton
- Dell Prairie
- Douglas
- Fairfield
- Greenfield
- Jackson
(south of 82)
- Lewiston
- Newport
- New Haven
- Springville

District 7 Townships

- Beaver Dam
- Buffalo
- Bristol
- Calamus
- Columbus
- Courtland
- Elba
- Fort Winnebago
- Fountain Prairie
- Fox Lake
- Hampden
- Kingston
- Manchester
- Medina
- Marcellon
- Moundville
- Oxford
- Otsego
- Portland
- Randolph
- Scott
- Springvale
- Waterloo
- Westford
- Wyocena
- York

If you live in one of these districts and are interested in joining our board of directors, give us a call at (800) 831-8629, or email Heather Hilson at hhilson@acecwi.com for nomination papers.

Role of a Director

To learn more about what is expected of a director, time commitments, compensation, director qualifications, and other details related to being a director, visit www.acecwi.com/board-of-directors-duties-responsibilities.

Advisory Resolutions


We're also accepting advisory resolutions (ideas for the co-op to consider) for our rules committee to review and make recommendations to the board of directors. Advisory resolutions must include the member's contact information, the resolution, and any supporting comments. To learn more about advisory resolutions, visit www.acecwi.com/about-advisory-resolutions.


Deadline for Submission

All documentation related to running for the board of directors or advisory resolutions must be submitted to the co-op by **Friday, February 3**. For questions, please call (800) 831-8629.

WHY IS MY BILL HIGHER THAN MY NEIGHBORS?

We get this question often. Some members think their electric bill should be the same as their neighbors because they live in the same neighborhood, but every member’s energy needs are unique. We don’t compare our grocery bills to our neighbors because we understand that people like different food choices or have a specific budget. It’s important to understand the reason why your electric bill may vary from your neighbors.

HOUSE #1		
	<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Hobbies</u>
	2 Adults	Watching TV,
	3 Kids	Cooking,
	1 Dog	& Gaming
	<u>Heating Source</u>	<u>Age of Home</u>
	Electric Heat	Built in 1984

HOUSE #2		
	<u>Household Size</u>	<u>Hobbies</u>
	2 Adults	Gardening,
	2 Cats	Fishing, &
		Reading
	<u>Heating Source</u>	<u>Age of Home</u>
	Natural Gas & Fireplace	Built in 2010

Energy consumption comes down to a variety of factors:

- House #1 has a dog, so they may be opening or closing their exterior doors more often, resulting in hot or cold air entering the home depending on the time of year.
- House #1’s hobbies all use electricity while house #2’s hobbies use very little energy.
- House #1’s family size also indicates that their washer, dryer, and dishwasher may be running more often than house #2. How energy-efficient these appliances are makes a difference too.
- House #1’s electric heat will add a good chunk to their electric bill, versus a fireplace or natural gas heating source.
- House #1 is an older home, which may not be as insulated as a newer home. This may include air leaks. Without proper sealing and insulation, a furnace may run more than it needs to as it tries to keep the internal temperature of your home equal to what your thermostat is set at.

These quick observations show that even though these homes are neighbors, their family size, hobbies, and heating source alone play a major role in their electric bill. Remember, each member is different and has different energy needs.



Download the SmartHub app to view your daily energy usage to see when you’re consuming the most energy and to learn where you can save energy. Visit www.acecwi.com or give us a call at (800) 831-8629 to get started with SmartHub!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 7
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.

DECEMBER 23 & 26
Our office will be closed for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

JANUARY 2
Our office will be closed for New Year’s Day.

JANUARY 15
Deadline to submit applications for Operation Round-Up.

JANUARY 18
Stop by our Wautoma office from 8:30 – 10 a.m. or our Pardeeville office from 1 – 2 p.m. to chat with our general manager, John.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SOLAR EDUCATION SEMINARS



Are you interested in learning about our solar rate, details about installing a solar system, or have general questions? Attend one of our upcoming Solar Education Seminars!

January 18
Wautoma office
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
N1519 State Road 22

January 18
Pardeeville office
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
W6290 State Road 33

January 19
Friendship office
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
401 East Lake Street

Give us a call at **(800) 831-8629** or email us at **acec@acecwi.com** to RSVP for a seminar today.

ENROLL & MAKE A CHANGE

As the word gets out about the incredible impact of our Operation Round-Up program, we need your support more than ever.

Funding for this program comes from members who opt-in to round their bill up to the next dollar amount. For example, if your bill is \$98.12, your bill would be rounded up to \$99 and the \$0.88 would be donated to Operation Round-Up.

There are a few ways to enroll in Operation Round-Up:

- Enroll through your SmartHub account
- Give us a call at **(800) 831-8629**
- Email us at **acec@acecwi.com**
- Mark the box on your bill stub when mailing in a payment

CHRISTMAS CARD WINNERS

We received many fun coloring sheets from our Christmas card coloring contest. Below are the winners whose Christmas cookies have made it to the cover of our holiday card.

Thank you to the following young members of ACEC for providing their artwork:

- Ashlyn Wentz (Portage)
- Kenzie Abbrederis (Montello)
- Bryson Meyer (Wautoma)
- Meredith Hartwig (Waupaca)
- Owen Hartwig (Waupaca)
- Vincent Hartwig (Waupaca)



Adams-Columbia
Electric Cooperative

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

With SmartHub, you can add stored payment methods to make paying your bill a breeze.



SAFETY MESSAGE

As colder temperatures approach and you reach for your space heater to help you get cozy and warm, consider the potential dangers of using one. If misused, it can cause electric shock or fire. Review these safety tips to stay safe while using portable space heaters:

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn or other flammable items.
- Place them on a flat, level surface and never on furniture, counters, or carpet which can overheat.
- Don't use heaters in potentially wet areas, such as kitchens or bathrooms.

Briefing of the Board Meeting

September 27, 2022

Board Action Items:

- Approved the reappointment of the members of the rules committee for the 2023 Annual Meeting. Jones will replace Ebert as the board member
- Agreed to implement a \$200 engineering fee upfront for non-members
- Approved August expense vouchers

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



Employee Spotlight

Mike Harding
Meter Technician

Mike has been part of the ACEC team for 14 years and is part of our metering department.

"I have enjoyed working for the Cooperative for the last 14 years. If you love what you do, you will never work another day in your life. Life's a garden, dig it! You can't have no in your heart!"

Thanks for the great attitude, Mike!

NO-BAKE ENERGY BITES

PREP TIME - 20 MINS | TOTAL TIME - 30 MINS TO CHILL

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 c dark chocolate chips
- 2/3 c coconut, flaked or shredded
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 c peanut butter, smooth
- 1 c instant oats
- 1/3 c honey
- 1/4 c flaxseeds
- 1 Tbsp chia seeds

INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a large mixing bowl, mix all items. The mixture will be stiff.
2. Chill for 30 minutes or so, then roll into balls - smaller bite size, about 1 inch in diameter.

RECIPE NOTES

Store in the refrigerator in a tightly covered container, such as Tupperware. Do not freeze. Share the ingredient list with family and friends with whom you offer a taste or two, in case of any food allergies.

Recipe from Shirley Theisen of Wisconsin Dells, WI