#### SAFETY MESSAGE

Keep these lightning safety tips in mind while participating in outdoor sports this summer:

- Anyone participating in outdoor sports should have a lightning safety plan with tips on when the activity should be stopped, where people should go for safety, and when activities can resume.
- Lightning can strike up to 10 to 15 miles away from the storm. When thunder roars, go indoors.
- No place outside is safe during a storm including dugouts, sheds, or rain shelters.



Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative • July 2024

### Briefing of the Board Meeting

April 30, 2024

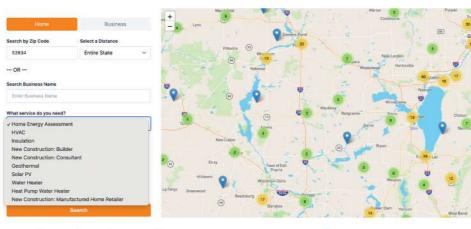
#### **Board Action Items:**

- Approved March board vouchers
- Approved resolution of appreciation for Board Director Ethan Olson and Niles Berman

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

### **FINDING A CONTRACTOR**

Are you looking to hire a contractor to install a solar system, perform work on your HVAC unit, or other home maintenance? Look no further than Focus on Energy's Trade Ally network! Trade allies will help you find rebates and incentives available through Focus on Energy.



Research contractors online: focusonenergy.com/trade-allies.



### GRILLED SHRIMP WITH CHILI COCKTAIL SAUCE

PREP TIME - 15 MINS | COOK TIME - 10 MINS

#### INGREDIENTS

- 16 jumbo shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2/3 to 3/4 c chili sauce
- 2 Tbsp horseradish
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 Tbsp hot sauce
- 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp celery seed
- Ground black pepper
- Salt
- 1 tsp paprika
- A small handful of parsley, finely chopped

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Combine chili sauce, horseradish, lemon juice, hot sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and celery seed in a bowl. Season with pepper to taste. Refrigerate until ready to use.
- 2. Heat grill to medium-high.
- 3. Dress the shrimp with olive oil, salt and pepper to taste, and paprika. Skewer the shrimp onto metal skewers and grill until the shrimp are opaque and firm, about 7-8 minutes. Drizzle shrimp with sauce or serve the sauce on the side.

Recipe from foodnetwork.com



# NEW RULING CHALLENGES ELECTRIC CO-OPS

Pictured left to right, Board Director Gary Skolarz, General Manager Jon Congdon, and Board Director Aaron Hoernke attended a legislative conference in Washington D.C. to learn about topics impacting electric cooperatives across the country and to lobby for bills that make an impact in our service area.

We're dedicated to providing you with affordable and reliable electricity. But federal regulators want to shut down reliable power sources, threatening our ability to keep your lights on.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving forward with regulations that will:

- Close always-available power plants
- Make it harder to build new plants
- Strain America's electric grid
- Increase the risk of rolling blackouts

These new rules come at the same time more electricity is needed to power our economy and everyday lives. The bottom line is we MUST prioritize rational policy that helps keep the lights on. Take action to support your local electric cooperative!

#### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Voices for Cooperative Power (VCP) is a grassroots network of electric co-op members like you, dedicated to transforming rural and suburban communities, shaping the future of local electricity, and ensuring reliable power for all Americans. Last summer, over 100,000 VCP members submitted letters to the EPA, stressing the impact the EPA's regulations would have on their co-ops and access to reliable power. We need your help again!

Join VCP and tell your members of Congress that the EPA's regulations are harmful and will affect your ability to keep the lights on. Visit **voicesforcooperativepower.com/act-now-epa** to send a letter to congress, or share it on Facebook.

The best way to overcome industry challenges is by educating our members and working with our statewide association. Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) lobbies for us in Madison on issues and bills that co-ops in the state are facing. Thanks to the hard work from WECA, a few bills that were enacted recently in Wisconsin include:

- ATVs/UTVs on roadways (Wisconsin Act 64)
- Green lights on utility vehicles (Wisconsin Act 155)
- EV charging and infrastructure (Wisconsin Act 121 & 122)
- Driver education instruction in work zones (Wisconsin Act 160)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### AUGUST 1

Deadline to apply for our STEM Grant. Encourage educators you know to take advantage of this grant opportunity so we can help them get geared up for heading back to school.

### **NEW CASH APP PAYMENT OPTION**



Available through SmartHub! Members can now make cash payments at a variety of participating local retailers throughout our service area, like Family Dollar, Kwik Trip, and other retailers. This new payment option, called Vanilla Direct, may also be referred to as a "cash app payment".

#### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- 1 Under Bill & Pay in SmartHub, choose Pay by Cash. If you have multiple accounts, be sure you select the account you want the payment to be applied to. Click "Print Barcode" on a desktop or "View Barcode" through the mobile app. A barcode will appear that is unique to your electric account. If you access SmartHub on a desktop, be sure to print off your barcode so you can bring it with you when making your payment.
- **2** Enter your zip code or full address and set your search radius to find a retailer near you.
- Once you arrive at the retailer, tell the cashier you'd like to make a cash app payment. They will scan the barcode on your mobile device or your printed barcode. Tell the cashier how much you'd like to pay. Vanilla Direct charges a \$1.50 processing fee per transaction.
- After the cashier processes your payment, you'll receive a receipt that will show a payment was made to your account and will reflect in SmartHub within a few minutes after the transaction.



If you have questions or need assistance with this payment option, contact our customer service representatives at (800) 831-8629.



### **WIN A \$25 BILL CREDIT!**

Old habits can be hard to break, but now is the perfect time to make the switch! If you're currently receiving paper bills, consider enrolling in paperless billing. Here's why:

#### \$25 BILL CREDIT

For a limited time, we're offering a chance to win one of two \$25 bill credits for any member who switches from paper billing to paperless billing. That's extra savings in your pocket! Members already enrolled are also entered to win.

#### STREAMLINE YOUR MONTHLY BILL

Say goodbye to stamps, envelopes, and logistical hassles. Paperless billing with SmartHub is user-friendly and simple. Access your account anytime, anywhere, on any connected device.

Sign up for paperless billing by August 15 and enjoy the convenience of accessing your bill statement online, while being entered to win a bill credit. If you have any questions, give us a call at (800) 831-8629 and our customer service team will assist you.



### STUFF THE BUS

Help us support our seventh cooperative principle, Concern for Community, by donating **new**, **unused school supply items**. We're accepting donations at our Friendship office, located at 401 E. Lake St., until Friday, July 26.

If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to ACEC, and write Stuff The Bus on the memo line. These donations will be used to purchase school supplies. Monetary donations may be dropped off at our Friendship office or mailed to:

ACEC Attn: Marketing P.O. Box 70 Friendship, WI 53934

Donations will be given to the following programs:

- Adams-Friendship School District
- Pardeeville Lions Club School Supply Drive
- Waushara County's Back-To-School Bash

## Items Needed:

Markers Backpacks
Highlighters Glue sticks
Pencil Pouches Notebooks
Colored Pencils Folders

Pens/Pencils Rulers
Scissors Binders

### **CO-OP CONTRACTORS**

From time to time, we work with local contractors to perform tree trimming, plow underground cables, conduct vegetation management, and much more. If you see crews from these companies on your property, know they are associated with us and are working on our behalf. The work these companies do helps us provide safe, reliable electric service for our members.

### CONSTRUCTION







A **QUANTA SERVICES COMPANY** 

TREE Trimming

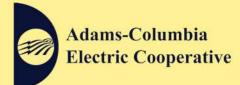


VEGETATION MANAGEMENT



INSPECTIONS & MAINTENANCE





### **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

Learn more about our Pay by Cash payment option, now available through SmartHub!



