

## From the Manager

### Great changes in store for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Members of Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.



**W**e want to remind you again of the 2015 Annual Meeting, but, we would like to inform you that there are changes this year. We have scheduled the Annual Meeting of Members to be held at the brand new Activities Building on the campus of Oil Belt Christian Service Camp in Charley Brown Park. Same park as we have always had the meeting, but you just go northwest of the fairgrounds to the Oil Belt campus.

Although the Clay County Fairgrounds has always been a wonderful place to hold the Clay Electric Annual Meeting, it has also taken several man hours, and expense to prepare for the meeting.

We were always at the mercy of good old Mother Nature when it came to the weather, be it a storm, rain, or like last year so hot it was almost unbearable.

Oil Belt has built a beautiful new facility that they have offered to rent to us. These are a few of the improvements we will have over the Fairgrounds. Ample parking near the facility, inside an air conditioned beautiful, clean facility, with clean restrooms and we may possibly have enough chairs and TABLES for all attendees to eat off of. I know you will all miss those plates on your laps, trying to cut your pork chop, or trying to avoid knocking your drink over that you had to set on the floor

while you held onto your plate, but believe me this change is for the better!

Because of scheduling issues with the church camp we will be moving the date to August 27th, 2015, instead of after Labor Day. We will still start the registration and meal at 5:15 P.M. and we will conduct the Business Meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Hope to see you all at YOUR Annual Meeting.



Ed VanHoose  
*Manager*

# Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular meeting May 26, 2015

**T**rustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Bill Croy, Neil Gould, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolph, Danny Schnepfer and Greg Smith. Also present were Executive Vice President/General Manager Ed VanHoose, and Cooperative Attorney Melanie Pearce. The invocation was given by Bob Pierson.

**Approved** the agenda as presented by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose.

**Were Reminded** by President Czyzewski, if Trustees want to address an item earlier or later than the agenda indicates, a request may be honored if made.

**Heard** a report by Trustee Pierson as to Union Contract Negotiations; said report is Approved.

**Approved** the minutes of the regular meeting held April 27, 2015.

**Accepted** 20 new members for service.

**Canceled** 16 members no longer receiving service.

**Approved** work orders in the amount of \$64,932.58 for the month of April 2015.

**Accepted** the disbursement list for the month of April 2015.

**Heard** a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to status of filling tree

trimming positions.

**Approved** execution of Resolution regarding CFC One Card.

**Heard** a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to the proposed EPA Water Rule, Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS), and the NRECA positions opposing the same.

**Heard** a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to NRECA International Foundation, whether the Board is interested in including such contribution in next year's budget. Board advised to only contribute to local contributions as budgeted.

**Heard** a report by Trustee Logan concerning the recent AIEC regular monthly meeting. Advised that AIEC President Logan will be presenting a check from ACRE on behalf of the AIEC to Senator Mark Kirk.

**Discussed** upcoming continuing education course of NRECA, and the upcoming AIEC Annual Meeting. Appointed Frank Czyzewski as AIEC Voting Delegate, and Richard Rudolph as Alternate.

**Heard** a report by Trustee Herman concerning the recent SIPC Board meeting, specifically as to financial information, outage costs, and pursuit of wet cleaning system. Said report was then Approved.

**Discussed** tentative location, dates, and times for upcoming Strategic Planning Meeting. Directed Gen. Mgr. VanHoose to arrange same and CFC to moderate at no cost.

**Heard** a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to the following;

- a. Reviewed Form 7/Operations Report with attention to line loss.
- b. Reviewed SIPC Power Bill. Informed of inquiry as to inconsistent Power Cost Adder figures.
- c. Heard a report as to recent safety meetings and the sharing with and discussion with employees, including Safety Committee minutes for April 30, 2015.
- d. Reviewed recent Federated Audit of CECI including issues/observations as noted, and that all issues/observations have been addressed.
- e. Reviewed CFC loan payment invoice.

f. Informed of USPS postage increase effective May 31, 2015 and that increase should not be dramatic to CECI.

g. Informed of upcoming Substation oil sampling, and infrared testing.

h. Informed of a member request for an irrigation system rate, and that studies and models are being done.

i. Informed of SEDC RBI Energy Bucks Program. South Eastern Data Corporation (SEDC) being Clay Electric's billing service. The program is such that members earn credits toward their utility bill. After presentation **Approved** participation in said program.

Thereafter **Approved** Managers report. **Approved** entering into Executive Session for purpose of conducting Annual Evaluation, Performance Appraisal Standards. Gen. Mgr. VanHoose leaves the room.

**Approved** returning to open session. Gen. Mgr. VanHoose returns.

**Discussed** evaluation results and Salary Survey. **Approved** wage adjustment to Gen. Mgr. VanHoose.

**Reviewed** Nominating Process for Trustee Elections.

**Reviewed** Annual Engineer Certification.

**Reviewed** Certificate of Liability Insurance of United Power Services, Inc.

**Reported** discovery of old CECI truck.


**Reviewed** Thank you cards and letters from Clay County Extensions Program for 2015 Conservation Field Day presentation by Operations Manager Luke Johnson, and response from Illinois Senator Dale Righter as to Thank you letter to him for his involvement and presentation to AIEC Youth Day participants Bobby Wicke, Lexi Harrison, Parker Moses, and Doug Hockman.

**Discussed** upcoming States Attorney Appointment pertaining to current Cooperative Attorney Pearce.

**Informed** of portable building purchased by Clay County Water, and arrangement with CECI to locate building on Cooperative property.

**Adjournment.**

## Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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[www.ceci.coop](http://www.ceci.coop)  
[www.facebook.com/ceci.coop](https://www.facebook.com/ceci.coop)



# Clay Electric does not endorse insurance company

Every so often, Clay Electric Co-operative members receive, via US mail, a solicitation for insurance for "Rural Cooperative Members." Reserve National Insurance has used direct mail, telephone, and in-person direct marketing to target rural Illinoisans, many of which happen to be cooperative members.

Their marketing efforts imply they have an affiliation with electric cooperatives. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the AIEC have requested the company stop making these statements.

Recipients of the mail offer would have to read the fine print on the enclosed insurance questionnaire to read, "The insurance plan is independent of, and not affiliated, associated, or endorsed by any national electric association or any local Farmers, Electric, Telephone or other rural-co-operative. This insurance plan is individually underwritten by Reserve National Insurance Company."

Because the mailing has been recently sent again and Clay Electric members have called the office confused by the offer, we felt it appropriate to make it perfectly clear that the Illinois electric cooperatives, including Clay Electric Co-operative, do not endorse Reserve National Insurance, nor is there any connection with the company and its insurance products.

## RURAL CO-OPERATIVE MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Casey S. Grossner,

We are currently gathering information to verify interest in a Health Insurance Plan that can also help provide optional coverage for **Outpatient Expenses** such as **Preventive Care, Doctor Office Calls, Outpatient Hospital Services, X-Rays, EKG's and Chiropractor Office Calls.**

To this end we would appreciate your cooperation in filling out the short questionnaire below. A postage paid envelope has been provided for its return.

Thank you very much for your assistance. We hope that the results of this questionnaire will assist in formulating affordable medical coverage.

- Are you currently covered under a medical insurance plan?  Yes  No
- Do you have Dental & Vision coverage?  Yes  No  
If yes, does your Doctor or Dentist have to be within your provider's network?  Yes  No
- In terms of Hospital and Medical coverage, how would you rate your policy?  
 Good  Moderate  Poor
- Does your present policy help pay for **Outpatient Expenses** such as **Doctor Office Calls, X-Rays, EKG's, Chiropractor Office Calls, Outpatient Hospital Services and Preventive Care?**  
 Yes  No

Competitive Insurance plans are now available to small business owners, individuals and retirees, as well as rural Co-operative Members in Sangamon County, (often with savings up to 25%!\*)

- Would you be interested in additional information about these "Reasonably Priced" Health Insurance Plans that can provide optional Outpatient Coverage?  
 Very Interested  Interested  Somewhat Interested

Please return this questionnaire in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Your prompt response is appreciated.

(Please print clearly)


NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE FILL OUT BELOW, IF DIFFERENT FROM ADDRESS AT RIGHT.


STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_



**CONTROL # 00228680KD7CLMO1**

7\_002286\*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 62515  
Casey S. Grossner  
Or Current Resident  
12314 Johns Creek Rd  
Loami IL 62661-3148  


C-RAL51-1201-L \*Based on a review made by the Company. Actual savings may vary. Policy forms ACS-1 with ACS-OP, and SD-1, and DV-1. Form numbers and availability may vary by state.

This insurance plan is independent of and not affiliated, associated or endorsed by any national electric association or any local Farmers, Electric, Telephone or other rural cooperative. This insurance plan is individually underwritten by Reserve National Insurance Company. A Company agent may contact you with details about benefits, costs, limitations, exclusions and renewability.

In addition, Clay Electric does not sell or rent its membership database to any outside party. If you have any questions regarding the

insurance mail offer, you may contact Clay Electric at 662-2171 or 1-800-582-9012.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Periodically inspect your dryer vent to ensure it is not blocked. This will save energy and may prevent fire. Manufacturers recommend using a rigid venting material - not plastic vents that may collapse and cause blockages

Source: Energy.gov



# Youth To Washington

**P**arker Moses of Flora represented Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. in Washington, D.C., during the annual "Youth to Washington" Tour, June 12-19. This event, sponsored by the electric and telephone cooperatives of Illinois since the late 1950s, is an introduction for rural youth to our democratic form of government and the cooperative business model.

Moses met with Congressman John Shimkus and was among 65 rural Illinois youth leaders selected for the trip. The Illinois students joined more than 1,660 young leaders from across the country from 44 states. In addition to the Capitol, they also visited Gettysburg, Arlington National Cemetery, the Washington National Cathedral, several Smithsonian Museums, The U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the World War II Memorial, memorials to Presidents Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington and Roosevelt, the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, the Newseum and a number of other historical sites.

Juniors in high schools, that are



children of parent(s) that are Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. members, are eligible to participate in the annual program.

Here are some of the sights Parker got to visit while on the Tour, along with having the chance to meet with Congressman John Shimkus.

## New Employees

**A**fter lengthy studies and discussion, the Clay Electric Co-operative Board of Directors made the decision to hire our own tree trimming, line clearance crew, instead of using contract trimmers. The Cooperative already owned their own chipper and we purchased a used Basket/Chipper Box Truck. Two new employees were hired for trimming and line clearance only.

The two new employees are (left) Ryan Wiles, and (right) Chris Roberts. Ryan and his wife Dawn live in Flora and have 2

children. Ryan recently worked for a contract tree trimming company. Chris and his wife Jessica live in rural Flora and have 2 children. Chris was employed at a local industry in Flora.

Clay Electric has had an aggressive line clearing program for the past 10 years and has made great strides reducing outages, and line loss from trees contacting power lines. If you have trees or limbs in contact or near primary power lines, that



you think could create a hazard or outage please contact the Cooperative office at 662-2171 or toll free 1-800-582-9012.