

Clay ELECTRIC News

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

7784 Old Hwy. 50 ■ P.O. Box 517 ■ Flora, Illinois 62839 ■ www.ceci.coop ■ 618/662-2171 ■ 800/582-9012

From the Manager



Luke Johnson
CEO

I would like to thank all our members who were able to attend our 75th Annual Meeting last month. As a cooperative, we exist to serve our membership and it's through hearing from you that we find the right direction to move in. We appreciate all our members taking time out of their lives to come learn about their cooperative and voting for the directors that will lead us forward. You are Clay Electric Co-operative.

We have had a good response to our Co-op Connections program, but it can always be better. I

invite you to check out our Co-op Connections Corner each month as we spotlight local businesses that partner with us to give our membership discounts on goods and services. Our Co-op Connections Card has gone digital, with a new app available on Apple and Android devices. With the new app, you can search for local discounts, book hotel and concert reservations through iBennie, receive prescription discounts, earn cash back and more! We encourage our members to download the app and start saving today. If you are a local business that would like to take part in this free program, please email us at CoopConnections@ceci.coop. We look forward to working with you!

Our state has many programs that incentivize renewable energy and green initiatives. As your cooperative, it is our business to help you get the best benefit you can from any

energy endeavor. If you have been approached by a renewable energy company, have been researching renewables or simply have questions, please don't hesitate to call us. We are here for our membership to help you find the best answers to your situation. We are happy to work with solar installers on member-owned generation systems. **13968-001** The most important thing I can stress to you, our members, is that communication is key. Please let us answer questions and help you make the best decision for you.

As you flip through your center section, keep your eyes peeled for your member number. There are three member numbers hidden in Clay Electric News. If you find your number and give us a call you win \$5 off your next bill!

DRIVE ELECTRIC

Ask your cooperative if an electric car is right for you.

The average electric vehicle can save a driver who drives 15,000 miles in a year about \$850 annually on fuel. All-electric vehicles start to pay for themselves a long time before they reach the end of their expected lifespans, leading to significant savings over time. -Fleet Carma





Co-op Connections®

Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

CO-OP CONNECTIONS CORNER



Clay Electric Co-operative is proud to announce the new Co-op Connections app for your Apple or Android device. You may remember the Co-op Connections discount card. While the discount card will still be available and accepted by our partners, the new digital app has improved usability. With the app you can find local deals, book hotel rooms through our partnership with iBennie, earn cash back and more.

We would like to take a moment to thank our member businesses for partnering with us to provide you with discounts. This corner of our center section will be dedicated to highlighting the businesses that work with us to provide tremendous services and discounts to our membership.

If you are a business owner interested in partnering with Clay Electric Co-operative, please call our office at 618-662-2171 or email CoopConnections@ceci.coop.

There is no cost to the program. We help our members connect

with local businesses and get some great discounts. It's a win-win.



Anthony's Wild West opened in 2006 on Main Street in Flora. Anthony's features pizza, BBQ, sandwiches and more on a delightful menu. A full bar is available in the back at the Fallout Saloon. The restaurant is open Monday-Saturday and the attached Fallout Saloon is open every day. You can enjoy food, drinks and video gaming at Anthony's Wild West at 107 E. North Ave in Flora. Give them a call at 618-662-2400 or check them out online at www.anthonyswildwest.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/anthonyswildwest.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Cookware Tip:

Copper-bottomed pans heat faster on the stove. In the oven, ceramic and glass dishes are better than metal. With ceramic and glass dishes, you can turn the oven down about 25 degrees, and your meal will cook just as quickly.

Source: energy.gov



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Office hours:
7:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

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Farmers: Remember electrical safety this harvest season

In 2017, farmers ranked eighth in the list of the most dangerous jobs (civilian jobs with highest fatality rates) according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics/U.S. Dept. of Labor. Unfortunately, farmers, ranchers and other agricultural managers rank right below other hazardous jobs such as logging, roofing, and steel work.

It is no wonder farmers make that list. As agriculturists are well-aware, many dangers are present in their long and arduous workdays.

Safe Electricity and **Clay Electric Co-operative** remind farmers that accidents related to power and electricity are also possible but, in most cases, they can be prevented. Especially during the busy harvest season, take the following steps to decrease the chances of an electrical-related incident:

- Always use a spotter when operating large machinery near lines.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines — at all times, in all directions.
- Inspect the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Always lower extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance. **12058-001**
- If a power line is sagging or low, call us right away.
- If your equipment does hit a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait for the utility crew to cut the power.

Although harvest season is a time filled with tight deadlines and heightened work stress, take the time to consider electrical safety. It could save your life or the lives of others.

For more information about electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org.

HARVEST SAFETY TIPS FOR FARMWORKERS

Maintain a 10-foot clearance around all utility equipment in all directions.

Use a spotter and deployed flags to maintain safe distances from power lines and other equipment when doing field work.

If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, contact us immediately by phone and remain inside the vehicle until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab, without touching it at the same time, and hop away to safety.

Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle. Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipe and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.

Source: Safe Electricity

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting

July 22, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. (CECI) was held at the Clay Electric Co-operative Headquarters, Flora, Illinois beginning at 7:00 o'clock p.m. on Monday, July 22, 2019.

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Kevin Logan, Bill Croy, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolphi, Neil Gould, Danny Schnepfer, and Frank Herman. Greg Smith was absent. Also present were: Luke Johnson, CEO, Tyra Cycholl, Attorney for the Board, and Sydney Rudolphi, Shelby Cailteux, and Malorie Craig. The meeting was opened by Richard Rudolphi, who presided and Bob Pierson, Secretary, acted as secretary thereof.

The invocation was given by Frank Czyzewski, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

The following proceedings were had [all action being first duly moved and seconded, and all action taken being upon the unanimous vote of the Board or without dissenting vote of abstention unless otherwise stated]:

HEARD, from Sydney Rudolphi, Shelby Cailteux, and Malorie Craig about the Youth to Washington trip. The youth thanked the Board for the experience. Thereafter, Sydney Rudolphi, Shelby Cailteux and Malorie Craig left the meeting.

APPROVED, the Suggested Agenda.

APPROVED, the Consent Agenda including the following:

- **APPROVED**, the prior meeting minutes;
- (a) to admit to membership those 13 applicants connected for service since the last such review by the board, and (b) cancel those 13 former members shown on the

Manager's Report since the last such review by the Board, said members no longer taking service;

- **APPROVED**, the Balance Sheet;
- **APPROVED**, the Work Orders;
- **APPROVED**, the Disbursements;
- **APPROVED**, the Credit Card Statements;
- **REVIEWED**, the Attorney Retainer; **8658-002**
- **REVIEWED**, the Federated member update;
- **REVIEWED**, the Account Summary Report;
- **REVIEWED**, the CFC Report from the Board;
- **APPROVED**, the Insurance Certificate of Windstream;
- **REVIEWED**, the NCSC Report from the Board;
- **REVIEWED**, the CRC Report from the Board.

APPROVED, the deceased estates.

APPOINTED, Kevin Logan as the CFC Delegate for District 5 meeting and Bob Pierson as the alternate.

DISCUSSED, Solar Policies 600-2 and 600-3.

- **APPROVED**, researching a change in Policies to adopt the avoided cost model for all renewable energy.

REVIEWED, the NRECA Region 5 and 6 meeting to be held in Milwaukee.

REVIEWED, the KRTA Report for 2018, 2017 and 2016.

HEARD, a report from Frank Herman and Luke Johnson regarding the SIPC Meeting.

HEARD, a report by Kevin Logan regarding AIEC Financials as there was no meeting.

REVIEWED, the Board Training 918.1.

WERE INFORMED, of the AIEC Annual Meeting July 31, August 1 and 2.

REVIEWED the AIEC Annual Meeting agenda.

HEARD, a financial report by Luke Johnson as to the following:

- June 2019 Form 7;
- June 2019 Balance Sheet;
- June 2019 Cash Flow;
- SIPC Power Delivered in June 2019 dated July 8, 2019;
 - June 2019 Power Factor;
 - June Power Cost Adder;
- June Line Loss;
- Monthly Reconciliation.

HEARD, a Safety Report for the month of July.

REVIEWED, the Monday morning safety meeting sheet dated July 12, 2019.

HEARD and **APPROVED**, the Manager's report by Luke Johnson on the following topics.

- June Operations Report;
- Ameren Clearance Issues;
- Ameren Agreement;
- Communications Report;
- Upcoming meetings

REVIEWED, the June Operations Report.

DISCUSSED, Ameren Clearance Issues and Ameren Agreement regarding the same.

REVIEWED, the Communications Report.

WERE REMINDED, of upcoming meetings on August 26, 2019, September 23, 2019 and October 28, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the Clay Board Room and the 75th Annual Meeting August 22, 2019 at 5 p.m. for registration and the business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, said meeting was declared adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Every month we will have three member numbers hidden throughout Clay Electric News. If you find your member number that corresponds to the one found on the upper right corner of your bill, call our office and identify your number and the page it's on. If correct, you will win a \$5 credit on your next electric bill.