

Illinois Country Living

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From the Manager

It's that time of year again. Your cooperative's annual meeting is just around the corner. Now, I know for sure I'm going to see some of you this year. And, for those who make it a point to attend every year, thank you! It's great to see you exercise your right as a member-owner of Clay Electric.

After all, this is your annual meeting.

It's a chance for you to get to help make the decisions that guide your

cooperative in its operations. You will get a chance to vote on directors and even interact with your cooperative staff on a more personal level than normal. And, of course, you will get a great meal and a chance to win some fabulous prizes.

We'll even give you \$10 just for attending!

How cool is that?

If you haven't attended in the past, I want to extend a personal invitation for you to do so this year. We would love for you to come and see what being a part of a cooperative is all about.



Oh! There's going to be a special announcement this year too.

You won't want to miss it.

So, I'll see you August 25th at the Oil Belt Christian Service Camp Activities Building.



Ed VanHoose
Manager

Official Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the 72nd Annual Meeting of the Members of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held on Thursday, August 25, 2016 at Oil Belt Christian Service Camp Activities Building, in Charley Brown Park, Old Highway 50 West, Flora, Illinois.

Registration and serving of the meal will begin at 5:15 p.m. The

business meeting will be called to order at 6:30 p.m. to take action on the following:

1. Call of the roll.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the

members and the taking of necessary action thereon.

4. Presentation and consideration of and acting upon reports of officers, trustees and committee.
5. Election of trustees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

Events planned for your 2016 Annual Meeting

AIR EVAC LIFETEAM

AIR EVAC will have a Representative, and if available, may land a helicopter and crew on the property. They will have an information booth set up to fill you in on the latest way to pay your membership dues through Clay Electric. Your Cooperative allows its monthly residential members to pay \$5 per month extra on their electric bill, or you may elect to pay one-time annual dues, and save money to join the AJR EVAC LIFETEAM.

HEALTH FAIR

We will be offering again this year a mini health fair conducted by the Clay County Health Department and the Clay County Hospital. There will be blood pressure checks, grip strength, and body fat composition checks. There will also be Educational Material on Cardiac Health Awareness, Senior Services, Nutrition, Home Health and Hospice, and Pediatric Safety will also be available.

GRAND PRIZES

Five \$100 bill credits and various other amounts will be given away this year, to be used toward September electric bills. You must be present and registered, to be eligible to win. Those members attending and registering for the Annual Meeting will be given a \$10 bill credit toward their September electric bill.



Clay Electric Co-Operative, Inc. Annual Meeting Of The Members August 27, 2015

The Annual meeting of the members of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at Oil Belt Camp Christian Service Camp, 555 Park Rd., in Flora, Illinois beginning at 6:15 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2015.

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Czyzewski who welcomed the members to the 71st Annual Meeting. The National Anthem was played and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Czyzewski. Thereafter, Frank Czyzewski introduced Carrol Ross who gave the invocation. Secretary, Greg Smith, acted as secretary of the meeting.

President Czyzewski then introduced the members of the Cooperative's Board of Directors. Trustees present were: Neil Gould, District 1; Frank Czyzewski, District 2; Kevin Logan, District 3; Richard Rudolphi, District 4; Danny Schnepfer, District 5; Greg Smith, District 6; Bill Croy, District 7; Bob Pierson, District 8; and Frank Herman, District 9.

President Czyzewski then introduced certain guests: Illinois State Representative David Reis; from Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Todd Gallenbach; Wabash Telephone Cooperative, Inc. marketing staff; Air Evac as represented by Chris Rogers; representatives from the Clay County Hospital and Clay County Health Department; and from AIEC, Duane Noland, President and CEO.

President Czyzewski invited Duane Noland of Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) to briefly address the membership. Mr. Noland stressed the importance of political activism and urged the individual members to contact their legislators to voice support for an "All of the Above" energy strategy that considered affordability and efficiency in legislative and administrative policies and rules.

President Czyzewski then called upon Melanie Pearce, Attorney for the Cooperative, to conduct the business portion of the meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously adopted authorizing the use of the official registration list showing those persons present at said meeting, which list is attached to these minutes in lieu of a formal roll call. Attorney Pearce declared that there was a quorum present, there being Two Hundred and Eighty-Four (284) members present in person.

Attorney Pearce read aloud the notice of the annual meeting and the proof of mailing thereof to all members of the Cooperative.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved the minutes of the Annual meeting of the members at the 70th Annual Meeting of the Members in 2014 as distributed to the members present in the 2015 Annual Meeting booklet, without a formal reading thereof.

Attorney Pearce advised that the annual reports of the President and Secretary-Treasurer would not be read aloud but would be submitted as printed in the annual meeting booklet for approval, where upon a motion was duly made, seconded, and unanimously adopted to approve said reports as printed.

Attorney Pearce read from Article III, Section 3(f) of the bylaws governing election of Trustees where only one Petition for Nomination for Trustee is submitted for a Trusteeship position. Attorney Pearce noted that only one Petition for Nomination for Trustee was submitted for each of the three Trusteeship positions to be elected, and that the Secretary had determined that each of the three candidates was qualified and their Petitions in order. Attorney Pearce declared that those three persons so nominated are duly elected to serve three year terms as directors. Those directors are: Richard Rudolphi for District 4; Danny Schnepfer for District 5; and Bill Croy for District 7.

Attorney Pearce then called for new business and then for old business; there being none, upon a motion being duly made, seconded, and unanimously

adopted, the business portion of meeting was declared adjourned.

Thereafter, the meeting was turned over to President Czyzewski, who called upon Ed VanHoose, General Manager to give his Manager's report. Manager VanHoose introduced himself and his family, then expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the Board, membership, and his family. Manager VanHoose also expressed appreciation to the catering service and then to the CECI staff for their hard work and dedication. Manager VanHoose then advised the membership that CECI was in good financial condition that he anticipated no rate increase. Manager VanHoose advised the membership of the strong skills held by cooperative staff and the remarkable number of years of experience the staff had collectively accumulated. Manager VanHoose also advised the membership that its Board was active and learned, and attended trainings to maintain or advance their knowledge. Manager VanHoose described to the membership the various challenges faced by CECI and the electric cooperative industry as a whole, such as environmental regulations and cost of power. Manager VanHoose clarified that CECI is not anti-environment, but is pro-common sense, insofar as pursuing a strategy for generation of affordable energy. Manager VanHoose discussed his desire to upgrade communication efforts and mediums, such as through Facebook, proactive texting and calls to the membership of outage details, bill tracking, website maintenance, and the ability for members to mobile report to CECI headquarters of outages and problems. In conclusion, Manager VanHoose once again offered his gratitude to the Board and membership and advised he would do his best in serving them. Thereafter, Manager VanHoose called on Doug Hockman to give out door prizes. There being no further business to come before the Board, said meeting was declared adjourned at 7:08p.m.

Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular meeting May 23, 2016

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

Approved the agenda as presented and amended by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose.

Reviewed fuel bids from area fuel vendors. Approved lowest bid submitted by South Central FS. Informed that we will have to renew bidding process in December with all potential vendors.

Approved the minutes of the regular meeting held April 25, 2016. Accepted 9 new members for service.

Canceled 4 members no longer receiving service.

Heard a report by Board President Frank Czyzewski that due to FEMA position as to providing aid, CECI must adjust expenses related to prior storm damage, thereafter, Rescinded approval of work orders for last month in the amount. Subsequently, Approved work orders for April, 2016 as adjusted in the amount of \$104,644.71. Also Approved a list of work orders in the amount of \$27,277.68.

Approved the disbursement list for April, 2016. Approved London

Witte Group audit invoice. Approved continued support of CFC Integrity Fund.

Reviewed Notice of Annual Meeting of United Utility Supply and supplement Certification of Voting Delegate form; Board declines to attend.

Heard a report from Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to NRECA legislative news.

Heard a report from Trustee Logan as to the NRECA 2016 Legislative Conference.

Heard a report by Trustee Herman concerning the recent SIPC Board meeting specifically financial information, safety report, upcoming Strategic Planning, Member loads and corresponding rates, construction projects and system outages, power production, and environmental regulations. Reviewed Committee Meeting date 5/20/16 -Monthly Highlights. Informed SIPC Rating Reaffirmed Reviewed S&P Global Ratings credit rating summary. Reviewed SIPC Rate Adjustment Notice dated May 6, 2016.

Heard a report by Trustee Logan as to most recent AIEC meeting, specifically as to Financial information, proposed annual budget, ACRE report, Managers report, Annual Meeting planning, Committee report, legislative update, scheduling of Strategic Planning sessions, status of Bolivia Project, status of solar installations. Informed of next regular AIEC meeting. Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to Southwestern Electric in the news and State of Illinois delinquent accounts disconnected by them.

Appointed Frank Czyzewski, and Richard Rudolphi as Voting Delegate and Alternate for the upcoming AIEC Annual Meeting.

Informed by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose that AIEC is requesting details as to attendees of AIEC Annual Meeting and various seminars.

Approved entering into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Approved entering into Open Session.

After Review of 2016 CEO Salary Survey, Approved CEO educational reimbursement of tuition for upcoming academic year.

Informed as to confirmation of follow

up with roof repair and other office building issues. Heard a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as to the following;

a. **Reviewed** Form 7/Operations Report, with a caveat that said form is incorrect due to recent computer issues and figures reviewed are overestimated.

b. **Reviewed** April cash flow report.

c. **Reviewed** SIPC April power bill.

d. **Reviewed** April power factor.

e. **Reviewed** April power cost adder.

f. **Reviewed** US Bank March and April Credit Card statements.

g. **Reviewed** Financial Trend Analysis for April and were reminded that the figures are skewed due to computer issues.

Heard Managers report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose as follows:

a. **Heard** a safety report and Reviewed attendance record for the CECI Training and Safety Meeting held April 29, 2016 discussing Pole Top and Bucket Truck Rescue.

b. **Reviewed** CRC Utilization report, noting the usefulness of the service during the storm outage.

c. **Heard** of adjoining real estate property for sale and Approved Gen. Mgr. VanHoose negotiating for purchase of said property with a maximum allowable figure.

d. **Heard** of a recent incident at the Lola Substation that CECI would be submitting a claim to Federated Rural Electric Insurance for possible reimbursement.

e. **Reviewed** Aclara Server Database Proposal and Acceptance Form.

f. **Reviewed** SEDC Utilization Report

g. **Reviewed** CFC Solutions Bulletin, Gen. Mgr. VanHoose advises Board that CFC does not qualify as a vendor for purposes of FEMA conflict of interest/ethics standards.

Thereafter said Managers Report was **Approved**.

Reminded that Nominating Petitions for Districts I, III, and IX were available

Reviewed Thank You card from Cooperative Attorney Pearce.

Approved the retirement of Capital Credits to the estate of one Deceased Member pursuant to Cooperative Policy.

Disbursed Liability Insurance Certificate of United Power Services, Inc.

Adjournment.

Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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