



Annual Meeting Highlights NEW TECHNOLOGY, NEW SERVICES

By James Anderson,
General Manager/CEO

Our 81st Annual Meeting saw a lot of information come to our membership.

The meeting was held April 27, with about 200 members in attendance. The message from your board of directors and management was a common one. We will work hard to make sure that you are getting important and timely information about what is happening at JREC and how it will impact you, our member-owner.

Long-Term Stabilization of Rates Members learned that long-term rate stabilization is the number-one goal of Jump River Electric Cooperative. More new technology is being applied to our electrical system to provide more cost-efficient power and reliability. JREC will not increase rates in 2019. Efficiencies and system modernization are helping avoid passing along an increase in Dairyland Power Cooperative wholesale rates to you.

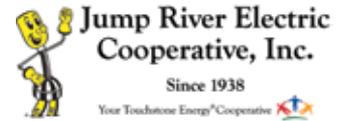
LCO Easement Resolution The government shutdown did stall our momentum as the Bureau of Indian Affairs was not able to mediate our contract with the Lac Courte Oreilles

(LCO). The good news is that the issues with the LCO are back on track to a mutually beneficial solution.

New Technology and Services New technology is now coming online to provide you with access to your account along with daily usage information, enabling members to better manage their own costs. The new billing software system allows for multiple billing cycles to better match the co-op's revenue stream to costs.

Our Community Cents program is getting ready to move forward. Soon you will have the opportunity to round up your power bill to help benefit our communities and members. The metering system upgrade is nearing completion, and we credit our aggressive right-of-way clearing for reliability topping 99 percent in 2018.

Power Cost Adjustment Restored The PCA has been restored, allowing the cooperative to pass on direct charges and credits from our power supplier. The PCA was used this past December to return your portion of excess margins to you instead of retaining them for 30 years as capital credits. I am happy to report that the co-op returned almost \$767,000 to our members last year between our capital credit retirement and excess margins.



MY CO-OP



We saw lots of smiling members at our annual meeting, including former JREC director John Kmosena, pictured with General Manager Jim Anderson at far left. John was just days away from celebrating his 100th birthday!





Other Highlights President & CEO Barb Nick from Dairyland Power Cooperative, our generation and transmission provider, gave a very good look into the future of our power supply and the issues we are facing.

Linda Powers from River Valley Architects briefed the membership on the proposed plans to replace the Ladysmith headquarters—built in 1952—with a new, more energy-efficient, self-contained facility on the existing site. This facility would also host a community room. Members asked numerous questions of the directors and staff as well as our guest speakers after the presentations. I will be giving you more detailed information in my next message.

Voting Results You (our member-owners) approved a resolution to the Bylaws that will allow for electronic voting in the future; this will allow more member-owners to have voting access. Members rejected an advisory resolution urging sale or lease of the Hayward office with proceeds earmarked to minimize rate hikes. However, your cooperative is actively pursuing renting a portion of the office.

Myron Brooks and Walter Kruk were uncontested in their bids for re-election. One new director was elected as Lori Taguma was defeated by Jason Weaver in a close race. I would like to thank Lori for her service and wish her well.

The director reorganization meeting, held at the following board meeting, retained the lineup of officers: Carow continues as president; Kruk, vice president; and Joe Lorence, secretary-treasurer.

And the winner is... Eight members, in attendance, heard their name announced as they won one of the seven \$100 energy credits as well as the one grand prize of a \$500 energy credit. Those lucky winners were: Don and Dorothy Stevens



Guest speaker was Barb Nick (above left), president & CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative. Members also heard from JREC General Manager/CEO Jim Anderson (above right), and they had a chance to speak themselves and ask questions of all the annual meeting presenters (left).

and Florence Selonke of Glen Flora, Richard and Donna Gilbertson and Jackson Reader of Hayward, Michelle Cyr of Ladysmith, Tom and Susan van Doorn of Tony, and Kenneth Winger of Sheldon. Winning the grand prize were Wayne and Betty Blumenstein of Westboro.

All members walked away as winners as they received a \$10 energy credit and door prize as they exited the building. Thank you to all who took time to be involved in this year's annual meeting.

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAYS

FUN! FOOD! GAMES!

Where can you find all of that in one location? At our Member Appreciation Days picnic! Not only will there be good food, but you can have fun playing a friendly game of corn hole with your friends and neighbors. Our picnic lunch will include brats and hot dogs, baked beans, chips, soda, coffee, milk, and of course, a soft-serve ice cream cone. Food will be served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at each of the following locations:

June 26 – Jump River Community Center/Park

June 27 – Hayward Office, Hayward

June 28 – Ladysmith Office, Ladysmith



REGISTER FOR PRIZES

COLLECTION AND DISCONNECTION OF ENERGY ACCOUNTS

As we move to our new billing system, the process for handling past due accounts will change along with our billing cycle.

Effective June 1, 2019, our billing date will change to the first of the month and will be due on the 16th of the month. If the current bill is not paid on or before the 16th of the month, a 1.5 percent penalty will be added to the bill.

If the current month's bill is not paid by the first of next month, the next bill will show a past-due balance that is due immediately. If the previous balance is not paid by the due date of that new bill, a disconnection notice will be sent.

If electric service is disconnected for nonpayment, the past-due balance must be paid in addition to any current and unbilled electricity up to the date and time of disconnection. Additional charges are also applied including disconnection/reconnection fees as well as a delinquent deposit. All the past-due electricity, current and unbilled electricity, disconnection/reconnection fees, and the delinquent deposit must be paid prior to reconnection of service.

If you are unable to pay your past-due bill in full, please contact your Health and Human Services Office. The phone numbers for the offices in each county served by the cooperative are as follows: Chippewa 715-726-7840, Rusk 715-532-2299, Sawyer 715-634-4806, LCO Energy Assistance Program 715-634-8934, and Taylor 715-748-3332. For further assistance, please contact the Farm Center at 800-942-2474. We recommend you contact these agencies as soon as possible, as guaranteed arrangements must be made to stop a disconnection of electric service.

Because we are moving to a shorter collection cycle, past-due accounts receive a disconnection notice and will be subject to disconnection faster than in the past.

Options to make payments have also been expanded to include:

- You can use SmartHub, our new online payment service, for a one-time or automatic credit/debit card or electronic bank drafts. SmartHub can be accessed via the mobile app or at our website.
- You can pay in the office with cash, check, credit card, money orders, etc.
- You can place your payment in the drop box in front of each office.
- You can pay over the phone with a debit/credit card or by check. The toll-free number is 1-888-255-6489.
- You can also pay on our website with our Pay Now option without having to set up an online account.

Submitted by JREC Billing Department



JREC Receives Large Business Award

In April, JREC General Manager/CEO Jim Anderson (right) and Brad Foss of Dairyland Power (left) accepted the 2019 Rusk County Large Business Award on behalf of each cooperative. This award was presented by Andy Albarado on behalf of the Lady-smith Industrial Development Corporation and the Rusk County Economic Development.

SAVE \$15 ON YOUR ENERGY BILL

There are a lot of great reasons to sign up for ACH (Automated Clearing House) and have your bill automatically withdrawn each month from your checking or savings account. But in June and July, we're adding one more reason: a \$15 energy credit. That's right, we are paying you to pay us. This one-time credit will be applied to your next energy bill.



Signing up is easy. Go to www.jrec.com and click on the Pay Bill Online button, which will re-direct you to SmartHub. Remember, you will need your email address, new JREC account number, and banking information when you sign-up. This new account number will be listed on your June bill.



**Thinking about
going back to
school?**

JREC has continuing education scholarships available for non-traditional students. Go to www.jrec.com to learn more. Deadline is June 15, so hurry!



FIND IT AT JREC.COM

As most people celebrate June as June Dairy Month, we wanted to feature a program that is available to dairy farmers. The program is called Safety First Farm Rewiring Program, and it is a loan/grant combination of up to \$30,000. Find more details on this program under the Programs & Services tab.



SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!

The refrain "I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream" will be heard at JREC's Ladysmith headquarters, June 12 and 13, as we celebrate June Dairy Days by giving out free soft-serve ice cream cones from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.



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LOOK UP AND LIVE

Watch For Overhead Lines!

"Farming can be a dangerous job. One of the hazards is contact with electrical equipment. Be aware of the location of overhead lines and green electrical enclosures when working outside."

Sam Howard, Operations Manager



James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

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JREC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Denise Zimmer, Editor



Jump River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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