

**THE ELECTRIC COMPANY THAT
DOESN'T STOP AT YOUR METER**

Butler REC NEWS

FROM THE MANAGER

Annual Meeting & Regulatory Update

It's hard to believe that it is already February, which means that this year's Annual Meeting is just around the corner. On March 15, the annual meeting will again be held at the Circle High School in Towanda for the fifth year.

We will be sending out the meeting notice and reports in this section of the March issue of *Kansas Country Living* magazine. We have invited Steve Parr, the Executive Vice President and CEO of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo), our generation and transmission co-operative, to update you on the electric utility industry and the effects government regulation is having on your electric bills.

Regulatory Update

As promised, I would like to update you on the Cross State Air Pollution regulations and their enforcement by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The US Appeals Court in Washington, D.C., stayed the implementation of the Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) which was due to go into effect January 1, 2012. They will take briefs and look to an April 2012 date to bring the issues to the court. This is good news for our industry as we work to implement environmental rules as economically as possible and in a reasonable time frame. Now we must continue to hope that the court will ultimately rule to allow this to happen.

In December, the Board approved the cooperative's budget for 2012. The process included significant discussions and evaluations of the cooperative's many services. As we all know, the economy is still slow and times are

tough for many of our members. Some may have been laid-off and others may be struggling to make ends meet. We continue to hold the line on expenses as much as possible.

Much of this year's focus will be on the regulations placed on our industry by the current Administration and its Agencies. With this being an election year we are hopeful that some of the extreme regulatory rules will be delayed. But we are still concerned about the electric cost increases that could be driven by the EPA and other regulations. We are very much concerned, because the EPA never considers the costs you pay for electricity when it mandates emission controls. Those costs in many cases are more than the generating plants cost to build in the first place. Regulatory costs simply become a by-product of their decisions.

Holiday Refund

I hope that you noticed the holiday refund on your December electric bill. Your management team and Board of Trustees worked very hard to overcome some of the red tape that stood in the way of making the refund happen.

If by chance you didn't notice the credit, please contact the office and we can tell you how much refund you received on your bill. From the comments received from your fellow cooperative members I think it was much appreciated, especially around Christmas time.

I would like to personally thank all of you for your support of the cooperative during this past year. More information on the Annual Meeting will be provided next month.



R. Dale Short

**We hope
to see
you at the
Annual
Meeting
March 15.**

Meet the Candidates



SHAWN WIEBE

Dist 1-Newton-Whitewater

SHAWN WIEBE and his wife, Kristin, live in the rural Whitewater area and have four children. Wiebe went to Berean Academy, Tabor College and then graduated from Fort Hays State

University. He enjoys playing with his children and watching their athletic events in his spare time. Wiebe has been on the Butler REC Board of Trustees for nine years.



KENT WEBBER

Dist 4-Derby-Mulvane

KENT WEBBER has been a resident of the Derby-Rose Hill area for 14 years. He and his wife, Christine, have been married for 27 years. They have three children, Allen, Evan and

Kelsey. Webber is the Vice President of Beran Companies, Inc., based out of Wichita. Prior to Beran, he was the General Manager of Allen's Concrete, Inc. He has a bachelors in business administration and a teaching minor in German language from the University of Kansas. He is a past member of the Board of Directors for the Insulating Concrete Forms Assn. and a Past President of the Kansas Ready Mixed Concrete Assn. Webber is also a past board member of the Rose Hill Education Foundation. The Webbers are members of the East Heights United Methodist Church in Wichita.



JOHN WORRELL

Dist 6-Douglass-Leon

JOHN WORRELL and his wife, Sandra, have lived in the Leon area most of their lives. They have four children. He attended Butler Community College and graduated from

Wichita State University. Worrell retired from the manufacturing industry after 45 years. He has been a member of American Society for Testing & Materials and served as the Vice Chairman of the Manufacture & Design of Amusement Rides and Devices Committee. Worrell also enjoys cattle ranching. He has served on the Board of Trustees for nine years.



Complimentary Meal

Butler REC Annual Meeting Notice

Thursday, March 15, 2012, at 6 p.m. at Circle High School in Towanda

BY SHAWN WIEBE, SECRETARY-TREASURER BUTLER REC

The Annual Meeting of the Butler Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., will be held at Circle High School, 905 Main St., Towanda, on March 15, 2012, beginning at 7 p.m.

The membership will take action on the following:

- ▶ Report of officers, Trustees, and/or committees.
- ▶ The election of three Trustees for a three-year term.
- ▶ To transact any and all other business which may come before said meeting.

The Nominating Committee met on January 9, 2012, and nominated the following candidates for Trustees:

- ▶ **SHAWN WIEBE**
District 1 (Newton-Whitewater Area)
13806 NW County Line Rd, Whitewater
- ▶ **KENT WEBBER**
District 4 (Derby-Mulvane Area)
1500 E 79th St. S, Derby
- ▶ **JOHN WORRELL**
District 6 (Douglass-Leon Area)
PO Box 221, Leon

Members may make additional nominations for Trustees from the floor at the meeting, keeping in mind the principle of geographical representation as stated above.

2012 Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the Board of Trustees of Butler REC met on January 19, 2012, to make nominations for the Trustees whose terms will expire this year.

The Nominating Committee was composed of :

- ▶ Dennis Baier
- ▶ Ferris Barrett
- ▶ Virgil Biby
- ▶ William Busenitz
- ▶ J. Marvin Conner
- ▶ Greg Cox
- ▶ Gary C. Rowles
- ▶ Don Regier



Kids Korner



Co-op Information



Entertainment

Minutes of the Butler RECA Annual Meeting

Circle High School, Towanda, Kansas ~ March 17, 2011

Pursuant to notice thereof, the 2011 Annual Meeting of the members of Butler Rural Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc., was held on March 17, 2011, at Circle High School in Towanda. The meeting was preceded by a dinner served to the membership and guests, with entertainment by the Butler County Community College (BCCC) Headliners. Information booths were maintained during the registration process.

Board Trustee Olin Claassen delivered the invocation and the BCCC Music Ensemble performed the National Anthem. The business meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Board President Richard Jimenez. President Jimenez introduced the Trustees and guests in attendance at the meeting.

Director of Member Service, Travis Griffin, introduced Leah Smith, the 2010 first place winner of the Youth Tour. After President Jimenez presented Ms. Smith with a certificate and scholarship, Ms. Smith reported on her trip to Washington, D.C. Travis Griffin then introduced Samantha Claassen the 2010 second place Youth Tour winner. After Ms. Claassen was presented a certificate and scholarship by her grandfather, Trustee Claassen, she reported on her trip to Steamboat Springs, CO. Travis Griffin then presented a short video of the activities of the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour.

President Jimenez asked Secretary Shawn Wiebe, to read the Notice of Annual Meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to waive the reading of that Notice as printed in the February 2011 Kansas Country Living magazine.

A quorum was determined to be present, with 210 registered members in attendance and three members present by proxy. President Jimenez asked for a motion

to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous year's meeting. The reading was so waived. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting as printed in the February 2011 Kansas Country Living and mailed to each member. The minutes were approved.

President Jimenez then asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Treasurer's Report be approved as printed in the March 2011 Kansas Country Living Magazine.

Dale Short, Butler REC Manager, was introduced by President Jimenez. He thanked the Board of Trustees and all of the Butler REC employees for their dedicated service. Manager Short explained that recent outages were caused by a phenomena resulting from an accumulation of residue on the transmission line insulators when mixed with fog or light rain would cause the electrical current to track up the insulator to the cross arm, which eventually caught on fire and burned. Manager Short then presented graphs showing how the new rate design had actually saved members more than \$600,000 in comparison to an overall 9.5 percent increase under the old rate design. Other points Manager Short discussed were the source of our power and the safety of the Wolf Creek power plant in light of the nuclear emergency at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Station in Japan.

Manager Short introduced Executive Vice President of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC), Stuart Lowry. Mr. Lowry reported on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) estimated regulatory timeline for coal-fueled power plants and how it will adversely affect cooperatives and their members.

President Jimenez introduced Ferris Barrett, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and asked Mr. Barrett to report on behalf of the cooperative's Nominating Committee. Mr. Barrett reported the nominations for the two Trustee positions up for election; District 2 – Olin Claassen and District 5 – Richard Jimenez. Corporate Attorney, Ray Connell, conducted the Trustee election. The floor was opened for additional nominations for the two Trustee districts up for election. After the expiration of one minute, there were no additional nominations from the floor. There were no nominations by petition. A motion was then made, seconded, and carried that the nominations cease and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the candidates submitted by the nominating committee. The following Trustees were elected: District 2 – Olin Claassen and District 5 – Richard Jimenez.

President Jimenez then asked for any old business to come before the meeting. It was concluded that there was none to be discussed. President Jimenez asked for any new business to come before the meeting. It was concluded that there was none to be discussed. President Jimenez asked for questions from the membership but no questions were asked.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned. Travis Griffin, Director of Member Services, introduced the evening's entertainment: the Butler County Community College "Headliners".

The 2011 Annual Meeting was concluded with a drawing for door prizes for the general membership.

Respectfully submitted,

SHAWN WIEBE
SECRETARY-TREASURER BUTLER REC

Butler REC Members Only! Free Tank Rental for 1 Year

Includes regulator, pigtail, block and hookup! (A \$60 value)

Call today!

877-558-5770

- ▶ Competitive daily prices
- ▶ Reliable delivery
- ▶ Several payment options
- ▶ Friendly staff

There is no need to wait until your tank is empty. We can transfer your remaining propane.



Attention High School Juniors

Butler REC will send TWO students on a FREE summer trip!



Chase Johnson poses in front of our nation's capitol during the 2011 "Government in Action" Youth Tour.

I met some amazing people and got to experience some outstanding tours of our nation's capital. Not only did this trip provide me with better insight on the government, it also allowed me to share the experience with many other talented and outstanding individuals.

CHASE JOHNSON, 2011 DELEGATE



Alyssa Scott enjoys the view on top of Lookout Mountain outside of Denver during the 2011 Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp.

The thing that I enjoyed the most about camp was the leadership seminar by Jake Worcester. It taught me more about my personality type and how I can work with others to become a better leader.

ALYSSA SCOTT, 2011 CAMPER

If you are a Butler REC member and your child is a high school junior, he or she may have a chance to win an all expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C., June 14-21, 2012, or Steamboat Springs, CO, July 14-20, 2012, plus a scholarship!

During Youth Tour, students will join 1,500 youth from across the nation in Washington, D.C. They will visit the monuments and other attractions, as well as visit Capitol Hill to learn more about how our government works.

At camp, students will join youth from Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma and Kansas. Campers will form a mock cooperative, learn about leadership and also learn about the cooperative industry.

Butler REC will provide information over which there will be a quiz, and a short oral interview to pick the two winners. The overall winner will choose which trip he or she would like to go on and he or she will also receive a \$500 scholarship. The

second place winner will go on the remaining trip and will also receive a scholarship.

For more information on the 2012 Youth Tour, visit our website at www.butler.coop where you can get information about both trips and download the application. There is also a video of the past trip which will give you an idea of all that you will be able to do and see. For more information you can call Travis at the Butler REC office at 800-464-0060.