



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Clark Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



By Tim Stewart,
CEO/Manager

Annual Meeting set for May 10

Clark Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2023, at the Neillsville American Legion, 6 Boon Blvd., Neillsville, starting at 9:30 a.m. The annual meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, conduct business, and elect their representatives to serve on the board of directors.

The governance process is summarized below and is not intended to replace the detail found in the bylaws.

Nominations by Petition

Candidates for director shall be nominated exclusively by petition. For a candidate to be validly nominated, the petition shall contain the signatures of no less than ten (10) members. The signature of either or both members holding a joint membership shall constitute the signature of one (1) member. To be valid, a petition must be received by the cooperative not less than 60 days prior to the annual meeting (In 2023 that date is March 10, 2023).

Voting in Person or by Absentee Ballot

If there is only one (1) nominee for a seat, election may be by unanimous consent or by voice vote or similar process at the annual meeting, without the need to cast written ballots. Where there is more than one (1) nominee, the election will be by ballot, members may vote in person or by absentee signed ballot. Absentee ballots shall be provided to all members. To be counted, absentee ballots must be received by the cooperative or designee not later than noon on the last business day preceding the day of the annual meeting.

Director Districts

Director district boundaries are intended to balance the number of members in the respective districts while endeavoring not to split towns, villages, or cities between districts. See map of director districts below.

The cooperative has seven (7) directors, two of which serve from each district and one (1) serving in an at-large position.

This year members will be asked to elect two directors for a three-year term: one position from district one (1) and one from district three (3). These seats are currently held by Jim Hager, town of Colby (District 1) and Scott Johnson, town of Unity (District 3). These directors are eligible for re-election.

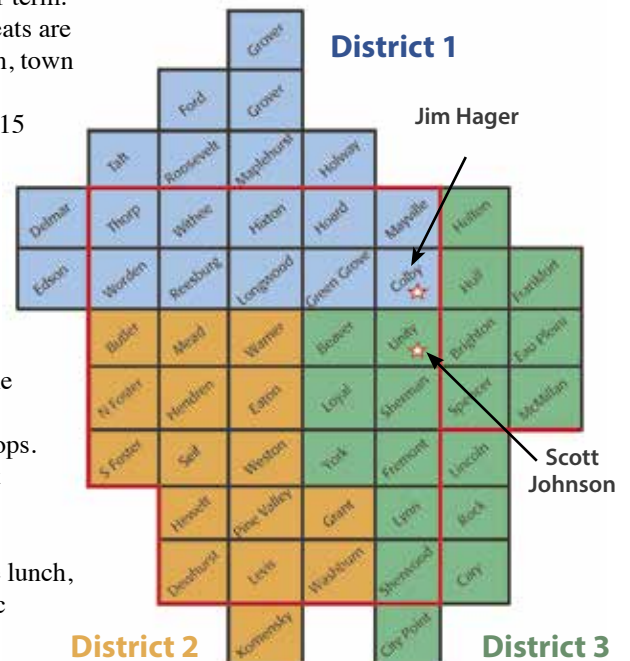
Any advisory resolutions must be received by the cooperative at least 15 days prior to the annual meeting.

The cooperative's bylaws establish the minimum qualifications for being a director as well as broader detail on the election process. A copy of the bylaws is available on the cooperative's website at www.cecoop.com or by contacting the business office at 715-267-6188. If you have any additional questions about becoming a director, please contact Tim Stewart, CEO/GM, at the business office

Directors are expected to attend monthly board meetings; represent the cooperative in state, regional, and national affairs; and take advantage of NRECA educational opportunities such as classes, seminars, and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry. Directors will spend approximately 20 to 35 days a year in performance of their duties.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the annual meeting, enjoy a nice lunch, register for a \$25 door prize, and help conduct the business of your electric utility. Member involvement is critically important to the success of your cooperative.

Watch for more information regarding this important event.



CONGRATULATIONS, JEFF, ON YOUR RETIREMENT

Congratulations to Jeff Block on his retirement from Clark Electric after 36 ½ years with the cooperative.

Jeff decided when he was a junior in high school that he would like to pursue a career in the electrical distribution field. He attended Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire, and when he saw there was an opening at Clark Electric Cooperative in his hometown he decided to apply. He knew past employees stayed for decades so he figured it was a great place to work.

This began his lifelong career as a lineman at Clark Electric. There have been many changes in the industry throughout the 36 ½ years. Equipment used to do the construction and maintenance projects has improved to make most processes more efficient. Safety clothing and rules have also been improved to make the job safer.

Jeff enjoyed meeting members while on the job site and will always appreciate the thank yous and kind words from them when power was restored, or a project was completed.

He said he will always remember the people he worked



with throughout the years but looks forward to enjoying his hobbies. He will be spending time doing woodworking, projects around the house, and some traveling. He also volunteers at the city museum when needed.

Jeff demonstrated his dedication to his job in many ways. Beyond his normal duties, Jeff volunteered nine times to assist other cooperatives that called for assistance through the ROPE program (Restoration of Power in an Emergency), including September 2005 when he

volunteered to go to Washington St. Tammany Cooperative in Franklinton, Louisiana, following Hurricane Katrina. He was always willing to do whatever was asked of him; he made himself available for after-hours calls as much as possible. Jeff was a self-motivated employee who would simply take care of things that needed to be done.

Jeff's knowledge of the system and hard work over the past 36 ½ years will truly be missed. We wish him well in his retirement.



Above: Jeff Block (right) with the underground crew, early 1990s. He's pictured with Frank Arch (left) and Ken Martini. Left: The line crew, also early '90s. Jeff is in the front row, fourth from left.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment like printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



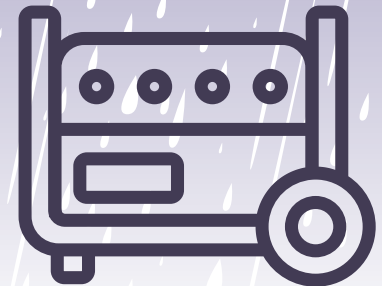
REMINDER:

Scholarship applications are available and are due on Monday, March 6, 2023. Go to cecoop.com/scholarships to learn more.



A QUICK GUIDE TO GENERATORS

With proper use and maintenance, generators provide great convenience during a power outage. Before you purchase a generator, determine your backup power needs to select the right size. Make a list of essential appliances and devices you'll want to power during an outage, then total the required wattage.



RECOMMENDED IF YOU...

... rarely lose power.

Recreational Inverter

Up to 2,000 watts

Lightweight, about 60 pounds

Quiet, easy to store

Power: fridge and a few smaller items (i.e. lamp, phone charger and home security system)

Midsized Inverter

Up to 3,500 watts

Weighs up to 150 pounds

Power: fridge, laptop, five to 10 lights, phone charger, home security system and 10K BTU air conditioner

... occasionally lose power.
Transfer switch required.

Portable Generators and Large Inverters

Up to 7,500 watts

Weighs about 300 pounds

Power: fridge, gas furnace, 10K BTU air conditioner, dishwasher, multiple lights, TV, laptop and more

Ability to connect to home's breaker panel

... frequently lose power.
Transfer switch required.

Home Standby

Up to 20,000 watts

Must be permanently installed; starts automatically during outage

Power: nearly all home appliances and electronics (simultaneously)

Can run indefinitely on natural gas or propane

Recommended if you frequently lose power.

SAFETY FIRST!

- Let us know if you purchase a generator that you plan to connect to an electric panel.
- Improperly installed generators can create back feed, which is dangerous to our crews and the community. **Before using the generator, disconnect the normal source of power coming into your home/business.**
- Never operate a generator indoors or in an enclosed space.

Disclaimer: Please note safety requirements may differ based on the type of generator you purchase. Thoroughly read the operator's manual and know how to shut off the generator quickly.

Source: *Consumer Reports*

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR CLARK ELECTRIC LAND PLOT PROJECT

Collaborative partnership benefits Greenwood FFA students

The Greenwood FFA and Alumni just completed another successful year on the Clark Electric Land Plot project on November 28 by combining 22 acres of corn before the snow fell. The project has been a huge collaboration among many groups since 2017 in order to continue providing opportunities for our FFA members.

This year we are so grateful for our constant partners of Clark Electric Cooperative, Dairyland Seed, Northside Elevator, and Vita Plus for their continued support of this project. Northside Elevator donated fertilizer this year and Vita Plus donated spraying. Dairyland Seed provides seeds to our project at cost. Clark Electric Cooperative graciously allows FFA and Alumni members to farm the land around their facility. Many Greenwood

FFA Alumni members work hard to keep this project a success, especially Marty Nigon, Ed Krultz, and Mark Shain.

The Clark Electric Land Plot project's goals include educating FFA members about production agriculture through hands-on opportunities, teaching students about the value of cooperative businesses and their roles in local communities, and providing scholarships for Greenwood FFA seniors. Since 2017 the Land Plot project has awarded over \$10,000 in scholarships from the crops. This would not have been possible without the support of our business partners.

Thank you Clark Electric Cooperative, Dairyland Seed, Northside Elevator, and Vita Plus!

—Loghan Amborn, Agriculture Teacher/
FFA Advisor, Greenwood Middle/High



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- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov


Clark Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Tim Stewart, CEO/Manager

1209 West Dall-Berg Road
P.O. Box 190, Greenwood, WI 54437
email us at info@cecoop.com or tnelson01@cecoop.com
www.cecoop.com



**Clark Electric
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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.