



Clinton County Connection

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Published by Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. • cceci@cceci.com • www.cceci.com

Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc. Annual Meeting Held Thursday, March 15, 2018

Members in attendance at Clinton County Electric Cooperative's 80th Annual Meeting, held Thursday, March 15, 2018 at Central Community High School in Breese, elected three members to the board of trustees by acclamation and heard the 2017 accomplishments, as well as the financial results of CCEC. Members in attendance also had the opportunity to hear about Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, Prairie State Generating Campus, and Clinton County Electric Cooperative's Strategic Direction. Every registered member received a \$20 bill credit, and the evening closed with four cash prizes being awarded.

Upon motion by Glenn Foppe, seconded and a vote taken thereon, the minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting were approved. Upon motion by Rich Diekemper, seconded and a vote taken thereon, Trustees Robert Gerstenecker from District 1 and Vernon Mohesky from District 2 were re-elected to three-year terms. Kevin Wiegmann was elected to replace retiring District 3 trustee Ron Becker.

Vernon Mohesky, chairman of the board, began his report by reminding everyone that capital credit checks had been mailed. He then spoke about CCEC's accomplishments in 2017. Mohesky went on to explain CCEC has not had a lost time accident since April 2009, which is almost 353,000 hours worked without an accident. He then focused on

(Annual Meeting - continued on 20b)



During Clinton County Electric Cooperative's 80th Annual Meeting of Members, three area men were elected to the board of trustees. Pictured (l-r) are Vernon Mohesky of Breese, Robert Gerstenecker of Carlyle and Kevin Wiegmann of Trenton.



Clinton County Electric's board of trustees, president and general counsel gathered together to conduct the 80th Annual Meeting of Members.



reliability and said, "Our goal is to have no more than 1 hour of outage per member, per year. We attained that goal in 2014. We almost made it in 2015, and in 2016 we missed that goal with 7.46-member outage hours." He reminded everyone the reason for not making the goal in 2016 was two large Ameren transmission outages. He went on to say, "In 2017, we again almost attained our goal with 1.33 average member outage hours. If not for a car accident that left 526 members without electricity, we would have made our goal with only .90 hour of outage per member, per year." Mohesky then touched briefly on CCEC's pole testing and tree trimming programs.

The next topic Chairman Mohesky covered was "fair and reasonable" rates. He spoke about the Cost of Service study performed in 2015, the rate change that took place in April of 2017 and reminded the membership the change was revenue neutral for CCEC. He then said, "In order to verify we have made the right decision, the board decided not to make any additional adjustments to the System Delivery charge in 2018, but rather have another Cost of service study done by another vendor."

Chairman Mohesky then informed the membership of the decision to implement Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). He closed his portion of the evening by talking about "Autonomy and Independence" and "Member's Economic Participation," two of the seven cooperative principles.

Next, Secretary/Treasurer Randy Renth said Clinton County Electric continues to return capital credit patronage back to the membership. Recently the cooperative mailed approximately \$200,000 to those

who were members in 1991. Renth reported the cooperative closed 2017 with total revenue of \$17,219,812 total expenses of \$15,895,285 and margins of \$1,324,527.

Then Paul Furtak, vice president for risk & strategic planning at Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (SIPC), which is the source of power for CCEC, provided a brief history of SIPC, as well as an overview of the generation resources owned by SIPC. Furtak explained the generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative continues to strive for stability and reliability. He said, "The coal fired units at the Marion plant continue to operate at very high availability levels. This is due in large part to the experienced and dedicated staff at SIPC."

Controlling costs has also been a priority at SIPC. Good management of new coal contracts and other resources are helping to reduce costs for SIPC and ultimately its distribution cooperatives and their member/owners.

Furtak reported on the status of Prairie States Generating Campus (PSGS) in Marissa, in which SIPC is part-owner. "In spite of challenges, the operation and performance of the Prairie States continues to improve."

Next, President/COO Bob Kroeger came to the podium and spoke of the number one priority at Clinton County Electric, safety. He said, "Now when I say safety, it doesn't just mean employee safety. We also have an obligation to maintain an electric system that will keep the general public safe as well." President Kroeger also mentioned the Safety Leadership award presented to CCEC at the 2018 Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives Safety, Supervisory, and Technical





Conference saying, “A culture of safety doesn’t just happen. It requires focus, commitment and dedication from everyone involved.”

President Kroeger then read CCEC’s mission statement stating, “Every aspect of our mission statement can be attained, as long as we maintain high reliability standards. Over the past 10 years, we have put programs in place that have done just that. Programs such as our right-of-way maintenance, pole testing & treatment, and line rebuilding programs that CCEC continued through 2017 and hopefully into the foreseeable future.”

After talking in depth about the programs in place to maintain high reliability standards, President Kroeger turned his focus to Advanced

Metering Infrastructure (AMI). He explained, “AMI will be beneficial in the areas of billing, customer service and engineering and operations.” President Kroeger hopes to begin AMI installation around the first of August 2018 and be completed by the first of July 2019.

Next on President Kroeger’s agenda was Satilla REMC in Georgia. Back in September, in the wake of Hurricane Irma, two CCEC Journeyman Lineman traveled to Georgia to assist with outage restoration. President Kroeger wanted the membership to know just how grateful Satilla REMC was for the assistance and read a thank you letter from REMC. He then said, “I hope we are never in a situation that requires help from Georgia, but if we

do, it’s good to know Satilla REMC is ready to help.”

Bob concluded his address to the membership by mentioning a few member service and end use programs. Effective April 1, 2018, the cost for a 50-gallon water heater will increase from \$150 to \$ 250. He also encouraged anyone thinking about installing a solar array to contact the office before doing so.

Upon motion by Teresa Mullins, seconded and a vote taken thereon, all the reports given by the officers and the president were approved.

President Kroeger then gave an update concerning the employees of Clinton County Electric. Allan Deiters completed 30 years of dedicated service and Craig Benhoff 10 years of dedicated service.

The meeting drew to a close with President Kroeger giving an update on the trustees. Ron Becker retired from the board of trustees after 27 years of dedicated services.

(Annual Meeting - continued on 20d)

(Annual Meeting - continued from 20c)

There being no further business to come before the 80th Annual Meeting of Members of the Clinton County Electric Cooperative, Inc., upon motion by Jim Markus, seconded and a vote taken thereon, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Mohesky.

Following adjournment, four cash prizes were awarded. The winners were: Paul and Sandra Stockert, \$100;

Verlan Laux, \$50; Allen and Sharon Pichon, \$50; and Brian and Cheryl Kreke, \$50.

The meeting concluded at 8:28 p.m. To hear this type of information first hand, collect attendance prizes

and to have the opportunity to win cash prizes, consider attending next year's annual meeting. As a member, you are an owner of this cooperative and deserve to be well-informed about all activities.



Mark your calendar

**THE COOPERATIVE OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED ON**

Monday, May 28, 2018
in observance of

**MEMORIAL
DAY**



AND



Wednesday, July 4, 2018
in observance of

**INDEPENDENCE
DAY**

