



ROLLING HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

Rolling Hills Electric Co-op, Inc.

Board of Trustees

Bob Fredrickson, President
Ellsworth – District 1

Paul Wilson, Vice-President
Burr Oak – District 2

Justin Trost, Secretary
Concordia – District 3

John George, Treasurer
Lebanon – District 2

Eric Andersen, Trustee
Jamestown – District 3

Michelle Brokes, Trustee
Wilson – District 1

Mike Brzon, Trustee
Courtland – District 3

Corey Dlabal, Trustee
Wilson – District 1

Larry Kendig, Trustee
Osborne – District 2

Tom Marr, Trustee
Formoso – District 2

Staff

Douglas Jackson General Manager

Contact Us

3075B US Hwy. 24 P.O. Box 339
Beloit, KS 67420
785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

Like us on Facebook

On Facebook, search for “Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.” and like our page for continued updates, energy efficiency tips, cooperative news and outage updates.



Three Rolling Hills Trustees Earn Director Gold Certificates

Three of Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative's board members recently received their Director Gold certification. Earning this certification are **ROBERT (BOB) FREDRICKSON**, President-Ellsworth District; **PAUL WILSON**, Vice President-Mankato District; and **JOHN GEORGE**, Treasurer-Mankato District.

To earn this highest level of certification, each had to complete the Certified Cooperative Director courses and then earn his Board Leadership Certificate.

To maintain their Director Gold Certificate, board members must earn three credits from the approved list of continuing education programs within a two-year period.

Director Certificate Programs are specifically designed to help electric cooperative directors, at every stage of their service, understand their roles



Rolling Hills Manager Doug Jackson, left, congratulates three trustees for earning their Director Gold certificates. Trustees earning certificates are (from left): Paul Wilson, vice-president; Robert Fredrickson, president; and John George, treasurer.

and responsibilities, stay up-to-date on the key issues and trends in the industry and prepare them to meet current and future challenges facing electric cooperatives.

Board members receive their education courses throughout the year in conjunction with a variety of conferences and events hosted by Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., the statewide association, and National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Help us congratulate Bob, Paul and John on their achievement and continued service to Rolling Hills Electric.

Cooperative Youth Programs

Do you know a high school junior whose parents or guardian(s) reside on Rolling Hills Electric line? If so, encourage that junior to apply now for the Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June and the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in July. In addition to the all-expenses paid trip, the top two youth will receive a \$500 scholarship upon completion of their trips and high school graduation.

Both trips are educational, interesting, and fun! Make an impression by listing the trip on a resume or application when applying for college or trade school scholarships and grants.

Each high school in our service territory will receive a packet with information and an application. Our website, Facebook page and *Kansas Country Living* will have information available. Contact Rolling Hills directly through Linnea Beebe at lbbeebe@rollinghills.coop, by stopping by the office at 3075B US Hwy 24, Beloit or by calling 800-530-5572 (office) or 785-531-0147 (cell).



During the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., students meet with our elected officials. Next year's tour will be June 18-25, 2020.



Students from four states learn about leadership during Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Next year's camp is scheduled for July 10-16, 2020.

High School Juniors: Are You Eligible for the Trip of a Lifetime?

Additional information and form are also available on our Facebook page and from your high school counselor.

- ▶ All high school juniors whose parents or guardians reside on Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s power lines are eligible to apply.
- ▶ Contestants must complete the entry form below and return it by **DEC. 6**. Submit your application by email to lbbeebe@rollinghills.coop. You may also mail or deliver your application to: Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc., Attn: Linnea Beebe at 3075B US Hwy 24, P.O. Box 339, Beloit, KS 67420.
- ▶ Contestants will be mailed an entry packet. Finalists will be chosen from completed application, résumé, open-book quiz and short essay.
- ▶ Finalists will be interviewed to determine winners (time and date to be announced).
- ▶ Trip winners are expected to speak at Rolling Hills Electric's Annual Meeting.

Applicant Name _____ Birth Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Student Phone _____ Student Email _____

Grade _____ School _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) _____ Electric Account # _____

Parent/Guardian(s) Phone _____ Email _____

I agree that all information supplied in this application is accurate and true. Applicant Signature _____

Rolling Hills Bylaws for Nominations & Elections

The following excerpt from the Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative bylaws details how trustees are nominated and elected.

SECTION 4.05

Nominations of Trustees

The Board shall appoint a nominating committee, on or before the first day of October of each year, consisting of not less than one, nor more than three members from each district for whom a Trustee is to be elected. Board members may not serve on the nominating committee. Only committee members from each district will nominate their own candidate. Committee members from District One will meet together at Ellsworth, committee members from District Two will meet at Mankato and committee members from District Three will meet at Belleville. Nominating committees shall meet during the month of October. On or before the first day of November, the nominating committee shall prepare and post a list of nominations for Trustee at all three offices of the cooperative. The committee shall nominate one or more candidates for each position. Nominations may be made by petition, filed on or before the close of business, December 1. The petition must be signed by not less than 5 percent of the members of the district for whom the Trustee is to be elected. The secretary shall immediately post such nominations at the same place where the list of nominations by the committee is posted. Nominations made

by petition shall appear on the ballot in the order received.

Any members interested in having his or her name on the ballot for a trustee position should notify one of the nominating committee members in the respective district or contact the Beloit office at 785-534-1601 and the name will be forwarded to the nominating committee. Trustee candidates must reside in one of the counties in the respective district.

SECTION 4.06 Election of Trustees

The election of Trustees shall be by mail ballot. Only those nominees selected by the nominating committee or nominated by petition shall appear on the ballot. There may be write-in votes for a qualified member not named on the ballot. The ballot shall first list the name nominated by the committee, then the names nominated by petition in the order received and, at the end, a place to write in a name. Failure of strict compliance with the provisions of this section shall not affect the validity of any election of Trustees.

The secretary shall mail the ballots to the respective members on or before the 10th day of December of each year. On or before the first day of January of each year, ballots must be postmarked or received at the offices of the cooperative.

Trustee Election Process Underway

The Trustee positions expiring on Dec. 31, 2019, are **COREY DLABAL**, Wilson, District 1, Position 1; **LARRY KENDIG**, Osborne, District 2, Position 1; **TOM MARR**, Formoso, District 2, Position 4; and **C. ERIC ANDERSEN**, Jamestown, District 3 Position 1. The election term for each position is three years, ending Dec. 31, 2022. The 2019 Nominating Committee includes the following members:

DISTRICT 1 (*Barton, Ellsworth, Lincoln, Russell and Saline counties*)

▶ **TERRY KUESER**, Ellsworth

▶ **BERNARD (SONNY) BOHNEN**, Wilson

The nominating committee meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 8 a.m. at the office of Sherman, Hoffman & Hoffman, 126 N. Douglas, Ellsworth.

DISTRICT 2 (*Jewell, Mitchell, Osborne, Phillips, Rooks and Smith counties*)

▶ **DAVID C. WARNE**, Mankato

▶ **GREG SHAMBURG**, Glen Elder

The nominating committee meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 9, at 8 a.m. at the Buffalo Roam Steakhouse, Hwy. 36, Mankato.

DISTRICT 3 (*Clay, Cloud, Republic and Washington counties*)

▶ **JARED MELTON**, Belleville

▶ **BRIAN KEMLING**, Concordia

The nominating committee meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 8 a.m. at Rolling Hills Electric Office, 2305 US 81 Hwy., Belleville.

Think your vote doesn't count?
Think again!



"The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heating requires more energy than any other system in your home, typically making up about 42% of your energy bill. With proper equipment maintenance and upgrades, you can save about 30% on your energy bill.

Source: energy.gov



By the Community, for the Community

October is National Co-op Month

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason—it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including Rolling Hills Electric, celebrate who we are and more importantly, the member-owners we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service, or does so at a very high price, co-ops intervene to fill the need.

Like how Rolling Hills Electric was built by member-owners who came together to bring electricity to our communities, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the member-owners of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the member-owners we serve.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the communities because we are locally governed. Rolling Hills' leadership team and employees live right here in the communities. Our board of directors, who help set long-term priorities for the co-op, live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected to the position by neighbors like you.

We know our member-owners (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we are continually seeking your input.

Whether through community events, our social media channels or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you.

Another feature that sets our co-op apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." Rolling Hills Electric has assisted many businesses over the years with financing to purchase, new construction or upgrade an existing business through our in-house revolving loan program or the USDA's Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant program. We participate in the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C., for a weeklong immersion to experience democracy in action.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We hope you will think of Rolling Hills Electric as more than your energy provider, but instead as a local business that supports its communities and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We will continue to learn from our member-owners about their priorities so that we can better serve you—because your electric co-op was built by the communities, for the communities.

22nd ANNUAL



ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

CO-OPORTUNITY DAY
PICNIC

Join the community for a casual, all-ages celebration of October Co-op Month!

Friday, October 4 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Rolling Hills Electric Co-op
3075 B US Hwy 24, Beloit

