


Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* March 2023 NEWS



Riverland Energy
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Riverland Energy Cooperative ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Breakfast & Registration – 8:00 a.m.

Business Meeting – 10:15 a.m.

Cut out this slip and bring
it to the annual meeting for
registration.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE
Saturday, March 25, 2023
Arcadia High School, Arcadia, WI

8:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

- Registration and Breakfast

10:15 a.m.

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Notice of Meeting & Due Proof of Mailing
- Announcement of Quorum
- Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Review and Action of Proposed Article and Bylaw Changes
- Manager's Report
- Election Results
- New Business
- Adjourn

PRIZES!

Riverland Energy Cooperative will offer its members who attend the annual meeting a chance to win prizes! Prizes will be given to all ages!

THIS IS YOUR ANNUAL MEETING
REGISTRATION

Cut out and bring with you to the annual meeting!



RIVERLAND ENERGY COOPERATIVE



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Riverland Energy is guided by nine directors, who are also residential members of the cooperative and elected to serve four-year terms.

Each director represents a specific district within Riverland Energy's service territory.



District 1
Fran Fedie



District 2
Bryce Lisowski



District 3
Cletus Foegen



District 4
Dennis Frame
Secretary/Treasurer



District 5
Dan Filla
Vice President



District 6
David Anderson



District 7
Gary Dvoracek

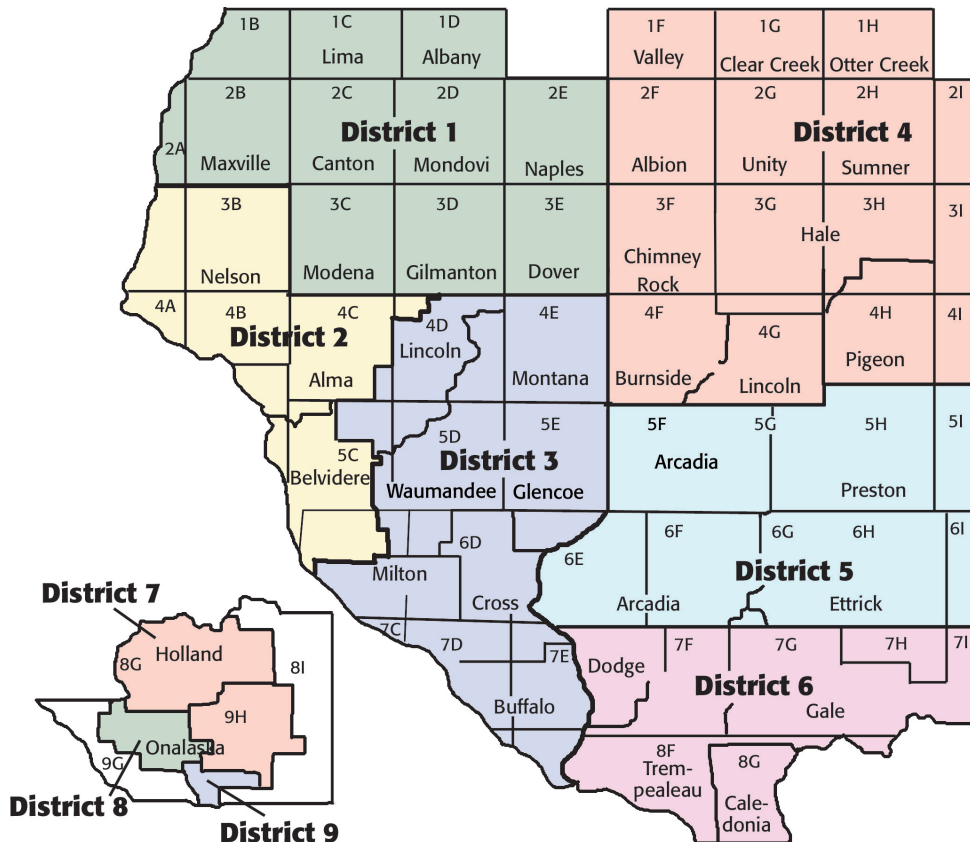


District 8
David Paudler
President



District 9
Bea Zingsheim

DISTRICT MAP



BUFFALO COUNTY

District #1

Towns of Maxville, Canton, Gilmanston, Dover, Mondovi, Modena and Naples; and Pepin County - Portion of Towns of Durand, Lima and Albany.

District #2

Buffalo City, Towns of Alma, Belvidere and Nelson, and portion of City of Alma

District #3

Towns of Cross, Buffalo, Milton, Waumandee, Lincoln, Montana and Glencoe and a portion of Fountain City.

TREMPEALEAU COUNTY

District #4

Towns of Albion, Unity, Sumner, Chimney Rock, Hale, Burnside, Lincoln, and Pigeon in Trempealeau County. The towns of Pleasant Valley, Clear Creek, Otter Creek in Eau Claire County. The towns of Garfield, Northfield, Franklin and Curran in Jackson County.

District #5

Towns of Arcadia, Preston, and Ettrick in Trempealeau County. The towns of Springfield, Franklin, and Sections 6, 7, and 18 in the Town of North Bend in Jackson County.

District #6

Towns of Dodge, Trempealeau, Caledonia, and Gale in Trempealeau County. Section 19 and 30 of the Town of North Bend in Jackson County.

LA CROSSE COUNTY

District #7

8G (T18N-R8W) All Sections in La Crosse County, 8H9T18N-R8W) All Sections Located in La Crosse County, 8I (T18N-R6W), 9G (T17N-R8W), Section 1 and 2 only; 9H (T17N-R7W) All Sections Except 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, & 35; 7I All Sections in La Crosse County; 9I All Sections.

District #8

9G (T17N-R8W) All Sections Except Sections 1 and 2, 9H (T17N-R7W) Sections 7, 8 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, and 31 All Located in La Crosse County. Plus the following detail map numbers in La Crosse County: 9H29A 9H29B 9H29C 9H29D 9H29E 9H29F

District #9

9H (T17N-R7W) Sections 32, 33, 34, & 35. Also the following detail map numbers in La Crosse County: 9H29J 9H29K 9H29L 9H29M 9H29N 9H29P 9H29Q 9M04A 9M33A

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF RIVERLAND ENERGY COOPERATIVE

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the members of Riverland Energy Cooperative will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at the Arcadia High School in the City of Arcadia, Wisconsin. Breakfast and registration will begin at 8 a.m. The business meeting will be called to order at 10:15 a.m.

Agenda

1. Report on registration
2. Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting minutes
3. Reports of the officers and directors
4. Proposed Article and Bylaw changes set forth as a part of this Notice
5. Election of three directors: District #1 for a term of four years, District #6 for a term of four years, District #7 for a term of four years. Any contested election will be determined by ballot, while uncontested elections will be determined by voice vote at the meeting. Ballots were mailed to all members from a district with a contested election; alternative options include electronic voting and in-person voting at the annual meeting. Mailed and electronic ballots will be counted as a vote if received by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, March 24, 2023. The following members were nominated at the District Committee Conference on Saturday, February, 18, 2023 or were nominated by petition following the District Committee Conference: District #1: Brad Schmidtkecht; District #6: Daniel Beck, Steven Hogden; District #7: Gary Dvoracek (Incumbent).
6. Any old or new business to be brought before the membership
7. Adjourn

Dennis Frame, Secretary

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

10:15 a.m.

- Call to Order, David Paudler, Board President
- Pledge of Allegiance, David Paudler
- Introduction of past directors and guests, David Paudler
- Notice of Meeting and Due Proof of Mailing, Dennis Frame, Board Secretary
- Determination of Quorum, Dennis Frame
- Review and Action on the Annual Meeting Rules and Voting Procedures, Jessica Shrestha, Attorney
- Approval of 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes, Jessica Shrestha
- Review and Action on Proposed Bylaw Changes, Jessica Shrestha
- Director Elections, Jessica Shrestha
- Guest Speaker, Brent Ridge, Dairyland Power Cooperative CEO
- Manager's Report, Tim Holtan, Interim General Manager
- Election Results, Jessica Shrestha
- New Business, Jessica Shrestha
- Adjourn, David Paudler
- Scholarship drawings
- Door prize drawings

REPORT TO CO-OP MEMBERS

Message from the Board President and Interim General Manager



Board President
David Paudler

At Riverland Energy, we are constantly striving to improve all aspects of our business, whether it is reliability, member services, technology, safety or financial performance. We are pleased with the progress we have made in managing costs, promoting conservation and expanding our service options over the year. As a member, you can take great comfort knowing your cooperative is not only working with a sense of purpose, but also that we're accomplishing great things today and preparing to do even more.



Interim Manager
Tim Holtan

Reliability

Our service area continues to experience impressive growth with new homes and businesses. We also made significant progress on our vegetation management plan and system maintenance. An essential part of providing safe, reliable service at a reasonable cost is the maintenance our

crews do out in the field every day. This includes testing and replacing poles, vegetation management, and tree trimming. Riverland works with contractors to help with the spraying and tree trimming. In 2022, we cleared/sprayed 988 right-of-way miles and crews tested 4,000 poles.

Over the past year, Riverland has worked diligently to improve the distribution network that supplies your power. We started three substation projects. These included an upgrade to the Holland substation and construction of two substations in Tamarack and Ettrick, and we purchased 23 substations from Dairyland Power. In 2022, Riverland added 326 new services to its system.

Renewable Energy

Riverland Energy members have growing interest in solar options and will likely add more in the coming years. We will also see more Electric Vehicle (EV) residential chargers on our system in the coming years and added level-2 chargers at our Holmen and Arcadia offices. We want to be your trusted energy advisor and to be here for your questions about renewable energy.

Continued Focus on Safety

We had another successful year with no significant recordable accidents. While we strive to prevent or

avoid any incidents, this laudable performance was accomplished through training, awareness and collaboration among employees. We address potential issues and take advantage of opportunities to prevent accidents before they happen. We are also out in the community, educating others on safety by presenting safety demonstrations.

Financial Performance

In 2022, we found ways to serve members effectively and keep costs down, resulting in the payout of over \$1 million in capital credits. In December, we put forth a conservative budget that absorbed inflationary costs while retaining our long-term financial plan. We postponed a rate increase for 2022.

Planning for the Future

The cooperative is doing well, yet challenges remain. The extreme and sustained cost increases in fuel, materials and supplies are predicted to put even more pressure on utilities. When those costs increase, the cost of power is historically not far behind. As we've been sharing in our publications, Riverland Energy has endured major increases on materials due to inflationary pressures and lead times impacting vendors, contractors and suppliers, and wholesale power price increases.

As a co-op member, you can trust that when we adjust rates, we will only do so with a good reason—to cover the key components essential to keeping power flowing to our 16,600 members across five counties.

While rates have remained fixed since 2019, costs continue to increase considerably. Wholesale power prices are the main driver to retail electric rates, as wholesale power is nearly 60 percent of the cooperative's total expenses. Due to this we can expect a rate adjustment beginning on May 1.

While rising costs seem beyond our control, our own energy usage is not. We encourage all of our members to be mindful of the ways they use electricity on a daily basis.

As always, stay safe and we hope to see you at the annual meeting!

2023 Dairyland Power Co-op Report



Safe, reliable and sustainable power is a shared vision for Dairyland and its member cooperatives. To ensure electricity reaches your homes and businesses when you need it, Dairyland and its Board of Directors consider the economic impact on members, technological feasibility, social implications and environmental responsibility when making decisions.

Safety is Dairyland's highest priority. To improve its safety culture, Dairyland emphasizes open communication and an environment where all employees are empowered to put safety first. In 2022, Dairyland achieved 260 days without a lost-time injury as they strive for an operational goal of "zero incidents." A People 1st culture supports safety. Dairyland values employee experience and engagement, and was recently certified a Great Place to Work®.

Dairyland takes a balanced and measured approach in their commitment to reduce its carbon intensity 50 percent by 2030 (from 2005 levels). Asset reliability and diversification are essential. To safely meet the region's energy needs, utilities must take an all-of-the-above approach for power plant fuel sources. One fuel type, alone, cannot meet our nation's energy demands. For example, in 2021, solar represented almost 3 percent of total U.S. electrical generation; wind was 9.2 percent.

As one of 10 utility members of Grid North Partners, Dairyland supports the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's (MISO's) approval of the first set of projects in its Long-Range Transmission Plan. These projects will ensure reliability and resilience, deliver carbon-free energy and help keep bills affordable for members. Projects will be located near or along existing transmission or other infrastructure corridors, reducing impacts to landowners by sharing rights-of-way.

Construction continues on the 102-mile, 345-kilovolt (kV) Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line, which will connect Dubuque County, Iowa, to Dane County, Wis., of which Dairyland is a 9 percent owner. Although this project has drawn opposition from conservation groups, there are currently 115 renewable generation projects totaling 17 gigawatts (1,000,000 kilowatts = 1,000 megawatts = 1 GW) that are depending upon its construction, which would be enough to power millions of homes with clean energy.

As the utility industry lowers its carbon intensity, renewable-enabling natural gas facilities will be crucial to keep the lights on. Throughout MISO's footprint, wind and solar provided 15 percent of all the electricity generated in 2022. The balance was covered by coal (35%), natural gas (33%), nuclear (14%) and other (3% – hydro, diesel, biomass, storage, demand response resources). In 2022, both RockGen (Cambridge, Wis.) and the Elk Mound Combustion Turbines (Elk Mound, Wis.) set their second-highest generation levels, providing reliable sources of power during times of critical electricity demand.

Last May, the John P. Madgett generating station (Alma, Wis.) set a daily gross generation record of 9,625.34 megawatt-hours (MWh), which surpassed the previous record of 9,622.47 MWh set on Feb. 17, 2021, toward the end of a polar vortex. The baseload generation provided by JPM is critical to regional electricity reliability, and financially beneficial to Dairyland and its members. Coal is delivered to JPM via train and Dairyland secured a second train set for coal deliveries to maintain sufficient coal levels throughout the year. On Dec. 22, 2022, the Dairyland system set a new winter peak demand of 1,038 MW, and Dairyland was grateful to have fuel available to keep our homes warm during the pre-holiday cold snap.

The Nemadji Trail Energy Center (NTEC) will be a 625 MW combined-cycle natural gas plant in Superior, Wis. The proposed plant will be a critical-capacity, renewable-enabling resource to ramp power up and down quickly to adjust for the intermittency of renewable energy generation. Construction is currently delayed by permitting and regulatory challenges even though studies have shown NTEC will help reduce emissions by supporting wind energy and reduce CO₂ emissions by an average of 964,000 tons per year. NTEC owners (Dairyland Power Cooperative, Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Minnesota Power) have complied with state and federal approval and permitting requirements, and extensive environmental review. Continued challenges delaying the plant risk grid stability and reduce access to renewable energy generation while delays result in project cost increases, which negatively impacts all energy consumers in the region.

Genoa Station #3's retirement in 2021 aligned with Dairyland's Sustainable Generation Plan to diversify its energy resource mix. Safe demolition and decommissioning (D&D) at the site will continue through at least 2024. Following the completion of a redevelopment and reuse

Dairyland Power Cooperative Report, continued

study in early 2022, Dairyland continues to explore opportunities for site reuse that align with its continued operational needs.

Fiber communications projects are underway to meet Dairyland and its members' telecommunication needs, and to help enable broadband internet service for rural areas. Dairyland is laying the foundation to pursue grant funding opportunities, including a \$15 million National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) middle-mile fiber broadband grant.

Growth and innovation will drive the transition to a lower-carbon future. Dairyland signed a memorandum of understanding with NuScale Power to explore nuclear as a non-carbon emitting, 24/7 option through small modular reactor (SMR) technology. NuScale's SMR design is the first approved by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for use in the United States. While this is a step in the right direction, building and bringing such a plant into operation in the Midwest will take at least another decade.

Dairyland and its member cooperatives are national leaders in the establishment of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. Since 2018, Dairyland has supported the installation of over 150 EV chargers throughout its service territory. Dairyland funded and assisted with installation of the first EV fast chargers at Kwik Trips in Wisconsin (Holmen) and Minnesota (Stewartville) with Riverland Energy Cooperative (Wisconsin) and People's Energy Cooperative (Minnesota). The 180 kW fast chargers are more than three times faster than the average fast charger.

Dairyland's newest in-house EV investment is a Ford E-Transit cargo van. The zero emissions vehicle has a 120-mile range that covers all daily delivery needs for its Powered Printing (formerly Publication Services) team.

Being a member of Dairyland Power gives our cooperative's employees access to the services provided by Powered Printing (graphic design, printing and mail services), as well as the expertise of Dairyland's economic development team. This three-person team works closely with member cooperatives on business retention and expansion, attraction and community development initiatives. They collaborated with Dairyland's distribution cooperatives to secure \$5.1 million of economic development financing to support projects for local communities.

Dairyland also takes a balanced and measured approach to its financial and competitive strength. Dairyland has credit ratings of "A3" with a stable outlook from Moody's and "A+" also with a stable outlook from Standard and Poor's.

In 2022, Dairyland was \$15 million under budget through fuel management and divisional cost control, which helped offset increased power market prices. Dairyland established an internal legal department which resulted in a 30-percent reduction in spending.

Last October, the Board of Directors approved the 2022 capital credit retirement of more than \$4.9 million, and an additional \$5.2 million in revenue volatility adjustment (RVA) credits returned to Dairyland's member cooperatives.

At the start of the new year, Dairyland was proud to announce it would be supplying electricity to Great Lakes Utilities (GLU) and Manitowoc Power in eastern Wisconsin, which increased the number of municipals served by Dairyland from 17 to 27.

Electric cooperatives are not immune to the effects of increased fuel prices, early power plant retirements, supply-chain congestion, increased equipment costs and international unrest. Dairyland implemented a 5.63 percent average wholesale rate increase in the power it sells to its member cooperatives, including Riverland Energy Cooperative, effective Jan. 1.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Touchstone Energy. Later this year, Dairyland will be collaborating with its member cooperatives—which are all Touchstone Energy® Cooperative members—on a Day of Service, which will bring out cooperative employees to volunteer on projects around Dairyland's four-state service territory.

As your representative on the Dairyland Board of Directors, I assure you the board meets every month with you—our members—top of mind. We bring the voices of our cooperatives to Dairyland and make sure decisions will keep the lights on for you and your community.

David Anderson,

Dairyland Power Cooperative Director

2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The 2022 annual membership meeting of the Riverland Energy Cooperative was held on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at the Arcadia High School in Arcadia, Wisconsin. President David Paudler called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Paudler then welcomed guests and recognized past directors and employees.

Attorney Niles Berman was introduced to preside over the meeting as acting chairman. He proceeded to cover the annual meeting rules and voting procedures adopted by the District Committee Conference, emphasized the use of voting cards, and stated we will follow Roberts Rules, Newly Revised, latest edition (11th) to cover other procedural questions. On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the membership adopted the meeting rules and voting procedures as presented.

Dennis Frame, secretary, was introduced to read the Notice of Meeting and Due Proof of Mailing. He then announced a quorum of 202 registered members in attendance at the start of the meeting.

Mr. Berman asked for any corrections to the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting, and the 2021 annual meeting which were printed in the annual report. A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes, and to approve them as printed. Motion carried.

Mr. Berman read the proposed Bylaw changes that were published in the annual report. Key items were virtual meeting attendance, no need to issue ballots if uncontested races for director, and joint tenants for joint membership. Mr. Berman asked if there were any objections to handling all of the Bylaw changes as a single package. A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendments to the Bylaws as presented. Motion carried.

Following the explanation of voting procedures, Mr. Berman asked for nominations from the floor in each of the districts up for election. Following three calls for nominations in each district, nominations

were declared closed in districts 2, 5, and 9. The membership in each of these voting districts was then asked to cast their ballots if they hadn't done so by mail in or online voting. Mr. Berman recognized the tellers, announcing all ballots to be handed to tellers. Ballots were gathered and tellers reported to the ballot counting room.

Manager Jerald Sorenson was introduced and started with a welcome to members and a thank you to employees. It was announced that "Ask Willie" forms should be handed to any employee and would be answered at the meeting or in cooperative publications. He presented an operations and financial update, discussed community involvement by the cooperative, addressed political issues and future for Riverland Energy Cooperative. Manager Sorenson then described the cooperative's commitment to community including SmartHub, scholarships, donation programs and the youth ambassador program. Manager Sorenson responded to the "Ask Willie" questions that referenced solar and energy efficient appliances.

Mr. Berman announced the results of the election and thanked the tellers. Incumbents Bryce Lisowski of District 2, Daniel Filla of District 4 and Bea Zingsheim of District 9 will remain in their positions. Mr. Berman indicated that unless someone requested, all ballots will be destroyed.

President Paudler thanked all who helped with the meeting and then called upon Mr. Berman to close the meeting. Mr. Berman asked for any unfinished business and any new business. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the business session at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Frame, Secretary

2023 DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, February 18, 2023 Arcadia High School, Arcadia WI

The 2023 District Committee Meeting was held at the Arcadia High School in Arcadia, Wisconsin, on Saturday, February 18, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President David Paudler, who asked if there were objections to him serving as chairperson and Dennis Frame serving as secretary for the meeting; there were no objections. President Paudler then turned the meeting over to the Interim Manager, Tim Holtan, who asked for all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The manager introduced the cooperative's Board of Directors, staff at the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and explained the responsibilities of the District Committee members.

Interim Manager Holtan provided the Operations/Manager's report including responsibilities of the district committee; political issues (Federal – build back better, State – EVs, and 3rd party financing); and the purpose of ACRE – rural electric lobbying organization. Kristina Marsolek presented the financial report including the income statement, operating costs, revenues, balance sheet, rate changes over the past 15 years, cost of power, and residential revenue. Scott Hayes provided an energy services report. He shared information on solar projects (small projects & commercial projects); electric vehicle revolution, the Ford F150 Lightning; and EV charging systems.

Interim Manager Holtan gave the operations report including 2022 Highlights – accomplishments, services, member meters, maintenance projects, substation purchase from Dairyland Power; total construction budget and overview of 2021/22 projects; changing material costs and issues getting materials. Riverland is working hard on mitigating material and equipment issues. Holtan then covered the new member services policy that was updated to cover rising costs. In 2022, the outage time per member was significantly affected by the December storm and Holtan reviewed the impact of that storm. Social media played a huge part in keeping our members informed.

Interim Manager Holtan then went through the proposed Bylaw changes to amend Article V (Officers),

Section 5 (Manager) replacing manager with Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Interim Manager Holtan turned the meeting over to President Paudler for the voting on the Bylaws.

President Paudler received a motion and a second to approve the Bylaw amendment and this passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Paudler reviewed a handout outlining the annual meeting rules and voting procedures. Motion made and seconded to approve the procedures; motion carried. The district committee members broke into the groups for the caucuses at 11:22 a.m. District committee members were provided lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 11:55 a.m. Interim Manager Holtan reviewed the results of the three caucuses: District 1 – Brad Schmidtkecht, unopposed; District 6 – Daniel Beck and Steven Hogden; and District 7 – Gary Dvoracek, unopposed. Holtan asked if there were other questions or topics for discussion. Interim Manager Holtan extended a thank you to the crew for the lunch, and reminded all attendees of the per diem and mileage reports and thanked all for coming. Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Frame, Recording Secretary

RIVERLAND ENERGY COOPERATIVE 2023 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

NOTE: The Board of Directors and the District Committee Conference have reviewed the Cooperative's Bylaws, in a continuing effort to ensure that the Bylaws meet the members' needs, now and into the future. Based on that review, the following changes are recommended for approval and adoption:

Amend Article V ("Officers"), Section 5 ("MANAGER") of the Bylaws by replacing the section in its entirety with the following:

SECTION 5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

The Board of Directors may appoint a Chief Executive Officer who may be, but who shall not be required to be, a member of the Cooperative. The Chief Executive Officer shall perform such duties as the Board of Directors may from time to time require of him or her and shall have such title and authority as the Board of Directors may from time to time vest in him or her and, amend any other provision of the Bylaws referencing that position, by replacing "manager" with "Chief Executive Officer".

EXPLANATION: The changes would update the position title of the general manager position to reflect more customary practice in the business world. Some businesses that Riverland deals with do not understand where in the organization a position titled "General Manager" fits. The changes would make clear that this position is the Chief Executive Officer of our Cooperative.

Director Candidates

As a member of Riverland Energy Cooperative, you have the opportunity to elect a director for your district to represent your interest on the board of directors. Each member in a contested election received a mail ballot for the director(s) up for election in that district, or can vote online through SmartHub or our website. This report contains the names of the candidates and their biographies nominated at the District Committee meeting or by petition. If there is no contested election, elections will take place at the Annual Meeting.

VOTING VIA SMARTHUB

Login to your SmartHub account and click "VOTE NOW" to vote. You must have a SmartHub account.

ONLINE VOTING

To access the login page, go to our website at www.riverlandenergy.com, and click the "Vote Now" button. Your member number and election passcode will be located on your bill. Once registered, follow the online voting instructions. Online voting begins March 6, 2023 and ends at 12:00 p.m., on March 24, 2023.

Voting instructions will be on the ballot.

DISTRICT 1

Brad Schmidtke

Mondovi



Occupation: Telecom Engineer. Brad is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Wisconsin.

Family: Brad and his wife, Noelle, have two children, John and Zoe. John is a sophomore at UW-Stout and Zoe is a senior at Mondovi High School.

Community activities: Brad's current and past activities include: Town of Mondovi Supervisor, 2019-present; Buffalo County Board of Supervisors, 2020-2023; and a Riverland Energy District Representative since 2019. Committees: Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability (ADRC), Land Conservation, Finance, Economic Development; Active Member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Mondovi.

Special hobbies and interests: Brad was born and raised on a dairy farm in the Mondovi area and has been a Riverland Energy member for 25 years. He enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, raising livestock, and working on his hobby farm.

Comments: "My employer of 20 years is a Telecommunications Cooperative, so I am very familiar with the cooperative principles and values. I am part of the management team and work in all aspects of broadband projects daily, and am engaged with the operations of the cooperative. A primary goal for the Buffalo County Board was to bring fiber-optic broadband service to the entire county. During my time on the board, several broadband projects were awarded and nearing completion. Electric and Telecom Utilities share many similarities, and I look forward to bringing my experience and talents as a director for Riverland Energy Cooperative."

DISTRICT 6

Daniel Beck

Ettrick/Galesville area



Occupation: Dan is recently retired. His most recent position was Chief Financial Officer of Think Mutual Bank, a \$2.5 billion bank based in Rochester, Minnesota, where he was responsible for the leadership of the financial areas of the bank, including regulatory requirements, and reporting to the Board of Directors. Dan is also a retired CPA.

Family: Dan and his wife, Lorraine, built their dream home in the area in 2016 and have since retired there permanently. They absolutely love having their three kids and their families here and enjoying the wonders of the surrounding area.

Community activities and leadership roles: Over his career, Dan has been active in many community activities. Most recent examples include: Board President of the Local Scout Council, and the Chairman of the Board of Rochester Area Economic Development organization.

"I believe that a person should give back to their communities. Serving on the board of Riverland Energy, both to ensure proper governance and to represent the District 6, is a wonderful opportunity to give back."

Special hobbies and interests: Dan is an avid bicyclist, and loves to snowshoe and hunt. He and Lorraine take care of their native prairie and woodlands. Dan stays abreast of current events through his reading of many news sources.

Comments: "Serving as the director for Riverland Energy is a job I take very seriously. Understanding the future of providing electricity to our communities in the context of the nation and world in which we live is critical to our future." Dan understands the role of a Board of Directors in an organization. He believes separating the board governance role from the role of management and operations is a key to success. The board needs to ensure the organization has excellent leadership and allows leadership to manage the business, which they do so well today. The governance role of the board includes both holding leadership accountable to the organization's values, and accountable to the strategic and operating

plans of the organization.

Dan's strategic, financial, and leadership experience on both sides of the board, lends itself to providing refreshing insight and counsel to the Riverland Energy organization. "I am committed to being a voice for District 6 to ensure the organization continues to provide excellent and consistent service at affordable rates to its customers."

Steven Hogden

Galesville



Occupation: Retired Agency Representative of West Central Insurance Services, Whitehall

Family: Steve and his wife, Linda, have 12 nieces and nephews and 10 godchildren.

Community activities and leadership roles: Steve has served on the Town

of Caledonia Board for 33 years and currently serves as Chairman. He is a commissioner of the Southern Trempealeau County Solid Waste Commission and represents Trempealeau County on the La Crosse Co. Solid Waste Policy Board as Vice-chair. He is a past member of the Trempealeau-Caledonia Fire board and served as its secretary for over two decades. He is a lifelong member of French Creek Lutheran Church and has served in many leadership roles, including Congregation President and as a Deacon.

Special hobbies and interests: Steve enjoys the outdoors, hunting, fishing and working on the farm that he and his wife have owned since 1974.

Comments: Steve has served on the Riverland Energy District Committee for many years and has kept informed on issues that affect rural electric co-ops. He formerly served on the Riverland Energy Board of Directors and as the Riverland representative to Dairyland Power. "I am a strong supporter of the cooperative business model and have served several other cooperatives in leadership roles. It would be an honor to again serve the members of Riverland Energy Cooperative as a member of the Board of Directors."

DISTRICT 7

**Gary Dvoracek, Incumbent**

Holmen

Occupation: Retired, having enjoyed 40 years in Ag Sales Management

Family: Spouse, Janice; three married daughters, Amy, Kimberly,

Sara; and three grandchildren. We have been residents of Town of Holland and Riverland members for 40 years.

Special hobbies and interests: Retirement has found me enjoying Family #1, yardwork, smoking BBQ and being involved with people socially and actively volunteering in community activities.

Comments: Throughout Gary's four years as your director, he earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership Certification educational certifications, allowing him to have a well-rounded understanding of the many responsibilities that a director has representing

you as a member. He has participated on numerous committees and has stepped up to be a delegate of the board at the state level. He is an ACRE member and participates in the Community Cares program.

"I will continue to strive to be an active, enthusiastic, and positive-minded director, using a common-sense approach and keeping the cooperative principles in mind in helping support the vision of our member-owned co-op. I look forward to continuing being your District 7 board representative."

Voting Authorization Necessary for Organizations

Authorization must be given for voting for non-individual members of the Cooperative such as a church, school, cooperative, government body and corporation. All of these members are entitled to representation and one vote, but the proper procedure must be followed to exercise this right. Each member should see that a representative is designated in writing.

An authorization form will be available at the Annual Meeting, or you can request one to mail in with your ballot. If your organization is to be represented at the Annual Meeting, the form must be completed and returned with your ballot or be brought by the representative to the Annual Meeting. To request a form, call 800-411-9115.

Balance Sheet

	2022	2021
ASSETS:		
UTILITY PLANT , at cost		
Electric Plant in Service	\$142,514,760	\$132,712,011
Construction Work in Progress	2,577,766	188,465
Total Utility Plant	\$145,092,527	\$132,900,476
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(50,388,137)	(46,004,813)
NET UTILITY PLANT	\$94,704,390	\$86,895,663
INVESTMENTS , at cost		
Investments in Associated Org.	\$19,929,620	\$20,499,062
Investments in Economic Dev.	2,683,437	1,785,539
Other Investments	3,626	4,092
Total	\$22,616,683	\$22,288,693
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$896,728	\$5,123,946
Notes Receivable – net	50,631	5,076
Accounts Receivable – net	4,465,954	3,894,155
Materials and Supplies	1,577,710	1,178,101
Other Current Assets	109,145	134,066
Total	\$7,100,167	\$10,335,344
DEFERRED DEBITS	\$897,338	\$1,033,823
TOTAL ASSETS	\$125,318,578	\$120,553,524
EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES:		
EQUITIES		
Patronage Capital	\$41,237,503	\$40,384,133
Operating Margins – Current year	613,000	862,932
Non-Operating Margins	1,510,435	1,611,388
Other Margins and Equities	8,002,119	7,804,120
Total	\$51,363,058	\$50,662,573
LONG-TERM DEBT	\$67,107,488	\$65,819,775
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Notes Payable	\$2,355,000	\$0.00
Accounts Payable	2,608,567	2,200,332
Consumer Deposits	224,586	234,943
Other Accrued Liabilities	1,583,928	1,488,941
Total	\$6,772,081	\$3,924,216
DEFERRED CREDITS	\$75,952	\$146,959
TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES	\$125,318,578	\$120,553,524

Income Statement

	2022	2021
OPERATING REVENUES:	<u>\$41,196,108</u>	<u>\$38,456,921</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Cost of Providing Services	\$24,833,173	\$22,983,007
Distribution – Operations	1,983,434	1,881,135
Distribution – Maintenance	2,988,694	2,758,963
Consumer Accounts	367,537	313,962
Consumer Services & Information	698,210	674,626
Administrative & General	1,791,608	1,619,943
Depreciation	4,747,483	4,430,983
Taxes	533,751	493,634
Other Deductions	10,430	10,373
Total	<u>\$37,954,320</u>	<u>\$35,166,625</u>
OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE FIXED CHARGES:	\$3,241,788	\$3,290,296
FIXED CHARGES:		
Interest on Long-term Liabilities	\$2,594,723	\$2,480,280
Other Interest	\$33,349	\$24,130
Total	<u>\$2,628,071</u>	<u>\$2,504,409</u>
OPERATING MARGINS AFTER FIXED CHARGES:	\$613,716	\$785,886
G&T AND OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS:	\$1,293,365	\$1,437,722
NET OPERATING MARGINS	<u>\$1,907,081</u>	<u>\$2,223,608</u>
NON OPERATING MARGINS		
Interest Income	\$144,047	\$63,433
Other Non Operating Margins	\$73,024	\$110,233
Total	<u>\$217,070</u>	<u>\$173,666</u>
Margins before income taxes	\$2,124,152	\$2,397,274
Income taxes	0	0
NET MARGINS FOR PERIOD	<u>\$2,124,152</u>	<u>\$2,397,274</u>

Financial Data & Growth Comparison

	2012	2021	2022
Total Utility Plant	\$ 85,454,503	\$ 132,712,011	\$ 142,514,760
Investment per Consumer	\$ 5,041	\$ 7,056	\$ 7,476
Average Residential Use (kWh)	1,120	1,099	1,114
Average Residential Bill	\$ 156.08	\$ 152.56	\$ 158.69
Total Margins	\$ 2,828,456	\$ 2,397,274	\$ 2,124,152
Total Revenue	\$ 34,887,451	\$ 38,456,921	\$ 41,196,108
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 21,809,408	\$ 22,983,007	\$ 24,833,173
Cost of Power as % of Revenue	62.5%	59.8%	60.3%
Equity Ratio	45.1%	41.3%	40.4%
Full-time Employees	46	40	42
Average Number of Services	16,952	18,808	19,062
Total Miles of Line	3267	3457	3470
Consumer per Mile of Line	5.19	5.38	5.49
kWh Sold	265,576,879	288,550,401	303,854,432
Line Loss	4.8%	3.8%	3.9%

Where did the money go?



16,605
Members

Riverland Energy Cooperative

\$6,105

Collected for Community
Cares Donations
(Rounding up your bill)

61%

Purchased Power
Portion of
Budgeted Expenses

Over
\$12,000

Donated to Members Through
Riverland Programs

19,062
Services

2,015
Miles of
Overhead Line

22,443 Meters

1,455
Miles of
Underground Line

Average Residential
Use

1,114

Average Residential
Bill

\$158.69

Services per Mile
of Line

5.44

3.8%

Line Loss

\$24,500

Given in
Scholarships

kWh Purchased
315,942,974

kWh Sold
303,854,432

40

Full-Time
Employees
Working in:
Alma, Arcadia,
& Holmen

Percent of Assets
owned by Members
40.4%

\$1,239,464
Retired in Capital Credits

Community Connection

One of the cooperative principles we live by here at Riverland Energy Cooperative is Concern for Community. Though this comes in many forms, we honor this principle by giving time and energy for food drives, recycle drive, safety demonstrations and participating in parades.



Riverland Community Cares is a strictly voluntary program where members round up their electric bills to the next nearest dollar and those monies are used to assist worthy causes and organizations in your local communities. Those receiving grants in 2022 include:

St. Boniface School	\$500
RiverBend Party Animals	\$500
Fountain City Fire Association	\$500
Trempealeau County Humane Society	\$500
Holmen Food Pantry	\$475
Disability Action Network	\$475
Scenic Valley Swimming Pool	\$475
Hope4U	\$475



Youth Ambassador Program

Eighteen high school students took part in Riverland Energy's Youth Ambassador Program during the 2021-2022 school year. Due to COVID the previous year, the group was combined of both juniors and seniors.

Alma High School

Lauren Brunner
Ryann Rieck
Jade Davenport
Isaac Mikelson

Arcadia High School

Tegan Michalak
Connor Weltzien
Jack Ziegeweid

Gilmanton High School

Kailey Herbenson
Olivia Wulff

Holmen

Jordan Toso

Mondovi High School

Zoe Schmidtknecht
Savannah Erdman
Katherine Thompson
Kylie Van Roo

Whitehall High School

Ian Pank
Justin Fremstad
Aiden Sonsalla
Colton Sluga



2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

High school seniors whose families are served by Riverland Energy Cooperative were awarded scholarships in a random drawing of \$1,000 each at the Riverland Energy Annual Meeting on March 26, 2022. If there were no applications represented from a school, all names were put in a bucket and new names were drawn. The funds for these scholarships are made available by unclaimed capital credits from former members.

- Alma High School: Colton Brecka
- Alma High School: Isaac Mikelson
- Alma High School: Tyler Radatz
- Alma High School: Riley Stiehl
- Arcadia High School: Morgan Baier
- Arcadia High School: Rachel Knudsen
- C-FC High School: Paris Lambert
- C-FC High School: Vanessa Smith
- Durand High School: Ethan Fedie
- Durand High School: Ethan Anibas
- Eleva-Strum High School: Brady Monson
- G-E-T High School: Keegan Schorbahn
- G-E-T High School: Maria Miranda
- Gilmanton High School: Katelynn Nelson
- Gilmanton High School: Hillari Klopp
- Holmen High School: Gavin Wateski
- Holmen High School: Walter Ranis

- Holmen High School: Madeline Beinborn
- Holmen High School: Adrianna Purvis
- Independence High School: Alana Back
- Mondovi High School: Anna Gray
- Mondovi High School: Josh Linse
- Mondovi High School: Zachary Pax
- Mondovi High School: Kyla Taylor
- Mondovi High School: Hannah Noll
- Onalaska High School: Alexa Wolcott
- Onalaska High School: Nicholas Hubbard
- Osseo-Fairchild High School: Amara Wilkinson
- Whitehall High School: Nylah Lisowski
- Whitehall High School: Maggie Lindberg
- At Large: Genevieve Eichman, Winona HS
- At Large: Katelyn Adams, Melrose-Mindoro
- At Large: Ava Fisher, Luther



RIVERLAND ENERGY EMPLOYEES

Abramczak, Josh, Lineman
 Alesch, Beth, Mgr., Communications & Member Services
 Anibas, Todd, Lineman
 Back, Brody, Apprentice Lineman
 Curran, Jenny, Lead Metering Technician
 Christ, Sue, Member Services
 Glass, Brian, Lineman
 Goldbeck, Carrie, Consumer Accounts
 Gran, Hayden, Apprentice Lineman
 Hayes, Scott, Manager of Energy Services
 Helgeson, Kevin, Line Foreman
 Hilmanowski, Tammy, Accounting/Payroll
 Holtan, Tim, Manager of Operations/Interim CEO
 Hong, Todd, Assistant Line Superintendent
 Huffman, Jim, IT Manager
 Johnson, Trey, Mapping & Engineering Rep.
 Johnson, Wyatt, Apprentice Lineman
 Lee, Brandon, Lineman
 Lien, Jordan, Manager of HR /Executive Assistant
 Limberg, Jake, Apprentice Lineman
 Kircher, Dale, Line Foreman
 Kosik, Royce, Lineman

Kulig, Jeff, Metering Technician
 Madden, Tammy, Consumer Accounts
 Marc Makes, Lineman
 Marsolek, Kristina, Manager of Finance
 Marten, Dillon, Lineman
 Mathson, Barb, Accountant/Bookkeeper
 Mason, Bill, Assistant Line Superintendent
 Ott, Sarah, Member Services
 Palmer, Brett, Lineman
 Pronschinske, Adam, Lineman
 Ravnum, Ted, Mechanic
 Siebenaler, Adam, Lineman
 Sluga, Sharon, Operations Coordinator
 Sonsalla, Dean, Inventory & Facilities Coordinator
 Sosalla, Rob, Line Superintendent
 Stello, Chase, Lineman
 Thompson, Mitchell, Apprentice Lineman
 Vitse, Tyler, Line Foreman

2022 Retirees:

Pete Boos, Line Foreman
 Jerry Sorenson, General Manager
 Mark Schamaun, Line Foreman




Tim Holtan, Interim CEO

Beth Alesch, Editor

www.riverlandenergy.com



**Riverland Energy
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Arcadia Office

N28988 State Road 93,
 P.O. Box 277,
 Arcadia, WI 54612
 608-323-3381
 1-800-411-9115

Holmen Office

1800 Granary St.
 Holmen, WI 54636
 608-323-3381
 1-800-411-9115

Outages & Emergencies

Call 1-800-927-6206
 24 hours a day

Office Hours

Arcadia: 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
 Holmen: 7:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Officers of the Board of Directors:

David Paudler, Onalaska, President
 Dan Filla, Arcadia, Vice-President
 Dennis Frame, Osseo,
 Secretary/Treasurer

7 CO-OP PRINCIPLES

Riverland Energy Cooperative operates according to these seven cooperative principles:

1. membership

Open to all without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.

2. democratic member control

One member, one vote.

3. member economic participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. The economic benefits of a cooperative operation are returned to the members, reinvested in the co-op, or used to provide member services.

4. autonomy and independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members.

5. education, training and information

Cooperatives provide education and training for members so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-ops. They inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

6. cooperation among cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, regional, national, and international structures.

7. concern for the community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

Statement of Non Discrimination

Riverland Energy Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political belief, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



Our Mission

To provide safe, reliable, innovative and affordable energy and related services.

Vision Statement

Riverland Energy Cooperative shall be a trusted provider of reliable electric service, superior customer service, innovative energy solutions, and a respected business partner in the communities we serve.