



## MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

# Electric co-ops **engage** with new administration

**W**ith every presidential inauguration comes a period of learning. Nearly seven months into President Trump's first term, Washington is still adjusting.

America's electric cooperatives engaged early on to make sure the new administration recognizes the importance of affordable, reliable electricity to local economies.

Within three months after President Trump took office, Jim Matheson, CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), had already met with the Secretary of Energy and the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as presidential advisors on rural, infrastructure, and agriculture issues. Four cabinet members also met with co-op leaders at the annual legislative conference.



Co-ops are working to ensure the new administration understands our needs for our members.

Co-ops are encouraged by the administration's willingness to review burdensome regulations and to listen to the concerns of rural Americans. We are already seeing some beneficial changes.

One of the first actions taken by President Trump was signing an order to review the Clean

Power Plan (CPP) — a rule that would jeopardize affordable, reliable power for millions of American families and businesses. The administration's decision to review the CPP is a welcome development.

In April, Flint Energies member Sonny Perdue was confirmed as Secretary of Agriculture. As an electric co-op member himself, Perdue understands the critical role co-ops play throughout rural America, and we look forward to working with him to further improve the quality of life in rural America.

The White House recently created the Rural America Task Force. We appreciate President Trump recognizing the need to prioritize rural American families and businesses, and this task force will offer yet another way for electric co-ops to work with the administration as we seek to strengthen rural economies.

The White House has also expressed a strong interest in reviving America's infrastructure. Electric co-ops are at the policy table, urging politicians to look beyond the investment in roads and bridges when considering rural America's priorities.



**Bill Swango**  
General Manager

Improved high-speed internet access is at the top of the infrastructure priority list for many rural communities. That's why co-ops were pleased when Ajit Pai, the new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) chairman, appointed Jim Matheson to a new Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. The committee was created to make recommendations to the FCC on how to accelerate the deployment of broadband by reducing and removing regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment.

As member-owned electric utilities, co-ops have a responsibility to engage in these discussions. During the co-ops' legislative conference in Washington, D.C., Jim Matheson declared that "in a time of uncertainty, it's all the more important for us to remain at the table, be active participants in the policy environment, and assert ourselves as the voice of American consumers."

The time is now for a substantial conversation about the importance of rural America. Co-ops evaluate the actions of any new administration according to one simple principle: how will these actions affect our 42 million member-owners?

New policy staff may not be aware of how some programs slated for elimination or reductions in the budget proposal benefit co-op members. We must educate policymakers about the importance of these programs.

### **Please call in your outages!**

If you experience an outage, call the office at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846. If you post on Facebook or via e-mail, it could delay restoration time. E-mails and Facebook are not continuously monitored, especially during evenings or weekends.



# COME OUT TO YOUR ANNUAL MEETING

*Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017, is the date for this year's Annual Meeting of the Membership of Adams Rural Electric, which will be held during the day at the Adams County Fairgrounds in West Union.*

### Registration

If you plan to attend, please send in the registration card attached in this issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine as soon as possible. Sending in the card helps us estimate how many members plan to attend so we can plan accordingly for the meal. When you note how many will attend, please include children ages 17 and under. There will not be child care provided.

Registration will begin at 10:30 a.m. Adams County Regional Medical Center will provide a health fair, and Backyard Inflatables, LLC, will have bounce houses for the kids.

Food will be provided by JT's Stovetop BBQ. Tickets will be distributed for the meal at registration. **Meal tickets will be limited to two adults plus children.** If you bring other guests, you will be able to purchase a meal for a fee. The meal will be provided from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Administration building. There will also be tables set up in the Merchant's Hall.

The format of the meeting will remain the same, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Administration building.

### Trustee election ballots

**Ballots must be postmarked by Aug. 18, 2017, to be valid.** Members will be voting for one candidate in each of the three districts up for election. **We cannot accept the ballots at our office;** they must be sent in the pre-addressed envelope to a local CPA (Certified Public Accountant). The CPA will make sure all ballots are valid by checking for any duplication and making sure the ballots include the member's signature. 1411850028. The CPA will then be present at the Annual Meeting to announce the results of the voting. By participating in the voting process, you are letting your voice be heard.

### Director responsibility

One of the Seven Cooperative Principles is "Democratic Member Control," which means that cooperatives are

democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives, who comprise your board of directors, are accountable to the members. This principle of "one membership, one vote" allows you to express your ownership interest by voting for your trustees.

The Adams Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. Amended Code of Regulations, Article IV, Section 1 states: "The entire business and affairs of the cooperative shall be managed by a board of nine (9) trustees which shall exercise all of the powers of the cooperative except such as are: by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or this Code of Regulations conferred upon or reserved to the members."

It is the responsibility of the board of trustees to see that the cooperative remains financially stable in the midst of an economy fraught with uncertainties. The trustees must continually look ahead to anticipate the needs of the membership. This could include building new substations or replacing damaged or outdated equipment, lines, poles, etc. They must keep abreast of changing legislature, rising costs, and new technology to make decisions that will not only keep the cooperative financially viable, but also able to supply the best electric service possible to the membership. Each trustee is a member-owner of the cooperative; therefore, he or she also has a personal interest in its management and growth. Any decision that is made by the board of trustees affects each of them in the same way as the rest of the membership.

If you need information concerning the Annual Meeting, scholarship program, capital credits, calendar of events, or have any other questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the office. Just ask for Alice.

*See you at the Annual Meeting!*

# ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES



## ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. BALANCE SHEET

Years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015  
(Based on audited financial statements)

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Total Utility Plant	\$ 41,495,084	\$ 40,677,482
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(12,614,537)</u>	<u>(12,126,138)</u>
Net Utility Plant	28,880,547	28,551,344
Cash	54,461	166,708
Investments	7,423,665	7,429,904
Accounts Receivable-Electric Sales	1,712,613	1,404,261
Materials and Supplies-Electric	357,174	313,811
Other Deferred Debits	491,872	621,008
Other Current and Accrued Assets	449,925	364,863
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 39,370,257</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 38,851,899</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Debt-RUS,CFC, and FFB	\$ 18,837,497	\$ 19,535,668
Obligations under Capital Leases	325,825	401,140
Current and Accrued Liabilities	<u>2,165,539</u>	<u>1,822,328</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>21,328,861</b>	<b>21,759,136</b>
Total Margins and Equity	17,844,027	16,902,871
Non-operating Margins	<u>197,369</u>	<u>189,892</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b><u>\$ 39,370,257</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 38,851,899</u></b>

## ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015  
(Based on audited financial statements)

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
Operating Revenue	\$ 15,958,044	\$ 15,765,600
Interest	211,734	200,767
Other Revenue and Patronage Capital	419,186	860,940
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$ 16,588,964</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 16,827,307</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Cost of Power	9,093,810	9,120,007
Operations and Maintenance Expense	1,729,341	1,970,406
Administrative and General Expense	860,179	797,731
Consumer Accounting Expense	585,504	524,031
Customer Service and Sales Expense	47,896	45,714
Depreciation Expense	1,397,815	1,492,375
Tax Expense	492,239	511,669
Interest Expense	845,299	869,182
Miscellaneous Expense	8,328	8,187
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$ 15,060,411</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 15,339,302</u></b>
<b>PATRONAGE CAPITAL AND MARGINS</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,528,553</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,488,005</u></b>

(A complete copy of the audited financial reports is available upon request.)



# ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE LOCAL PAGES

## Important Notice

We have received reports of our members receiving calls offering credits or discounts on their bills and asking for personal information. These calls are not from Adams REC. Please do not give out your personal or account information over the phone unless you initiated the call or request!

No employee of Adams Rural Electric will ever call and ask for your personal information. If you call the office to discuss your account, make a payment, request disconnection, or for any service-related reason, we will verify your identity by the last four digits of your Social Security number. We will never ask for personal information, such as your banking information, unless you want to initiate a payment.

If you have given out your personal banking information, contact your banking facility immediately. Identity theft is still on the rise, and you should always be on the alert and vigilant about protecting your personal information.

## HAS YOUR INFORMATION CHANGED?

Please update your mailing address and phone number.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Adams Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
P.O. Box 247, West Union, OH 45693

*Paying your bill has never been easier!*

3 ways to pay with:

**NO ENVELOPES!**

**NO STAMPS! NO DRIVING!**

*ONLINE AT OUR WEBSITE, BY PHONE, OR  
DIRECT PAYMENT FROM YOUR BANK ACCOUNT*

\*Pay online at [www.adamsrec.com](http://www.adamsrec.com); just click on the "Pay Your Bill" link and follow the instructions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

\*Pay by phone with our payment hotline. Call 1-800-809-6352 and follow the directions. You can pay by credit/debit card or from your checking/savings account.

\*Sign up for Direct Payment to have your payment automatically drafted from your bank account — call the office to sign up.

If you have any questions, call Adams REC at 937-544-2305.

## Capital credits retirements

Capital Credits refunded to the estates of Adams Rural Electric Co-op members for June 2017 totaled \$13,592.35. Estates paid in 2017 to date total \$98,648.87.

In case of the death of a member of Adams Rural Electric, contact Kimberly Smith or Alice Baird at 937-544-2305 or 1-800-283-1846.



ADAMS RURAL ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

### CONTACT

937-544-2305 | 1-800-283-1846  
[www.adamsrec.com](http://www.adamsrec.com)

### OFFICE

4800 St. Rte. 125  
P.O. Box 247  
West Union, OH 45693

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### PAY YOUR BILL AT 1-800-809-6352

We provide three convenient ways to pay: online, by phone, or directly from your bank account. Failure to receive your bill in no way relieves you from paying it. If you don't receive your bill, contact the office before the due date and we'll issue another one.

Pay at these collection stations:  
First State Bank — Georgetown, Hillsboro, Manchester, Peebles, Ripley, Seaman, West Union, and Winchester.  
National Bank of Adams County — 218 N. Market St., West Union.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Stephen Huff  
President

Donald C. McCarty Sr.  
Vice President

Kenneth McCann  
Secretary

Blanchard Campbell  
Charles L. Newman  
William Wylie  
M. Dale Grooms  
William Seaman  
John Wickerham  
Trustees

### PERSONNEL

Erika Ackley  
Alice Baird  
Steve Campbell  
Kacee Cox  
Chad Daniels  
Joan Drummond  
Joyce Grooms  
John Hayslip  
David Henry  
Steve Hoop  
Matt Isaac  
Jared Johnson

Dave Kirker  
Chris Koenig  
Rodney Little  
Ronald Lynch  
Dave McChesney  
Kristina Orr  
John Polk  
David Ralston  
Kimberly Smith  
Cody Spriggs  
Gary Tolle  
Mike Whitley

Bill Swango  
General Manager

### HIDDEN NUMBER BILL CREDIT

Find your account number in the Adams REC local pages (the four center pages of this magazine), then call our office, and you will receive a \$20 credit on your electric bill. You must call by the end of the month in which your account number appears. Your call affirms permission to publish your name as a winner in an upcoming issue of *Ohio Cooperative Living*.