



ENGAGING WITH YOUR COOPERATIVE

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

The team at Dunn Energy Cooperative (DEC) just wrapped up an incredibly busy Cooperative Month. We returned just over \$864,000 in capital credits to our members, hosted local business leaders at Business After Hours, and had a successful cooperative cookout. This year we also worked with our power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC), to conduct a day of service for one of our local communities. A team of 18 DEC employees, and others from Eau Claire Energy Cooperative and DPC, performed a host of activities in the Elk Mound area including painting in the park, sealing a basketball court, trimming trees along trails, cleaning and seeding the solid waste site, along with several other projects. It was a great event and a great way to truly show the cooperative difference. These events are a way for us to engage our members and the community.

Another way we engage our members, and the community, is by speaking to local groups on energy-related issues. Recently I had a chance to talk with a group called Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement. This group sets up seminars, trips, and educational opportunities for its membership to learn about current issues. For almost two hours we discussed power generation, renewable energy, electric vehicles, and many other topics. Programs like this are a great way for members and the community at large to educate themselves on energy issues and become more engaged with their cooperative. We also took that message

to Madison recently where we talked to legislators about energy policy. Sometimes rural issues get overlooked and part of our job is to advocate for our membership to ensure that you are treated fairly as we work to safely bring you reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible energy.

Having a membership that takes an active role in the cooperative and spends time educating themselves on energy issues makes our cooperative strong. We have

many opportunities for members to engage with their cooperative. In the following pages you will read about an opportunity to run for the DEC Board of Directors. Director terms

are for three years, and directors can serve for a total of 12 years on the board. Over the next two years we will have five directors reach their term limit. If you are interested in running, please contact Jolene at the office for more information.

There are other ways you can be engaged with your cooperative as well, such as serving on our Operation Round Up committee, nominating committee, or by attending other events we offer. The more engaged and educated you are on energy related issues the stronger our cooperative will be. Thank you for being part of our cooperative.

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LOAD CONTROL TEST SET FOR NOVEMBER 15

Please be advised the Winter Test for Interruptible Heat (Dual Fuel) Members is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15. This date is the Wednesday of the week before Thanksgiving, the same test day as prior years. This load control test is performed in advance of the winter Full Load Control season to ensure member familiarity with the control sequence and to ensure that backup heating systems have been validated for proper function.

Residential Interruptible Heat load classes will be controlled as follows: (6451001)

Control Start

- All Interruptible Heat load classes will **begin control at 6:55 a.m.** without pre-alert.

Restoral

- Miscellaneous Heat loads (class 4B) will be restored at 10:30 a.m.
- All other Interruptible Heat loads (classes 2A, 2B, 2C, and 2W) will vary in restoral, beginning at 11:00 a.m.



CALLING ALL INTERESTED PARTIES FOR DIRECTOR IN DISTRICT 6

In the world of not-for-profit organizations, member-owned cooperative businesses included, the board of directors sets the direction of the business. They're the ones who make decisions on rate schedules, annual budgets, special contracts, and more. All of these decisions are made with the guidance of the cooperative leadership team, but ultimately the decision is made by nine members who live and work in our communities. This year, three of our long-serving directors will not be returning to the board room as they have

If running for director is something that interests you, please consider this your formal invitation to make a difference.

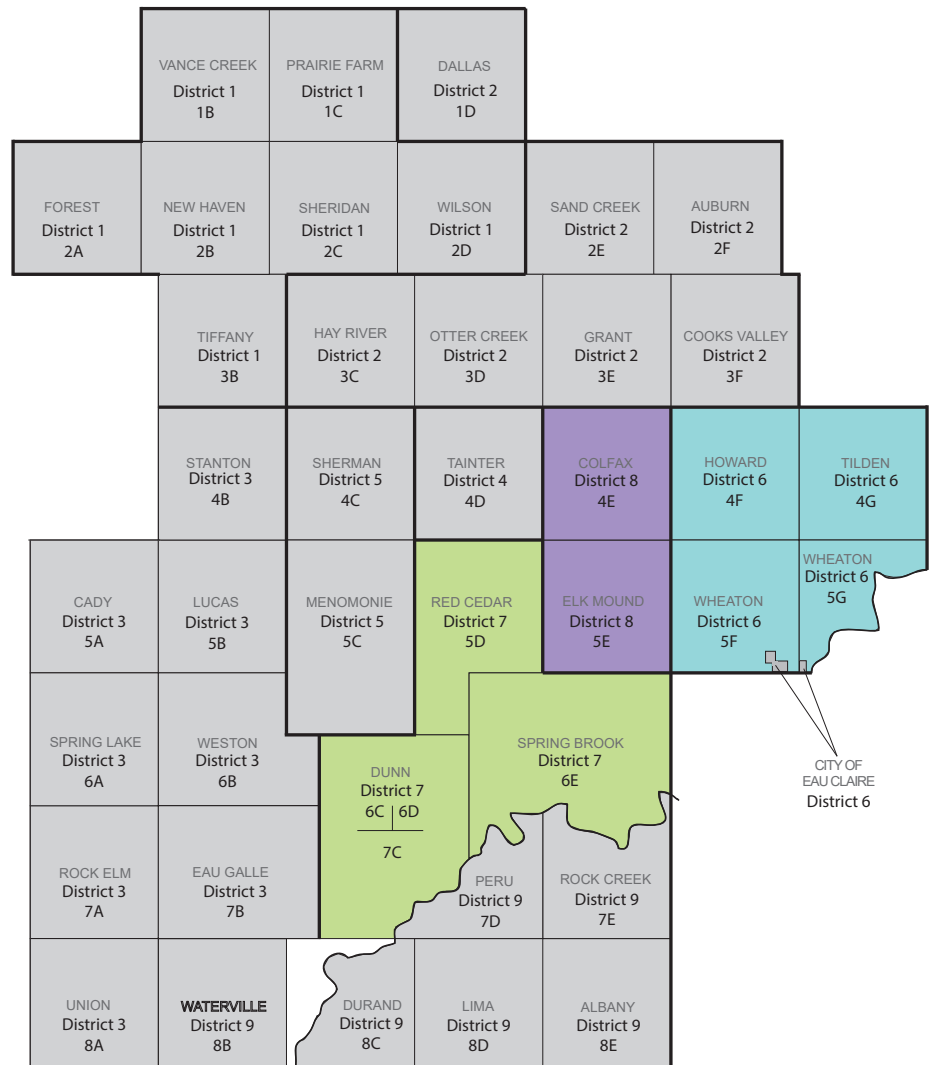
served their full 12 years and are not eligible for reelection. This means we are looking for six qualified individuals to run for those seats in districts 6, 7, and 8.

The directors have a huge responsibility to the members the cooperative serves. In order to make informed decisions in board meetings, the directors are expected to complete the Credentialed Cooperative Director certification within their first three-year term. The course consists of five full-day classes. On top of this, directors have the opportunity to attend many other educational opportunities throughout the year, ranging from energy issues summits and regional trade meetings to our national lobby days.

“Being member-owned and member-driven is a distinct advantage for Dunn Energy Cooperative. We work for, and are governed by, the people who use our power, so our focus is always on serving our members,” said Dunn Energy General Manager Jesse Singerhouse. “We encourage all members to look for ways you can be more involved in your cooperative; this could include running

for the board of directors or participating on a member committee.”

Do you have the time and interest in serving on your cooperative board of directors? Would you like to help set the direction of the cooperative in coming years? Are you committed to the communities we serve? If so, please watch your mailbox in December for information on the next director





RESTED PARTIES STRICTS 6, 7, AND 8!

elections. The district notification letter will be sent to members whose districts are up for election.

Once that letter comes out, getting on the ballot is simple. Just notify your Nominations Committee member of your interest in running. Their information will be listed in the district notification letter. They will provide you with a director job description and an application to fill out. You'll be directed to return the application to either your committee member or the cooperative office. Your committee

member will bring your name to the first Nomination Committee meeting. The committee then votes on who to add to the ballots for the Annual Meeting. (2742002)

Each year at the Annual Meeting, three of the nine directors are elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors. The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2024. If running for director is something that interests you, please consider this your formal invitation to make a difference.

Yes! I'm interested in running for the board!

Interested in running and want us to contact you when your district is up for election, so you don't forget? Just fill out this form and return to it the cooperative or email the information required to info@dunnenergy.com.

Name: _____

Account number or location address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____



Dunn Energy Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

DIRECTOR DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

All you need to know

Who is on the board?

The board of directors is made up of nine cooperative members: one from each of the nine cooperative districts.

What does a director do?

A director represents all members of Dunn Energy Cooperative and is responsible for approving general policies, annual budgets, special contracts, capital credit retirements, bylaw amendment changes, rate schedules, and delegating authority to the General Manager to execute and carry out the daily activities of the Cooperative.

When does the board meet?

The board of directors meet the last Monday of each month with meetings beginning at 9 a.m. and regularly lasting until Noon.

Is there any compensation?

Directors are paid a per diem for each meeting attended as well as IRS approved mileage.

What is the time commitment?

From monthly board meetings, DEC's Annual Meeting, trainings, member events, to workshops and travel, the typical time commitment for board members is approximately 24-30 days/evenings per year.



BEWARE OF DAMAGED POWER EQUIPMENT:

Energy can spread like ripples on a pond

The transmission and distribution of power is safe and reliable much of the time. However, storms, critters, and car accidents can damage energized utility equipment such as power lines, poles, and padmount transformers (green boxes). Not only can this cause minor inconveniences, like service interruptions and road closures, it can also create life-threatening situations when energy invisibly spreads like ripples on a pond.

Here is what can occur when utility equipment is damaged:

- Step potential happens when a person walks from one voltage “ripple” to another and their feet experience a difference in voltage.
- Touch potential happens when someone touches something at one voltage and steps on or contacts something else at a different voltage.

Both types of potential can cause serious internal and external injuries and death, since electric current enters the body at one point and exits at another.

Hidden Account Numbers

If you find your account number hidden in the pages of this magazine and you call and tell us before the next issue is mailed, we'll put a **\$50 credit** on your electric bill. Happy hunting!

Last month's winners were David Jenson and Mckinley Bignell.

How to stay safe

Take precautions near downed power lines, poles, or other damaged power equipment. Always assume damaged power equipment is energized; it can look lifeless and harmless and still be live.

Besides accidents, storms, and animal interferences, another hazardous situation may occur when equipment or extensions get too close to or contact power equipment. To stay safe around damaged utility equipment:

- Stay inside your vehicle or cab.
- Call 9-1-1.
- Report damaged power equipment to a dispatcher.
- Only exit if you see smoke or there is a fire.

If you must exit due to a fire, carefully do the following:

- Cross your arms and make a clean jump out.
- Do not touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time.
- Make solid hops with your feet together as far away as you can.
- If you are unable to hop, shuffle away without lifting your feet.
- Do not return to the vehicle.

If you are near the scene:

- Do not approach the scene to help.
- Stay at least 50 feet away.
- Do not lean on or touch anything.

For more electrical safety tips, visit SafeElectricity.org.

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