



ADVOCATING FOR FEMA AND PERMITTING REFORM

By Jesse Singerhouse, General Manager

Recently, I had the privilege of traveling to Washington, D.C., to meet with the offices of the eight Representatives and two Senators that represent Wisconsin. Alongside fellow cooperative leaders, we engaged in critical conversations about two pressing issues affecting our members and electric cooperatives across the country: FEMA reform and permitting reform legislation, which are both currently under consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Our primary focus was the Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act, a bipartisan bill aimed at streamlining FEMA's processes and ensuring timely, reliable disaster relief for electric cooperatives. As rural utilities, we are often the first to respond when disaster strikes, whether it's a tornado, flood, or ice storm. Yet, the current FEMA reimbursement system can leave cooperatives waiting months, even years, for funding, forcing us to take out loans and pass interest costs on to our members.

The proposed legislation would allow FEMA to reimburse cooperatives for interest accrued on emergency loans and would require the agency to disburse funds within 120 days of

a disaster declaration. These changes would significantly reduce the financial burden on cooperative members and improve our ability to restore power quickly and efficiently, should we ever have a disaster.

We encourage our members to stay informed and engaged. Reach out to your congressional representatives and express your support for the FEMA Act and the SPEED Act.

We also discussed permitting reform, a vital issue for infrastructure development and grid reliability. The bipartisan Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act seeks to modernize and expedite the permitting process for energy generation and transmission projects. For cooperatives like Dunn Energy and our power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative, this means fewer delays in building and upgrading the infrastructure needed

to serve our communities reliably and sustainably.

Throughout our meetings, I was encouraged by the level of engagement and understanding of the congressional office, and our issue garnered bipartisan support. They listened to our concerns and recognized the importance of these reforms not just for Dunn Energy, but for the rural families and businesses across the country.

At Dunn Energy Cooperative, our mission is to provide safe, reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible energy to our members. Advocacy efforts, like this trip to Washington, are essential to ensuring we can continue fulfilling that mission.

We encourage our members to stay informed and engaged. Reach out to your congressional representatives and express your support for the FEMA Act and the SPEED Act. Your voice matters, and together we can advocate for bipartisan policies that protect our communities and strengthen our energy future.

Working for You

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 Terry & Brenda Nelson and Aaron & Natalie Van Hove.

CALLING ALL INTEREST FOR DIRECTOR IN DISTRICT

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. 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. Current directors in those seats are eligible for reelection. However, our bylaws state that there shall be two directors on the ballot in each district. Therefore, **we are looking for three qualified individuals to run for seats in districts 1, 4, and 9.**

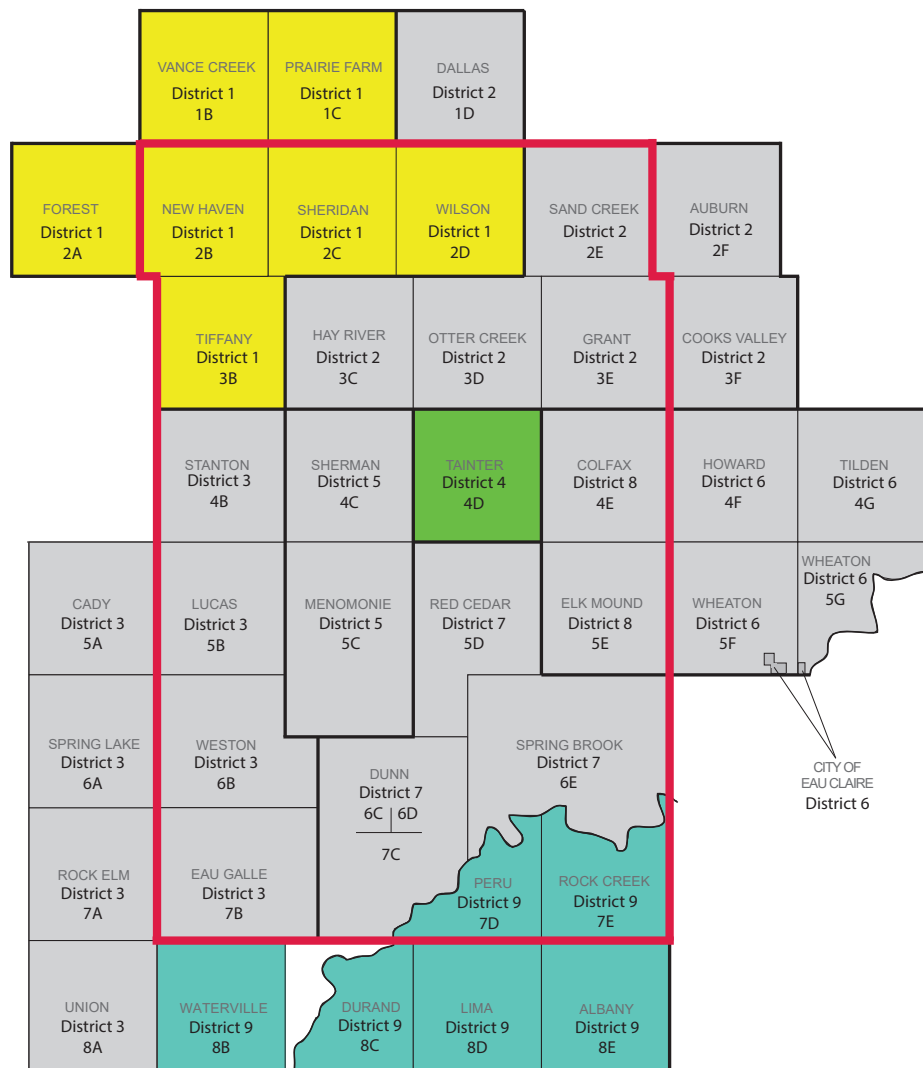
The directors have a huge responsibility for the members the Cooperative serves. To make informed decisions in board meetings, the directors are expected to complete the Credentialed Cooperative Director certification within their first three-year term. The course consists of five full-day classes. On top of this, directors have the opportunity to attend 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 and CEO, Jesse Singerhouse. "We encourage all members to look for ways they can be more involved in the 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 Elections. The district notification letter will be sent to members whose districts are up for election. Once that letter comes out,





ED PARTIES TS 1, 4, AND 9!

the nomination process is simple. Just notify your member of the Nominations Committee of your interest in running, and they will bring your name to the table for consideration. Their information will be listed in the district notification letter. They will provide you with a director's 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.

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 2026 Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026. **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**

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MY CO-OP

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.

LOAD CONTROL TEST SET FOR NOVEMBER 19

Please be advised the **Winter Test for Interruptible Heat (Dual Fuel) Members is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19.** (140020072) 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:

Control Start

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

Restoral

- All Interruptible Heat loads will vary in restoral, beginning at 10:30 a.m. with full restoral at 11 a.m.

HOW DO WE CONTACT YOU?

Every now and again we have to take some electrical services out of power to do maintenance or repairs on our system. When we do this, we send out an automated call informing members of the planned outage so they can plan accordingly. We don't want you to just get started on a birthday cake or loaf of bread and have the power go out!

Every time we do these calls, we have a handful of phone numbers that bounce back as disconnected, changed, or it's for the wrong person altogether.

We list your phone number(s) that we have on file on the

bottom third of your electric bill. Please take a moment to verify that the number we have on file is the best number for you to get important notifications at. (9556001) If it is not the correct number, you can make the correction on the stub and just mail it with your monthly payment. Otherwise, you can always call the office at 715-232-6240 to notify us of the change.

If you are a member who uses SmartHub, you can also change your contact information through the app or desktop site.

KEEP
SEND



Dunn Energy Cooperative
P.O. Box 220
Menomonie, WI 54751

"Energy Through Excellence" A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

☐ Change mailing address or phone number on reverse.

Contact information on file:
Home: (715) 555-1212
Mobile: (715) 55-1212
Email:

WILLIE WIREDHAND
1234 MAIN ST
MENOMONIE WI 54751-5110

4 1100

Account Number: 1234000
Total Amount Due: \$131.00
Paid By Bank Draft on 01/20/2025 - DO NOT PAY



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