

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

Rolling Hills Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Contact Us

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Beloit, KS 67420
785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

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Happy Retirement!

JOIN US FOR A RETIREMENT RECEPTION HONORING

Doug Jackson

GENERAL MANAGER

FRIDAY, JUNE 30 | 9-11 A.M.

ROLLING HILLS ELECTRIC COMMUNITY ROOM

3075B U.S. Hwy. 24, Beloit

You are invited to celebrate Doug Jackson's 36 years of service to Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative. Stop by and enjoy coffee and doughnuts with us to wish him a happy retirement!



2023 RHEC Annual Meeting

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS



Members won bill credits as part of the prize drawings.



Board President Michelle Brokes speaks to the membership in attendance.

Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on April 21, 2023, was held in the Beloit shop with 172 people in attendance. The evening kicked off by members registering for prizes and receiving a pair of RHEC logoed kitchen shears for attending. A delicious meal was provided and served by Gene's Heartland Foods out of Smith Center.

The meeting began with presentations from each of the previous year's Youth Tour winners, Jake Sasse and Rebecca Finney. The first half of door prizes were drawn, then the business meeting was convened by Board President Michelle Brokes followed by the president's, manager's and financial reports. Jason Rabe, new Rolling Hills CEO/general manager, was introduced and addressed the membership in attendance.

"This is truly an honor," Rabe said. "A real accomplishment and I am excited to join the Rolling Hills family and to get to know the board members and the employees. I have big shoes to fill, and I embrace the challenge."

Doug Jackson, current Rolling Hills general manager, who has been involved in the cooperative realm since 1987, spoke on his retirement.

"It's a tough time for me to talk," Jackson said. "I have been part of the

cooperative since I was age 32 — one of the two youngest managers at that time. I wish to thank the board members, past and present, and employees who are the best I've been blessed to work with. I want to thank all that make the cooperative work — the members — without you, it would not exist. And most of all, I want to thank my wife who helped raise our family during my time of managing. I have been truly blessed with it all."

Guest speakers, Suzanne Lane, executive vice president and CEO of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, (Rolling Hills Electric's power supplier); and Larry Detwiler, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. director of loss control, safety and compliance, addressed the membership.

The evening ended with an outage overview and an electrical safety demonstration led by Marc Martin, operations manager. President Brokes announced the voting results re-electing **COREY DLABAL**, District 1; **DAVID DUBBERT** and **TOM MARR**, District 2; and **C. ERIC ANDERSEN**, District 3. The remaining prizes were drawn, and President Brokes thanked members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

We want to thank our special guests and members who attended and look forward to seeing you next year!



Member Mike Jordan will get some good use of his prize.

BOARD ELECTION RESULTS



Corey Dlabal
District 1



David Dubbert
District 2



Tom Marr
District 2



C. Eric Anderson
District 3



Youth Tour winner, Jake Sasse, presented to members about his trip last summer.



Doug Rabe, new RHEC CEO/general manager effective June 1, introduces himself to the members.



Member Susan Inskip with her annual meeting prize.



Evelyn Brock was the proud and excited winner of a kid's fishing pole.



Meeting attendees gave Doug Jackson, general manager, a standing ovation during his retirement speech. Jackson will retire June 1.



Cooper Tobald won a fun water balloon slip 'n slide.

New Budget Payment Plan Options Available for Members

Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. now offers two options for the Residential Budget Payment Plan.

The first option is the **FIXED BUDGET** that Rolling Hills Electric has offered for many years.

The newest option is a **VARIABLE BUDGET**. This amount is calculated on a

12-month average, just as the Fixed Budget is, but the Variable Budget recalculates each month with the most recent 12-month average. This does give a chance of a small fluctuation

in your monthly budget depending on the weather and your usage from month to month. However, there is no catch-up month with the Variable Budget plan.

If you are interested in either Residential Budget Payment Plan option, please call the office during normal business hours of Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and we would be glad to discuss options with you.



Jeffery Retires After 29 Years at RHEC

Rolling Hills Electric Journeyman Lineman **CREGG JEFFERY** has decided to hang up the hooks after 29 dedicated years with the cooperative. Jeffery has been an integral part of the operations crew over the years with his experience and hard work ethic.

Jeffery's career began at Mid America Dairy. In May 1994, he began working as a tree trimmer for Jewell-Mitchell Electric Cooperative, which consolidated in 2002 and became Rolling Hills Electric. After some convincing from co-workers, he earned his journeyman credentials to become a journeyman lineman and later was promoted to maintenance foreman.

From paper maps to iPads, Jeffery has witnessed many changes during his tenure in the electric industry. A few notable ones being climbing poles in the past to now being lifted and working in bucket trucks, controlling digger trucks with a remote, dirt blankets, FR clothing, battery-operated equipment, and the biggest was the consolidation of the three cooperatives to form Rolling Hills Electric. He takes great pride in his work accomplished at Rolling Hills Electric, the biggest being changing out poles to improve reliability for members.

When asked what he will miss the most at Rolling Hills, Jeffery said, "The



Cregg Jeffrey (right) and his wife, Belinda, celebrating his retirement.

great team of guys and gals that I got to work with at Mankato and Beloit."

He looks forward to spending time with his five grandkids and working on his golf game with his freed-up time. He and his wife love to travel, specifically cruising to anywhere it's warm. In fact, on his final day at the cooperative, they were headed out to catch a cruise ship in Texas the next day — now that's a way to kick off retirement!

We thank Cregg for his dedication to our cooperative and wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement!

Summer Line Crew Hours

Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative's line crew began working summer hours, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., on May 30 and will continue through Sept. 5. Each year during this period, the line department switches to summer hours in an effort to complete most of the day's work before the major heat of the day arrives. The office will retain normal business hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. If you have questions or need to report an outage, please call 785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572.

Moore Reaches Journeyman Status

Please join us in giving **RILEY MOORE** a **HUGE** round of applause in achieving his journeyman lineman status!

Moore works at our Belleville Outpost and has been with RHEC for three years. His hard work and dedication have paid off as he has now met all the requirements to achieve this prestigious status. We appreciate his dedication to our cooperative and the hard work he puts in every single day to keep our lights on! Congrats, Riley!



Riley Moore

RHEC employee Riley Moore recently received his journeyman lineman status.