

## Rolling Hills Electric Co-op, Inc.

### Board of Trustees

**Michelle Brokes**, President  
Wilson – District 1

**Paul Wilson**, Vice-President  
Burr Oak – District 2

**Justin Trost**, Secretary  
Concordia – District 3

**Corey Dlabal**, Treasurer  
Wilson – District 1

**Eric Andersen**, Trustee  
Jamestown – District 3

**Mike Brzon**, Trustee  
Courtland – District 3

**John George**, Trustee  
Lebanon – District 2

**David Dubbert**, Trustee  
Beloit – District 2

**Sarah Goss**, Trustee  
Kanopolis – District 1

**Tom Marr**, Trustee  
Formoso – District 2

### Staff

**Douglas Jackson** General Manager

### Contact Us

3075B U.S. Hwy. 24 P.O. Box 339  
Beloit, KS 67420  
785-534-1601 or 800-530-5572

## Like us on Facebook

On Facebook, search for “Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.” and like our page for continued updates, energy efficiency tips, cooperative news and outage updates.



# Annual Meeting Highlights

Rolling Hills Electric’s annual meeting was held at the Beloit office on April 9. Out of concern for member health, restrictions on gatherings and related issues, attendance at the annual meeting was limited to cooperative board members and staff.

This was the last meeting for Board President **BOB FREDRICKSON**, as he has retired from his position. He was presented a meter lamp to commemorate his years of dedication. We were sad to have to say goodbye to Bob, but the good news is that we will see him around every now and then as a consumer-member!

The board election was held via mail ballot with **SARAH GOSS** newly elected to the board, and **PAUL WILSON** and **JUSTIN TROST** reelected to the board.

We hope to host an informational meeting and dinner for members this fall prior to Oct. 1, 2021, if pandemic conditions improve. In this case the following agenda items would conclude the agenda:

- ▶ Continuation of members questions and comments
- ▶ Adjournment

If a meeting and meal for members is not possible prior to Oct. 1, the meeting will be adjourned and we will hope 2022 allows us to have a “normal” year, whatever “normal” may look like in the future. Until then, we will hold out hope that we will see you all again soon!



Manager Doug Jackson (right) presents retiring Board President Bob Fredrickson with a meter lamp at the annual meeting.



This year’s annual meeting was limited to the Rolling Hills Electric Board of Trustees and staff only.

## Board Welcomes Sarah Goss



Sarah Goss

**SARAH GOSS** became a member of Rolling Hills Electric's Board of Trustees in April. She will represent the Ellsworth District.

Goss graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in agricultural economics. She began her career in economic development and is currently the coordinator for Ellsworth County Farm Bureau and the co-founder of Roots & Legacies Consulting, Inc.

Sarah and her family reside 6 miles northeast of Kanopolis. She and her husband, Brent, have spent the past eight years restoring an old farm and raising alfalfa and Simmental cattle.

Sarah and Brent enjoy working on the farm, coaching and following their children's sports teams, helping them show livestock through 4-H and leading the Teen Faith Group at St. Bernard's Catholic Church.

Sarah and Brent have four children: Noah, 15; Tucker, 13; Nell, 11; and Britta, 8.

## Michelle Brokes Elected New Rolling Hills Board President

**MICHELLE BROKES** was elected as the new Board President of Rolling Hills Electric at the board meeting held at the end of April. She has served as a trustee for three years representing the Ellsworth District.

Brokes graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in family studies and human services. She worked eight and a half years as Ellsworth County's Extension Agent. She and her husband, Allan, reside south of Wilson where they run a cow/calf operation as well as raise wheat, milo, sorghum silage and alfalfa.

Her family consists of sons, Cade, 13; Lane, 11; Bo, 8; and Brock, 2. The boys are active in 4-H while Brokes serves on the Ellsworth County Fair Association, Midway District 4-H PDC and St. Wenceslaus parish council.

"I have enjoyed serving on the Rolling Hills board of trustees and have learned a great deal in the past three years," Brokes said. "I look forward to continuing to learn the system and serve the membership in this new role."



Michelle Brokes

### Officers and Delegates Elected

Officers and delegates elected at the Rolling Hills board meeting held on April 27 are:

- ▶ **President** MICHELLE BROKES
- ▶ **Vice President** PAUL WILSON
- ▶ **Secretary** JUSTIN TROST
- ▶ **Treasurer** COREY DLABAL
- ▶ **KEC Delegate** JOHN GEORGE
- ▶ **KEC Alternate** ERIC ANDERSEN
- ▶ **KEPCo Delegate** DOUG JACKSON
- ▶ **KEPCo Alternate** PAUL WILSON

## Barn Move in Wilson

Rolling Hills crew members were a part of history made in Wilson on April 6 when assisting with the move of a large barn. The Rolling Hills Electric crew raised power lines to accommodate the 27-foot-tall barn. The barn was moved from the Frank Princ farm on the east side of Wilson to property behind the Midland Railroad Hotel in Wilson. The barn will be used by the Midland Railroad Hotel as an event center.

Rolling Hills crew members present:

**JR HYNEK, CASEY SMITH, GORDON BLUE, TYLER ROESTI, DOUG ERREBO, HUDSON SMITH, STEVE HABIGER and BRIAN FALK.**



ELLSWORTH COUNTY INDEPENDENT REPORTER

# School Safety Day at Ellsworth Junior Senior High School

Rolling Hills would like to thank Ellsworth Junior Senior High School (EJSHS) for inviting us to be a part of School Safety Day hosted by the Ellsworth Stuco/SAFE and FFA.

This day allowed students to learn about practical real world life skills such as electrical safety, vehicle safety, fire safety, internet safety, financial safety, dating safety, animal safety, basic first aid and more.

Marc Martin, operations manager; Doug Errebo, journeyman lineman; and Tyler Roesti, journeyman lineman; presented to eight groups about electrical safety.

Martin stressed to the students what they should and shouldn't do if they are in an accident involving a power line and explained that by calling 911 to report a power line is involved they will dispatch the electric company immediately so no time is wasted in getting help. One student made a great point when talking about accidents involving power lines by saying, "Electric companies are like an unspoken first responder!"

We had a great day and hope the students were able to take away some helpful life saving tips. Contact our office if you would like Rolling Hills to present at an upcoming event.



Operations Manager Marc Martin explains the affect electricity can have on the human body.



Marc Martin, Doug Errebo and Tyler Roesti presented to eight groups throughout the day.

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR AFTER A STORM

When the skies clear and the birds sing, know that the storm's fury could have created electrical hazards that you may or may not be able to see. Conditions in which stray electricity could energize the area, a person or objects include:

### DOWNED POWER LINES

- ▶ on the ground
- ▶ under storm debris
- ▶ draped over or touching a metal fence
- ▶ covered by standing water
- ▶ across or by the road
- ▶ hidden in tree branches

### OTHER POSSIBLE DAMAGE

- ▶ drooping or sagging lines (never try to move one)
- ▶ split or broken utility poles
- ▶ damage to a padmount transformer (green box)
- ▶ lightning strike to a substation transformer
- ▶ damaged or unstable guy wires

**NEVER GO NEAR** downed power lines or other damaged electrical equipment to assess damage or clean up the area. **STAY AWAY** and call 911 to report damage.

Power lines and other electrical equipment do not have to be sparking, arcing (giving off a flame) or on fire to be energized.

# NOTICE

## Late Fees & Disconnects Reimplemented May 26

Rolling Hills Electric will reimplement charging late fees and disconnects for non-payment effective May 26, 2021, at 5 p.m.



# 2020 Property Tax

Rolling Hills paid \$ \$1,362,569.01 in property taxes in 2020, a 3.5% increase over 2019. The chart below shows the amount paid to each county, as well as the percentage increase that pertains to each individual county.

The members of Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative, ultimately pay this bill. This is where part of the money goes when you pay your electric bill each month, as the cost of property taxes directly affects the cooperative's bottom line.

County	2020	2019	% Change
Barton	\$268.20	\$254.48	5.4%
Clay	\$1,256.68	\$1,257.02	0.0%
Cloud	\$110,487.06	\$118,952.20	-7.1%
Ellsworth	\$141,867.87	\$135,748.01	4.5%
Jewell	\$123,208.52	\$118,680.42	3.8%
Lincoln	\$100,790.00	\$103,478.90	-2.6%
Mitchell	\$307,078.44	\$301,504.96	1.8%
Osborne	\$141,802.87	\$143,710.26	-1.3%
Ottawa	\$430.90	\$436.38	-1.3%
Phillips	\$1,352.24	\$1,337.58	1.1%
Republic	\$163,739.06	\$155,594.18	5.2%
Rooks	\$7,964.56	\$7,780.24	2.4%
Russell	\$101,053.21	\$68,397.14	47.7%
Saline	\$475.04	\$474.20	0.2%
Smith	\$118,906.81	\$116,120.98	2.4%
Washington	\$41,887.55	\$42,198.85	-0.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,362,569.01</b>	<b>\$1,315,925.80</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.

SOURCE: NRECA

