

**ROLLING HILLS
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

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

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Trustee Election Process

With the revisions to the bylaws in 2020, the process for nomination of trustees for election has changed. Please read through the qualifications and process. One trustee from each district in Position Three was elected at the 2021 Rolling Hills Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting that was held on April 9, 2021, as outlined below:

SECTION 5.2. QUALIFICATIONS TO BE NOMINATED, ELECTED AND REMAIN A TRUSTEE. Any natural person will be eligible to be nominated, elected and remain a Trustee of the Cooperative who:

- ▶ Is a Member of the Cooperative residing in the Trustee District which the Member is to, or does represent, and is receiving a Cooperative Service at the Member’s primary residential abode, for at least 10 months out of every calendar year or;
- ▶ Is authorized by a Member Entity to serve as a Trustee, if the Member Entity occupies and uses a Cooperative Service at a location within the Trustee District from which the Trustee is nominated or elected for at least 10 months out of every year. If authorized by a Member Entity to serve as a Trustee on behalf of the Member Entity, the authorized Trustee Member must also receive a Cooperative Service at that individual Member’s primary residential abode within the Trustee District from which the Trustee is to, or does represent for at least 10 months out of every year;
- ▶ Has the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts;
- ▶ Meets and retains all of the qualifications for membership in the Cooperative;
- ▶ Is not an employee of the Cooperative or in any way financially interested in a competing

enterprise or a business engaged in selling energy, energy services or energy supplies or maintaining energy-producing or selling facilities. However, the Board may grant exceptions for “de minimis” competing enterprises;

- ▶ It is not closely related to an incumbent Trustee or an employee of the Cooperative. The term “closely related” means the relationship of spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, son and daughter existing by reason of blood, marriage or adoption;
- ▶ Has not had a conviction or judicial determination involving a felony crime or a crime of moral turpitude;
- ▶ Is not employed by another Trustee, or employed by an Entity over which another Trustee exercises substantial control.

SECTION 5.5. DISTRICTS. The territory of the Cooperative shall be divided into three Member Trustee Districts, as hereafter described, for the purpose of electing and constituting the Cooperative’s Board of Trustees. The boundaries of Trustee Districts shall be depicted on an official territory and Trustee District map adopted and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Cooperative. The official territory and Trustee District map shall be maintained, for Membership review and inspection, at the Registered Office of the Cooperative. For an equitable representation of the Members, the number of Members represented by a Trustee within each Trustee District must be within twenty (20%) percent of the number of Members represented by a Trustee within every other District. The Board may amend the boundaries of the Districts,

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Trustee Election Process *Continued from page 16A*

from time to time, as required, or as deemed necessary or appropriate.

Current Board of Trustee Districts and Trustee Positions Are:

District One

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – At Large from the Counties of Ellsworth, Russell, Lincoln, Barton, Saline and Ottawa Counties;
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – At Large from the Counties of Ellsworth, Russell, Lincoln, Barton, Saline and Ottawa Counties;
- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – At Large from the Counties of Ellsworth, Russell, Lincoln, Barton, Saline and Ottawa Counties.

District Two

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – At Large from Mitchell, Osborne, Smith, Jewell, Rooks and Phillips Counties;
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – At Large from Mitchell, Osborne, Smith, Jewell, Rooks and Phillips Counties;
- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – At Large from Mitchell, Osborne, Smith, Jewell, Rooks and Phillips Counties;
- ▶ **POSITION FOUR** – At Large from Mitchell, Osborne, Smith, Jewell, Rooks and Phillips Counties.

District Three

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – At Large for the Coun-

- ties of Republic, Clay, Washington, and Cloud;
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – At Large for the Counties of Republic, Clay, Washington, and Cloud;
- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – At Large for the Counties of Republic, Clay, Washington, and Cloud.

SECTION 5.6. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES AND TERM OF OFFICE. Trustees shall be elected from each District, only by the Members from such District, for a term of three calendar years as terms of office expire. The permanent election cycle, the number of Trustees, and the term of office, for each District, are as described below.

District One Shall Have Three Trustees to be Elected as Follows

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – the District One, Position One, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – the District One, Position Two, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2022 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – the District One, Position Three, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

District Two Shall Have Four Trustees

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – the District Two, Position One, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – the District Two, Position Two, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – the District Two, Position Three, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2021 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION FOUR** – the District Two, Position Four, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

District Three Shall Have Three Trustees

- ▶ **POSITION ONE** – the District Three, Position One, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2023 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION TWO** – the District Three, Position Two, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2022 Annual Meeting.
- ▶ **POSITION THREE** – the District Three, Position Three, Trustee position will be up for election at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

A Trustee's term commences with the adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which the Trustee was elected, or if appointed, then at the time of appointment. A Trustee's term, if the Trustee is not re-elected expires upon the adjournment of the applicable Annual Meeting at which the Trustee's position is elected. If no Trustee is elected at the Annual Meeting, then the Trustee's term ends upon the election and qualification of a successor Trustee. A Trustee may serve no more than four (4) successive three-year terms, provided that he or she is duly nominated, or otherwise placed on the ballot as permitted by these Bylaws of the Co-

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Rolling Hills Employees Review Disaster Recovery Plan



All Rolling Hills Electric employees met recently to review the Disaster Recovery Plan.

All Rolling Hills Electric employees met the beginning of July to review our disaster/storm recovery plan.

There is no way of knowing just exactly what Mother Nature has in store in the event of a disaster, but forming and having a plan in place to

restore power to our consumer-members as quickly as we can helps lessen the elevated stress that a situation like that can bring.

Rolling Hills Electric wants you to know we are here for our consumer-members, day and night, 24/7, 365 days a year!

Belleville Rec Bus Tour Safety Day

Rolling Hills was invited to present a safety demo at the NCK Fairgrounds in Belleville on June 30. This informational day was coordinated by the Farm Bureau Rec Bus Tours where kids ages 5-12 enjoyed a farm safety meeting focused on agriculture in our community.

Marc Martin, operations manager, and the Belleville outpost crew (**KENDALL STRUTT, SCOTT SPLICHAL, RILEY MOORE, TODD EITZMANN** and **COLTON DAVIS**) presented to two groups of students. The students enjoyed the presentation and had lots of good questions for our crew.

Thank you, Republic County Farm Bureau, for inviting us to be a part of your day!



TOP: Marc Martin (left), operations manager, and Scott Splichal (second from left), journeyman lineman, show students the effects electricity has on the human body.

MIDDLE LEFT: Watching dad work! Daughters (three girls on left) of Rolling Hills Lineman Scott Splichal came to watch their dad present the safety demo.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Cover your ears! Things can get pretty loud during the demo.

BOTTOM LEFT: Journeyman Lineman, Scott Splichal, demonstrates the effects electricity can have on the human body.

Co-ops Working Together

Rolling Hills Electric crews recently assisted Bluestem Electric in Wamego in rebuilding 3 miles of 34.5 kv transmission line.

This was a combined effort from Bluestem, Rolling Hills and Prairie Land crews. Working together, they were able to complete the job in 1 ½ days. This is a great example of co-ops working together for our consumer-members!

Rolling Hills crew members present were **TYSON KNOX, TYLER BAILEY, CASEY SMITH, CLAY PICKEL** and **J.R. HYNEK**.

Rolling Hills Electric crews working with Bluestem Electric to rebuild 3 miles of 34.5 kv transmission line.



Trustee Election Process *Continued from page 16B* ▶

operative and re-elected by the Members at the conclusion of each successive term. Completion of an unexpired term, by an appointed Trustee, does not constitute a 3-year term for purposes of determining whether a Trustee has served more than four (4) successive three-year terms.

SECTION 5.7. NOMINATIONS OF TRUSTEES. All nominations for the election of Trustees must be by petition. To be placed on the ballot for election as a Trustee, a Nominating Petition containing the signatures of at least twenty (20) non-suspended Members of the Cooperative, who live in the nominee's District, must be filed at the Registered Office of the Cooperative on or before the close of business on November 30. If the Registered Office is not open for business on November 30, then the Nominating Petition must be filed on or before the close of business on the last business day of November that the Registered Office is open. The Nominating Petition must state on each page thereof the name of the Member being nominated and the District and position for which the nominee is being nominated. Additionally, the Nominating Petition must contain the printed name of the signing Member, that Member's signature, and address, and be dated within 60 days prior to the November 30 deadline.

If timely filed the Secretary will forthwith determine the validity of the Nominating Petition, and if certified to be valid, and provided the nominee meets the qualifications to be nomi-

nated and elected as a Trustee, the Secretary will cause the name of the nominee to be placed on the ballot for the next Trustee election. Only the names of the properly nominated and qualified nominees for each District will be placed on the ballot. The candidates' names will be placed on the respective ballots in alphabetical order.

If the Secretary determines that the timely filed Nominating Petition(s), having at least 20 signatures for a nominee, is defective, solely because there are not 20 Member signatures, then the nominee and/or the person delivering the Nominating Petition, if not the nominee, will be forthwith notified of the deficiency. The nominee or the person delivering the Nominating Petition, if not the nominee, will then have 15 business days, from the date of notification, to obtain the additional Nominating Petitions needed to meet the required number of Member signatures (20). If additional signatures are obtained on one or more Nominating Petitions, timely delivered to the Cooperative's Registered Office, the Secretary will again determine the validity of the Nominating Petitions submitted on behalf and a nominee. If the collective Nominating Petitions, are then certified to be valid, and if the nominee meets the qualifications, to be nominated and elected as a Trustee, the Secretary will cause the name of the nominee to be placed on the ballot for the next Trustee election.

If a question is raised as to the validity

of a Nominating Petition or Petitions or the qualifications of a candidate to be nominated and elected as a Trustee, the determination will be made by a majority vote of the Board, after a review of the facts and circumstances giving rise to the question. Purely technical reasons will not be used as a basis for disqualifying a nominee. The decision of the Board, if based on competent information shall be final.

Failure of strict compliance with the provisions of this Section shall not affect the validity of any election of a Trustee.

No nominations may be made at or from the floor of a Member Meeting.

SECTION 5.8. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES. The election of Trustees shall be by Mail Ballot with a Member Meeting. Only the names of those candidates nominated in accordance with these Bylaws will appear on the ballot. There may be write-in votes for a qualified Member not named on the Mail Ballot. The Secretary shall cause the Mail Ballot with a Member Meeting to be delivered in accordance with Bylaw Section 4.4 to those Members qualified to vote as of the Record Date. The Board may provide general information with regard to the Trustee election process as well as general candidate information to the Members with their notice of Member Meeting with Mail Ballot. Failure of strict compliance with the provisions of this section shall not affect the validity of any election of Trustees.