


Since 1940

WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* April 2022 NEWS



**JACKSON ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**

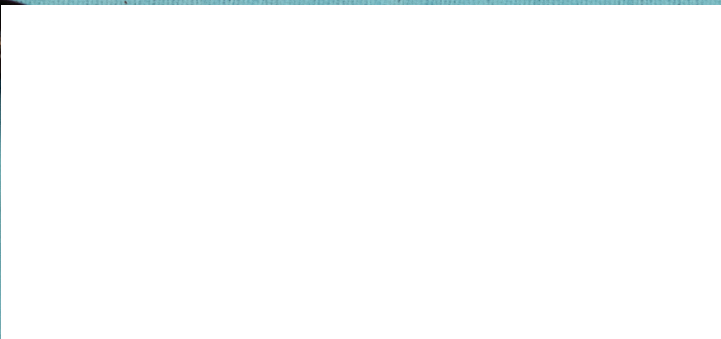
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Jackson Electric Cooperative 85th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 19, 2022
7 p.m. • Lunda Theatre
Black River Falls, Wis.

**BRING THIS MAGAZINE
TO THE ANNUAL MEETING
FOR A CHANCE TO WIN
A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT**



RULES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

These rules are set in accordance with Jackson Electric Cooperative Bylaws, Article II, Section 7. Jackson Electric Cooperative's annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lunda Theatre in Black River Falls, Wis.

1. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised edition.
2. Any speaker must be recognized by the Chair before speaking.
3. Only members and duly registered guests will be recognized by the Chair; each person so recognized must give his or her name.
4. Unless otherwise approved by the Chair, those recognized are to limit their questions and comments to three minutes, with any rebuttal limited to two minutes.
5. Questions and comments from members and duly registered guests will be in order during old and new business sessions, and at the conclusion of the officer reports, if invited.
6. No resolution affecting Jackson Electric Cooperative may be submitted by any member, unless written copies have been received by Jackson Electric Cooperative by February 4, 2022. This will permit time for review by the Jackson Electric Cooperative Board of Directors to make its recommendation to the meeting as to approval or rejection.

7. No signs or handouts will be permitted within the building of the place of the meeting, except such handouts as required for the official conduct of the Annual Meeting. No handouts made available outside of the building will use the name of the Cooperative, its letterhead or logo to imply that the Cooperative supports or opposes any resolution.
8. No demonstrations shall be held within the building of the place of the meeting.

Annual Meeting Voting Procedures

Voting may be by voice vote (one vote per membership)

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THIS MAGAZINE COULD BE A WINNER!

Bring it for a chance to win a
\$50 energy credit.



CALL AND NOTICE

of Annual Meeting of the Jackson Electric Cooperative, Black River Falls, Wis.

As president of the Jackson Electric Cooperative (hereinafter called the "Cooperative"), I do hereby call and give notice of the Annual Meeting of the members of the Cooperative for the year 2021 to be held at the Lunda Theatre in the City of Black River Falls, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, commencing at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of acting upon the following matters:

1. Reading of the unapproved minutes of the 2020 and 2021 meetings of the members of the Cooperative and the taking of necessary action thereon.
2. Presentation of reports of directors and committees.
3. Ratification of the reports of the 2021 and 2022 District Elections.
4. Consideration of proposed Amendments to the Bylaws.
5. Such other further business as may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Dated on this 28th day of March, 2022.

Gary J. Woods

Gary Woods

AGENDA

Jackson Electric Cooperative
85th Annual Meeting of the Members
April 19 • 7:00 p.m.
Lunda Theatre, Black River Falls, Wis.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order	Gary Woods, President
Pledge of Allegiance	All Members
Welcome.....	Gary Woods, President
Youth Ambassador	
Scholarship Award	Brandi Shramek, Member Relations Advisor
Reading of Notice of Meeting.....	David Peasley, Secretary
Establish a Quorum	David Peasley, Secretary
Reading of 2020 Meeting Minutes.....	David Peasley, Secretary
Reading of 2021 Meeting Minutes.....	David Peasley, Secretary
President's Report	Gary Woods
Bylaw Amendments	Jessica Shrestha, Legal Counsel
Redistricting Report	Dan Smrekar, Director
Audit Report.....	Abby Williamson, CarlsonSV
Mike Anderson Memorial.....	Jerry Huber, Director
General Manager/CEO Report.....	Kevin Babcock
Recognition of Directors' Service.....	Gary Woods
Ratification of Directors	Jessica Shrestha, Legal Counsel

Elected Directors to be Ratified from Years 2021 and 2022:

District 4.....	Chris Curran
District 5.....	David Peasley
District 7.....	Brian Huber
District 1.....	Les Dokkestul
District 6.....	Troy Torkelson
District 9.....	Gary Woods

Old Business	Gary Woods, President
New Business.....	Gary Woods, President
Question & Answer Session	

Adjournment
Prize Drawings

\$10 energy credit for every registered membership in attendance

Bring your April issue of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News and be entered for a chance to win a \$50 energy credit!

DOOR PRIZES
15 - \$100 cash prizes





BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN

Gary Woods, Board President

Two years ago, we were in the midst of planning Jackson Electric's 2020 annual meeting. The annual report was completed and ready to hit the mailboxes, the Lunda Theatre was reserved and all details were in place, to include the collection of eyeglasses for our local Lions Clubs. March of that year, adversity was put to the test.

I don't need to remind anyone what happened two years ago in March, but rather, I would like to reflect on how your cooperative positioned itself during a challenging phase in history to be better prepared for future adversities.

What did we learn? Always have a backup plan in place. You notice on the cover of this annual report the many pairs of glasses. If you wear glasses, you learn that it is nice to have a backup pair handy if your favorite pair breaks. With that backup pair, you can quickly move about your day and function as if nothing changed. No different than a business having an alternate plan that can be quickly activated for day-to-day operations to continue.

Jackson Electric, just like everyone else, has bills to pay. Nearly 60 percent of our distribution system is commercial load. When those businesses shut down in 2020, lack of kilowatt-hour sales impacted Jackson Electric's revenue. To make up for revenue loss, our management suspended expense projects which helped ease the financial strain for our cooperative.

Revenue deferral is a piece of our financial portfolio. This will better position Jackson Electric financially in the event of another unprecedented event or the rising costs of wholesale power. Jackson Electric has not raised its energy rates for nearly 10 years, and the cooperative has been able to absorb energy rate hikes from its power supplier, Dairyland Power. By using the revenue deferral mechanism, the cooperative can maintain energy rates for yet another year.

Always appreciate the value of electricity. You value your glasses because they meet your everyday needs. Without them, it would be difficult to function. The same holds true for electricity. For a facility charge of \$1.15 a day, Jackson Electric delivers power to your homes. When you flip a switch to light your home, you have electricity. When you plug in your cell phone charger, you immediately have electricity. When you want to run your dishwasher, wash your clothes, or run the water, you have electricity. You could function without electricity, but would you want to?

Sustainable and reliable energy is important to the growth of Jackson Electric. However, there must be an affordable baseline source of energy to continue to power our homes and

businesses. Renewable energy is a portion of the solution, but it can't be sustained without a reliable energy source. Many of you see the large commercial solar projects interconnected to our service lines. These systems alone cannot provide reliable service. When partnered with a baseline source of energy, both work together to provide sustainable and reliable electricity.

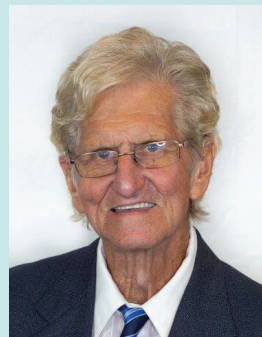
This year our annual meeting will be held in-person at the Lunda Theatre in Black River Falls. We're going to try this again by asking you to bring your gently used eyeglasses to be donated to the area Lions Clubs. We also have a collection bucket available at our office until May 1. These eyeglasses will be delivered to The Wisconsin Lions Foundation Eyeglass Recycling Center where they will sort, wash, read, and package the eyeglasses. The eyeglasses are stored at the center until they are requested for eyeglass-dispensing missions to developing countries.

We look forward to seeing you at your 2022 in-person annual meeting.

DIRECTORS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR SERVICE

Longstanding board members, Stan Gran and Jerry Wagner, will complete their director terms at the Jackson Electric annual meeting on April 19. Stan has represented District 1 for the past 15 years, serving on several committees and sharing his knowledge of the industry with the members of his district.

Jerry was appointed to the board in October 2014 after the passing of district director Roger Hansen. Jerry also served on several board committees and dedicated his time to learning more about the industry.



Stan Gran



Jerry Wagner



83rd ANNUAL MEETING OF JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

August 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

1. The 83rd virtual Annual Meeting of Jackson Electric Cooperative was held at Jackson Electric Cooperative in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, on August 18, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was broadcast on Facebook Live and on radio stations WWIS FM 105.3 and AM 1260. Members participated through Facebook Live and were able to call in with questions and comments. President Gary Woods called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Jerry Huber, David Peasley, Dan Smrekar, Kristi Hanson, Jerry Wagner, Chris Curran, Brian Huber, and Stan Gran. Jessica Shrestha, legal counsel, was present via Zoom.
 2. President Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Gary Woods welcomed all who were viewing the meeting. After an introduction of the board of directors, President Woods ensured listeners that their elected directors serve the members' best interests. He discussed the challenges of decreasing kilowatt-hour sales. A rate study will be conducted to re-evaluate the rate design of each of the rate classes. He also touched on the need for technology to improve labor and data gathering efficiencies.

President Woods recognized the Friends of the Black River Falls Library. They are the recipients of the \$1,000 Mike Anderson Memorial. He also recognized the youth ambassador scholarship recipient, Seth Peterson.
 4. The reading of the Call and Notice of Meeting was conducted by Secretary David Peasley. It was announced a quorum was present and the meeting would proceed.
 5. Motion was made and seconded that Secretary David Peasley dispense with the reading of the minutes for the 2019 annual meeting and approve as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.
 6. The Redistricting Report was presented by Director Dan Smrekar. He noted that all districts have approximately equal representation.
 7. The pre-recorded Audit Report was presented by Abby Williamson of CarlsonSV.
 8. On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried the following Resolution was approved, ratifying the director elections held for Districts 2, 3, and 8.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the election of Kristi Hanson as Director for District No. Two (2) on February 18, 2020, for a three-year term; the election of Jerry Huber as Director for District No. Three (3) on February 19, 2020, for a three-year term; and the election of Dan Smrekar as Director for District No. Eight (8) on February 20, 2020, for a three-year term; be and the same are hereby ratified and confirmed.
 9. A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to ratify the virtual meeting process.
 10. Old Business – none.
 11. New Business – none.
 12. No questions or comments were presented.
 13. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. without objection.
- Respectfully submitted,
David W. Peasley, Secretary

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

The following are proposed bylaw amendments that will be presented to Jackson Electric Cooperative's membership for approval at the annual meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

Article II, Section 4. Quorum. The presence of ~~50~~25 members at any annual or special meeting of the members shall constitute a quorum. The presence of either or both persons holding a joint membership shall constitute the presence of one member.

Article XI. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of JEC shall begin on the first day of ~~May~~January of each year and end on the last day of ~~April~~December of the ~~following~~same year. However, because of JEC's business affiliations, other mandatory accounting practices may require that JEC provide budgets, audits, or other financial accounting on an annual basis with different starting and ending dates.


84TH ANNUAL MEETING OF JACKSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

August 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

1. The 84th Annual Meeting of Jackson Electric Cooperative was held on August 24, 2021, commencing at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Directors participated in person at the Cooperative's headquarters in Black River Falls. Members participated virtually through Perigon Live which included a chat box. Members also had the opportunity to call the Cooperative during the meeting. President Gary Woods called the meeting to order. Other board members present were Jerry Huber, David Peasley, Dan Smrekar, Kristi Hanson, Jerry Wagner, Chris Curran, Brian Huber, and Stan Gran. Jessica Shrestha, legal counsel, was present via virtual means.
2. President Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. President Woods welcomed all who were viewing the meeting.
4. Secretary David Peasley reported that the Notice of the Annual Meeting was published in the August issue of the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News. Reading of the notice was waived by unanimous consent.
5. Secretary Peasley reported that the requirement of 50 members for a quorum had not been met. Attorney Jessica Shrestha announced that no official cooperative business would be conducted without a quorum, but that the cooperative would provide reports as set forth in the agenda.
6. It was noted that action on the 2020 Annual Meeting minutes will be deferred to the next member meeting due to the lack of a quorum.
7. President Woods introduced the Jackson Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. Woods detailed how Jackson Electric worked with its membership during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and the value of reliable electricity to meet the members' needs during this time. He continued by noting that Jackson Electric saw a decrease in revenue during this time and explained that management suspended expense items so that Jackson Electric could maintain strong a financial position to end 2020.
8. The Redistricting Report was presented by Director Dan Smrekar. He noted that all districts have approximately equal representation.
9. The pre-recorded Audit Report was presented by Abby Williamson of CarlsonSV.
10. Director Jerry Huber recognized the Jackson County Animal Shelter as the recipient of the \$1,000 Mike Anderson Memorial.
11. Attorney Shrestha reported on temporary emergency bylaws adopted by the Board of Directors which allow the Cooperative to conduct member meetings by remote participation for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency.
12. It was noted that action on the ratification of the three directors elected at district meetings will be deferred to the next member meeting due to the lack of quorum. The following directors were elected at district meetings:
Chris Curran, Director for District No. Four (4) on June 22, 2021, for a three-year term
Dave Peasley, Director for District No. Five (5) on June 22, 2021, for a three-year term
Brian Huber, Director for District No. Seven (7) on June 22, 2021, for a three-year term
13. Old Business – none.
14. New Business – none.
15. No questions or comments were presented.
16. At 7:23 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the 2022 Annual Meeting without objection.

Respectfully submitted,
David W. Peasley, Secretary




Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Customer Service 715.284.5385
800.370.4607
Outage Reporting 855.222.DARK (3275)
Diggers Hotline 800.242.8511
Card Payments 844.759.3984
www.jackelec.com   

Mailing Address: N6868 County Road F
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Board of Directors: Gary Woods, President
Chris Curran, Vice President
David Peasley, Secretary-Treasurer
Jerry Huber, Dairyland Power Representative
Daniel Smrekar, Kristi Hanson, Stanley Gran, Brian Huber, Jerry Wagner

Kevin Babcock, General Manager/CEO

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Operations

Dec. 31, 2021

Operating Revenue	
Electric Energy Sales	\$ 21,175,683
Total Operating Revenue.....	\$ 21,175,683

Operating Expenses

Cost of Power.....	\$ 13,406,146
Distribution Expense – Operations.....	803,416
Distribution Expense – Maintenance.....	926,422
Consumer Accounts.....	356,924
Customer Service and Informational	142,878
Administrative & General Expense	1,500,367
Depreciation Expense	1,921,252
Tax Expense.....	266,559
Interest on Long-Term Debt (CFC)	770,269
Other.....	3,369
Total Cost of Electric Service.....	\$ 20,097,602

Operating Margins.....	\$ 1,078,081
Non-Operating Margins.....	672,238
DPC and Other Capital Credits	712,960
Net Margins	\$ 2,463,279

Balance Sheet

Dec. 31, 2021

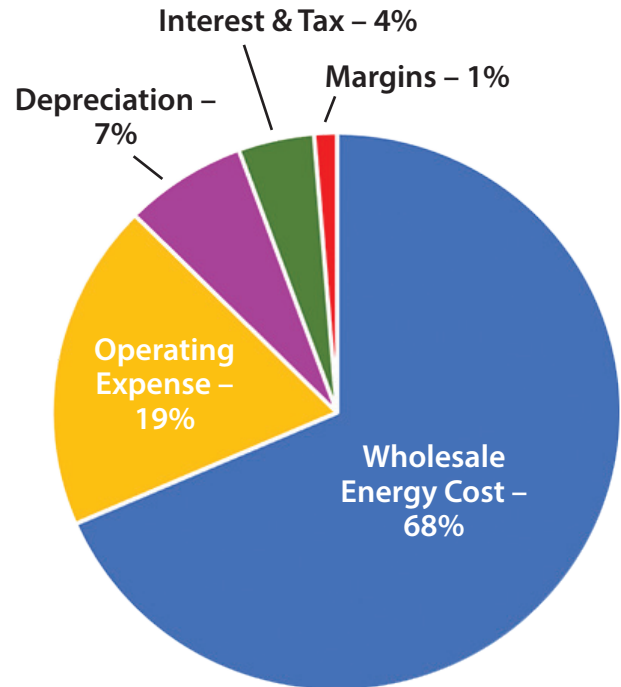
Assets	
Net Utility Plant.....	\$ 31,742,222
Long-Term Investments	11,032,637
Cash & Temporary Investments	2,546,212
Accounts Receivable	941,947
Materials & Prepayments.....	343,357
Other Assets & Deferred Debits	2,805,421
Total Assets.....	\$ 49,411,796

Liabilities & Equity

Patronage Capital and Other Equities	\$ 20,872,005
Consumer Deposits	350
Long-Term Debt.....	23,811,485
Accounts Payable.....	1,488,607
Other Current Liabilities and Deferred Credits.....	3,239,349
Total Liabilities & Equity.....	\$ 49,411,796

2021 EXPENSES

Where does your dollar go?



Dairyland Power provides wholesale electric service to 24 distribution cooperatives, including Jackson Electric Cooperative.

The National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) requires an annual independent audit be made of the Cooperative's records. Copies of the complete audit are sent to CFC and are available at the office of the Cooperative for members' review. The auditing firm of CarlsonSV of Amery, Wis. conducted the fiscal audit through December 31, 2021.

DIRECTORS

President Gary WoodsDistrict 9
 Vice President Chris Curran.....District 4
 Secretary/Treasurer David Peasley.....District 5
 DPC Representative Jerry HuberDistrict 3

Stanley Gran.....District 1
 Kristi Hanson.....District 2
 Jerry WagnerDistrict 6
 Brian HuberDistrict 7
 Daniel Smrekar.....District 8

STAFF AND EMPLOYEES

Kevin Babcock – General Manager/CEO

Carol Blaken – Member Relations Manager
 Eric Steien – Line Superintendent
 Steve Wold – Information Technology Manager
 Kate Fladten – Chief Financial Officer (contracted service)

Samantha Bratland	Maggie Mickelson
Steve Bucholz	Deanna Oliver
Matt Bush	Spencer Paulson
Brian Dolesy	Brian Schultz
Don Fortun, Jr.	Brandi Shramek
Jerel Gunning	Adam Wiedl
Jesse Hansen	Grant Witcraft
Tanner Klobucher	Hazy Wood



MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide safe, reliable power for all generations.

OUR PLEDGE IS TO:

Encourage the wise use of our energy resources

Perform our work in a manner that is environmentally and socially acceptable

Reference “The Seven Cooperative Principles” as our guide to do our business

Operate our business in a financially sound manner

Hold ourselves accountable to the highest standard for employee and public safety and security

THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community