



Member Owned ~ Service Proud

Carbon Light Lines

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



100 E. Willow Ave. • Saratoga, WY • 82331-0579
307.326.5206 • 800.359.0249
www.carbonpower.com

March 2015



DICK CLIFTON
District 3 Director

Board Actions January 2015

Approved Department
Production and Financial
Reports.

Approved Policy 4-1
Employment as presented by
Management and Staff.

Adopted and approved Policy
4-22 *Health Savings Account*
(H.S.A) as presented by
Management and Staff.

Dates to Remember

February 27th - Board elects
Nominating Committee.

March 11th - Publication of district
Nominating Committee meetings in
area newspapers.

April 10th - Deadline to submit your
name as a candidate/incumbent to
our Board of Directors.

April 28th - List of Director
candidates/incumbents who were
nominated are posted at the Saratoga
office.

May 12th - June 11th - Publication
notices for the 74th Annual Meeting
of the Membership.

NOMINATION DEADLINE - FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015

Nominations are being accepted for Carbon Power & Light's Board of Directors

As a Member-Owner of Carbon
Power & Light, you're eligible to
run for our Board of Directors. Our
Board makes important decisions
that impact our communities.



As an electric cooperative, Carbon
Power & Light is guided by an elected
Board of Directors who represent
it's members' best interest when
making important decisions. Being a
Member of the Board is an incredibly
important position in our community.
A director's decisions will impact
issues, such as service rates, rights-of-
ways and work plans. This position
holds great responsibility and requires
men and women who understand
their community's needs to serve in
the best interest of the cooperative's
membership.

As a Member-Owner of Carbon Power
& Light, you are eligible to run for our
Board of Directors.

If you would like to submit your name
as a candidate to the Nominating
Committee or inquire about more
information, please contact Marcy
Knotwell by email at mknotwell@carbonpower.com
or call 1.800.359.0249
or 307.326.5206 before April 10, 2015.

See page three for more information
on what it means to be a qualified
candidate. ■

INCUMBENT DIRECTORS UP FOR RE-ELECTION THIS YEAR ARE:

District 1
Gary Jacobsen

District 2
Kenny Curry

District 3
Jim Rogers



2015 Legislature: This is the time of year that we, along with our statewide organization [WREA], keep close tabs on the many bills before our State Legislature. Most bills that are introduced have no impact on our operation as a Rural Electric Cooperative. However...from time to time there are bills introduced that directly or indirectly have either a positive or negative impact on the Cooperative. My Staff and I, along with your Board of Directors have a responsibility to you; our Member-Owners to monitor those bills and either support or oppose them.

Seasonal Tariff: As we have done since 2001, at the beginning of each year we review all of our General Service single-phase accounts to determine...based on their kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage in the prior year, those that fall within the parameters of our "Seasonal" rate tariff. Once this is done a letter is sent to those Member-Owners who fall within those tariff parameters informing them of the Seasonal tariff change to their account. Conversely, we also send a letter to those accounts that were under the Seasonal Tariff during the prior year, and whose kWh usage has changed during that year causing them to be removed from the Seasonal Tariff and back to the General Service Tariff.

Because of the Tariff Title "*Seasonal*" we generally field numerous questions from those Member-Owners who are changed to this rate for the first time. The main question being..."*I'm not a "snowbird" I live here year-around... why am I considered "Seasonal"?*" In 2001, when the Cooperative via a

"Cost of Service Study" determined that it needed to implement a "Seasonal" rate, we were actually focused on those accounts that were truly "Seasonal", and because their kWh usage patterns were not contributing to their fair share of the fixed costs to operate the Cooperative for an entire year. In defining a "Seasonal" account the Cooperative developed the following formula:

- Seasonal accounts shall be determined from those General Service single-phase accounts that were connected for the entire previous calendar year. These accounts will be evaluated using the seasonal test formula which is as follows: *Each account where the annual monthly average kWh usage multiplied by forty percent (40%) is greater than the lowest seven (7) months average kWh usage. In addition, any account that consumes less than one thousand (1000) kWh per year shall be considered seasonal.*

Once the Seasonal Tariff was implemented, it was apparent that we had several General Service single-phase accounts that aligned with a "Seasonal" kWh usage pattern, even though they were truly not "snowbird" in nature...thus some of the confusion and resulting in Member-Owner questions.

We have attempted to come up with a different name for the tariff to eliminate these concerns and questions...unfortunately the "kWh usage pattern" for these accounts is

generally *seasonal in nature* and the "Seasonal" title for the tariff seems to suit it the best.

I realize this is a bit confusing...but I hope this at least explains why we continue use the term "Seasonal" for this tariff.

Annual Meeting: I know that it's just the beginning of 2015, but plans are already underway for your Annual Meeting in June. As we do each year, the "Nominating Committees" will be meeting in April, to nominate candidates for the Board of Director positions that are up for consideration (one in each of the Cooperative's three (3) districts). You will find more information on this elsewhere in this newsletter and in future newsletters.

We have certainly enjoyed the warm February days that Mother Nature has granted us. Unfortunately...lest we forget...it is still winter and there is plenty of time for more cold and snow. As always...call if you have questions. Thanks for being there for us.

Chuck

Find your name in "asterisks" somewhere in this newsletter & you can claim a \$10 bill reducer by calling Carbon Power & Light.



are you Qualified to serve?

INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND YOUR NOT SURE IF YOU QUALIFY?

To be qualified to serve on the Board of Directors, any cooperative Member (in good standing) shall be:

- a bona fide resident of the district they seek to represent, and
- a natural person and a Member-Owner of the Cooperative.

The person seeking to represent the Cooperative cannot be employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances.

THE ROLE OF A BOARD OF DIRECTOR CONSIST OF SEVERAL RESPONSIBILITIES, SOME OF WHICH ARE LISTED HERE:

- Assist and work with other Directors through attention to effective discussion during regular and/or special meetings.

- Encourage effective appraisals of Board performance that will insure continuing and systematic attention to responsibilities concerning the present and future operational needs.
- Accept and work with, or on, any committee or other special assignment.
- Inform and advise the General Manager on matters concerning the Members' interest which may be brought to the attention of the Directors.
- Recognize the General Manager as the operational official through whom all complaints, problems and other matters should be communicated when concerned with matters of the Cooperative or its Employees.
- Willing to serve a three year term. Terms are staggered with two other Directors within the same district.
- Posses personal characteristics such as leadership in the community, have high integrity, high ethic standards and have respect for the community. Have the ability to exercise sound judgment and logical reasoning.

YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IS A MEMBER-OWNED, MEMBER-CONTROLLED, NONPROFIT ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COOPERATIVE.

- Posses a commitment to attend the monthly board meetings; annual meetings; and/or special meetings when warranted. This amount of commitment is approximately 30 days out of the year you would be committing yourself to.

HOW DO I GET STARTED AND NOMINATE A CANDIDATE OR SUBMIT MY NAME FOR CANDIDACY?

The Nominations Committee, in their sole discretion and by majority vote, shall have the authority to determine if the person submitting his/her name or the name of another is a qualified nominee for a Board of Director.

If you would like to submit your name as a candidate to the Nominating Committee or inquire about more information, please contact Marcy Knotwell by email at mknotwell@carbonpower.com or call 1.800.359.0249 or 326.5206 by April 10, 2015. ■

Member Statistics Report	Dec. 2013	Dec. 2014
Financial		
Total Utility Plant	\$37,471,216	\$38,943,630
Cost of Purchase Power	\$854,776	\$832,632
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$326,572	\$339,034
Tax & Interest Paid	\$23,107	\$46,100
Interest Received on Investments	\$1,621	\$1,860
Energized Line & Consumers		
Miles of Energized Line	1,925	1,931
Consumers Per Mile	3.3	3.2
Meters		
Total Meters	6,257	6,104
Residential/Rural	3,455	3,303
Residential/Seasonal	1,575	1,556
Large Power/Commercial	1,124	1,140
Other	103	105
kWh Usage		
Total kWh	11,367,058	10,746,842
Residential/Rural	4,353,324	3,939,905
Residential/Seasonal	465,003	425,871
Large Power/Commercial	6,201,597	6,051,851
Other	347,134	329,215
Averages		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	1,260	1,193
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$153	\$162
Avg. Seasonal kWh Used	295	274
Avg. Seasonal Bill	\$62	\$64

Carbon welcomes any comments or questions members may have. If you have a question on any part of the cooperative business, please write the cooperative and we will see that your question is answered. Any comments or questions can be addressed to Carbon Power & Light, Inc. P.O. Box 579, Saratoga, WY 82331, ATTN: Newsletter.

Visit our website at: www.carbonpower.com
 Edited by Charles Larsen

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR POWER: Please check your breakers. If you can determine that your neighbors are also without power, call Carbon day or night at 307.326.5206 or 800.359.0249.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3
Gary Jacobsen	Robert J. Johnson	Dick Clifton
Laurie Forster	Jerry Rabidue	Clay Thompson
Dan Hodgkiss	Kenny Curry	Jim Rogers

For online bill pay or ACH: www.carbonpower.com
 For more *Robert A.Follum* information, please call the billing dept.

REMEMBER you can pay your bill at the following locations:

Rawlins National Bank	First National Bank	Bank of the West
202 5th St	21st & Grand	302 N. 1st St.
Rawlins, WY	Laramie, WY	Saratoga, WY



EVERY MEMBER HAS A VOICE
 MAKE SURE YOURS IS HEARD
 TOGETHERWESAVE.COM

**Energy Efficiency
 Tip of the Month**



Did you know that 90 percent of the energy used to operate a washing machine comes from using hot water? A simple switch from hot to cold can save a great deal of energy! Also, consider air drying or even line drying to save even more household energy.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

DAVIDSON named
ROCK RIVER MAINTENANCE FOREMAN



Perry Davidson replaced retiree, Larry Bouse as the Rock River Maintenance Foreman on January 2, 2015.

Perry began his career with Carbon in 1997 and earned his certificate as a journeyman lineman in 2000 from the Merchant Job Training and Safety Program, a four-year

power line training.

Perry will continue his duties as a journeyman lineman in addition to the added responsibilities of

the maintenance foreman in Rock River for Carbon Power & Light.

Perry resides in Rock River with his family.



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.
 365 days a year.

National Lineman Appreciation Day
 April 13, 2015
 Let's honor the heroes that keep the lights on.

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 follow us on Facebook

**Online
 Bill Pay**

Fast . Easy . Secure.

Pay your electric bill in less time using Carbon Power & Light's online E-Bill.

You can easily pay your electric bill anytime, without worrying about mail delays or potential late fees.

Log onto www.carbonpower.com and click E-Bill to get started.

Win \$10

If you find your name in *asterisks* in this newsletter, contact Carbon Power & Light to receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

CARBON POWER & LIGHT

Office Hours

MAY - SEPTEMBER
 Monday - Thursday ☞ 7 AM - 5:30 PM

OCTOBER - APRIL
 Monday - Friday ☞ 8 AM - 4:30 PM

YOUR COOPERATIVE IS A PROUD MEMBER OF