



# Carbon Light Lines

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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



March 2017



Laurie Forster  
 District 1 Director

## Board Actions JANUARY 2017

Approved the Department Production and Financial Reports.

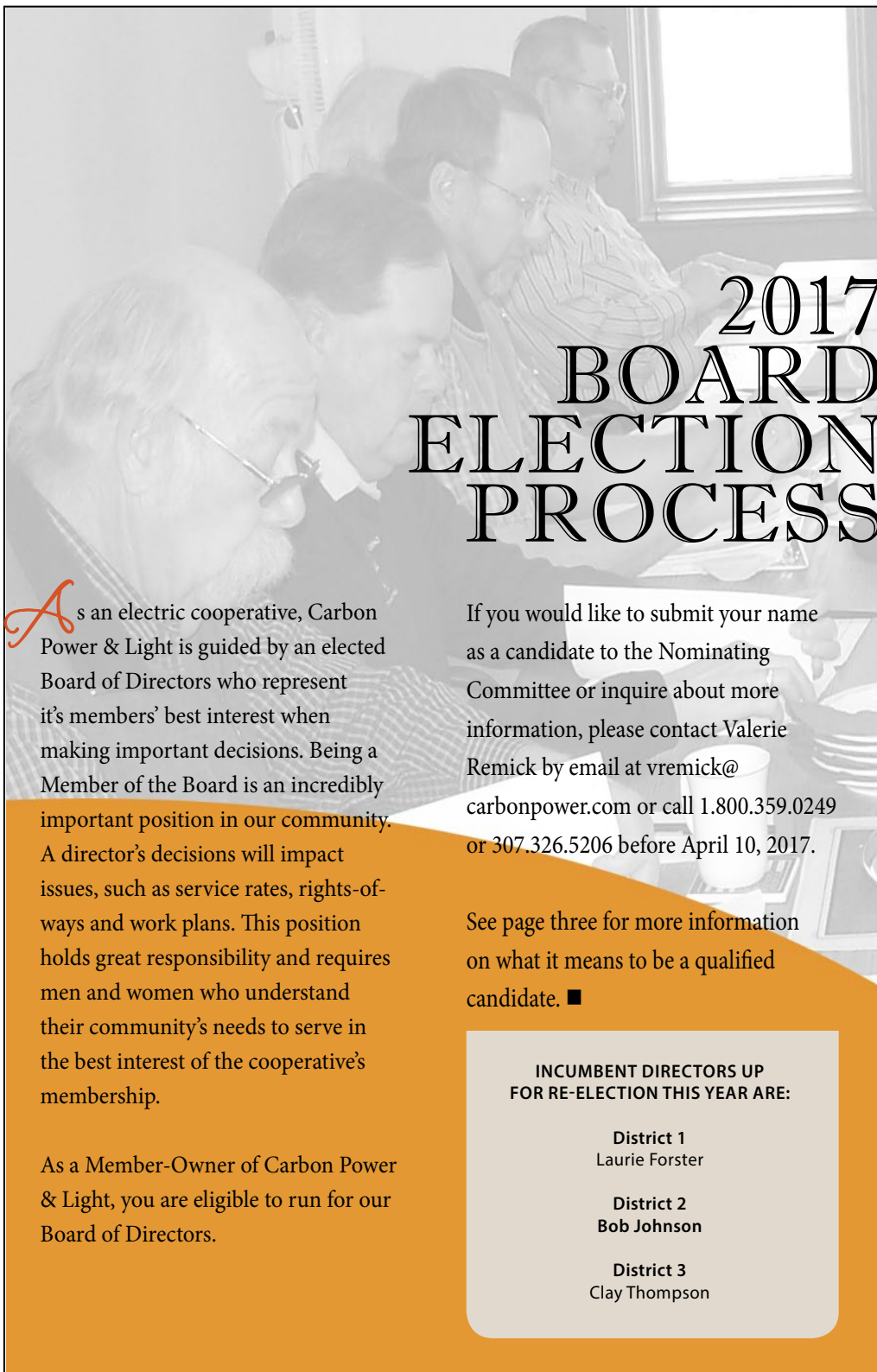
Elected Director Jim Rogers as the voting delegate for NRECA and Director Thompson as alternate.

Elected Director Clay Thompson as voting delegate for NRTC and Director Rogers as the alternate.

Elected Elected Director Hodgkiss as the voting delegate for WUES.

### Date to Remember

**June 24th** - 76th Annual Meeting of the Membership. Held each year on the fourth Saturday in June. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Business meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. ~210 W. Elm St., Saratoga, WY~



# 2017 BOARD ELECTION PROCESS

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 Valerie Remick by email at vremick@carbonpower.com or call 1.800.359.0249 or 307.326.5206 before April 10, 2017.

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  
 Laurie Forster

District 2  
 Bob Johnson

District 3  
 Clay Thompson



# Member-Owned Service Proud



## [ RUSSELL WALDNER, GENERAL MANAGER ]



RUSSELL WALDNER

**Tri-State Generation & Transmission:** Our power supplier is looking for additional cost containment measures and this was the overall message from the Managers meeting I attended recently. One item of note is their evaluation of joining an RTO (Regional Transmission Organization). In a nutshell, and probably an over simplification, it is the pooling of all the transmission systems in a given region for operation at optimum system performance as opposed to contractually operated. You may have heard news of other transmission organizations looking to join CAISO (California Independent System Operator). In the past, the RTOs have demonstrated savings and we look forward to anything that keeps costs contained.

**Annual Meeting:** I know that it's just the beginning of 2017, 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 had our share of cold weather these past few weeks. I'm looking forward to some warmer days. Stay warm...and as always...call if you have questions.

## HELP US STAY SAFE

**2017 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 introduced bills 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 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.



### Pay Now

A fast one-time Electric Bill Payment option with NO Registration Requirement.

All you need to login is your account number and last name, or business name. No payment information is stored. This is a basic means of paying your bill online. Please use SmartHub for usage information and to store payment information. This is for the basic option of paying the bill only.

Click "Pay Now" to begin



# are you Qualified to serve?

INTERESTED IN SERVING ON CARBON POWER & LIGHT'S BOARD? GREAT! THE BOARD IS AN ENERGETIC GROUP OF FOLKS WHO WORK TOGETHER TO ASSIST AND ADVANCE THE COOPERATIVE.

## Here's what you need to know about becoming a Carbon Power & Light (Carbon) board candidate.

**Qualifications:** To be an eligible Carbon candidate, the candidate must be a member-owner of the cooperative, must be a resident of the district they seek to represent, and a natural person. The candidate 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

**Highlighted Responsibilities:** Carbon board members are expected to meet in person at Carbon's monthly board meetings, annual meetings, and/or special meetings. This equates to approximately 30 days a year that candidates would be committing himself or herself to. \*Harry C Benson\*

Board members participate in board discussions, committees and programs advocating for Carbon's standards and goals.

Board members assist and work with other directors through attention to effective discussion during meetings.

Board members encourage effective appraisals of board performance that insure continuing and systematic attention to responsibilities concerning the present and future operational needs.

Board members accept and work with, or on, any committee or other special assignment.

Board members inform and advise the general manager on matters concerning the member's interest which may be brought to the attention of the board members.

Board members 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.

Board members should possess personal characteristics such as leadership in the community, have high integrity, high ethical standards and have respect for the community. Have the ability to exercise sound judgment and logical reasoning

**Terms:** A board member is elected to a three-year term. Terms are staggered to ensure continuity.

**Nominations:** Member-Owners may nominate themselves or another member-owner to serve on the board to the nominating committee on or before April 10, 2017. The nominating committee, in their sole discretion and by majority vote, shall have the authority to determine if the candidate is a qualified nominee. If more

than three candidates seek to represent the same district, the nominating committee shall select from those candidates that are the most likely to serve the interest of the cooperative and its members by a majority vote. If less than three candidates are nominated, and the nominations committee deems it necessary, they may request one or more additional nominees. If you would like to submit your name or the name of another member-owner as a candidate to the nominating committee, please contact:

Russell Waldner  
[rwaldner@carbonpower.com](mailto:rwaldner@carbonpower.com)  
1.800.359.0249 or 307.326.5206

**Deadline:** The deadline to submit a nomination is April 10, 2017.

**Elections:** Once the candidates are selected by the nominating committee and if more than one candidate is running in the same district, each member-owner vote by a mail-in ballot. Ballots are mailed in the June edition of the WREN Magazine.

**Annual Meeting of the Membership:** Directors and candidates are elected by a simple majority vote of returned ballots. Election results for new directors or re-election of incumbent directors are announced during the business meeting at the Annual Meeting of the Membership on June 24, 2017 in Saratoga, WY.

For more information, call the office Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM at 1.800.359.0249 or 307.326.5206.

Member Statistics Report	Dec 2015	Dec 2016
<b>Financial</b>		
Total Utility Plant	\$40,445,816	\$41,260,502
Cost of Purchase Power	\$825,080	\$848,142
Expenses Less Power Cost	\$358,239	\$377,210
Tax & Interest Paid	\$30,654	\$31,176
Interest Received on Investments	\$2,327	\$3,176
<b>Energized Line &amp; Consumers</b>		
Miles of Energized Line	1,947	1,947
Consumers Per Mile	3.2	3.2
<b>Meters</b>		
Total Meters	6,183	6,183
Residential/Rural	3,333	3,410
Residential/Seasonal	1,615	1,580
Large Power/Commercial	1,131	1,085
Other	104	108
<b>kWh Usage</b>		
Total kWh	10,759,924	11,383,223
Residential/Rural	4,226,508	4,376,240
Residential/Seasonal	512,433	645,587
Large Power/Commercial	5,698,965	6,035,778
Other	322,018	325,618
<b>Averages</b>		
Avg. Residential kWh Used	1,268	1,283
Avg. Residential/Rural Bill	\$170	\$163
Avg. Seasonal kWh Used	317	408
Avg. Seasonal Bill	\$69	\$78

Carbon welcomes any comments or questions members may have. If you have a question on any part of the cooperative business, please write or email the cooperative and we will see that your question is answered. Mail comments to Carbon Power & Light, Inc. P.O. Box 579, Saratoga, WY 82331, ATTN: Newsletter or email [info@carbonpower.com](mailto:info@carbonpower.com).

Visit our website at: [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com)  
 Edited by Joe Parrie

**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](http://www.carbonpower.com)  
 For more information, please call the billing dept.

REMEMBER you can pay your bill at the following locations:  
 Rawlins National Bank      ANB      Bank of the West  
 202 5th St      3908 Grand Ave      302 N. 1st St.  
 Rawlins, WY      Laramie, WY      Saratoga, WY



**Did you know your monthly newsletter titled "CARBON LIGHT LINES" is inserted in the WREN Magazine.**

Published monthly, with the exception of January, the Carbon Light Lines provides electric Cooperative Member-Owners with information about today's fast-paced electric utility industry.

The WREN Magazine contains a four page insert in the center section that is produced by Carbon Power & Light. These pages contain information exclusively for the Members of Carbon Power & Light. On these pages, you will receive notification of cooperative business issues, rate changes, and other important information. It is important for Members' to read these pages every month to stay current on cooperative business. You may also read the Carbon Light Lines on-line at [www.carbonpower.com](http://www.carbonpower.com).



Carbon Power & Light's newsletter, "Carbon Light Lines" is inserted in the WREN Magazine.



**Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month**

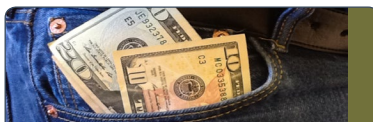


Save energy and money by lowering your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. This will also slow mineral buildup and corrosion in your water heater and pipes.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

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Carbon Power & Light delivers  
*high speed internet*  
**exede**  
 by ViaSat **Call Now!**



If you find your name in \*asterisks\* in this newsletter, contact Carbon Power & Light to receive a \$30 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 GROUP MEMBER OF  
**WREA**  
 WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION