

September 2019

LINN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE





# **2018 Annual Report** Annual Meeting September 27

As a member, you have the opportunity to vote for directors who will represent you. You may cast your vote at the annual meeting on September 27th at The Kirkwood Center (south end of Hotel Kirkwood), 7725 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids.

#### 11:00 am Registration

- Sign up for door and grand prizes
- Meet our cooperative staff and visit the SmartHub booth

#### 11:30 am Ballroom Opens

#### 11:45 pm Lunch

Buffet served by Hotel Kirkwood

#### 12:30 pm Business Meeting Begins

- Report of Nominating Committee; Closing of Ballots
- Reading of Official Notice and Last Year's Minutes
- President & CEO's report
- Election returns
- Prize drawings



If you are unable to attend the annual meeting on September 27th, you can still vote for your directors by mail ballot.

Ballots will be mailed out to members the first week in September. All members may cast a vote regardless of the district you reside in.

Candidate biographies can be found in last month's newsletter and on our website at www.linncountyrec.com.

We are awarding a \$100 bill credit to twenty members who vote by mail ballot. Mail ballots must be received in our office by Friday, September 27th, 2019 in order to be valid.

**NEW THIS YEAR - RAPID REGISTRATION:** As a convenience for our members, we have added a bar code to the back of your bill statement for rapid registration. Simply bring your statement to the registration table at annual meeting, we will scan your bar code and your registration is complete.

### Official Notice Of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the members of Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative Association, will be held at the Kirkwood Center, 7725 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa on Friday, Sept. 27, 2019, at 12:30 pm to take action on the following matters:

1.) The report of officers, directors and committees.

2.) The election of two directors of the Cooperative. If you do not plan to attend the meeting, the bylaws provide that you may vote by mail. Mail ballots will be sent to you under separate cover.

3.) All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments. In connection with the election of the two directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated for directors by a Committee

of Nominations appointed by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative pursuant to the bylaws:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Township</u>	<b>District</b>
Kenneth Squires	Otter Creek	1
Paul Wood	Spring Grove	1
Lisa Rose	Linn	5
Allen Wagner	Linn	5

There were no nominations by petition. Dated September 1, 2019

Lise Rose Lisa Rose, Secretary

# A Message To Our Members



Terry Sullivan General Manager/CEO



Gary Schropp President

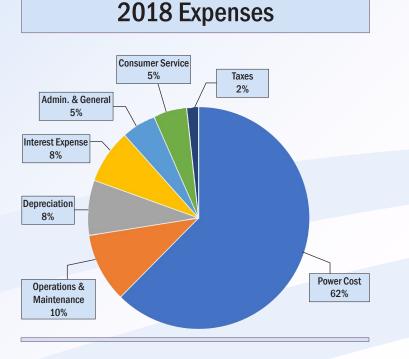
Operating revenue for 2018 was \$51.3 million or 3% higher than 2017. A cold winter coupled with a very hot and humid summer were the primary factors for higher sales. Power costs were \$31.2 million or 3.9% higher than 2017. Increases in depreciation expense and interest expense were the primary factors reducing the cooperative's operating margin after fixed charges to \$1.3 million in 2018 vs. \$1.4 million in 2017. Operating margins were still adequate to meet our lender requirements. Our net margin was down due to less patronage allocated from Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), our power supplier. The Board of Directors elected to return \$350,000 in capital credits to current members.

Those who are current members will see a credit on their September bill.

New services grew slightly over prior year with 682 services installed in 2018 versus 670 from a year ago. Total Linn County REC services at the end of 2018 were 30,092. The cooperative continues to invest in the system to address development, new services and maintaining reliability. In 2018, 81% of the cooperative's capital expenditures were for line construction, new services and substation enhancements. The remainder was spent on truck equipment, building addition and computer equipment. Total capital spent in 2018 was \$12.7 million.

In August of this year, the cooperative completed the installation of its Advanced Metering System (AMI). We have seen many benefits of AMI for our membership including:

- Faster restoration of outages
- Detection of potential equipment failure (such as a bad transformer) that can reduce the duration of or prevent an outage



- More time for our line personnel to dedicate to system maintenance and installation of new services
- Providing members with more detailed information regarding their electric usage

CIPCO is 20 percent owner of the Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC), the nuclear power plant located near Palo. Majority owner and operator of DAEC, NextEra Energy, has decided to close the plant early (end of 2020) in connection with the early termination of its power agreement with Alliant Energy. CIPCO has taken active steps to ensure adequate power supply through additional wind (Heartland Divide 103.5 MW wind farm near Audubon, IA) and solar (Wapello Solar 100 MW near Wapello, IA) purchase contracts and the construction of a 60 megawatt natural gas plant near Creston, IA. CIPCO will further be able to procure energy through the open wholesale energy markets and is actively exploring other energy opportunities.



LINN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# **Meet The Candidates**

Districts 1 and 5 are up for election this year. All members may cast a vote regardless of the district you reside in. **Due to space limitations, full candidate biographies are available at www.linncountyrec.com.** 

# **District 1: Kenneth Squires**

#### Member since: 1959

**Occupation:** Farmer; I have successfully farmed for over 50 years. For the last 30 years, I have operated a 2000-acre family farm corporation with my son and grandson.



#### Activities/Organizations:

- Linn County REC Board; have previously held all offices on the board of directors
- Member, Alice Methodist Church
- Linn County Corn Growers, Soybean Association

#### What strengths would you bring to our Board if re-elected?

"As a credentialed cooperative director, I continue to stay updated on changing environmental issues and on changes that affect the cooperative. I am conservative, dependable, am open to listen and address issues. My core ethical values are honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect and compassion."

# **District 5: Lisa Rose**

#### Member since: 1982

#### **Occupation:**

• Managing Associate, edCount, LLC

#### Activities/Organizations:

• Seeds of Faith Lutheran Church

#### What strengths would you bring to our Board if re-elected?

"Large account management and expansion, client relationship management, new business development, consultative sales and marketing, motivational leadership and team management, creative and resourceful crisis management, revenue generation and profitability."

## **District 1: Paul Wood**

#### Member since: 2009

#### **Occupation:**

- Pastor, Methodist Church
- Retired, Duane Arnold Power Station

#### **Activities/Organizations:**

- District Director, District 19 Iowa Toastmasters
- Chairman, Iowa Rugby Referee's Society
- Director, University of Sheffield American Alumni Assoc.
- Volunteer for Brucemore and Granger House

#### What strengths would you bring to our Board if elected?

"With over 30 years experience as a contracts manager within the power generation industry, I can give support and knowledge in future project developments. With the long term assessment of the benefits of solar and wind energy for power generation, I have extensive experience and knowledge that would be a support to the proactive management of the REC."

### **District 5: Allen Wagner**

#### Member since: 1984

#### **Occupation:**

- Retired, Rockwell Collins
- Tree farmer

#### Activities/Organizations:

Board Member, Iowa Woodland
Owners Association

#### What strengths would you bring to our Board if elected? "My

experience on the Iowa Woodland Owners Association Board would likely help me understand some of the issues that will come before the board of REC."





## **Assets & Liabilities**

Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative Association and Subsidiary, Marion, IA Consolidated Balance Sheets, December 31, 2018 and 2017.

ASSETS	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
UTILITY PLANT Electrical Plant in Service	\$147,775,664	\$132,637,296
Construction Work in Progress	7,123,089	9,574,495
Total	154,898,753	142,211,791
Less Accumulated Provision for	194,090,799	172,211,791
Depreciation	(39,669,036)	(37,212,181)
Net Utility Plant	115,229,717	104,999,610
	113,227,111	10 1,777,010
INVESTMENTS		
Investments in Assoc. Organizations	32,414,183	32,207,992
Non-Utility Property	1,499,479	1,588,650
Other Investments	820,580	861,083
Total Investments	34,734,242	34,657,725
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,834,651	2,161,039
Accounts Receivable, Net	4,851,696	4,440,337
Materials and Supplies Inventory	2,876,020	2,556,599
Prepaid Expenses	48,869	169,310
Other Current and Accrued Assets	48,603	54,000
Total Current Assets	9,659,839	9,381,285
Total Assets	<u>\$159,623,798</u>	<u>\$149,038,620</u>
EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES		
EQUITIES		
Patronage Capital	\$6,520,971	\$6,469,118
Other Equities	52,501,125	49,004,653
Total Equities	59,022,096	55,473,771
LONG-TERM DEBT		
(LESS CURRENT MATURITIES)	90,634,595	83,907,983
ACCUMULATED PROVISIONS FOR		
PENSIONS AND BENEFITS	164,834	181,831
	101,001	101,001
Notes Payable	-	-
Current Maturities of	2 502 000	2.0.40.000
Long-Term Debt	3,503,000	2,849,000
Accounts Payable	2,670,949	3,088,288
Consumer Deposits Other Current and Accrued	201,640	157,370
Liabilities	1 855 272	1 680 531
Current Portion of Deferred Credits	1,855,273 38,000	1,680,531 38,000
Total Current Liabilities	8,268,862	7,813,189
DEFERRED CREDITS (LESS CURRENT PORTION)	1,533,411	1,661,846
Total Equities and Liabilities	<u>\$159,623,798</u>	<u>\$149,038,620</u>

### **Consolidated Statements of Revenue & Expenses**

Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative Association and Subsidiary, Marion, IA Consolidated Statements of Operations and Patronage Capital for the years ended, December 31, 2018 and 2017.

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>		
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>	\$51,285,131	\$49,631,658		
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Cost of Power	31,212,849	30,038,690		
Distribution Expense - Operations	3,287,970	3,208,670		
Distribution Expense - Maintenand	ce 1,748,763	1,844,288		
Consumer Account Expense	1,802,235	1,714,893		
Sales Expense	610,703	564,808		
Administrative and General Expense	2,502,615	2,443,329		
Depreciation Expense	4,010,711	3,693,500		
Taxes	862,994	857,964		
Other Deductions	10,669	12,683		
Total Operating Expenses	46,049,509	44,378,825		
OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE				
FIXED CHARGES	5,235,622	5,252,833		
INTEREST EXPENSE				
Long-Term Debt	3,942,901	3,802,397		
Other	18,483	29,562		
Total Interest Expense	3,961,384	3,831,959		
<b>OPERATING MARGINS AFTER</b>				
FIXED CHARGES	1,274,238	1,420,874		
GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION AND				
OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS	2,330,042	3,282,401		
	2,330,012			
NET OPERATING MARGINS	3,604,280	4,703,275		
NON-OPERATING MARGINS				
Interest Income	217,407	215,474		
Other Non-Operating Margins	199,487	94,049		
Gain (Loss) from Equity Investments	(4,991)	(43,473)		
Total Non-Operating Margins	411,903	266,050		
NET MARGINS	\$4,016,183	\$4,969,325		



## LINN COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

WWW.LINNCOUNTYREC.COM

*ElectriCONVECTION*, the official publication of Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative, is published monthly for members of Linn County Rural Electric Cooperative, 5695 REC Drive, P.O. Box 69, Marion, Iowa 52302. © Copyright 2019 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

