



Connect With Us At The Virtual Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the **VIRTUAL** annual meeting on Friday, September 24th. The Zoom meeting will begin at 9:00 am. Meeting agenda and instructions on how to participate online are coming in next month's newsletter and on our website.

This year, members will be voting on one change to one of our articles of incorporation in addition to electing two board members. The proposed change is to Article IX; Directors; Section 3. The board has recommended a wording change in order to clarify board eligibility.

The proposed amendment will be placed on this year's ballot. **Please note that a member voting for directors, but not voting on the Article change, counts as a NO vote for the Article change.** Visit our website to view the proposed article change as it will appear on the ballot.

Our annual meeting is an opportunity for you to exercise one of the greatest benefits of being a member of an electric co-op ~ voting for the board of directors. This year, districts 4 and 6 are up for election. Learn more about this year's candidates by reading their biographies in this newsletter. Biographies are also available online at www.linncountyrec.com. The annual report with meeting agenda will be mailed with your September bill.

Survey and Ballot Systems (SBS) will administer our voting and ballot validation process. Voting will be available from August 27th at 8:00 am through September 22nd at midnight. All members may cast a vote regardless of the district you reside in. Members who vote online or by mail ballot will be entered into a drawing for a bill credit. Learn more about our voting options below.

-- Vote Online or By Mail --



SMARTHUB

Vote online through SmartHub! Simply log in to your account and click the "vote now" button. Online voting is available from August 27th at 8:00 am through September 22nd. Don't have a SmartHub account? Create an account at www.linncountyrec.com/manage-my-account/smarthub-resources.



ONLINE

Vote online via the official 2021 Linn County REC Election website. Log in to directvote.net/LCRECIA. In the top left corner are your member number and election passcode. Use both of these to log in. Online voting is available from August 27th at 8:00 am through September 22nd at midnight.



MAIL BALLOT

Survey & Ballot Systems will mail out our ballots August 27th. Mail completed ballots back to SBS in the postage paid return envelope provided. Mail ballots must be received by SBS no later than September 22nd in order to be valid.



SmartHub Voting Instructions



Invitation to Vote

Members receive instructions to access the DirectVote® election website via SmartHub Web by mail or email.



SmartHub Web Log In

Members will log in with their SmartHub email address and password.



"Vote Now" Button

Members will log in with their SmartHub email address and password.



Account Selection

Choose account to cast a ballot, then click "Submit".



DirectVote® Election Website

After successful validation, members are directed to the DirectVote® welcome page.



Cast Your Ballot

Vote for your candidate(s).



District 4: Jeanna Sager

Member since: 1985

Occupation: Retired Supervisor of Radiology/Head of Special Procedures & Urological Modalities, Mercy Hospital

- Retired Head of Radiology, PCI Urology
- Co-owner Golden Hammer Collision

Activities/Organizations:

- Board Secretary and Member, Linn County REC
- Member, Iowa Society of Radiologic Technologists
- Member, ISRA & MSRA Street Rod Assoc.
- Member, New Covenant Bible Church
- RAGBRAI volunteer, Hiawatha Fun Fest

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

"My strengths include being honest, fair and committed to representing the members of the cooperative. Before making decisions on the agenda of board meetings, I always study how it may affect the members and the cooperative. The final decision must be the best for the majority involved.

I have lived in Linn or Johnson Counties all my life. This helps me understand many local concerns and how they may affect members and the cooperative. We also need to keep up with new and future technology. I have always been interested in electricity. Future developments in energy and storage successes shows us how fast changes are evolving for storage and types of grids that are working and being tested across the nation and the world. These new technologies will involve every one of us, especially electric cooperatives. Always looking to the future will keep us sustainable now and in the future.

I am Secretary of the board of directors. I have completed numerous classes and seminars offered at our state association (IAEC) and national association (NRECA). I have learned from experts in the business, networked with other directors, and represented our cooperative as a delegate. These have increased my knowledge of the many segments that relate to the energy business. I am also proud to have completed my Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate and my Board Leadership (BLC) Certificate."

Short term/Long term goals: "My short and long-term goals are encompassed by our mission statement, seven principles and ongoing strategic planning. These goals include keeping Linn County REC well-organized and sustainable now and for future generations. This is accomplished by continuing to add the technologies needed to keep us a future oriented cooperative. We have already installed SCADA & AMI allowing for electronic meter reading and detecting outages more efficiently to get the power back on for our members. Future technologies include streamlining internal processes, ongoing cybersecurity updates and remote monitoring of substations."

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "The biggest issue is the population growth in our cooperative. This

is a good issue to have when many other cooperatives are losing members. We must continue to stay ahead of the ramifications of more members in terms of more equipment, manpower and additional substations.

Another issue is storage for the energy produced by renewable sources. Wind and solar seem to be the winners at present and near future but many possible sources are being used and tested. Hydro, methane digester, biomass, along with a wide array of hybrids seem to fill the need in unique instances. Fuel cells seem to have a place in the storage search for the future."



District 6: Joyce Pealer

Member since: 2000

Occupation: District Sales Manager, Sumitomo Drive Technologies

Activities/Organizations:

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Member
Farm Bureau, Member
Sunrise Rotary, Prior Member

What strengths would you bring to our board if elected? "One of my greatest strengths is communication. I am a firm believer that all obstacles, problems, issues, can be resolved with proper communication. I believe in honesty and making every situation a positive one, no matter how difficult it is. I believe in tackling problems head on, and being up front and transparent about it. I make educated decisions, not based on what is best for me, but what is best for who I am representing or servicing.

I also feel my background in the electrical utility industry for the past 7 years with RESCO will give me a very solid foundation right from the start to know and understand all that the board will be discussing, planning, and working thru. I have a positive relationship with many on the current board, CEO, and staff at Linn County due to my past workings with them and feel I can bring a lot of positive energy, new ideas, and a solid understanding of all the projects that the co-op is working on, as I am very familiar with the systems, products, and terms that go along with such projects.

I am also one who steps up in times of need to assist whenever and wherever possible, and would continue to do so as a board member. During the Derecho, I publicly, thru social media, promoted all of the co-ops going thru the disaster, as well as the municipals and investor owned utilities and asked people to please show appreciation to the lineman that were working day and night to restore power for the people. I asked for people to respond positively to the lineman, show gratitude thru little things like water, ice, snacks, etc as many of these guys had their own issues at home to deal with, but were out working for the good of others, and many were coming from all over the country, lacking sleep, not seeing their families, and dealing with excessive heat. I too



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spent time going around and delivering items to different teams when I would see them out working, and assisted in feeding the crew at LC by grilling a couple of days with my company's grill I had access to. I feel it is the little things that make a company successful, a person successful, and a community successful. I also tried to be a resource for those not understanding why it was taking so long, by explaining and communicating thru numerous social media sites the what's and whys, hoping to reduce stress, animosity, and to promote positivity to those who were struggling."

Short term/Long term goals: "If elected, my short term goal would be to slide into the role without much need of being coached on what is happening, the terms, projects, systems, etc as I am pretty aware of most of what is going on. This will in turn keep the board running productively without having to slow down to bring me up to speed. An efficient and productive board is what every member hopes for, as the members need people working on their behalf, efficiently and effectively.

My long term goal is to be the voice of the members within my district, and to make proper decisions that will positively impact both the membership and the cooperative. I will educate myself on the issues facing the cooperative, as well as any legislative opportunities, or system or product advancements that could benefit the cooperative and membership as a whole."

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "I feel the biggest issue facing the co-op today is the rate at which we are growing. The corridor area, along with the northwest side of Cedar Rapids along highway 100 is expanding so fast that it is hard for the co-op to keep up with the constant demands. This is a good problem to have, yet it adds a lot of extra workload to many because of the desire to be as efficient and effective as possible. It also adds extra demands on the facilities to house increased necessary supplies like transformers, cable, switchgear, and poles, which then increases the need for facility expenditures on more warehousing space, increased numbers of lineman and administrative staff, as well as more trucks and so on.

This is a delicate issue, as we don't always know what the economy is going to do, depending on what is happening within our government, tax changes, and inflation, as all those things play a role in how the co-op decides to handle the current growth rate. Being mindful that this growth could change at any time is important, so that decisions aren't made to increase personnel or other costly areas within the co-op, that in the end could cost the membership more without getting the return on the investment. Which is why we have to continue to support a diversified portfolio of generation that consists of not only energy from coal, natural gas, and oil, but also wind, solar, hydro, and land fill gas generation. These added energy generators are important in keeping costs down for the members, aiding in necessary increases in people and space, as well as it assists in making the cooperative more sustainable and environmental for generations to come, making our service territory a place for companies to want to expand their businesses."



District 6: Gary Schropp

Member since: 1977

Occupation: Retired

Part-time home delivery milkman, Dan and Debbie's Creamery

Activities/Organizations:

- Linn County REC Board since 1982
- Shueyville United Methodist Church
- Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) Hawkeye Insurance Association Board – 9 Years

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

"The strengths I bring to the board are;

- 1) Continually participating in education of electric utility issues and leadership skill training through NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association);
- 2) Previous utility work experience;
- 3) Commitment to serve our cooperative members and the community; and,
- 4) Listening to all the information and then applying good decision making skills."

Short term/Long term goals: "My short-term goals are to position Linn County REC as a strong, efficient cooperative organization and to monitor and react to outside influences on our business.

My long-term goal is to monitor Linn County REC's organizational structure and operations, and to address issues that require changes to keep Linn County REC as a financially solid organization providing a valuable product and service to its' members."

What do you feel is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "I think the biggest issue facing our organization today is getting the federal, state and local agencies, that control our industry, to understand how their decisions and actions affect our business. We need to make sure our concerns and issues are presented to these individuals and organizations through our membership and involvement in our state and national industry associations."

COMMUNITY

CHIP the LED Kid was thrilled to be out in our community again visiting with his fans and teaching them how to stay safe around electricity.

CHIP and Linn County REC staff attended the 2021 Youth Day at the Linn County Fair. For information about our FREE community presentations, visit our website at www.linncountyrec.com!



Linn County REC hosted a summer intern through Kirkwood's Workplace Learning Connection program.

Chris Oberbroeckling, a student from Marion, completed a 45 hour internship with us through this program. He spent time in all Linn County REC departments to learn more about cooperatives. He is interested in becoming a lineman in the future.

Level II Electric Car Charger Rebate Available - Up To \$500



Electric cars are good for the environment and good for your wallet. While gas prices may fluctuate, electricity remains a great value. With a Level II charger at home, you should leave every morning with a full tank!

Linn County REC offers our residential members a rebate for purchasing a new Level II charger for your electric vehicle.

- Incentive equals 50% of installed cost - up to \$500
- Limit one charger per home
- Charger must be a Level II, requiring a 240/208-volt input supply
- Primary charging location must be the home address listed, served by Linn County REC
- Qualified electrician for installation is recommended
- Download the rebate form for full criteria
- Must be filed within six months of installation

Linn County REC's peak demand time is 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm daily. Please make sure to program your vehicle to charge off these hours whenever possible. This helps keep costs down for members and your cooperative.

Visit linncountyrec.com to download the rebate form and see terms and conditions. Contact our Member Services department if you have questions about this rebate.

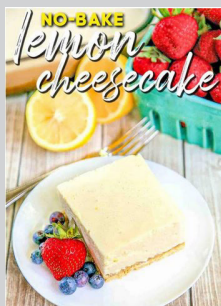


Linn County REC offices will be closed on September 6th in observance of Labor Day.

A bill payment kiosk is available 24 hours a day at our Marion office and North Liberty operations center.

No Bake Lemon Cheesecake

- 1 (3-oz) package lemon Jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- ¼ cup lemon juice
- 1 (8-oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 (12-oz) can evaporated milk, chilled
- 3 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 5 Tbsp powdered sugar
- 12 Tbsp butter melted



Dissolve Jello in boiling water. Add lemon juice. Allow to cool. Cream together cream cheese, sugar and vanilla. Add Jello and mix well. Whip the evaporated milk and fold into the Jello mixture. Mix graham cracker crumbs and powdered sugar with butter. Press into the bottom of a 9"x13" dish. Pour in filling. Chill overnight before serving.



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WWW.LINNCOUNTYREC.COM

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