

Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* NEWS

March 2022

## Riverland Energy Cooperative ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, March 26, 2022

Pancake Breakfast & Registration - 8:00 a.m.

Business Meeting - 10:15

Bring in the slip below for registration.

TREMPEALEAU ELECTRIC  
CO-OPERATIVE  
ARCADIA WISCONSIN



Riverland Energy  
Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# NOTICE

## 2022 Annual Membership Meeting of Riverland Energy Cooperative on Saturday, March 26, 2022

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the members of Riverland Energy Cooperative will be held on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at the Arcadia High School in the City of Arcadia, Wisconsin. Breakfast and registration will begin at 8 a.m. The business meeting will be called to order at 10:15 a.m.

### Agenda

1. Approval of the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes
2. Reports of the officers and directors
3. Proposed Article and Bylaw changes set forth as a part of this Notice
4. Election of three directors:
  - District #2 for a term of four years
  - District #5 for a term of four years
  - District #9 for a term of four years
5. Any old or new business to be brought before the membership
6. Adjourn

Dennis Frame, Secretary

# PRIZES!

**Riverland Energy Cooperative will offer its members who attend the annual meeting a chance to win prizes! Prizes will be given to all ages! Must be present to win.**

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**THIS IS YOUR ANNUAL MEETING  
REGISTRATION**

**Cut out and bring with you to the annual meeting!**

# ANNUAL REPORT

**POWER THAT PERSISTS:  
CELEBRATING 85 YEARS OF SERVICE  
1937-2022**

## PROGRAM

**Saturday, March 26, 2022  
Arcadia High School,  
Arcadia, WI**

**8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

- Registration and pancake breakfast

**10:15 a.m.**

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Notice of Meeting
- Due Proof of Mailing
- Announcement of Quorum
- Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Review and Action of Proposed Article and Bylaw Changes
- Manager's Report
- Financial Report
- Election Results
- New Business
- Adjourn



Riverland Energy Cooperative Board of Directors

The map shows Wisconsin divided into nine districts, each represented by a different color and containing various counties. Lines connect each district to a portrait of its representative. The districts and their representatives are:

- District 1 (Green):** Fran Fedie (Counties: Lima, Albany, Canton, Mondovi, Naples)
- District 2 (Yellow):** Bryce Lisowski (Counties: Maxville, Nelson)
- District 3 (Blue):** Cletus Foegen (Counties: Lincoln, Waumandee, Glencoe, Milton, Cross, Buffalo)
- District 4 (Pink):** Dennis Frame (Counties: Valley, Clear Creek, Otter Creek, Albion, Unity, Sumner, Chimney Rock, Burnside, Lincoln, Pigeon)
- District 5 (Light Blue):** Dan Filla (Counties: Arcadia, Ettrick, Arcadia, Preston)
- District 6 (Light Purple):** David Anderson (Counties: Dodge, Gale, Trempealeau, Caledonia)
- District 7 (Light Green):** Gary Dvoracek (Counties: Belvidere, Waumandee)
- District 8 (Light Orange):** David Paudler (Counties: Holland, Onalaska)
- District 9 (Light Blue):** Bea Zingsheim (County: Onalaska)

**DISTRICT 1**  
FRAN FEDIE

**DISTRICT 2**  
BRYCE LISOWSKI

**DISTRICT 3**  
CLETUS FOEGEN

**DISTRICT 4**  
DENNIS FRAME  
Secretary/Treasurer

**DISTRICT 5**  
DAN FILLA  
Vice President

**DISTRICT 6**  
DAVID ANDERSON

**DISTRICT 7**  
GARY DVORACEK

**DISTRICT 8**  
DAVID PAUDLER  
President

**DISTRICT 9**  
BEA ZINGSHEIM



## General Manager's Message

### Jerry Sorenson, REC General Manager

This year we celebrate the 85th Anniversary of the cooperative. Observance of the this means two things have happened: another year of operation has been successfully completed, and we are looking to Riverland's future once again.

We continue to work hard to deliver your energy in a safe and reliable manner, while also keeping our employees safe. We participate in national safety review programs and are considered leaders within those programs. We currently have the lowest Experience Modification Rate (EMR) in the state. EMR has a strong impact on our cooperative. It's a number used by insurance companies to gauge both past cost of injuries, and future chances of risk. The lower the EMR, the lower your compensation insurance premiums will be. An EMR of 1.0 is considered the industry average. Our cooperative dropped to a .72, which equates to \$34,000 savings in our premiums in 2022. This number is excellent for us, and an indicator that we are working safely.

On the system, we continued to focus on reliability. In 2021, we spent over \$5 million on capital improvement projects, which include upgrading systems and rebuilding line. Some of the inspection and maintenance programs conducted in 2021 included 35.2 miles of single and three-phase lines added or replaced, 577 poles set, 306 security lights replaced with LED, and 11 sectionalizing cabinets installed. In addition, we tested 4,000 poles, inspected 2,015 cabinets, conducted 310 miles of right-of-way maintenance, and 680 miles were treated with herbicide. In 2021, Riverland added 221 new services to its system.

Our outage time remained low throughout the year until December 15 when the rare derecho storm swept through our area, leaving over 6,000 members without power. This brought our outage time from 1.5 hours per member to 5.5 hours per member. Our co-op was one of the worst hit in the state, and we are grateful for our peers who rushed to our assistance and helped restore power after only two days.

Each year we work hard to improve our service to you. During 2021, we continued to make changes to how we handle issues and concerns when they arise. We continue to get signs that we are making progress as we got an increase in our ACSI score. We will continue to work hard in 2022 to meet your expectations in the service we provide you.

We put many goals in place for 2022. Once again, we have a sizable capital budget planned for the year; however, it fits well within the overall financial plan. Several construction projects and improvements are in the plans including building a new substation to balance load and backup for peaks and upgrading and replacing lines. We plan to purchase 23 substations from Dairyland Power Cooperative, which is projected to be a savings of over \$100,000 a year.

Riverland Energy was part of a solar project, Stromland Solar, located in Cochrane this year. This is our second large solar project, with our first one being SoCore located behind our office in Arcadia. Stromland Solar covers approximately 20 acres with 8,000 panels, supplying power for 550 homes annually. We are happy to be a part of this project and look forward to more solar projects in the future. At the end of 2021, we had 140 residential members producing solar energy.

We will see more EV residential chargers on our system in the months and years to come as well, and will be adding level-2 chargers to our offices in Holmen and Arcadia. We're excited to be your trusted energy expert for EVs and bring you more electric vehicle resources.

Riverland Energy has no control over rising transmission costs, but we work hard to hold down the distribution portion of your electric bill. While the recent inflation has raised prices on the supplies we need to serve you, I'm happy to report there will be no rate increase in 2022.

As Riverland Energy begins its 85th anniversary year, members should expect that Riverland will continue executing on its mission to provide safe, reliable, innovative, and affordable energy and related services.

We understand the cooperative would not exist without your support. We look forward to serving you in 2022. Thank you for your membership and continued trust in Riverland Energy Cooperative.

I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!





## President's Message

### David Paudler, Board President

As members, we should all be proud of the history of Riverland Energy Cooperative. Rural Wisconsin had a need for electricity, and strong leaders came together and made the co-op happen.

Electricity and all the benefits that come with it changed and improved the lives of people in rural communities. Electricity made homes more comfortable and lessened workloads with electric appliances. Electric lights made the evenings longer and more enjoyable. Power on farms made for prosperous changes and growth.

As late as the mid-1930s, nine out of 10 rural homes were without electric service. The unavailability of electricity in rural areas kept their economies entirely and exclusively dependent on agriculture. For many years, power companies ignored the rural areas of the nation. But on May 11, 1935, President Roosevelt acted on behalf of rural communities across the United States, signing Executive Order No. 7037, establishing the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). Within months, it became evident to REA officials that established investor-owned utilities were not interested in using federal loan funds to serve sparsely populated rural areas. But loan applications from farmer-based cooperatives poured in, and the REA soon realized electric cooperatives would be the entities to make rural electrification a reality.

Riverland Energy Cooperative was born on June 1, 1999, the result of the merger between Trempealeau Electric and Buf-

falo Electric Cooperatives. Both co-ops were incorporated in 1937. The farmers in those areas wanted better lives for their community – electricity, the thing that would improve lives sevenfold and raise the standard of living. They knew they had to come together and pool their funds for a common goal to do it ... that unity and striving to make a difference still live on in how Riverland Energy operates today.

At Riverland Energy Cooperative, we continue to want to make your lives better, and we set goals every year to ensure we do that. We continue to grow, expanding our services in areas that are also growing. We now have over 16,200 members and serve six counties. We continue to empower you, our members, with services that make your workloads lighter, allow you to expand your businesses, and make your homes warm, comfortable places in which to raise families and enjoy your friends.

We have a solid foundation built on our principles and values, but we keep our eyes on the future and on your needs as they continue to change. We hope that you share our pride in Riverland Energy Cooperative's history and its growth as we have been serving our member-owners since 1937.

A lot has changed in the last 85 years. What hasn't changed is this: Riverland Energy is still member-owned and operates on a not-for-profit basis. We were created by and for the communities we serve, and that will never change!





## Dairyland Power Cooperative Report

David Anderson, DPC Director

### Dairyland Priorities: Safety, Reliability and Cost Management

With an overarching goal of Sustainability, Dairyland Power Cooperative's leadership team and the Board of Directors are focused on providing safe and reliable electricity for Dairyland's 24 member cooperatives while transitioning to a low-carbon future.

Dairyland's Sustainable Generation Plan provides a framework for **Asset Reliability and Energy Diversification**, considering the economic impact on members, technological feasibility, social implications, and environmental responsibility.

On June 1, 2021, Dairyland safely retired the coal-fired Genoa Station #3 (G-3). Decommissioning of the facility is in progress, with a focus on reuse and donations of materials that benefit the community. A study is also underway to find a positive future site plan for both Dairyland and the Genoa community.

Following the closing of G-3, Dairyland's purchase of the RockGen Energy Center, a 503 megawatt (MW) natural gas plant in Cambridge, Wis., was a strategic fit for its power supply portfolio. RockGen supports the growth of wind and solar energy in the region and provides reliable electricity in all weather conditions.

Renewable additions include the Tatanka Ridge Wind Farm (Deuel County, S.D.) which began operation in 2021. Dairyland has a power purchase agreement (PPA) to receive energy from a 52 MW portion of the wind farm. Dairyland also has a PPA with Ranger Solar for the 149 MW Badger State Solar facility (Jefferson, Wis.), which is scheduled to be operational in 2023. Dairyland also supports solar development at its member cooperatives.

The regulatory approval process continues for the Nemadji Trail Energy Center. Basin Electric Power Cooperative has joined Dairyland and Minnesota Power as a project partner for the proposed 525-625 MW natural gas generation facility (Superior, Wis.) which is planned to be operational in 2025.

Dairyland has a goal of 50 percent reduction in carbon dioxide intensity rate (over 2005 levels) by 2030. While new technologies advance, both RockGen and the Nemadji Trail Energy Center are bridging resources to support renewable energy and help Dairyland move steadily towards a lower-carbon future.

Dedicated facility maintenance strengthens power plant reliability. In 2021, the John P. Madgett Station and Elk Mound Generation Station both set power production

records, reliably serving Dairyland's members during extreme temperatures.

Nothing is sustainable without a culture of safety, which remains the highest priority at Dairyland. In 2021, Dairyland achieved 245+ days without a lost-time injury as they strive for an operational goal of "zero incidents." Dairyland has implemented a behavior-based safety program to strengthen and maintain a culture of safety. While addressing the continuing challenges of the pandemic, Dairyland consistently demonstrated its agility and commitment to safety and regulatory compliance while reliably delivering critical power.

**Financial and Competitive Strength** are critical to sustainability. Dairyland balances building financial strength with ensuring competitive rates and sound operations.

The board approved a budget supporting Dairyland's strategic business plan, which resulted in an estimated 0.4% percent decrease in the average wholesale rate for Dairyland's member cooperatives beginning Jan. 1, 2022. A new wholesale rate design was also implemented in May 2021 to provide additional flexibility for member cooperatives.

Cost management actions and sound 2021 fiscal performance resulted in strong margins. As a result, Dairyland provided \$4 million of rate credits to members in 2021, reduced future expenses and is investing in business development opportunities. In addition, Dairyland maintained its cash retirement of capital credits of 2 percent, resulting in 2021 cash retirements of \$4.7 million, and had four power cost adjustments (PCA) credits totaling \$3.7 million. As part of its new rate design, Dairyland also instituted the revenue volatility adjustment (RVA). All told, the RVA returned an additional \$9.2 million to the members.

Dairyland has credit ratings of "A3" with a stable outlook from Moody's and "A+" also with a stable outlook from Standard and Poor's. Dairyland's board and leadership team balance building financial strength with competitive rates and sound operations. Management of costs and risks, and modernizing processes to enhance efficiency are key areas of focus.

Dairyland is also investing in regional transmission opportunities. By working with other utilities, regional transmission infrastructure has been strengthened to absorb changing generation sources while maintaining reliability

*Continued on page 16d*

## Dairyland Power Cooperative Report

Continued from page 16c

and adding value for members.

Construction began on the 345-kilovolt (kV) Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line (Dubuque, Iowa, to Middleton, Wis.) in 2021 with an in-service date of 2023. Regional transmission projects, such as the CapX2020 line running from the Twin Cities to Rochester to La Crosse, the Badger Coulee line from La Crosse to Madison, and the Cardinal-Hickory Creek line are opportunities that both improve reliability and add value for members.

Transmission Construction crews work to safely rebuild, construct and upgrade approximately 50 miles of 69 kV transmission line each year. Each mile takes approximately two weeks to complete with roughly 17 poles per mile.

The board supported accelerating the build-out plan for middle-mile fiber optic communications on Dairyland's transmission infrastructure, primarily for communication. As the program progresses, fiber optic communication capacity could support rural broadband service providers in the communities Riverland Energy and Dairyland's other member cooperatives serve.

**Growth and Innovation** foster sustainable business and long-term competitive rates for members. Dairyland has expanded shared services for members in Information Technology, Human Resources and Publication Services, and established a Business Development Fund to seek new revenue opportunities. A new business unit was formed around Dairyland's Transmission Construction team which will begin rebuilding the Rochester – Wabaco 161 kV rebuild project as one of their first projects in 2022.

Riverland Energy and Dairyland were among 31

cooperatives to create CHARGE EV, LLC, in 2020, to build interest in the growth of electric vehicles (EV). The CHARGE™ network of cooperative-powered EV chargers is growing in rural areas. Additionally, Dairyland is working with local businesses to help them learn more about adding EVs to their fleets.

Dairyland also expanded economic development support for its members to pursue opportunities that will help communities grow by adding businesses and jobs which benefit the entire Dairyland system.

By seeking innovative solutions and implementing effective project management to achieve its strategic priorities, Dairyland will be sustainable, adaptable, and competitive as the energy industry transforms.

In 2021, Dairyland deployed a new three-year strategic planning process with a focus on measurement and accountability that aligns with Dairyland's Mission, Vision and Core Values. Dairyland's People 1st culture is member-focused, clarifies employee roles and goals, and is enhancing communication throughout the organization.

While Dairyland evolves, our Cooperative Principles and member satisfaction remain at the forefront. Dairyland is committed to transparent governance and strong relationships with members. As a Touchstone Energy® cooperative, Dairyland makes positive impacts in its local communities and improves the quality of life for cooperative members.

As your representative on the Dairyland Board of Directors, I am confident that Dairyland will continue to provide our cooperative with safe, reliable, affordable, and sustainable power today and for future generations.

### PAUDLER HONORED WITH THE ACE AWARD



David Paudler, Riverland Energy Board president, was selected as the 2020 recipient of the annual Ally of Cooperative Electrification (ACE) award. The ACE award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions

to the electric cooperative industry. He was honored at the WECA banquet this past year. Congratulations, Dave!

### BETH EDE RECOGNIZED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE



Beth Ede was recognized for her 10 years of serving Riverland Energy Cooperative on the Board of Directors from 2010-2020. Beth represented electric cooperatives locally, regionally, and nationally. She attended formal training through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA), and earned her Credentialed

Cooperative Director certification and Board Leadership Certificate. We thank Beth for her leadership and commitment as a director!



## 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2021 annual membership meeting of the Riverland Energy Cooperative was held on Saturday, March 27, 2021, at the Arcadia High School in Arcadia, Wisconsin.

President David Paudler called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced Father Kyle Laylan for the invocation. President Paudler then introduced the current directors, welcomed guests, and recognized past directors and employees.

Attorney Niles Berman was introduced to preside over the meeting as acting chairman. He proceeded to cover the annual meeting rules and voting procedures adopted by the District Committee Conference, emphasized the use of voting cards, and stated we will follow Roberts Rules, Newly Revised, latest edition (11th) to cover other procedural questions.

Dennis Frame, secretary, was introduced to read the Notice of Meeting and Due Proof of Mailing. Attorney Niles Berman announced 84 registered members in attendance and that no motions or voting would take place due to not meeting the 100 members in attendance for a quorum.

Mr. Berman asked for any corrections to the minutes of the 2020 annual meeting, which were printed in the annual report. A motion was deferred to approve them as printed.

Mr. Berman read the proposed amendment to Article I Section 3, Article II Sections 1, 2, 4 & 5, Article III Sections 2, 3, 5, 9 & 10, and Article XIII of the Bylaws as recommended by the Board of Directors and District Committee. A motion was deferred to approve the amendments to the Bylaws as presented.

Following the explanation of voting procedures, Mr. Berman explained state statute provides ballots already cast via absentee electronic and mailed ballots can be counted towards the quorum for the director election. Mr. Berman asked for nominations from the floor in each of the districts up for election. Following three calls for nominations in each district, nominations were declared closed in districts 2, 3, 4, and 8. Mr. Berman then announced that candidates in Director Districts 2, 4, and 8 having one incumbent nominated would not address the membership. Candidates for Director District 3 were called to address the membership. Cletus Foegen was not able to be present. The membership in each of these voting districts was then

asked to cast their ballots. Mr. Berman recognized the tellers announcing all ballots to be handed to tellers. Ballots were gathered and tellers reported to the ballot counting room.

Manager Jerald Sorenson was introduced and started with a welcome to members and a thank you to employees. It was announced that "Ask Willie" forms should be handed to any employee and would be answered in cooperative publications. He presented an operations and financial update, discussed community involvement by the cooperative, addressed political issues and future for Riverland Energy Cooperative. Manager Sorenson then described the cooperative's commitment to community including SmartHub, scholarships, donation programs and the youth ambassador program.

Mr. Berman announced a final quorum was not reached; therefore, business would be conducted next year to approve the 2020 and 2021 minutes and bylaw amendments.

Manager Sorenson answered "Ask Willie" questions regarding online meetings and daily meter charges.

Mr. Berman announced the results of the election and thanked the tellers. Incumbents Bryce Lisowski of District 2, Dennis Frame of District 4, and David Paudler of District 8 remain in their positions. District 3 elected Cletus Foegen.

President Paudler thanked all who helped with the meeting and then called upon Mr. Berman to close the meeting. Berman asked for any unfinished business and any new business. There being none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the business session at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dennis Frame, Secretary



## RIVERLAND ENERGY COOPERATIVE 2022 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

NOTE: The District Committee Conference and Board of Directors have reviewed the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, in a continuing effort to meet the members' needs today and into the future. Based on that review, the following Bylaw changes are recommended. (Additions are underlined – e.g., add these words; deletions are shown by ~~strikeout~~ – e.g., ~~delete these words~~; blocks of text that are unchanged are shown by . . .)

I. *EXPLANATION: The following amendments are intended to allow more flexibility in conducting member meeting in the future, given recent experience when health and safety considerations have made large in-person meetings difficult. This includes extending when the annual meeting must be held; defining when members may be able to participate online; limiting voting to absentee mail or electronic voting when an in-person meeting is not safe or feasible at all; simplifying procedures in uncontested races for director; and allowing more flexibility in the manner of reporting results.*

A. Amend Article II of the Bylaws ("Meetings of Members"), Sections 1, 4 and 5 as follows:  
SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the members shall be held during the first ~~four~~seven months of each year on such dates and at such time and place within or conveniently adjacent to the general service area of the Cooperative in one of the counties in which the Cooperative serves members in the State of Wisconsin, as shall be selected by the Board of Directors, which date, time and place shall be specified in the notice of the annual meeting. If the election of directors shall not be held at any such annual meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, the Board of Directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members as soon thereafter as conveniently may be. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative. When, in the Board's judgment, it is not safe or feasible to hold a meeting of the members in person, to the extent permitted by law the Board may provide for the annual meeting to be conducted through electronic means or to allow member participation in whole or in part through electronic means.

SECTION 4. QUORUM.

The number of members to constitute a quorum at a meeting of members shall be one hundred (100). In case of a joint membership, the presence at the meeting of either joint member or both shall be regarded as the presence of one member. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting, provided a new notice is mailed to each member specifying the time and place of such adjourned meeting. To the extent permitted by law, where the Board of Directors has allowed participation through electronic means, members doing so shall be counted toward the quorum. Similarly, to the extent allowed by law and permitted by the Board, absentee ballots and electronic votes cast on any matter shall be counted toward the quorum for purposes of action on the subjects of those ballots.

SECTION 5. VOTING.

Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon at such meeting except as otherwise provided by law, the articles of incorporation of the Cooperative or these Bylaws. Two or more persons holding a joint tenancy membership shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. Any member which is a cooperative, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, government body, church or voluntary association may, acting through its governing body, designate in writing its representative to act for it at membership meetings. Such written designation shall be filed with the Secretary before such representative votes at any such meeting, except that the chairman of any such cooperative, corporation, church, association, or body politic may cast its vote at such meeting if no such written designation for any other representative is so filed. Such representative or officer may also vote as an individual if he or she is a member.

Except as provided in Article III, Section 5, below, voting by absentee ballot shall be only on such matters and according to such procedures as the Board of Directors shall determine. Where mail ballots are permitted, the Board of Directors may similarly permit electronic voting, provided it has first adopted authentication procedures to govern such voting that in the Board's judgment will reasonably ensure that it is the member who is casting the vote.

When, in the Board's judgment, it is not safe or feasible to hold a meeting of the members in person, the Board may limit voting on election of directors and on any other matter to absentee voting to the extent permitted by law, provided that on any matter where

voting is to be limited in that way absentee ballots have been sent to all members entitled to vote on the matter. In that event, the Board may similarly permit electronic voting on the matter, as provided in the preceding paragraph.

- B. Amend Article III of the Bylaws (“Directors”), Sections 5 and 9 as follows:

#### SECTION 5. ELECTION.

Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, but voting for any position of director shall be confined to members from the district for and from which the director is to be elected who are either in attendance at such meeting or who return absentee ballots as provided in this section. . . . The notice of the meeting shall list the nominees made for director from each district, ~~separately designating those nominated by District Committee Conference and those nominated by petition.~~ The notice shall also advise that any member who cannot be in attendance in person at the Annual Meeting may return an absentee ballot which, if properly signed according to procedures established by the Board of Directors and received at the office of the Cooperative at least one day before the day of the Annual Meeting shall be counted with ballots cast by members in attendance at the meeting. Where the Board permits electronic voting as well, the notice shall similarly advise the members of how to cast an electronic vote. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes from members within a director district shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be resolved and the result determined by drawing of lots by a member in attendance at the meeting who shall be selected either by legal counsel or by the member reporting the election results. In the event there is only one nominee who is qualified and willing to run for election from a district, election for that position may be conducted at the Annual Meeting by unanimous consent, voice vote or similar means, without the need for the Cooperative to provide, or for the members to cast, in-person, absentee or electronic ballots. Nothing in this Article shall be deemed or construed to affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

#### SECTION 9. ACCOUNTING SYSTEM AND REPORTS.

The Board of Directors shall cause to be established and maintained a complete accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, as shall be appropriate for the Cooperative and the nature of its business activities, and as shall at all times accurately reflect the financial status of the Cooperative. The Board of Directors shall also, after the close of each fiscal year, cause to be made a full and complete audit of the accounts, books and financial condition of the Cooperative as of the end of such fiscal year. The results of such audits reports shall be submitted reported to the members at the next succeeding Annual Meeting on the Cooperative’s website, in the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News or in another newsletter, bill insert or other communication with the membership.

- II. EXPLANATION: *The following amendments are intended to limit joint memberships to joint tenant memberships with right of survivorship, eliminating the administratively more complicated option of tenancy in common.*

- A. Amend Article I (“Membership”), Section 3 of the Bylaws as follows:

#### SECTION 3. JOINT MEMBERSHIP.

(a) Any application for membership in the Cooperative received after October 6, 1962, from any person who is married shall be deemed and become an application for membership ~~by husband and wife~~ as joint tenant members with right of survivorship unless the person making such application otherwise designates in writing.

(b) With respect to memberships issued prior to October 6, 1962, the membership of any person who on October 6, 1962, was married, or who thereafter while a member became married, shall be deemed to have become, and did become at such time, a membership ~~in husband and wife~~ as joint tenant members with right of survivorship without further action by such member, unless within 30 days after October 6, 1962, or 30 days after date of marriage, whichever date is later, the person to whom such membership was issued otherwise has designated in writing.

(c) The term “member” as used in these Bylaws shall be deemed to include a husband and wife or any persons holding a joint membership and any provisions relating to the rights and liabilities of membership shall apply equally with respect to the holders of a joint membership, including, without limitation the following:

- (1) The presence at a meeting of either or both shall be regarded as the presence of one member and shall constitute a joint waiver of notice of the meeting;
- (2) The vote of either separately or both jointly shall constitute one joint vote;
- (3) A waiver of notice signed by either or both shall constitute a joint waiver;

- (4) Notice to either shall constitute notice to both;
- (5) Expulsion of either shall terminate the joint membership;
- (6) Withdrawal of either shall terminate the joint membership;
- (7) Either but not both may be elected or appointed as an officer or Board member, provided that both meet the qualifications for such office.
- (d) The records of the Cooperative shall properly show all joint memberships in the names of the joint members. By writing signed by both joint members and filed with the Cooperative any joint membership may be terminated and changed to a membership ~~in common~~ ~~or~~ vested solely in one of the joint members.
- (e) Upon the death of either spouse, or other person, who is the party to a joint membership, such membership shall be held solely by the survivor and the records of the Cooperative shall be changed to show membership solely in the survivor; provided, however, that the estate of the deceased shall not be released from any debts due the Cooperative.

- B. Amend Article II (“Meetings of Members”), Section 5 of the Bylaws as follows:

#### SECTION 5. VOTING.

Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon at such meeting except as otherwise provided by law, the articles of incorporation of the Cooperative or these Bylaws. Two or more persons holding a joint ~~or~~ tenancy ~~in common~~ membership shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. . . .

- C. Amend Article III (“Directors”), Section 3(2) of the Bylaws as follows:

#### SECTION 3. TENURE AND QUALIFICATIONS

...

(2) Qualifications: . . .

...

When a membership is held jointly ~~or by tenants in common~~, one of the joint tenants ~~or one of the tenants in common~~, but not more than one, may be elected a director, provided, however, that such person shall not be eligible to become or remain a director or hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless both joint tenants ~~or all tenants in common~~ shall meet the qualifications hereinabove set forth. . . .

- D. Amend the Bylaws by deleting any other references to tenant in common or tenancy in common membership wherever those references may appear.

### III. EXPLANATION: *The following amendments are intended to bring additional efficiencies to the Cooperative’s meetings and business or add clarity and consistency.*

- A. Amend Article III (“Directors”), Sections 2, 3(2)(a), 5 and 10 of the Bylaws as follows:

#### SECTION 2. DIRECTOR DISTRICTS.

The territory served by the Cooperative shall be divided into a number of districts equal to the number of directors. ~~Each district to the extent practicable shall contain approximately the same number of members as each other district.~~ The lines of such districts shall initially be established and may from time to time be changed by the Board of Directors but shall be subject to prospective revision by the members at any membership meeting. Except as provided in Section 11 of this Article III, each district shall be represented by one director who must be a resident of such district. Directors shall be nominated and elected for the terms and in the manner provided in Sections 3, 4 and 5 following. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, as agreed upon at the time of the merger of the Cooperative’s predecessor organizations the number lines of the districts covering primarily shall be maintained so that the number of directors

from each of the counties of Buffalo, La Crosse and Trempealeau Counties, respectively, shall at all times be equal.

### SECTION 3. TENURE AND QUALIFICATION.

- (1) Tenure: Commencing with 2009, directors shall be elected for four-year terms, with one-third (1/3) of the directors representing three different director districts being so elected each year, provided, however, that no regular election shall be held in 2012 or in every fourth year thereafter. Each director so elected shall serve until the annual meeting when his or her term expires, or until his or her successor is elected and qualified, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws with respect to the removal of directors. A director who has served four consecutive, full terms shall be ineligible for re-election to succeed himself or herself. For purposes of this section a "full term" shall be the length of term as defined in the Bylaws at the time of election to each term.

This provision shall not prevent or be affected by the appointment by the Board of Directors of any member to fill a vacancy on the Board until the next meeting of the members, nor shall it prevent the election of any member to complete the balance of any unexpired term on the Board of Directors.

- (2) Qualifications: No member shall be eligible to become or, except as provided in Section 11 of this Article III, to remain a director or hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who:

(a) is not a bona fide resident ~~in the area~~ whose principal residence is served by the Cooperative and in the director district from which he or she is nominated and elected; or . . .

### SECTION 5. ELECTION.

Directors shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, but voting for any position of director shall be confined to members from the district for and from which the director is to be elected who are either in attendance at such meeting or who return absentee ballots as provided in this section. Absentee ballots shall be mailed or otherwise provided to all members of districts from which directors are to be elected. If the Cooperative has proof to its satisfaction that the ballots were mailed to all members of those districts, duplicate absentee ballots may not be issued. The failure of any member to receive a ballot shall not affect the validity of the results of the election. The notice of the meeting shall list the nominees made for director from each district, ~~separately designating those nominated by the District Committee Conference and those nominated by petition.~~ . . .

### SECTION 10. REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Any member may bring charges against ~~an officer or~~ director by filing them in writing with the Secretary, together with a petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the members requesting the removal of the ~~officer or~~ director in question. The removal shall be voted upon at the next regular or special meeting of the members and any vacancy created by such removal may be filled by the members at such meeting. The director ~~or officer~~ against whom such charges have been brought shall be informed in writing of the charges previous to the meeting and shall have an opportunity at the meeting to be heard in person or by counsel and to present evidence; and the person or persons bringing the charges against him or her shall have the same opportunity. A director who is ineligible to serve as such under Article III, Section 3, may also be removed as therein provided.

- B. Amend Article XIII of the Bylaws ("Amendments") as follows:

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by a majority of the members of the Cooperative voting at any annual or special meeting; provided, however, that these Bylaws shall not be altered, amended or repealed at any meeting of the members unless notice of the purpose of such alterations, amendments, or repeal shall have been contained in the notice of such meeting. Any amendment offered from the floor at any such meeting which is germane to any amendment or resolution specified or referred to in the notice of the meeting may be acted upon with the same force and effect as though set forth in the notice of the meeting, and, in the event such germane amendment is adopted, it shall have the same effect as though adopted by all members voting in person and by absentee mail and electronic voting, and absentee mail ballots or electronic votes received shall, to the extent allowed by law, be counted as though they were ballots on the original motion or resolution as amended.

## District Committee Meeting Minutes

The 2022 District Committee Meeting was held at the Arcadia High School in Arcadia, Wisconsin, on Saturday February 19, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 9:22 a.m. by President David Paudler, who asked if there were objections to him serving as chairperson and Dennis Frame serving as secretary for the meeting; there were no objections. President Paudler then turned the meeting over to the Manager Sorenson who asked for all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. The manager introduced the cooperative's Board of Directors, staff at the meeting, reviewed the agenda, and explained the responsibilities of the District Committee members.

General Manager Jerry Sorenson provided a manager's report including: responsibilities of the district committee; political issues (Federal – Build Back Better, State – EVs, and 3<sup>rd</sup> party financing); and the purpose of ACRE – rural electric's lobbying organization. The local issues included the lack of a quorum at 2021 annual meeting, issues with supply chain, EV/solar projects, and rates (no rate increase this year).

Kristina Marsolek presented the financial report including: income statement, operating costs, revenues, balance sheet, rate changes over the past 15 years, cost of power, and residential revenue. Scott Hayes provided an energy services report. He shared information on: solar projects (small projects & commercial projects), electric vehicle revolution, the Ford F150 Lightning, and EV charging systems. Tim Holtan gave the operations report including: 2021 Highlights – accomplishments, services member meters, maintenance projects, substation purchase from Dairyland Power; total construction budget and overview of 2021/22 projects; changing material costs and issues getting materials. Riverland is working hard on mitigating material and equipment issues. Tim then covered the new service policy that was updated to cover rising costs. In 2021 the outage time per member was significantly affected by the December storm and Tim reviewed the impact of that storm. Social media played a huge part in keeping our members informed.

Manager Sorenson then went through the **proposed By-Law changes**:

There are four categories of proposed changes:

1. Annual meeting, establishment of a quorum and electronic voting:
  - **Article 2, sections 1**, – change the annual meeting date from four to seven months of each year,

and allow for holding electronic annual meetings in time of crisis.

- **Article 2, sections 4** – change what constitutes a quorum from 100 to 50, and allow electronic votes and absentee ballots to count toward the quorum.
  - **Article 2, sections 5** – when holding a meeting of members in person is not feasible, the board may limit voting on election of directors and other matters to absentee voting and/or may similarly permit electronic voting on the matter.
2. Deleting separation of nomination by District Committee and nomination by petition:
    - **Article 3, sections 5** – deleting separation of nomination by District Committee and nomination by petition; electronic voting, and when a district has only one nominee – the election may be conducted by unanimous consent without the need for a ballot.
    - **Article 3, sections 9** – reporting results of accounting system and reports to members on the cooperative's website, the WI Energy Cooperative News, another newsletter, bill insert, or other method used to communicate with the membership.
  3. Deleting the wording on tenant in common
    - **Articles 1, section 3** - deleting wording including "husband and wife", and/or "in common".
    - **Article 2, section 5** – deleting wording including "in common" and/or "tenants in common".
    - **Article 3, section 3(2)** - deleting wording "tenants in common".
  4. Bring efficiencies to meetings, tenure and qualifications and have consistencies in the by-laws
    - **Article 3, sections 2** – delete requirement for districts to contain approximately the same number of members as other districts, maintaining the number of directors from the three counties.
    - **Article 3, sections 3**, subsection 1 – modifying the provision of electing directors who have served four full terms to be ineligible for reelection or appointment to the board.
    - **Article 3, sections 3**, subsection 2 – changing "in the area" to "whose principal residence is".
    - **Article 3, section 5** – deleting separation of nomination by District Committee and nomination by petition.
    - **Article 3, section 10** – remove references to officer in section.
    - **Article 13**, – add absentee and electronic voting or electronic votes to section.

Manager Sorensen turned the meeting over to President Paudler for the voting on the by-laws. It was the consensus of the group to have two of the proposed by-law changes removed from the proposals to be discussed and dealt on separately:

- **Article 2, sections 4** – change what constitutes a quorum from 100 to 50, and allow electronic votes and absentee ballots to count toward the quorum; and
- **Article 3, sections 3**, subsection 1 – modifying the provision of electing directors who have served four full terms to be ineligible for reelection or appointment to the board.

There was a motion to remove the portion of the proposed by-law change to Article 2, section 4 that would lower the quorum number and leave the quorum number at 100. The motion was seconded and a voice vote was held. President Paudler requested a raising of hands and the vote was again held. The vote was 25 for removal of the amendment and 21 for acceptance of the amendment; motion carried and the amendment on adjusting the quorum number from 100 to 50 was removed.

There was a motion remove the change to the sentence in the proposed by-law amendment to Article 3, section 3(1) that would limit directors to a total of four terms of four years and leave that language as it is now. The motion was seconded and a number of district members spoke on the

value of having directors come back on the board. After a number of hand votes, the members were asked to stand either in favor of removing the amendment or opposed to removing the amendment. The vote was 22 in favor of removal and 20 opposed and the amendment was removed from the proposed by-law amendments.

President Paudler received a motion and a second to approve all other by-law amendments and this passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Paudler reviewed a handout outlining the annual meeting rules and voting procedures. Motion made and seconded to approve the procedures; motion carried. The district committee members broke into the groups for the caucuses at 11:35 a.m. District committee members were provided lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 12:07 p.m. Manager Sorenson reviewed the results of the four caucuses: District 2 – Bryce Lisowski unopposed; District 5 – Dan Filla unopposed; and District 9 Bea Zingsheim and Tom La Fleur. Manager Sorenson asked if there were other questions or topics for discussion. Manager Sorenson extended a thank you to the crew for the lunch, and reminded all attendees of the per diem and mileage reports and thanked all for coming. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Dennis Frame, Recording Secretary

#### OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF RIVERLAND ENERGY COOPERATIVE

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the members of Riverland Energy Cooperative will be held on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at the Arcadia High School in the City of Arcadia, Wisconsin. Breakfast and registration will begin at 8 a.m. The business meeting will be called to order at 10:15 a.m.

#### Agenda

1. Approval of the 2021 Annual Meeting minutes
2. Reports of the officers and directors
3. Proposed Article and Bylaw changes set forth as a part of this Notice
4. Election of three directors: District #2 for a term of four years, District #5 for a term of four years, District #9 for a term of four years  
Ballots were mailed to all members; alternative options include electronic voting and in person voting at the annual meeting. Mailed and electronic ballots will be counted as a vote if received by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2022.  
The following members were nominated at the District Committee Conference on Saturday, February 19, 2022: District #2: Bryce Lisowski (Incumbent); District #5: Dan Filla (Incumbent); District #9: Bea Zingsheim (Incumbent), Thomas LaFleur (declined)
5. Any old or new business to be brought before the membership
6. Adjourn

Dennis Frame, Secretary

## Director Candidates

As a member of Riverland Energy Cooperative, you have the opportunity to elect a director for your district to represent your interest on the board of directors. Each member in Director Districts 2, 5, and 9 has received a mail ballot for the director(s) up for election in that district, or you can vote online through SmartHub or our website. The following contains the names and biographies of the candidates nominated at the District Committee meeting or by petition.

### ONLINE VOTING

Login to your SmartHub account and click "VOTE NOW" to vote. You must have a SmartHub account. Internet votes will be accepted until March 24, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. There will also be a link to our website.

### Voting Authorization Necessary for Organizations

Authorization must be given for voting at the Annual Meeting for non-individual members of the cooperative such as a church, school, cooperative, government body, and corporation. All of these members are entitled to representation and one vote, but the proper procedure must be followed to exercise this right. Each member should see that a representative is designated in writing.

An authorization form will be enclosed with the mail-in ballots. If your organization is to be represented at the Annual Meeting, the form must be completed and returned with your ballot or be brought by the representative to the Annual Meeting.

## DISTRICT 2



### Bryce Lisowski, Incumbent

Alma

**Family:** Bryce and his wife, Mary, have five children: Sarah, Wendy, Cory, Erinn, and Joseph; and 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Occupation:** Postmaster, Alma, WI

**Community activities:** Bryce's current and past activities include: President of the Buffalo County Housing Board, Knights of Columbus, former La Crosse Diocesan Program Coordinator, former District Deputy, and Grand Knight, and Former State Special Olympics Coordinator. Bryce is on the St. Lawrence Parish Council and Finance Council, and serves as usher, lector, and Eucharistic minister. Bryce is also the New Employee Trainer for USPS in Eau Claire, and Schedule Required Postmaster Presence for Rural Academy. He has served on the Riverland Energy Board of Directors for two years.

**Special hobbies and interests:** Bryce enjoys volunteering, spending time with family, gardening, woodworking, traveling, fishing and hunting in his spare time.

**Comments:** I am lifelong member of Riverland Energy Cooperative and was on the Buffalo Electric Junior Board 50 years ago. I earned a bachelor's degree from St. Mary's University and my leadership roles include running many post offices including Onalaska, Holmen, La Crescent, Stoddard, Independence, Mondovi, Cochrane, Kellogg, and Winona as a supervisor. I have a lifelong dedication to community, faith, and service. I would like to continue that dedication on the Riverland Energy Board of Directors.



## DISTRICT 5

**Dan Filla, Incumbent**

Arcadia

**Occupation:** Farmer**Family:** Dan's wife, Nancy, is the Assistant Vice President of the State Bank of Arcadia. They have three children: Nicholas, Jessica, and Rebecca; and three grandchildren.**Community activities and leadership roles:** Dan is current Vice President of Riverland Energy Cooperative. He is actively involved at his church and is a retired fireman.**Special hobbies and interests:** Dan enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, watching sporting events, and camping.**Comments:** I am honored to have been on the board of directors of Riverland Energy Cooperative for the past eight years. With the knowledge and training I have obtained, my goal is to strive to work for the best interests of the members. I will continue to give suggestions and ideas to other board members and management to maintain efficiency and costs.

## DISTRICT 9

**Bea Zingsheim, Incumbent**

Onalaska

**Occupation:** Retired**Family:** Widow; 5 children and 15 grandchildren**Community activities and leadership roles:** Before going back to school at WWTC, Bea lived and worked on their dairy farm in Vernon County. She graduated with an Associate Degree in Finance.

She moved to Onalaska in 2000 and has been a member of Riverland Energy since 2002. Bea worked in the Credit Union Industry for over 25 years. Various positions over the years included: Member Service Supervisor, Loan Officer, Office Manager, and Consultant for the Wisconsin Credit Union League for four years before Manager at River City Community Credit Union in La Crosse. During her time with Credit Unions she was involved with the WI CU Legislative Fund traveling to Madison and Washington, D.C., to meet with our legislators. She is a member of St. Patrick's Parish in Onalaska.

**Special hobbies and interests:** Bea enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren. In her spare time she likes to garden, golf, play cards, and watch her grandchildren's sporting events and of course the Packers, Badgers and Brewers.**Comments:** It has been an honor to represent the Members of District 9 on the Riverland Energy Cooperative Board of Directors the past four years. In that time, I have earned my Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) Certificate and also my Board Leadership Certificate (BLC). Working with the other directors, we strive to "keep the lights on" by providing safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to all members of REC. If re-elected, I will continue my education, keeping up-to-date on the latest innovations in the electric industry and working for all the members of REC.

## Balance Sheet

ASSETS	2021	2020
<b>UTILITY PLANT, at cost</b>		
Electric Plant in Service	\$132,712,011	\$126,595,228
Construction Work in Progress	188,465	26,760
Total Utility Plant	\$132,900,476	\$126,621,988
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(46,004,813)	(41,685,125)
<b>NET UTILITY PLANT</b>	<b>\$86,895,663</b>	<b>\$84,936,863</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS, at cost</b>		
Investments in Associated Org.	\$20,499,062	\$19,630,361
Investments in Economic Dev.	1,785,539	1,876,314
Other Investments	4,092	4,247
Total	\$22,288,693	\$21,510,922
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$5,123,946	\$1,361,630
Notes Receivable - net	5,076	5,377
Accounts Receivable - net	3,894,155	3,681,209
Materials and Supplies	1,178,101	994,590
Other Current Assets	134,066	24,258
Total	\$10,335,344	\$6,067,064
<b>DEFERRED DEBITS</b>	<b>\$1,033,823</b>	<b>\$1,185,175</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$120,553,524</b>	<b>\$113,700,024</b>
<b>EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES:</b>		
<b>EQUITIES</b>		
Patronage Capital	\$40,384,133	\$39,325,205
Operating Margins - Current year	862,932	1,321,727
Non-Operating Margins	1,611,388	1,315,585
Other Margins and Equities	7,804,120	7,482,715
Total	\$50,662,573	\$49,445,232
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>	<b>\$65,819,775</b>	<b>\$59,733,108</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Notes Payable	\$0.00	\$800,000.00
Accounts Payable	2,200,332	2,092,909
Consumer Deposits	234,943	242,706
Other Accrued Liabilities	1,488,941	1,385,558
Total	\$3,924,216	\$4,521,173
<b>DEFERRED CREDITS</b>	<b>\$146,959</b>	<b>\$510</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$120,553,524</b>	<b>\$113,700,024</b>

## Income Statement

	2021	2020
<b>OPERATING REVENUES:</b>	\$38,456,921	\$38,611,434
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES:</b>		
Cost of Providing Services	\$22,983,007	\$22,818,615
Distribution - Operations	1,830,184	1,999,243
Distribution - Maintenance	2,758,963	2,990,511
Consumer Accounts	313,962	311,016
Consumer Services & Information	656,905	617,532
Administrative & General	1,611,569	1,556,893
Depreciation	4,430,983	4,208,214
Taxes	493,634	499,387
Other Deductions	10,373	1,856
Total	\$35,089,580	\$35,003,266
<b>OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE FIXED CHARGES:</b>	<b>\$3,367,341</b>	<b>\$3,608,168</b>
<b>FIXED CHARGES:</b>		
Interest on Long-term Liabilities	\$2,480,280	\$2,403,074
Other Interest	\$24,130	\$49,700
Total	\$2,504,409	\$2,452,774
<b>OPERATING MARGINS AFTER FIXED CHARGES:</b>	<b>\$862,932</b>	<b>\$1,155,394</b>
<b>G&amp;T AND OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS:</b>	<b>\$1,437,722</b>	<b>\$1,145,387</b>
<b>NET OPERATING MARGINS</b>	<b>\$2,300,654</b>	<b>\$2,300,781</b>
<b>NON OPERATING MARGINS</b>		
Interest Income	\$63,433	\$43,756
Other Non Operating Margins	\$110,233	\$126,441
Total	\$173,666	\$170,197
Margins before income taxes	\$2,474,320	\$2,470,979
Income taxes	0	0
<b>NET MARGINS FOR PERIOD</b>	<b>\$2,474,320</b>	<b>\$2,470,979</b>

## Financial Growth and Comparison

	1941	1981	2021
Total Utility Plant	\$697,629	\$9,056,876	\$132,712,011
Investment per Consumer	\$433	\$1,402	\$7,056
Average Residential Bill	\$5.03	\$69.90	\$152.56
Total Margins	\$10,869	\$586,711	\$2,452,390
Total Revenue	\$87,121	\$5,813,721	\$38,456,936
Cost of Purchased Power	\$21,551	\$4,053,854	\$22,983,007
Cost of Power as % of Revenue	24.7%	69.7%	59.8%
Equity Ratio (Equity/Total Assets)	8.5%	43.6%	41.4%
Full-Time Employees	10	32	40
Average Number of Services	1,610	6,461	18,808
Total Miles of Line	739	1551	3457
Consumer per Mile of Line	2.18	4.17	5.44
kWH Sold	134,300	95,786,418	288,550,401
Line Loss	25.0%	6.2%	3.8%

# 16,242

MEMBERS

# 21,198

METERS

# 3,457

MILES OF LINE

# 920

MEMBERS ENROLLED IN  
COMMUNITY CARES

# 2,908

MEMBERS ENROLLED IN  
PAPERLESS BILLING

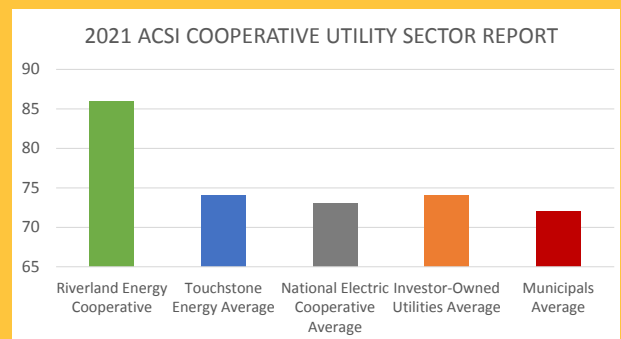
## Where did the money go?



## ACSI

The American Customer Satisfaction Index is a national economic indicator of customer evaluations of the quality of products and services available to household consumers in the United States.

Your cooperative scored an 86 out of 100 on its 2021 ACSI, which was significantly higher compared to both the national Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and the electric co-op average, as well as the investor-owned utilities.



## Year in Review

### Stromland Solar



Stromland Solar was energized on November 28, 2021. The solar project is located off of Prairie Moon Road in Cochrane. The system is 3MW Peak Output with 8,000 panels and spans approximately 20 acres. Riverland Energy partnered with OneEnergy Renewables, Arch Electric, Inc., and Greshik Farms on the project.

### Kwik Trip EV Charger



We welcomed the KwikTrip store in Holmen to our cooperative in December. Partnering with Dairyland Power Cooperative, we installed our first commercial EV Charger at the KwikTrip Holmen location.

### Federated Youth Foundation



Several donations were made possible through our Federated Youth Foundation (FYF), in which funds are collected through unclaimed capital credits and used for educational and charitable purposes. We donated \$18,900 to youth programs and organizations, and gave \$34,250 in scholarships through FYF in 2021.

### Sharing Success Program

Riverland Energy Cooperative partnered with CoBank in its Sharing Success charitable matching grant program. CoBank is a national cooperative bank serving vital industries throughout rural America. This program matches charitable contributions made by its cooperative members to local nonprofit to benefit their communities. Through an application process, three organizations received matching funds from CoBank in 2021: Mondovi Library Foundation, Whitehall Library Foundation, and the Garden of Eden Preservation, each receiving \$2,500 from Co-Bank.

### Community Cares Foundation

Riverland Community Cares is a strictly voluntary program where members round up their electric bills to the next nearest dollar and those monies are used to assist worthy causes and organizations in your local communities. Those receiving grants in 2021 include:

Gentle Lambs Childcare Center	\$500
Arcadia Ambulance	\$500
Salute to Rhubarb	\$500
Lyster Lutheran Church	\$325
Hope4U Suicide Awareness	\$325
Community Parking Lot Food Pantry	\$325
St. Boniface Child Care	\$325
Restorative Ink, Inc.	\$325



*Spare change for community needs.*

## Destructive December Storm

On Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, the first-known December derecho storm ripped through the Midwest, causing widespread damage through our service area and leaving more than 6,000 members without power. Broken trees and limbs along with other windswept debris caused damage to electric transmission and distribution systems throughout our area.

Immediately following the storm, we had line crews working 16-18 hour days. Through the Wisconsin Energy Cooperative Association, we put out a call for assistance. Due to the severity of the windstorm across the Midwest, assistance from mutual aid crews was limited, but East Central Energy of Burnham, MN, and St. Croix Electric Cooperative of Hammond, WI, along with Tjaders & Highstrom Utility Services and Zieleie's Tree Service, answered the call. By approximately 10:00 p.m. on Friday, December 17, the emergency period of the restoration was complete.



## 2021 Scholarship Recipients

Thirty-two high school seniors whose families are served by Riverland Energy Cooperative were awarded scholarships in a random drawing of \$1,000 each via Facebook Live on March 5, 2021. If there were no applications represented from a school, all names were put in a bucket and new names were drawn. The funds for these scholarships are made available by unclaimed capital credits from former members.

- Alma High School: Joshua Sobotta
- Alma High School: Lane Wieczorek
- Arcadia High School: Chloe Halverson
- Arcadia High School: Amy Losinski
- Blair-Taylor High School: Thea McAdams
- Blair-Taylor High School: Tyler Thompson
- C-FC High School: Erika Meyer
- C-FC High School: Dominic Pyka
- Durand High School: Brody Carothers
- Durand High School: McKenna Hurlburt
- Eleva-Strum High School: Nicholas Higley
- Eleva-Strum High School: Mitchell Olson
- G-E-T High School: Claire Corcoran
- G-E-T High School: Benjamin Hirschboeck
- Gilmanton High School: Cali Flick
- Gilmanton High School: Morgan Guenther
- Holmen High School: Nathan Nevala
- Holmen High School: Owen Reichert
- Independence High School: Emma Pietrek
- Independence High School: Emerson Pronschinske
- Mondovi High School: Jack Accola
- Mondovi High School: John Schmidtknecht
- Onalaska High School: Claudia Delgado
- Onalaska High School: Amanda Reget
- Osseo-Fairchild High School: Caden Carlson
- Osseo-Fairchild High School: Alyssa Iverson
- Whitehall High School: Zach George
- Whitehall High School: Aubrea Smieja
- At Large: Isabella Vang, Logan High School
- At Large: Olivia Harron, Aquinas
- Line Worker Scholarship: Matt LaDuke, C-FC



## Riverland Energy Cooperative Employees

Abramczak, Josh, Lineman  
 Alesch, Beth, Manager, Communications & Member Services  
 Anibas, Todd, Lineman  
 Back, Brody, Lineman  
 Boos, Pete, Lineman  
 Curran, Jenny, Lead Metering Technician  
 Christ, Sue, Member Services  
 Foss, Brandon, Lineman  
 Glass, Brian, Lineman  
 Goldbeck, Carrie, Consumer Accounts  
 Harm, Stella, Engineer Rep./Mapping  
 Hayes, Scott, Manager of Energy Services  
 Helgeson, Kevin, Line Foreman  
 Hilmanowski, Tammy, Admin/Payroll  
 Holtan, Tim, Manager of Operations  
 Hong, Todd, Assistant Line Superintendent  
 Huffman, Jim, Manager of IT  
 Kircher, Dale, Lineman  
 Kosik, Royce, Lineman

Kulig, Jeff, Metering Technician  
 Lien, Jordan, Manager HR /Executive Assistant  
 Madden, Tammy, Consumer Accounts  
 Marc Mades, Lineman  
 Marsolek, Kristina, Manager of Finance  
 Marten, Dillon, Lineman  
 Mathson, Barb, Accountant/Bookkeeper  
 Mason, Bill, Assistant Line Superintendent  
 Ott, Sarah, Member Services  
 Palmer, Brett, Lineman  
 Pronschinske, Adam, Lineman  
 Ravnum, Ted, Mechanic  
 Schamaun, Mark, Line Foreman  
 Siebenaler, Adam, Lineman  
 Sluga, Sharon, Operations Coordinator  
 Sonsalla, Dean, Inventory & Facilities Coordinator  
 Sosalla, Rob, Line Superintendent  
 Stello, Chase, Lineman  
 Vitse, Tyler, Lineman




**Jerry Sorenson, General Manager**

**Beth Alesch, Editor**

[www.riverlandenergy.com](http://www.riverlandenergy.com)



**Riverland Energy  
 Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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 Arcadia, WI 54612  
 608-323-3381  
 1-800-411-9115

**Holmen Office**

1800 Granary St.  
 Holmen, WI 54636  
 608-323-3381  
 1-800-411-9115

**Outages & Emergencies**

Call 1-800-927-6206  
 24 hours a day

**Office Hours**

Arcadia: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.  
 Holmen: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**Officers of the Board of Directors:**

David Paudler, Onalaska, President  
 Dan Filla, Arcadia, Vice-President  
 Dennis Frame, Osseo,  
 Secretary/Treasurer

## 7 Cooperative Principles

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



## Statement of Non Discrimination

Riverland Energy Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

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## *Our Mission*

To provide safe, reliable, innovative, and affordable energy and related services.

## *Vision Statement*

Riverland Energy Cooperative shall be a trusted provider of reliable electric services, superior customer service, innovative energy solutions, and a respected business partner in the communities we serve.