

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

We are committed to the wellbeing of our members and employees to provide safe, reliable power and maintaining the company's financial strength.

### How to reach us

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Mon-Thur

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> Peggy Ruble Vice President

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Spencer George

Ike Eastman

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Lineman

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Lineman

Jason Fields Meter Reader

# **Power Pointz**

**June 2021** 

#### **News From**

### Garland Light & Power Co.

# How To Breathe Easy About Air Quality

Although some speculate that sealing a home too tight can lead to air quality issues, the truth is the average home loses about half its air volume every hour, so it can be sealed considerably, often at a low cost, and still have more than enough healthy air.

Pollutants are the main cause of poor indoor air quality, and the most dangerous pollutant is carbon monoxide. It can come from furnaces, water heaters or stoves that burn natural gas, propane or wood. The problem usually occurs in devices that are old, in need of repair or installed or operated in a manner that prevents clear, unobstructed supply and exhaust of combustion air.

How do you ensure healthy indoor air as you increase your home's energy efficiency? The first strategy, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, is to eliminate or reduce the source of pollution, and the first pollutant to eliminate is carbon monoxide. If you have a combustion

furnace, it should be inspected and serviced regularly by a professional. If you have any combustion appliances, it is critical that carbon monoxide detectors are installed.

If you live in an area with radon, which you can determine by



checking out the EPA's radon map, keep it out of your home because it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Radon tests are inexpensive, and your local health authorities can provide more information. If radon levels are too high, hire a professional to install a system that will divert radon gas to the outside of your home.

The second strategy is ventilation. Your home probably has more than enough natural ventilation from outside air leaking into the home. If you suspect this isn't adequate, the best way to know for sure is to hire an energy auditor to do a blower door test.

The third and final strategy is to clean the air. The easiest step is to simply change your furnace filter at least once every three months and keep your furnace supply and return air registers free of obstructions. If any rooms do not have an air return, keep the doors open.

We hope these suggestions will be helpful as you seal air leaks in your home while also enjoying fresh, healthy indoor air.

### 2021 Annual Meeting Highlights

Garland Light & Power Co. held its Annual Meeting in person on May 6<sup>th</sup>. It is always nice to see the people interested in what is going on at their cooperative. We know for many of you it is a busy time of year and were unable to attend, so here is a brief summary:

### Financial

The Directors retired \$350,000 in Capital Credits in 2020. They will decide whether or not to retire more in 2021 after the mid-year budget review.

There were no findings or recommendations related to our audit report.

President Report – Jerry Thompson

The Directors looked at solutions to the aging office and shop. We have outgrown the shop and the yard and the office hasn't had any improvement in many years.

The Directors met with Senator R.J. Kost, Representative Sandy Newsome, and Representative Rachel Rodriguez-Williams to discuss the important issues facing Wyoming cooperatives.

Manager Report – Molly Lynn

Review of the 2020 financials.

To date, 249 of our accounts are set up for Operation RoundUp and about \$1350 has been collected. No funds have been dispersed at this time.

Niobrara Electric has a case before the WY PSC against RMP and we are waiting for their ruling. If they do not rule in favor of Niobrara, it will open the door for RMP to cherry -pick loads from other co-ops.

Copies of the amended bylaws were available at the door. A review of the additions and updates were presented.

### Elections

Scott Smith and Spencer George were reelected to serve on your Board of Directors.

Shawn Taylor, Executive Director of WREA, reported on what took place during the Wyoming legislative session and what to look forward to during the special session this summer. He also spoke about the dispute over certified territories currently before the Wyoming Public Service Commission.

Duane Highley, CEO of Tri-State Generation & Transmission, discussed the 2021 weather event that affected much of the country. He also spoke about future rate decreases.

We want to thank Tri-State G&T for having a Tesla Model Y available at the meeting. Many members took the opportunity to look at the vehicle and ask questions of the Tri-State staff.

We did not have a winner for this year's Progressive Drawing so the amount will be raised to \$700 next year.

We hope to see you all in March 2022!

# Annual Meeting 2021 Photos



Going into the 2021 Annual Meeting



Door Prize Winner Paul Basile



Members enjoying each other



Drawing for the progressive drawing



Time for ballot counting



Door Prize Winner Ruth Thompson

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Happy Father's Day Sunday, June 20