

JO-CARROLL

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  **HI-LINES**



CEO'S REPORT

by Mike Casper

I would like to begin by thanking all attendees of Jo-Carroll Energy's 78th annual meeting held on May 23. Approximately 325 member-owners, directors, employees and special guests were present.

This year's theme was "We Are Co-op," highlighting the cooperative business model that fosters engagement and strong communities.

My favorite part of the meeting was meeting our member-owners and reacquainting myself with so many who I haven't seen in years. Next was responding to the many good questions that were either asked or written down. And last, but not least, was the video that provided a sneak peek of one of our lineworkers, Kurt Krohmer, who experienced what it was like to bring electricity to four mountain Bolivian villages. We have posted the video on our website at <https://jocarroll.com/bolivia-the-bring-light>. Please take a few minutes to view it; you won't be disappointed.

As I stated at the annual meeting, I will intertwine responses to your questions in future Jo-Carroll center section columns within the "Illinois Country Living" magazine so that everyone has access to them. I will begin by including a couple responses in this section. If you have questions or suggestions, I encourage you to contact us. As I stated in my address, we are here for you, our member-owners. We look forward to your future input and questions.

How does Jo-Carroll know if you are without power?

I misspoke at the annual meeting; you must call the cooperative at 800-858-5522 to report an outage to ensure that line crews are dispatched to make the appropriate

repairs and confirm power is restored to the meters. Calls are used to predict system outages which are posted to our "Storm Center Outage Map" located on our website for you to view on your smart phone. You can also follow us on Facebook for updates on electric, natural gas and internet outages.

Jo-Carroll Energy's automated metering infrastructure (AMI) has many potential functions, but currently not all functions – including outage notification – are available.

Current functions allow us to read your meter from our office, provide us usage data on a daily basis and remotely disconnect your meter when applicable. Our service representatives can use AMI meters to help investigate a high bill inquiry and our Energy Detective can help validate energy savings with the meter data.

We are working toward implementing additional features of our existing AMI that will be able to notify us when your power is out. As technology advances, I envision that you will receive an automatic text or other notification about power outages and restorations.

What are Jo-Carroll Energy and our wholesale power providers doing to diversify electric generating resources by adding additional sustainable resources?

Jo-Carroll currently has a solar array that members can purchase the output from panels. Visit our website at www.jocarroll.com for more information on how to become a subscriber. We are also exploring the addition of other local sources of renewable power.

Our wholesale power providers continue to evaluate our overall resource mix, adding additional solar and wind resources.

Jo-Carroll Energy's offices closed July 4

In observance of the Independence Day holiday, Jo-Carroll Energy's offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4. Remember to celebrate safely!



Reader prize

Each month we print the name of a Jo-Carroll Energy member who is eligible to win a monthly \$25 readership prize. If your name is printed in this month's edition, and not a part of any article, contact Jo-Carroll Energy and claim your prize no later than the 10th of the month following publication.

Voluntary and open membership • Voluntary and open membership

Resume of Minutes

April 19, 2017

For your information

Your Board of Directors:

David Senn
Chairman
District 7

Russell Holesinger
Vice Chairman
District 8

Marcia Stanger
Secretary
District 3

Martin Werner
Treasurer
District 1

Joseph Mattingley
District 2

Dan Tindell
District 4

Patricia Smith
District 5

Thomas Lundy
District 6

Larry Carroll
District 9

Robert Kuhns
District 10

Ronald Hallendorff
District 10

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday

Elizabeth
793 U.S. Route 20 West
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Savanna
103 Chicago Ave.
8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Genesco
1004 S. Chicago St.
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
1:30 to 4 p.m.

**Services and
Billing Questions:**

(800) 858-5522
www.jocarroll.com

**For emergencies
and outages call:**
(800) 858-5522

The board met on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, at the Jo-Carroll Energy Headquarters. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The Agenda, as amended, and the Consent Agenda were approved.

Presentation- Jo-Carroll Energy Lineman Kurt Krohmer, gave a presentation to the board. On March 13, 2017 Krohmer was one of the linemen who joined a group from other Illinois electric cooperatives in support of the NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) international program. The group travelled to Bolivia for a three-week project to electrify small villages, including a school and roughly 64 homes. Krohmer was excited to be a part of this unique experience and give back to those in need. He said it was humbling to see the reactions and gratitude from those who had electricity for the first time.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Senn thanked the board and Senior Staff for their input during the strategic planning session that was held recently.

Dairyland Report – Director Mattingley stated that due to the timing of Jo-Carroll Energy's Board Meeting, the Dairyland financials were not available. Mattingley noted that Dairyland will begin their strategic planning during the first week in May.

AIEC Report – There was no April AIEC Meeting.

APGA Report – Director Carroll provided an update on regulatory matters being followed by the APGA. Carroll stressed the importance of public awareness regarding natural gas safety. Carroll also discussed the growing trend in the use of drones for utility operations.

PPI Report – Director Hallendorff reported on PPI's most recent generation figures and provided operational highlights from the Prairie State Units 1 and 2 as well as the Alsey generation site. Casper also provided highlights from PPI's Strategic Planning session.

Monthly Committee Review

a. Policy 108.1- Policy 108.1 was approved as is.

CEO's Report - The CEO reported on the following, in addition to his written report: Casper informed the board that he would be attending the Legislative Conference in Washington D.C., along with Chris Allendorf and Chairman Senn.

a. Financial Operating Report – President and CEO Mike Casper reported that the Cooperative's operating margins for the year to date were approximately \$1,270,000 compared to a budgeted amount of approximately \$1,290,000. The current equity of the cooperative is approximately 24.55%, compared to 23.65% at the end of 2016. By general consent, the board moved to file the financial operating report with the auditor.

b. Senior Vice President and Assistant General Manager Report- Senior Vice President and Assistant General Manager Buros provided an update on new federal regulations regarding EFVs (excess flow valve) for natural gas, which took effect on April 14. These devices are currently required on new and replacement lines that supply single-family residences. Buros informed the board and staff that notices will be sent to the Members with information regarding the new regulation.

c. External Affairs Update- Chris Allendorf, Vice President and General Counsel, provided an update on state and federal issues, as well as the efforts of TCEDA. Allendorf noted that the state has not passed a budget. On July 1, 2017, which is the beginning of the state's fiscal year, Illinois will have been without a full budget for 2 years. The state's backlog of unpaid bills is approximately \$13 billion, with estimates for the year-end as high as \$19 billion. Predictions are already being made that the 2018 Illinois Governor's race will be the costliest statewide race in U.S. history. Allendorf noted that Neil Gorsuch was sworn in to serve on the United States Supreme Court. Gorsuch will hear arguments for the remaining cases on the court's docket.

Board Issues

a. Discounted Estate Capital Credit Retirements- Discounted Estate Retirements Approval- A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the discounted estate retirements, as presented.

b. Amendment to Extend the IPEA Natural Gas- All Requirements Approval – A motion was made,

Continued on 18b ►

Minutes continued from 18b

seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the amendment to extend the natural gas all-requirements contract with the Illinois Public Energy Agency.

c. CoBank Matching Grant

Recommendations – A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve the CoBank matching grant requests for the Village of Thomson and the Riverview Center.

d. Approve Strategic Goals and Objectives

– A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve Jo-Carroll Energy's strategic goals and objectives, as presented by the President and CEO, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

e. Annual Meeting Discussion

– Updates on the Jo-Carroll Energy Annual Meeting were provided to the board.

f. District 4 Vacancy Update

An update on the District 4 Vacancy was provided. The Executive Committee will be interviewing candidates and providing a recommendation for the full board's approval at the May meeting.

Meetings and Training

a. Attendees for the AIEC Annual Meeting were selected.

b. Attendees for Course 961.1 were selected.

Consideration of Matters discussed in Executive Session – None.

Reports

Reports were heard on: Jo-Carroll Energy Strategic Planning and PPI Strategic Planning.

Other Business- None.
Adjournment

Chairman Senn adjourned the meeting at 11:47 A.M.

Tindell appointed to co-op board

Dan Tindell of Galena has been appointed to Jo-Carroll Energy's board of directors, representing District 4.

David Senn, chairman of the cooperative's board of directors, announced the appointment following the board's regular meeting held May 31.

Tindell and his spouse, Pam, have been members of Jo-Carroll Energy since 1996 when they moved from Springfield, Ill.

He recently retired from the State of Illinois, where he worked for the Department of Human Services as a caseworker. Until 2014, he served in the historic sites division of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in Galena and Elizabeth.

He participated in two of the "Gathering of Elizabeths" events. Early in his career, he was a social studies teacher in the Springfield area.

Sherry Duffy
"I have a better understanding of the struggles of our members making ends meet from my service as a caseworker, and my time as acting site manager allowed me to serve the community of Elizabeth," he said.

Tindell is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, where he worked on mainframe computer systems.

"I have always been interested in the role that technology plays in society. It seems that it is always changing and faster," he said.

In that vein, Tindell sees the need to promote faster internet services for the members. "Again, technology is always changing, and we need to provide the best options to our members in electricity, internet services and natural gas."



"It is vital to have a connection with District 4, which includes Elizabeth, Hanover, and rural Galena. I intend to represent their interests and work with the directors and staff as they continue to plan for the future," he added.

Tindell believes in lifelong learning and graduated from the University of Maryland (Europe) A.A, the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago B.A. (broadcasting), and Illinois State University B.S. (history education). In 2001, Tindell participated in the Jo Daviess County Leadership Forum. This group now has several leaders in this area, and he especially likes the servant leadership model for those engaged in our respective communities.

He has served on several boards in the past (Galena/Jo Daviess Historical Society and the Planetary Studies Foundation in Elizabeth), and worked with the Apple River Fort Historic Foundation several years in his capacity as acting site manager. At Galena Bible Church, he chairs the missions team, and also has worked with children in the AWANA program. He has worked on several capital projects in Galena such as the downtown redevelopment project and with the Galena State Historic Sites.

His spouse teaches preschool at River Ridge CUSD #210, and they have two grown children and two grandchildren. He enjoys outdoor activities, amateur radio and spending time with family.

'We Are Co-op' theme celebrates cooperative business model

Bolivia project, director elections highlight co-op annual meeting

Celebrating the cooperative business model was central to the theme "We Are Co-op" at Jo-Carroll Energy's 78th annual meeting of members held at West Carroll High School in Savanna on Tuesday, May 23.

From the cooperative's local roots to turning on the lights in a remote Bolivian village, the speakers and presentations focused on the cooperative principles of membership, cooperation and community.

In his first message to the co-op membership, JCE's president and CEO Mike Casper related that the last time he was in a Savanna gymnasium, it was as a high school senior, wrestling in the district championship. "I'm thrilled to be back in the area that I call home among family and friends," the Galena native said. "As some of you may be aware, I was raised on a farm in Jo-Carroll's service area. Like some of you, we relied on the electricity that Jo-Carroll provided to more efficiently milk our cows and keep the milk chilled.

"Today at Jo-Carroll Energy, it is still our mission to provide you reliable energy, safely and efficiently," he continued. "We are your neighbors and friends and we look for ways to work smarter and stronger every day to make the communities we serve a great place to live."

"Jo-Carroll's vision is to enhance your quality of life," Casper said. "That is something we can achieve by working together. The cooperative business model is a great one – one that fosters engagement and creates strong communities. Let's



be proud of who we are. We are co-op."

Tying into community and cooperation, Casper recognized journeyman lineworker Kurt Krohmer for his part in the recent "Bring the Light" electrification project in Bolivia. Krohmer was among 12 Illinois lineworkers who traveled to remote mountain villages as part of the project undertaken by the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives and its member co-ops and supported by NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) International.

The lineworkers brought electricity to the people of four villages, including homes, a school and a facility for the disabled. A video highlighting Krohmer's and the other Illinois linemen's work was shown during the meeting.

"What I think is most exciting about Kurt's work is that he was actually there when the lights were flipped on for the first time, the



same way Jo-Carroll Energy did for our area more than 75 years ago," Casper said.

JCE board chairman David Senn of Mt. Carroll noted how cooperative missions like the Bolivia electrification project can start conversations and open doors when talking with legislators. Senn encouraged co-op members to be involved in grassroots efforts, letting elected officials know what rural communities and areas need and want.

"Your engagement is still needed," Senn said. "Together we can make a difference. We as a board also want your help; let us know what is needed to live in this rural environment.

"We are family – let's have a



family discussion,” he said. “Talk to your director; help us choose the path that is best for all of us.”

Attended by approximately 325 members, directors and employees, the event was the cooperative’s annual business meeting of the membership and appreciation dinner.

Results of director elections in District 3 were announced at the meeting. Marcia Stanger of Apple River was re-elected to the Jo-Carroll Energy board of directors for a three-year term. Stanger was running against Joe Ambrosia of Elizabeth.

Two other incumbent Jo-Carroll Energy directors were re-elected by a vote of acclamation during the meeting. They were Tom

Lundy of Savanna, District 6, and Larry Carroll of Thomson, District 9. Both were unopposed in the election.

The Jo-Carroll Energy Lineworker’s Scholarship was presented following the meeting. This year’s recipient was Drew Peebles of Galena, who plans to attend lineworker school at Northwest Iowa Community College. Senn and Casper also conducted the

drawings for the Director’s Scholarships.

Jo-Carroll Energy is a not-for-profit distribution cooperative owned and controlled by the members it has reliably served since 1939. Headquartered in Elizabeth, the cooperative currently serves more than 26,800 electric, natural gas and/or broadband internet accounts in Jo Daviess, Carroll, Whiteside and Henry counties.

Mark your calendars for 2017 Appreciation Days!

Save the date for one of Jo-Carroll Energy’s upcoming Member Appreciation Days, set for each of our offices in Elizabeth, Savanna and Geneseo.

Have lunch on us! Your employee team will fire up the grills and be serving pork chop sandwiches and hot dogs along with chips, ice-cold lemonade and a special treat.

We will have games for adults and kids alike. Members can try their hand at a balloon pop game to win bill credits.

We will have LED lightbulbs to give away, and

you can bring along your old CFLs and drop them in one of our recycling buckets.

We invite you to join us for a chance to visit with board members, employees and fellow member-owners. It’s our way of thanking you for the opportunity to serve you throughout the year.

Events are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the following dates:

- July 6 at the Elizabeth Headquarters
- July 12 at Savanna
- July 19 at Geneseo

Keep Food Safe

Before, During and After a Power Outage

Unfortunately, power outages do occur from time to time. It's important to know how to keep your food safe during an outage. Use these tips from USDA to help minimize food loss and reduce your risk of illness.

Before power outage



Keep refrigerator at **40° or below**. Freeze items like fresh meat and poultry that you won't use immediately. Keep freezer set to **0° or below**. Group frozen foods to help items stay colder longer.



If you anticipate an extended power outage, buy dry or block ice to keep the fridge and/or freezer cold.

During power outage

Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed!

If the doors stay closed during the length of the outage:



A full freezer will hold its temperature for **48 hours**.



A refrigerator will keep food safe for **four hours**.

After power outage

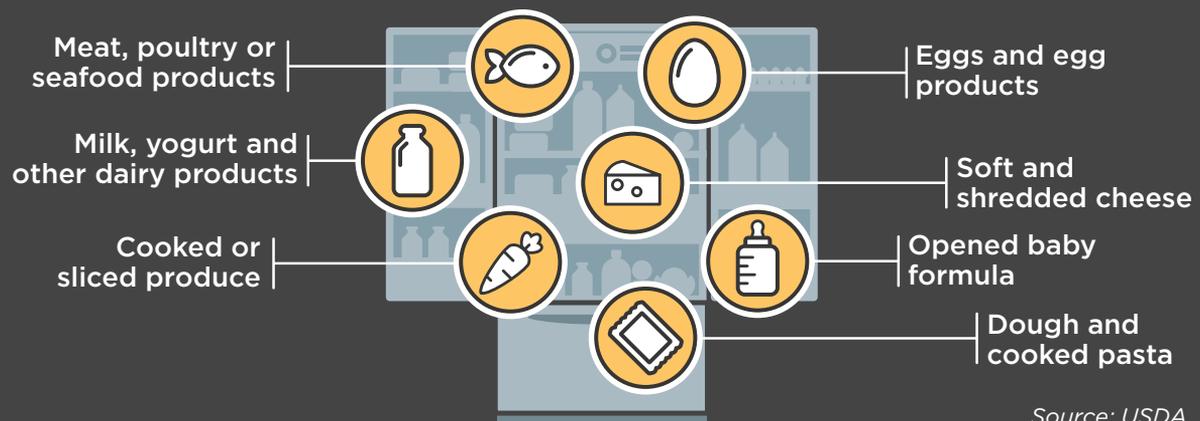


Check the temperature inside your refrigerator and/or freezer.



If the temperatures are safe, the food should be safe to eat.

Foods that should be thrown out after an extended power outage:



Source: USDA

Stay safe through storm recovery

Storms can cause a great deal of destruction. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported that lightning resulted in 27 fatalities and 130 injuries in 2015. In addition, tornadoes caused 36 fatalities and 924 injuries, while high wind resulted in 41 deaths and 150 injuries. Flash flooding accounted for 129 deaths and 42 injuries.

Remember that just because the storm has ended, it does not mean that there is no longer any danger. Safe Electricity and Jo-Carroll Energy encourage you to keep these safety tips in mind after a storm:

- After a storm, it is best to assume all downed lines are energized and potentially dangerous. Stay far away from all power lines and any objects that may be in contact with those lines. Remember even if a downed line is not sparking, it can still be carrying electricity and be dangerous. If you see a downed line, please call the co-op at 800-858-5522.
- If at all possible, remain at home and off the roadways to allow emergency responders and utility crews easy access to damaged areas or injured individuals.
- If you are driving and come along a downed power line, stay away and warn others to stay away. Contact emergency personnel or your utility company to address the downed power line.
- Never drive through a flooded roadway. There is no way to predict how deep the water may be.
- Never drive over downed lines, which easily tangle in car wheels and cause additional damage.
- If your car does make contact with a downed line, stay in your vehicle. Wait for utility and emergency professionals to make sure the power line is de-energized before exiting the car. If you must exit the vehicle because it is on fire, jump clear of it with your feet together and without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time. Keeping your feet together, shuffle or “bunny hop” to safety.
- Never enter a flooded basement if electrical outlets are under water. The water could be energized.
- Do not turn power off if you must stand in water to do so. Call your electric utility, and have them turn off power at the meter.
- When cleaning up outdoors after a storm, do not use electrical equipment when it is raining or the ground is wet.
- Take care when using a generator after power has been lost. Always run generators outside the home, in unenclosed areas. Portable generators should never be plugged directly into a home outlet or electrical system. Use a heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cord to plug appliances into an outlet on the generator for power.
- Do not use electrical equipment that has been water

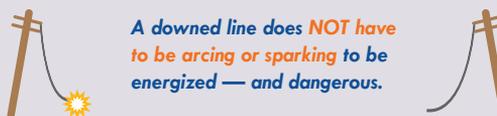
damaged. Have your water-damaged items inspected and approved by a professional before using them.

For more information on storm safety, please visit SafeElectricity.org and jocarroll.com.

STEP POTENTIAL



What you need to know:



A downed line does **NOT** have to be arcing or sparking to be energized — and dangerous.

Even if you do not touch lines or equipment, you can still be killed or seriously injured.



The danger exists **beyond** the point where the downed line is making direct contact with a vehicle or the ground.

Electricity can flow **360°** around it.

What is step potential?

If a person connects **two different points** of this gradually decreasing voltage by walking away, stepping out of a vehicle, or touching the vehicle and ground at the same time — electricity flows through the individual (path to ground).



Stay safe.

If you're in a car accident that involves downed lines, **stay in the car**. If you come upon a scene with a downed line, stay far away and **call 911** to have the utility notified.



Learn more at

SafeElectricity.org

Jo-Carroll Energy awards scholarships

Each year Jo-Carroll Energy awards a number of scholarships to area students. Those receiving scholarships included:

Jo-Carroll Energy Scholarships

- Stephanie Hyde, Galena
- JoAnna Dillon, Warren
- Dylan Alexander, Chadwick
- Mengshi Huang, Savanna
- Samuel Norman, Fulton

Two-Year/Technical School Scholarships

- Austin Kutz, Elizabeth
- Natalie Shaw, Mt. Carroll

Lineworker Scholarship

- Drew Peebles, Galena

Adult Scholarship

- Rhonda Scobee, Fulton

In addition, the cooperative holds drawings for the Director's Scholarships at the annual meeting. Those winners will be recognized in the August Hi-Lines.



Stephanie Hyde, presented by director Pat Smith



Drew Peebles, presented by president and CEO Mike Casper and board president Dave Senn



Sam Norman, presented by president and CEO Mike Casper and director Russell Holesinger



Austin Kutz, presented by president and CEO Mike Casper

Jo-Carroll Energy sponsors coloring contest

Jo-Carroll Energy holds a coloring contest each summer for our members' children ages 5-10. We partner with our local public libraries to spread the word and support the community.

We select three winners of the contest each year, one from each age category. The winners will receive a full set of school supplies for the fall school year plus many other fun prizes such as color-change pencils, bendy rulers and more.

In addition to the child's prize, we donate five energy related children's books to the child's community library.

Coloring pages will be collected July 17. Visit any of the following libraries to pick up a copy of the coloring form along with the contest guidelines.

- East Dubuque District Library
- Galena Public Library
- Elizabeth Township Library

- Hanover Township Library
- Savanna Public Library
- Mt. Carroll Township Library
- York Township Library
- Schmaling Memorial Library
- Albany Public Library
- Erie Public Library
- Geneseo Public Library



ELIZABETH

MEMBER

March 14, 2014

SARAH

MEMBER

March 14, 2014

GENESE

MEMBER

March 14, 2014

Please join us for

LUNCH | GAMES | PRIZES

Hot Deep Sandwiches, Hot Dogs,

Chess, Games, Prizes

11 AM - 1 PM

McConnell Energy Office



McConnell Energy

www.mcconnellenergy.com



Sand Profile

www.mcconnellenergy.com | www.sandprofile.com | 800.444.4444

