



Welcome to 2021! I hope this message finds you healthy! Hopefully, you had a great holiday season, and were able to spend time with family. 2021 is off to a roaring start! It should be an interesting year, but we will just have to wait and see what the future brings.

Great news! We are putting together the plan for your 2021 Annual Membership Meeting on March 17, at the Platte County Fairgrounds! Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. Please look for more details in this month's WREN magazine, as well as information around town. We are doing things a little differently with the meeting this year, due to anticipated restrictions, and the fact that the 4H Building is still under renovation. We are planning a drive-in, parking-lot type meeting. Who would have thought we would still be in this situation a year later?!

Because of this format, we will not have our regular blood draw available at the meeting. We have scheduled it for June. We will give you a voucher at the meeting that you can redeem in June. Also at the blood draw, Shred-It, the mobile document shredding company, will be here to shred your private party documents. With all the fraud going around these days, we all need to be careful with how we handle paperwork containing information that could be used by individuals with less than honorable intentions. This is a great way to get rid of all those old bills, check ledgers, medical statements, and anything else you don't want to fall into the wrong hands. Again, watch for details on both the blood draw and Shred-It!



This membership meeting is your opportunity to vote for your directors. Candidate information will be included in the Annual Meeting booklet mailed directly to you. We also have bylaw changes for you to consider this year. The pandemic has shown us a few deficiencies in the bylaws, and we have proposed changes for your consideration. These will all be explained at the meeting. If you have any questions on this, just give us a call.

Throughout 2020, even with all of the restrictions and chaos, our fantastic staff managed to continue moving forward and keeping your lights on! The work they completed has been outstanding! We set a goal to complete approximately 600 pole replacements each year. We were able to complete 546. The previous record was 262 in 2012. These pole replacements take place in addition to the other work that needs to be done to keep your lights on, The 600-pole goal comes from being able to make it completely through the system in 50 years, which is the life we expect to get from a wooden pole. This amount of work only gets completed through the dedication of all employees, both field and office. My thanks and compliments to everyone involved!

On to the more stressful side of the utility business, Tri-State and the battles in Colorado. As you may have seen in the Casper newspaper, Tri-State was required to file an Electric Resource Plan (ERP) with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). This ERP outlined Tri-State's plan to provide the projected power for the near and long-term, while bringing their emissions in compliance with regulatory requirements. Briefly, in 2019, Colorado enacted a law that required an 80% reduction in certain emissions by 2030. In this ERP, Tri-State used a scenario where they would no longer take delivery of energy from Laramie River Station (LRS) Unit 3 beginning in 2033. They went on to state that this would require the "retirement" of Unit 3. When we and the other Wyoming Tri-State members heard this statement, we pushed back that the "retirement" of the unit was not Tri-State's decision, as they are a minority owner of LRS. Tri-State agreed with us, and they are revising their filing with the CPUC. Tri-State's portion of this unit equates to about 10% of the overall output of LRS.

The whole issue stems from the fact that Colorado does not want coal-fired power to come into Colorado, not that anybody can change the laws of physics that control how the electrons flow. While time goes by quickly, 2033 is still 12 years away, and a lot can happen in that time, but not a change in the laws of physics. As I said above, we will see what the future brings. As always, it is a pleasure to serve you! Let us know if you have questions or concerns! Stay safe and well everyone!

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From the office of RKA....

Well, here we are. We all were waiting for the ending of 2020 and a New Year 2021! I am hoping that everyone had a safe, healthy, and wonderful holiday season! I know for a lot of people, this holiday season was vastly different from previous ones. I still hope that you were able to find the meaning of Christmas and be thankful for our blessings and for all that we have.

In preparing myself for 2021, I knew that it was still going to be a "different" year. We still have the pandemic touching all of us in one way or another. The political turmoil that everyone hates to talk about is still here. Our workplace environments have changed, and will continue to change.

Speaking of changes, the Board of Directors has announced that we will have an annual meeting on March 17, 2021. This annual meeting will be very different from previous years' meetings. We are looking at doing a drive-in style outdoor meeting, and are currently working through the logistics. We must start organizing the meeting now, because we cannot wait to figure out what the future holds. Please watch for further details.

Your Board of Directors has approved the retirement of capital credits. The co-op will retire the remainder of year 2004, and a small portion of the year 2005. We will also retire capital credits from Tri-State G & T. Years to be retired for Tri-State are the remainder of year 2002 and a portion of 2003. The capital credit checks will be available to members at the annual meeting. We will mail checks to the members who are unable to attend.

As we begin this year, we are defining and setting goals that we hope to accomplish. This year started just like last year ended, chaotic at best. We all had to think and work "outside the box" that we all like to stay in. Meetings together have become web-based meetings called "Zoom". PPE is now an acronym that most everyone knows (personal protective equipment for those who don't know), and conversations with fellow employees and members consist of being consciously aware of everyone's safety. So this year, we may have to work a little harder and think a little bit differently. I promise you that one goal at the forefront, no matter the circumstances, is to always provide safe, reliable, and affordable electricity!!! That goal will never change for the Board of Directors, the management staff, or the employees.

On the home front, the start of 2021 did not let me down. I spent some "quarantine" time with my hubby and worked from home. The real challenge was working from home (I bet you thought I was going to say "staying with hubby"). I enjoy getting out and seeing members and interacting with people. Plus, I just did not have everything at hand, so again, I had to maneuver and come up with ways to work around not having ready access to the files and documents I needed. But I do know this...my hubby's next project is NOT building an office at home for me...and, btw...he is going to have a project!!! LOL!!

Until next month.....



Annual Membership Meeting March 17, 2021 Platte County Fairgrounds

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.
Business Meeting starts at 11:00 a.m.



No goats? Not to worry! Shred-it WILL NOT be at our Annual Meeting, but will be at our health fair in June. Bring any documents you want shredded to the health fair this summer and they will take care of them for you. Please, only two boxes per member.



CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS
PICK UP YOUR CHECK AT THE MEETING

Due to the continuing uncertainty of the COVID-19 crisis, and the need to have our Annual Members Meeting to conduct your co-op's business, this will be a drive-in style annual meeting. Instructions and directions will be in your Annual Meeting Book, which will arrive at your mailbox the first part of March.

REBATES, REBATES, REBATES!

Your co-op offers rebates on certain electric appliances and equipment.
CHECK WITH US FOR DETAILS WHEN YOU ARE READY TO BUY!



HEALTH FAIR

(BLOOD DRAW ONLY)

*Our annual health fair will be on June 16, 2021
in the Wheatland REA parking lot at 2154 South St. in Wheatland.*

The health fair opens at 10:00 a.m. and closes at 4:00 p.m.

*We will **ONLY** give out vouchers at our Annual Meeting on March 17th
for the blood draw, which will cover the cost of the Blood Chemistry Panel
for yourself and your spouse/partner (SORRY, NO OTHERS).*

*More information will follow in our insert in the May WREN magazine,
in your June electric bill, on www.wheatlandrea.com,
and on our Facebook page.*

STAY TUNED!

Want to save money during a power outage? It's easy...When your lights go out unexpectedly, before calling us, check to see if the breakers in your house and the breakers under your electric meter are on. Yes, there is a set of breakers behind the cover below your electric meter! How does this save money? Well, if we send out two linemen after hours, and all they need to do is reset a breaker, you are charged for the service call. The linemen respond to all after-hours calls in pairs. They are paid a minimum callout time of two hours per man. You would be responsible for that amount plus mileage for their truck. If your breakers are on (in the up position), and the LCD screen in your meter is blank (no numbers on the display), you are out of power. Call us and we will be "on-the-way" to help!

1



#1: Meter at the top, breaker, or breakers, behind the door below. If the meter's LCD screen is blank, you have no power.

#2: Closeup shows 200 Amp breaker in the off position.

#3: Closeup shows 100 Amp breaker in the off position.

#4: Closeup shows 100 Amp breaker in the on position.

If your breaker is in a center position (neither on nor off), you must move it to the off position, then push it up to the on position to reset it. If it drops back to the center (tripped) position, the problem is with your equipment and you will need to call an electrician to troubleshoot the problem for you.

2



3



4

