

ROUGH RIDER NEWS

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

JULY 2018

Always serving our members



PHOTO BY CARMEN DEVENEY

Roughrider Board Director **Callen Schoch** helped serve the delicious meal to members prior to the annual meeting. It was provided by Krouse's Market. In this month's local pages, read the highlights of your cooperative's annual meeting — and how you know we, at Roughrider Electric, remain true to our roots.

What's inside:

- **Annual meeting recap**
- **Stay safe around power lines and poles when stacking hay**
- **Touchstone Energy Cooperatives celebrates 20 years**
- **Roughrider Electric offers Medora discount ... and more**



PHOTOS BY CARMEN DEVNEY

Safety is the culture of Roughrider Electric. At this year's annual meeting, members received a packet that contained ear plugs, shaded glasses and ice packs.

Members, thanks for attending YOUR annual meeting!

BY CARMEN DEVNEY

At Roughrider Electric Cooperative, we still say the Pledge of Allegiance. We stand when we see the flag, and we put our hands over our hearts and remove our caps. This is how we start the business session of every annual meeting. We are your hometown, local electric cooperative, and this is one way we stay true to our roots.

The Roughrider Electric Cooperative, Inc. directors, co-general managers and employees thank you, our member-owners, for

attending your annual meeting at Hazen High School on June 6. More than 150 members registered for the meeting, with a delicious roast beef dinner served by Krouse's Market to approximately 380 members and guests. Kent Sperry, pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Beulah, gave a thoughtful invocation.

This year's theme was "Aligning for the Future," which reflects the culture of preparing for an ever-changing future. Times are changing and so are our members' needs.

To meet your changing needs, Roughrider Electric is adapting and evolving to bring our members the services they have come to expect.

The membership listened to cooperative updates and voted to fill the board positions held by Roger Kudrna, West District; Troy Sailer, Central District; and Darell Herman, East District. All three incumbents were unanimously re-elected to retain their seats on the board.

The board reorganized at its scheduled meeting on June 29.



Jim Block, Roughrider’s general foreman in Hazen, visited with members about line projects going on this summer. At this booth, members could also watch a video on drone footage in the Roughrider service area, and learn how a drone will be incorporated into the system maintenance program sometime in the future for specialized line patrol.

Roughrider Chairman **Roger Kudrna** presented three “Luck of the Draw” student scholarships to students who had pre-registered and attended the meeting with their families. The lucky recipients were, from left: **Bailey Klamon**, **McKenzie Walters** and **Bailey Olson**. The cooperative gave these scholarships to encourage this generation to attend, and learn about the cooperative business model and why their voices and votes are important.

In his report to the membership, Co-General Manager Don Franklund noted what electricity does for all of us: It makes life easier. “We don’t value electricity; we value what it does for us,” he said. From powering a complex server room to a simple children’s toy, electricity is an integral part in our everyday work and play. Aligning for the future allows Roughrider Electric to better understand the impact we have on the digital world — and its impact on us.

New to the annual meeting this year was a booth manned by some of Roughrider’s linemen, who showed a map of the cooperative’s service area and visited with members about projects the linemen are working on this summer. In his report to the membership, Co-General Manager Travis Kupper referred to the map and noted the time spent and money invested in maintaining a reliable electric system.

Members, we thank those of you who were able to take the time and attend. Your voices and votes are important, and we appreciate the

interest and support you continue to show in your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative. ■



Door prizes are always a highlight for members. **Steve Hildebrand** (right), member services representative, handed out prizes. Every member was a winner! Members who stayed until the end of the meeting received a \$15 bill credit.

There must be 10 feet of clearance between hay bales and power lines. Keep in mind that summer's warm temperatures can cause power lines to sag. Your best bet is to find another spot away from those hot, high-voltage lines — that under certain conditions, can cause fire, injury or death.



Protect your livelihood — and your life

Stacking hay under electrical infrastructure can be dangerous, if not deadly.

Imagine up to 115,000 volts of electricity running through the power lines directly above the hay you just stacked. Highly loaded, those aluminum wires get hot — and the warmer the temperature — the more the lines sag. There needs to be at least 10 feet of clearance between the neutral line and the top of your hay bales. Did you plan for sag and leave adequate space?

As amps travel the circuit, the wires get warm. If you back your equipment into a guy wire and a pole bends or breaks, or if you hit an overhead line with the loader, the line could fall on the hay and ignite. The hay you need to feed your cattle — and the provisions you made to feed your family — just went up in smoke.

And that could be the best-case scenario. If you or your equipment comes into contact with a power line, you could receive an electric shock that could cause injury and even death.

Protect your livelihood and your life, and stay away from power lines and poles. If you do make contact with a power line, call 911. Remain seated, warn others to stay away, and wait for Roughrider Electric linemen to de-energize the lines. Do not move from the equipment.

To report system damage that is not in need of immediate repair, call Roughrider Electric Cooperative at 1-800-748-5533 or email safety@roughriderelectric.com. If you send an email, please include the location, your name and contact information, and a photo if possible.

Members, your safety matters. Working together helps ensure the safety of all! ■



LIGHTNING PROTECTION PREVENTING A DIRECT STRIKE

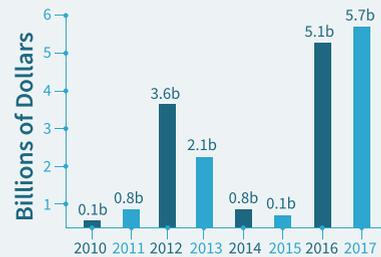
In the first quarter of 2017 alone, thunderstorms caused a record **\$5.7 billion** in losses, and lightning kills an average of **30 people a year**. Learn how to keep you, your family, and property safe from lightning.

▶ LIGHTNING IS DEADLY

22,600

An average of 22,600 fires were caused by lightning between 2007 and 2011.

According to Aon Benfield's Impact Forecasting, **insured losses** from lightning strikes are at an **all-time high**.



▶ LIGHTNING IS FAR REACHING

1/3 of all lightning related injuries occur indoors – stay away from:



Corded phones



Electronics



Plumbing

10

Lightning can strike **10 miles** from a thunderstorm.

30

people die a year from lightning strikes according to the National Weather Service.



Lightning can strike **anywhere**, not just the tallest objects.

▶ LIGHTNING PROTECTION

Power surges caused by lightning can damage the electronics in your home.



Lightning protection systems **intercept lightning strikes** and provide a grounding path for dangerous electricity to **discharge safely**, leaving occupants and homes safe from harm.



Panel box surge protective devices (SPDs) serve as the **first line of defense** against harmful home electrical surges, limiting voltages by diverting currents at the electrical service entrance. Only a **qualified electrician** should install SPDs.



Point-of-use surge protective devices protect electronics plugged into the device from surges, must be **replaced** over time or after a major surge event.



Power strips **DO NOT** provide surge protection.



No surge device can handle a **direct lightning strike**. Unplug sensitive electronics **WELL** before a storm to prevent damage.

Report from THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY 25, 2018

When, where and who: The Board of Directors met in Dickinson on May 25, 2018.

Agenda: The Board reviewed, added to and approved the meeting agenda.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the April 27, 2018, meeting.

Co-General Managers' report: Manager Franklund and Manager Kupper jointly provided the Board with the Co-General Managers' report. They reported on meetings with Upper Missouri Power Cooperative and with Basin Electric Power Cooperative. They also discussed a recent Innovative Energy Alliance Cooperative board meeting, employee succession planning and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

2017 Capital Credit Allocation: After full discussion, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, it was RESOLVED, that the 2017 Capital Credit Allocation for Roughrider Electric Cooperative, Inc., be set at \$5,354,805.

RUS construction fund: The Board reviewed a Rural Utilities Service Construction Fund Trustee Account Transfer Confirmation and approved the transfers of \$4,000,000 and \$6,000,000 for the purpose of reimbursing Roughrider's general fund for approved construction costs.

CFC System Integrity Fund: The Board discussed and approved participation in the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation's (CFC) System Integrity Fund for the 2019 fiscal year.

NRECA International donation request: Roughrider received a donation request from National Rural Electric Cooperative Association International. The purpose of this organization is to help individuals in other countries gain access to electricity. The board approved a \$500 donation.

WAPA contract: The Board was presented with a proposed contract for Roles and Duties related to Transmission Operator Services, together with Transmission Operator Procedures. Thereafter, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the contract was approved.

Chief Financial Officer report: Mr. Craigmile provided the Board with a summary of his written report.

Operations and Construction report: Mr. Bentz referred the Board to his written report. He also provided an addition to the Safety report. Mr. Bentz also reported that management is currently evaluating the benefit of using drone technology to complete remote powerline inspections.

Chief Information Officer report: The Board was referred to Mr. Dunbar's written report.

Engineering report: The Board was referred to Ms. Samuelson's written report.

Upcoming meetings: The next Board meeting was set for 10 a.m. CT on June 29, 2018, at Roughrider's office in Hazen, North Dakota.

Other business: There being no other business, upon motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned. ■

Roughrider Electric Cooperative offers members CONSERVATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCIES INCENTIVES

Roughrider Electric Cooperative is continuing the conservation and energy-efficiency program. The incentives help you, the member, become more energy efficient.

The program for 2018 will include ground-source heat pumps and air-source heat pumps.

Members must buy and install qualifying systems between Jan. 1, 2018 and Dec. 31, 2018. The program for the heat pumps is for new installation or for replacement of a conventional heating system.

Roughrider Electric Cooperative personnel will check the

installation, and get the appropriate documentation and receipts. Once completed and approved, Roughrider Electric Cooperative will send a check directly to the member to help cover the purchase cost.

A maximum dollar amount has been set aside for the incentive program. The program will close when we meet this amount. Roughrider Electric reserves the right to cancel the program without further notice. One rebate allowed per member.

For more information, please contact Brad Quenette, director of member services, at 800-748-5533 or email bquenette@roughriderelectric.com.

Ground-Source Heat Pumps:
Required minimum efficiency

\$150 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$600
CLOSED LOOP: EER >= 14.1 COP >= 3.3
OPEN LOOP: EER >= 16.2 COP >= 3.6

Air-Source Heat Pumps:
Required minimum efficiency

\$100 per ton with a maximum rebate of \$400
HSPF >= 8.2 EER >= 12 SEER >= 14.5



20TH



Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives celebrates 20 years of human connections

Twenty years ago,

member-owned electric cooperatives acted together to start talking about their work and values in a new way.

When co-ops created the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives brand in 1998, few imagined the impact it would have today. What began as an unknown brand with a single TV spot and a membership comprised of less than 300 cooperatives has evolved into one of the most recognizable brands and logos in the electric power industry – a brand now made up of more than 750 unified local electric cooperatives across 46 states.

Integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community – these four values provide the foundation of every Touchstone Energy cooperative. Named after a tool used to test the quality and authenticity of gold or silver, the Touchstone Energy brand serves as the national “gold standard” for cooperatives. Its purpose is to demonstrate and enhance the value of the cooperative difference.

Twenty years after the brand’s launch, Touchstone Energy cooperatives have access to a comprehensive portfolio of resources and are part of a nationally recognized network. In addition, the brand leverages partnerships to help member cooperatives and their employees better engage and serve their members. By working together, Touchstone Energy cooperatives stand as a source of power and information to their 32 million member-owners every day.

“Our members benefit by Roughrider being a member of Touchstone Energy in many ways,” says Steve Hildebrand, member services representative. “Roughrider has a regular presence on radio and TV, featuring safety ads with important information. Our members can also go to the Touchstone Energy website to calculate how they can reduce their home’s energy consumption. The website has ‘how-to’ videos, articles on a variety of topics, efficiency and conservation tips, and more. Touchstone Energy is a good thing for Roughrider and its members.”

Membership in a Touchstone Energy cooperative is a powerful thing. For cooperative members, it means you have an energy source you can trust to look out for your community’s best interests, not a corporate bottom line. That’s because Touchstone Energy cooperatives are owned by the very members they serve – cooperatives built to deliver reliable electricity at the lowest possible price to members.

By connecting the people of America’s electric cooperatives, Touchstone Energy continues to prove the power of human connections as it empowers cooperatives to deliver high standards of excellence to their member-owners and the communities they serve – from the first mile to the last. As we move into the future, Touchstone Energy will embrace the ways cooperatives are changing and work to engage the new generations that will help shape the next 20 years.



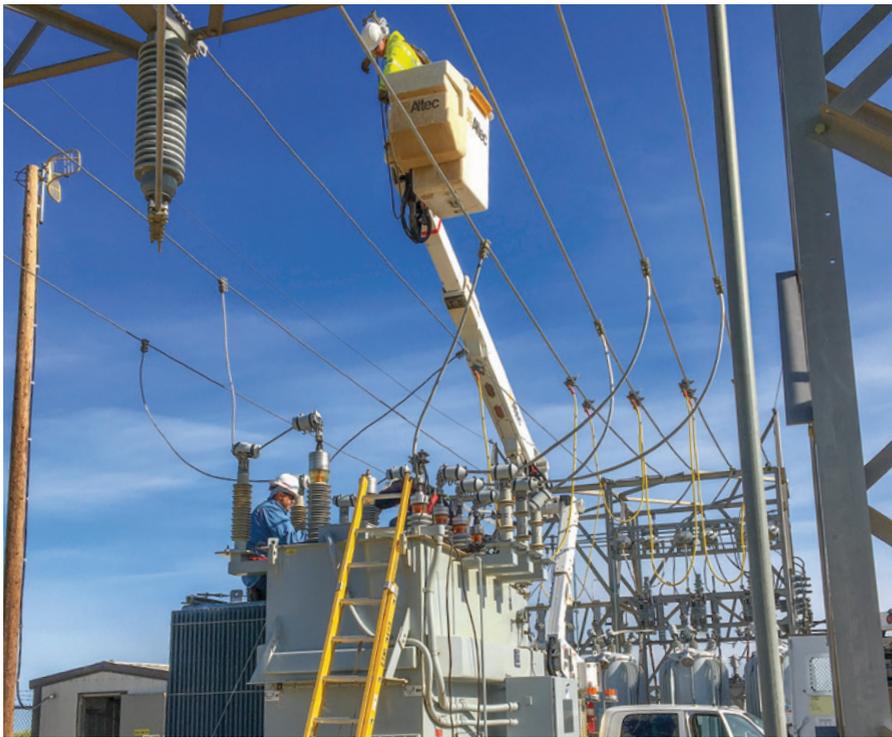


PHOTO BY SHAWN OLSON

Maintenance plays an important role in system reliability. In June, Electro Test did transformer bushing maintenance with our line crews. Roughrider Lineman **Cody Hintz** is in the bucket. This photo was taken at our Scheffield Substation.

HEAD WEST FOR LESS!

In partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, more than 10 Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives in North Dakota have joined forces to make vacationing in North Dakota more affordable for families, including Roughrider Electric Cooperative. This summer, head west to Medora, where electric cooperative members are eligible for a 15-percent discount off the following reservations:

Tickets to the Medora Musical
Pitchfork Steak Fondue
Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Lodging at any of the following:
✓ Badlands Motel
✓ Elkhorn Quarters
✓ Rough Riders Hotel

Hotel rooms book fast, so please reserve your rooms as soon as possible.

Members also receive 20 percent off at the Cowboy Hall of Fame by providing the discount code (Touch2018) at the door.



Call
1-800-MEDORA-1
for reservations and
provide the
discount code **Touch2018**
to receive your savings.



www.roughriderelectric.com

HAZEN OFFICE
701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533
800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

DICKINSON OFFICE
701-483-5111 or 800-627-8470
P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.
Dickinson, ND 58602
7 a.m. – 4 p.m. MST Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Dickinson City Hall, or the west and south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Roger Kudrna, President; Dickinson483-8377
Darell Herman, Vice President; Beulah873-4371
Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley948-2427
Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley983-4222
William Retterath; Center794-8729
Arnold Kainz; Dickinson483-8207
Dan Price; Hensler794-3779
Greg Steckler; Dunn Center548-8122
Callen Schoch; New England579-4395

MANAGEMENT

Don Franklund Co-GM/CEO
Travis Kupper Co-GM/CEO



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