



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



Inside:

- 2020 Annual Meeting and Board of Director Candidates.....2 & 3
- Spring Checklist..... 4
- Time Change 4

Remember....If you are planning on attending the annual meeting, please do not mail in your proxy card.

Most people would not define active involvement with their electric company as a way of providing great value to the community, but High Plains Power is not an ordinary utility company. We're a Cooperative, and our business model, guided by the Seven Cooperative Principles, is meant to serve the member/owners. We do not exist to make huge profits to pay shareholders, who do not live in the area, but we operate to better serve our communities.

High Plains' 22nd Annual Meeting is March 21st and the Meeting displays all seven of the Cooperative Principles.

Voluntary and Open Membership

Cooperatives are member owned – you're not a customer or consumer, you're a High Plains Power Member.

Democratic Member Control

One member, one vote. It doesn't matter how large or small of an account you obtain – it is one member-one vote. From the stock well service to a large industrial operation – it is still one member-one vote. Each member can vote for the board of directors – they get to decide who guides and governs their Cooperative. They also can vote on business matters at the Annual Meeting. As you recall, last year, the membership voted on the By-Law amendments.

Members' Economic Participation

Members can review the Annual Report (which was sent to each member as part of the Annual Meeting Notice) and will also be presented at the Annual Meeting. Members can learn how the Cooperative is handling funds

and utilizing technology to maintain reliable service and noting the capital credit retirements to members.

Autonomy and Independence

High Plains is a private organization run solely by its members – we are not an arm of the government. The Annual Meeting is the cooperative's opportunity to review finances and other business with members.

Education, Training and Information

The Annual Meeting serves as a great way to get together with family, friends and neighbors to learn about their Cooperative. The electric safety demonstration is a valuable presentation that everyone can learn about electric hazards and learn how to respect electricity.

Cooperative Among Cooperatives

Besides High Plains Power, other Cooperatives will give a report to the members. Tri-State Generation and Transmission and Wyoming Rural Electric Association (WREA) will have representatives give information about their organizations.

Concern for Community

We will report on what High Plains has done this past year for our communities.

We hope to see you all at the Annual Meeting at the Riverton Armory Building. Please take note of the time change and new format for the Meeting. **Registration begins at 9:00 AM** and will remain open until **10:45 AM**. The **Business Meeting begins at 11:00 AM** and we will recess for lunch at noon.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you!



The POWER of Co-op Membership

2020 Annual Meeting

Join us for our 22nd High Plains Power Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 21st at the Fremont Center, Riverton, Wyoming. We have a new format and new times this year so be sure to watch for your Annual Meeting Notice in the mail.

This year the doors will open and registration will begin at 9am, the business meeting will begin at 11am, lunch will be served at noon and the business meeting will resume at 1pm.

For some, the High Plains Power annual meeting is an anticipated event throughout the cooperative community. It's neighbors meeting neighbors – who are able to enjoy lunch and learn about their member-owned electric cooperative. They are also able to be part of the voting process to elect candidates to serve on your Board of Directors.

We will have a \$10 energy credit for all members who register, free lunch, a virtual reality booth, and some great door prizes. See what your Co-op has been up to and what they have accomplished in the last year and let your voice be heard. Come make a day of it in Riverton- cast your vote for board directors, have lunch, and stay for the meeting.



DISTRICT 4
Karl Florence

Karl Florence is seeking election for District 4.

Mr. Florence has been a High Plains Power member

for 18 years. When asked why he was running for Board Director and what goals he had if elected he stated, "I have 27 years of business knowledge working for Fremont Motors Fleet Dept. I also help a lot of business owners run and maintain their fleet vehicles. I know I can jump in and maintain and I look to improve High Plains Power's business plan. I would like to help maintain their great customer service and integrity going forward for the next generation as well as to maintain the best health care benefits to help maintain long term employees." Karl would like to look into buying versus leasing equipment to see what savings can be found and he wants to continue the high standards of safety for the company through ongoing training and changes.

He has been Director of Fleet Operations at Fremont Motors for 27 years and has served on many boards and committees. Karl has served on many youth boards and has coached soccer, baseball and junior football in Riverton. He has served on the Western Region Natural Gas Committee, Governor Mead's Natural Gas Committee, the vehicle bid team for the State of Wyoming, and the CDS of Fremont County.

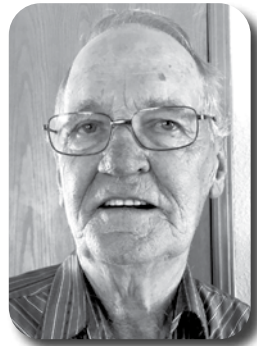
Karl has been married to Susan for 33 years. They have a daughter who just graduated from the University of Wyoming and a son who lives in Riverton and works construction. They also have 5 grandchildren in Riverton. He is currently the President of the Raintree Subdivision where he

2020 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

resides, as well as being on the Riverton Country Club Board and an umpire for the Riverton little league junior league. He enjoys golfing with friends and family throughout Wyoming, hunting and fishing and spending time with family and friends. Karl enjoys a simple BBQ in the back yard and to be there when the grandkids need advice or direction.

"I hope, when my time comes, I made a difference in the world for generations to come."

DISTRICT 4
Rodney Eicke



Rodney Eicke is seeking election for District 4.

Rodney is a retired educator having taught mathematics at Central Wyoming College for 7 years, at Riverton High School for 20 years and a couple years at the Tribal College in Ethete. Rodney has been a member of the Elks Lodge in Riverton for over 47 years having served as Exalted Ruler as well as many other offices. He was also a member of the Riverton Fire Department for over 20 years. When he retired he was elected as a Riverton Fire Protection District Commissioner, a post he still holds.

He and his wife Carol have lived in Riverton since 1971. They have been married for 47 years and have 5 children and 7 grandchildren. In his spare time he can most likely be found irrigating their 3 acres or traveling in their motorhome.

Mr. Eicke has been a High Plains Power member for more than 17 years. When asked why he is running for the Board of Directors, he states, "to continue the legacy of Richard Haun and to provide the cheapest and most efficient power possible for the Members of High Plains Power."



DISTRICT 5
Bret Gardner

Bret Gardner is seeking reelection as the Board Director to represent District 5. Mr. Gardner is honored to have served on the

Board for the past 12 years. He is pleased with the way High Plains Power is being operated at the present time and looks forward to his future participation on the Board. He says, "there are a lot of changes taking place right now with rules and regulations and I look forward to taking part in the resolution of these issues."

Bret was born and raised in Fremont County and knows the importance of reliable power for his ranch and livestock trucking business. He and his wife, Laurie, have 2 children, Chad and Melissa, and 2 grandchildren. Both Chad and Melissa are graduates of the University of Wyoming. Bret has been a member of Riverton Valley Electric and High Plains Power since 1980. He has been a member of the Fremont County Cattlemen for over 35 years and a member of the American Angus Association for over 20 years. He also served on the Fremont County volunteer fire department for 20 years. Bret states, "I would be honored to have 3 more years on the Board."



DISTRICT 9
Matt Brown

Matt Brown is an incumbent Director seeking reelection for District 9. Mr. Brown states, "The rural electric industry has

always faced many challenges. Today High Plains Power and Tri-State must work to address renewable energy regulations which threaten to destroy our coal mines and coal fired plants. At the same time, we must work to integrate more renewable energy sources into our production fleet, while providing reliable and affordable electric energy for the Member/Owners of High Plains Power."

Matt is currently representing High Plains Power on the Tri-State Board and was elected to the Executive/Litigation committee at Tri-State. He states, "It is my goal to help guide Tri-State through some very trying times. The Tri-State family must be united in the common goal of making Tri-State stronger by keeping Tri-State financially stable and governed by the Board of Directors, which you as Member/Owners have elected. High Plains Power's Board must be strong to have a strong Tri-State. If re-elected I will use my knowledge and experience for both High

Plains and Tri-State."

Matt was born and raised on a cattle/sheep/farming operation on Owl Creek west of Thermopolis and has been a rancher/farmer all of his life. He has been able to receive reliable and affordable electricity from a co-op his entire life. In addition to being a rancher/farmer he also holds a real estate license.

He and his wife, Teresa, have 4 children and 11 grandchildren who keep them busy in their spare time. At the end of May, Matt and Teresa will celebrate their 43rd wedding anniversary.

DISTRICT 10

Jim Miller



Jim Miller is an incumbent Director seeking reelection to represent District 10. He has been a Director since 2005.

Mr. Miller states, "I enjoy representing District 10. I look forward to the 4th Friday of every month because that is when my wife and I get to go to Riverton. She gets to do some shopping and I get to participate in making decisions for the best organization in the state. High Plains Power has the finest men and women providing safe and reliable electricity to our Members of any co-op in the state. All of our Member/Owners are important to the future of our cooperative and my goal is to stay current on the things that will affect our cooperative members and base my decisions knowing that what we decide will affect our residential, farm and ranch and industrial members."

Jim and his wife, Shellie have 3 grown children and he is actively involved in the family farm north of Worland. Jim has lived on the farm his whole life and has been supplied electricity from High Plains Power and Hot Springs REA.

YOU'RE A MEMBER YOUR VOTE COUNTS

**Remember...
If you are planning on attending the meeting, please do not mail in your proxy card.**



March



SPRING CLEAN YOUR HOME

Deep clean your home. Dust, dirt, and grime builds up through the winter months and as the temperature starts to heat up, it's the perfect time to get spring cleaning.



TEST YOUR SUMP PUMP

Test your sump pump. When the snow begins to melt in the spring time, basements tend to flood, and it's the perfect time to test to see if your sump pump is functioning properly.



CHECK YOUR ROOF FOR SOFT SPOTS

Check your roof for soft spots by going outside and taking binoculars to find any broken, chipped, or missing shingles. Call a roof technician to help you repair or replace those sections of your roof.



CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS

Rid your gutters of dirt, leaves, sticks, and other gunk that can flood your gutters. Flooded gutters can cause roof damage as well as flooding in your home's foundation. Once you've finished cleaning your gutters out, the next time it rains check to see where the water is flowing from your downspouts. Clean your downspouts as well and direct water away from your home and foundation.



FIX RUST SPOTS

Make sure any rust spots your home has are fixed using epoxy seals. This DIY article shows you how to fix a rust spot on your bathtub, but you can use the same process for many parts of your home!

Just a reminder that sign up for Budget Billing is in April and May. Applications can be found on our website at HighPlainsPower.org or you can pick one up from our Riverton office. For more information or if you have any questions please call the Riverton office at 307-856-9426 or 1-800-445-0613.

Reminder:

Daylight Savings Time begins on **March 8, 2020**. Remember to set your clocks **FORWARD** one hour!



High Plains Power

NEWS

is an official publication of High Plains Power, Inc., PO Box 713, Riverton, WY 82501.

Phone 307-856-9426
1-800-445-0613
www.highplainspower.org

General Manager
Marlene Morss

This is a monthly publication made available by High Plains Power, Inc., with the Wyoming Rural Electric News. Ideas, questions and comments are welcome.

Board of Directors

Mark Park - President
Bret Gardner - Vice-Pres.
Beckie Darnell - Secretary
Gary Gordon - Asst. Sec.
Jim Miller - Treasurer
Matt Brown
Robert Cooper
Hearley Dockham
Matthew Frericks
Jesse Hankins
Richard Haun
Lee Shaffer