



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

February 2021

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 30, Number 2

CELEBRATE!

250 YEARS in SERVICE!

We were not able to gather this year for our annual celebration, due to COVID 19 precautions, but would like to recognize some milestone service anniversaries for employees and board members.

We would also like to thank Patrick Hintz and Stacie Young for 2 years of service on the safety committee.

40

Steve Petersen

20

**Carmen Thelen
Tim Means, Director**

30

**Dan Belt
Jeff Kerkman**

15

**Galen Beckman
Joe Thiele, Director**

25

**Todd Knutson
Jim Wennekamp
Stacie Young**

5

Jennifer Adams

More service to celebrate with our newly elected directors. Tom Rudloff, General Manager, left, administers the oath of office to directors left to right: Mark Miller, Subdistrict I; David Hoefer, Subdistrict III; Hunter Frisch, Subdistrict I; and Tim Means, Subdistrict II, at the January board meeting.





LET'S POWER CONVENIENCE

Flip a switch. Charge your phone. Hit the remote (if you can find it). Electricity powers convenience. And Elkhorn Rural Public Power District powers you.

We value our customers.
We value you.

www.erppd.com
800-675-2185



Let's walk through your day. You start by switching off the alarm, turning on the lights, starting the coffee maker and opening the refrigerator for breakfast. You pop bread in the toaster and turn on the TV to catch the weather report. You jump into a hot shower. Before heading out the door, you grab your fully charged cell phone. You arrive at work or school and fire up your computer. At lunch, you heat your leftovers in the microwave and get a drink out of the refrigerator. That night, you adjust your thermostat, turn on the TV (if you can find where you left the remote), start a load of laundry, pull food out of the freezer, prepare a meal in the oven and maybe vacuum. And before turning off

lights for the night, you plug in your cell phone to recharge. The common thread throughout the day's activities?

Electricity.

It has become an integral part of our lives and many would not know what to do without it.

Keeping electricity available and cost-effective for customers is the mission of ERPPD. We work hard to make sure your lights come on and appliances work when you expect them to.

You can also have a role in keeping costs down - by using this resource efficiently. ERPPD offers a wide variety of incentives through the EnergyWiseSM program to help you be more electrically efficient - from heat pumps

to insulation. From tune ups to water heaters. See the graph below for a listing of the new mini-split heat pump and other heat pump incentives.

You can go to www.erppd.com under the energy tab for a complete listing. If you have questions or would like more information, you can contact Brian Suckstorf at 800-675-2185.

The drive to better the lives of our customers will continue today and every day to come.

ERPPD delivers electricity in a safe, reliable and cost-effective to power convenience to you.

INCENTIVES\$

New this year are ductless mini-split heat pump incentives through EnergyWiseSM. All heat pump incentives are listed below.

Ductless Mini-Split	15+SEER*	\$400
Ductless Mini-Split	Variable Capacity	\$600
Ductless Mini-Split	Variable Capacity	\$1,200 (3 ton or larger)
Air Source HP	15-15.9 SEER*	\$400
Air Source HP	16-17.9 SEER*	\$800
Air Source HP	18+ SEER*	\$1,200
Air Source HP	Variable Capacity	\$1,200
Ground Source HP	Any EER	\$2400
Ground Source HP	35+ EER, 5.0+ COP	\$3,300 (Partial load rating)

* Additional minimum criteria: EER of 12.5 and HSPF of 8.5. Performance verification required for incentives to be issued.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Use wool or rubber dryer balls in the clothes dryer to reduce drying time and static.

Wool dryer balls can also absorb extra moisture. These are an efficient alternative to dryer sheets, which can create buildup on the dryer's filter and reduce air circulation. If you prefer dryer sheets, scrub the filter once a month to remove buildup.

Source: www.energy.gov



Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
February 2021

WIRE
Page 2

DIRECTOR RECEIVES CREDENTIAL



Ray Payne, Subdistrict II director, pictured above, right, with Board President, Mark Miller, has earned the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate. The CCD is an educational program for directors through the NRECA.

The CCD provides training in director basics such as board operations, strategic planning and financial decision

making.

Directors are then able to earn a Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) after completing 10 credits in 8 different speciality areas including communications, cooperative structure, financial, governance, grassroots, power supply, risk management and technology.

After the BLC is earned, directors can hold a Director Gold certificate to continue to show their commitment to advancing their knowledge and performing their fiduciary duties for the organization.

Board members are encouraged to participate in these certificate programs to help them understand their role, keep up to date on issues facing the district, and prepare for the challenges ahead.

Currently, the ERPPD Board of Directors have 8 CCD, 7 BLC and 1 Director Gold certificate holders. This shows the great dedication of the board to fulfill the ERPPD mission with solid leadership and decision making.

VALUE

The U.S. Energy Information Administration released data from 2019 that shows that Nebraska continues to have lower than average residential electrical rates - see graph to the right.

Nebraska's rates are lower than surrounding states as well. Public power continues to provide value through cost-effective rates for our customers.

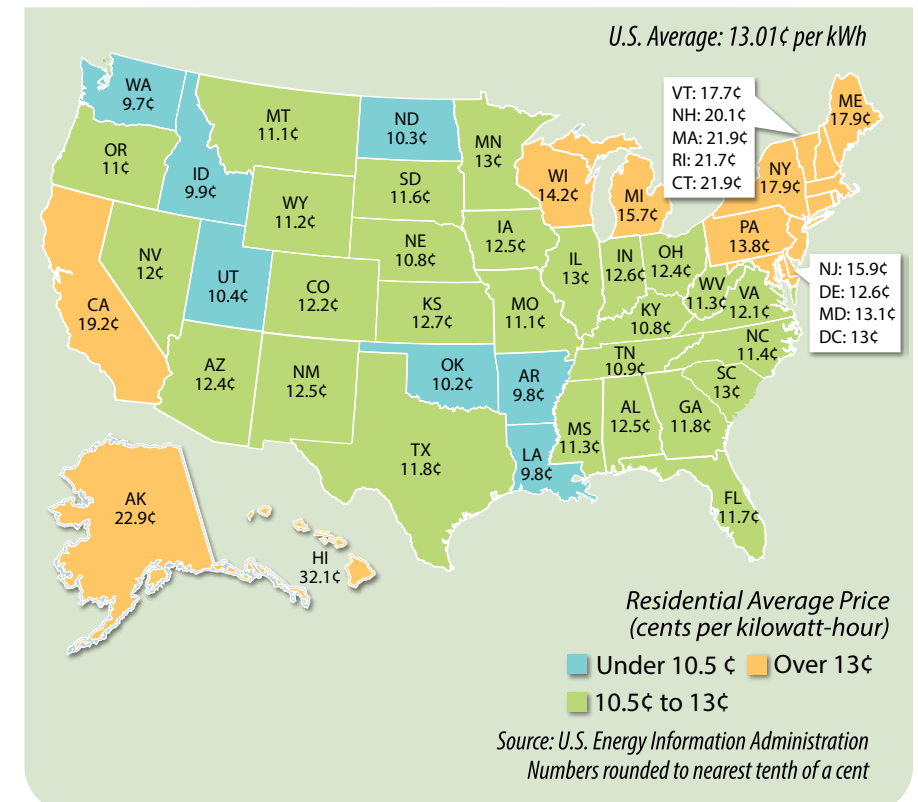
For Elkhorn, there has not been an overall rate increase in the last 8 years. The average cost for residential kWh is 9.6 cents. That ranks considerably below the national average of 13.01 cents and Elkhorn's residential rates are also more than a cent below the Nebraska state average of 10.8 cents.

We are looking forward to another year of providing you with the value of safe, reliable, cost-effective electricity.

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
February 2021

Average Prices for Residential Electricity

2019 figures, in cents per kWh



WIRE
Page 3

WINTER WEATHER

CAN BRING POWER LINES DOWN



DID YOU KNOW:

STAY WHERE YOU ARE

You've just been in an accident involving a downed power line. Your first instinct might be to get out and run, but that could cost you your life. In most cases, the safest place to be is inside your car or truck. Wait there until electric utility workers deenergize the power. If your car is on fire or you see smoke, escape as safely as possible by making a clean, solid jump out and hop away with both feet together as far as you can. Warn others not to approach the scene.



- That downed power lines are extremely dangerous and even deadly?
- The current could spread throughout the ground and anything touching the ground?
- Stray voltage spreads like ripples on a pond?
- If you step from one "ripple" (voltage) to another you could be electrocuted?
- Downed lines could be hiding under standing water, ice or debris?

Learn more at:

 Safe
Electricity.org®