



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

June 2020

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

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DAVE MEYER RETIRES AFTER 26 YEARS



It was not the typical retirement for Dave Meyer, warehouse coordinator, as he stepped down on April 30.

After 26 years, it was a heartfelt goodbye over a conference call with all the employees and a promise of a party when everyone could be back together.

His start wasn't the most usual either.

Dave joined Elkhorn at the end of August 1993. He remembers that he started on a Monday after a weekend storm, so he got "broke in" right away.

At that time, the warehouse and the trucks were all in the main office building.

The high point of his career was laying out and setting up the warehouse as it is now in the building across the street from the Battle Creek Headquarter building. The warehouse was acquired in 2001 to house the growing equipment and inventory of the district.

He stated, "It proved very beneficial during the back to back ice storms in 2005, 2006 and 2007 winters."

Dave just plans on "taking it easy" and catching up on some "fix-it" jobs around the house.

He is looking forward to spending time with family and grandkids after the pandemic slows down.

We wish Dave the best in his retirement and look forward when we can celebrate his contribution to ERPPD.



Pictured clockwise from top left: Dave's employee picture from 1993; Dave working in the warehouse 2016; new warehouse set up 2002; warehouse in BC headquarter building; and left, Dave tries his hand at pole top rescue, 1993.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY - SUMMER SAVINGS

Heating in the winter and cooling in the summer account for almost 50% of a home's energy usage according to the US Department of Energy.

Take advantage of our energy efficiency incentives to save yourself some money on your electric bill.

First, making sure your air conditioning unit is running efficiently with a yearly tune up saves you money. The graphic to the right explains what is done for a tune up to have your A/C running at peak performance.

If you have a qualified technician do the tune up and turn it in, you can receive a **\$30 credit** on your electric bill.

When it comes to reducing energy use and cutting home energy costs, the most impact can be made by programming your thermostat. The right thermostat settings could yield energy savings of 8-15%, and new technology is making it easier than ever to achieve those settings.

Smart thermostats are Wi-Fi enabled and may be controlled remotely through a tablet, smartphone or voice control.

Some models use multiple sensors to monitor temperatures in various parts of the home for more balanced heating or cooling, track user temperature preferences and use the data to optimize your heating and cooling schedule, and some are designed for complex multi-stage systems that will control heating, cooling, dehumidifier and ventilation systems.

As a bonus, there is a **\$100 incentive** if you install a qualifying smart

Clean & Tighten Electrical Connections

Check Refrigerant Levels

Clean Condenser Coils

Clean Condenser Coils
Dirty coils can stop the condenser from absorbing heat and cause the coil to fail prematurely.

Check Refrigerant Levels
The technician will ensure the Freon in your air conditioning unit is up to manufacturer's specifications.

Clean & Tighten Electrical Connections
A tech will ensure connections are cleaned from any debris that could cause the unit to not turn on or stop working.

thermostat.
More information about these and other energy saving incentives can be found at www.erppd.com, under the "Energy" tab at the top of the page.
You can also call the office (402) 675-2185 during business hours and speak with Brian Suckstorf, Energy Services Representative, with any questions about the incentive programs.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Home cooling makes up a large portion of your energy bills. Try to keep the difference between the temperature of your thermostat setting and the outside temperature to a minimum. The smaller the difference, the more energy you will save.

FLAG DAY
Sunday, June 14, 2020

OPERATION ROUND UP MAKING A DIFFERENCE

What is Operation Round Up?
It is ERPPD customers' helping to better their communities.

Each month generous customers have their bills rounded up to the next dollar. This roughly 50 cents per service "change" then goes into the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Community Development Fund.

A five member board of trustees, made up of customers and at large members, then awards money to organizations within the ERPPD service territory - see the map below - that apply for funds for projects that are outside of their "normal" operating

budgets.

Those projects range from life saving equipment to celebrations and help students, volunteers, and communities have a better quality of life.

Funding requests and awards for the 2nd quarter of 2020 are listed below.

Pictured to the right are Rita Anson and Josh Napier members of the Ewing Young Members' Club, who accepted the contribution for the 150th celebration for the city of Ewing (Photo credit *Antelope County News*).

The money rounded up from ERPPD customers' bills will



help with entertainment costs for the event, helping Ewing celebrate a long, vibrant history.

Since the start of the Operation Round Up program in January 2018 through March 2020, \$73,687 has been collected.

The Community Development Fund has awarded \$51,760 of funding to 48 different organizations through May 2020.

For more information about the Community Development Fund or to apply for funding, please visit www.erppd.com and click on the Community Development tab at the top right of the page.

You can also call the office with any questions.



Community Development Fund Requests and Awards (May 2020)

| Organization | Project | Location | Amount Awarded |
|---|---|--------------|-------------------|
| Battle Creek Summer City Fest | Battle Creek Fun Days - August | Battle Creek | \$1,000.00 |
| Building Blocks | 2020 Christmas Party | Norfolk | \$1,000.00 |
| Elgin Volunteer Fire Department | Remote monitor (nozzel) for the front of a fire truck | Elgin | \$1,000.00 |
| Ewing Young Members Club, Inc | Ewing Summer Funfest 150th Celebration Activities | Ewing | \$1,000.00 |
| Lied Battle Creek Public Library Foundation | Summer Reading Program | Battle Creek | \$1,000.00 |
| Neligh Young Men's Club | Upgrade firing system for 4th of July fireworks | Neligh | \$1,000.00 |
| Newman Grove Public Library | New patron computers | Newman Grove | \$1,000.00 |
| St. Vincent De Paul Society | Assistance for poor | Norfolk | \$1,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | | \$8,000.00 |

| Third Quarter | Application Deadline July 20, 2020 | Board Meeting Date August 3, 2020 |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|

LOOK OUT

FOR POWER SOURCES

10'



Do not get within 10 feet (in any direction) of a power line.

Be aware of power lines when working on the roof.



Do not trim branches or limbs near power lines.

Be careful when carrying long or tall objects such as ladders or poles.



811



Before you dig, call 811 to have underground utilities marked.



Do not dig near padmount transformers or other utility equipment.

Safe Electricity.org

SAFETY

As you are out and about this summer, please be aware of your surroundings and especially aware of electrical lines and power sources. See the graphic to the left of some danger areas.

As a service to our customers we provide stickers (below) and window clings for equipment to remind you to "look up and out for power lines."

The window clings provide guidance on what to do if equipment comes in contact with power lines.

If you would like to put stickers or the window clings on your equipment, please call the office (402) 675-2185 during business hours and we will get them to you.

DANGER

LOOK UP AND LIVE
WATCH OUT FOR
ELECTRIC LINES

New Warehouse Coordinator



Garland Goracke, started as warehouse coordinator on May 1.

He took over after the retirement of Dave Meyer.

Garland has worked at ERPPD for 19 years as warehouse clerk. Previous to that, he worked at Goodyear for 16 years and had a private floor laying business.

Garland is a dedicated, hard-working employee.

We look forward to his success as the warehouse coordinator.