



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

May 2024

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 33, Number 5

SUBDIVISION I DIRECTOR TO RETIRE



From the GM - Mark Johnson

Mark Miller, Subdivision I board director and current board president, has announced he will be retiring from the board. Mark will be serving in his current position through the end of June. His last board meeting will be June 11th.



Mark has served on the board since 2002 and has been our Board President since 2018. I cannot thank Mark enough for

his dedication to our organization. Mark has displayed strong leadership and a steadfast commitment to fulfilling our mission throughout his years of service. I've had the privilege to work with Mark since being hired in June of 2023. He has always been willing to answer my

calls and has greatly assisted with my move to ERPPD. He will be missed.

Board Vice-President, Joe Thiele said: "It has been a pleasure working with Mark over the years. He has been a great asset not only to the Board, but to all associated with ERPPD. He demonstrates the qualities of being a leader and is a man of integrity and dignity. His dedication to our customers and employees will be greatly missed."

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Continuing education is important when serving on the board. Mark is pictured here with Robert Kee, Rod Zohner, and Duane King with their Certified Cooperative Director certificates (2004). Pictured below with the current board 2022.



CONTEST ALERT!

Comment on our People are the Power Facebook posts for your chance to be entered in a drawing for \$50 off your electric bill in December. Share your thoughts on each Facebook post published in February, May, August, and November.

The best comment from each posting will be published in the next month's edition of *The Wire* and that month's winner will receive some ERPPD swag!

Don't have Facebook? Mail or E-mail your response. Email: erppd@erppd.com

May post will ask: Share your most useful safety tip(s).

RETIRE - CON'T FROM FRONT PAGE

Applications:

We will be taking applications to fill Mark's unfinished term, which expires in January of 2027. Please review the statutory requirements found below.

Those interested in applying for this position should submit an application or letter of interest: in person - Attn: Board of Directors, 206 N. 4th, Battle Creek; by mail - Board of Directors ERPPD, P.O. Box 310, Battle Creek NE, 68715; or e-mail - mjohnson@erppd.com, no later than 4:30 p.m. Monday, July 2, 2024.

Candidates can contact the office

for the application or find it on our website, erppd.com, under career opportunities. Candidates will be contacted to set up a time to speak with myself and/or our Board Vice President about the expectations for the position. If you have questions, please contact me at 800-675-2185.



Some of the activities of a director that Mark Miller participated in; above: NPPD 345 kV substation tour, 2015; far left: building relationships with senators, 2024; and left giving comments at the 10,000 meter milestone celebration, 2022.

SUBDIVISION I BOARD OPENING CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

The Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Board of Directors announces it has a Subdivision I vacancy to fulfill two years of a six-year term.

Those interested in applying will need to meet statutory requirements: "A candidate for director shall be a registered voter residing within the chartered territory or subdivision as defined in the charter of the district or a retail customer duly certified in accordance with subsection (3) of section 70-604.03".

The chartered territory is as follows (see map):

Stanton County:

Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20, all in Township 24 North, Range 1 East;

Madison County:

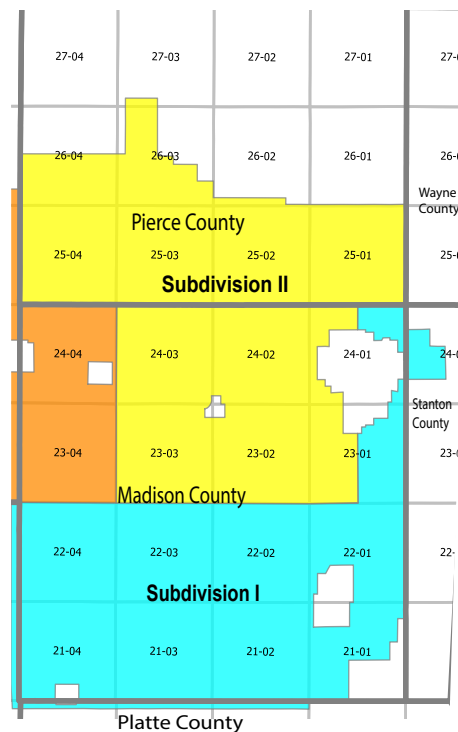
Township 21 North, Range 1 West, excluding the City of Madison, and excluding Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27,

28, 33, 34, 35, and 36; Township 22 North, Range 1 West, excluding the City of Madison, and excluding sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33; Township 23 North, Range 1 West, including only the following sections: 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36; Township 24 North, Range 1 West, including only the following sections: 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12; Township 21 North, Range 2 West; Township 22 North, Range 2 West; Township 21 North, Range 3 West; Township 22 North, Range 3 West; Township 21 North, Range 4 West, excluding the City of Newman Grove; Township 22 North, Range 4 West.

Candidates should also be able to attend the monthly board meetings generally held the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 am to 2 pm as well as other meetings and

educational offerings.

For more information please contact Mark Johnson at 800-675-2185.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Electricity has become such a necessary part of our lives that we tend to take it for granted, but using it safely is vitally important. Thousands of people in the United States are critically injured and electrocuted as a result of electrical fires and accidents in their own homes each year.

An average of 51,000 electrical home structure fires occur each year, claiming almost 500 lives, injuring more than 1,400 people, and causing more than \$1.3 billion in property damage (National Fire Protection Association, 2003-2007). In addition, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that nearly 400 people are electrocuted in the U.S. each year. Many electrocutions and home fires can be prevented simply by understanding basic electrical safety principles and adhering to safe practices.

Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, electrical safety should be a top priority in your home. Awareness of electrical hazards is the key to reducing the number of electrically-related home fires, injuries and deaths that occur every year. The infographic to the right explains how to correctly use power strips in your home to prevent injury or fire.

A great resource for electrical safety in your home is the Electrical Safety Foundation. Visit their website www.esfi.org for extensive electrical safety information.



DON'T PLUG THESE 15 THINGS INTO A POWER STRIP

It is fine to plug in some things into a power strip, such as computers, lamps, phones and other light-load electronics.

However, appliances that require a lot of power should not be plugged into a power strip. Do not use a power strip with the following appliances:

IN THE KITCHEN

- ✗ Refrigerators
- ✗ Microwave ovens
- ✗ Toasters
- ✗ Coffee makers
- ✗ Blenders
- ✗ Slow cookers
- ✗ Rice cookers

IN THE LAUNDRY ROOM


- ✗ Washing machines
- ✗ Dryers

ANYWHERE

- ✗ Sump pumps
- ✗ Space heaters
- ✗ Portable air conditioners

IN THE BATHROOM

- ✗ Hair dryers
- ✗ Curling irons
- ✗ Other hairstyling tools

 Do not overload power strips by plugging in appliances that consume more watts than the cord can handle. This can cause the power strip to overheat or start a fire.



OPERATION NEWS

New Apprentice:



Devon Borchers will be starting as an apprentice with the Battle Creek crews at the end of the month.

Devon just completed the NECC Utility Line program. He did his summer internship with Loup Public Power District in Columbus. He is no stranger to working and has had jobs in customer service, lawn service and steel work.

He has been working Friday's and holidays as a seasonal employee since November 2023. Devon is from Columbus NE. We are looking forward to having him on the team.

Interns:



Two interns will be working this summer.

Spencer Albers from Hartington,

will be with the Neligh crews. Spencer was in football all four years of high school and made Academic All State in 2022.



Carl Gray from Gillette, WY, will be working in Battle Creek.

Carl enjoys shooting and qualified to attend the national

shooting event in 2022.

Both are current students in the NECC Utility Line program.


ROW Spraying: Starting mid-May, depending on weather conditions, our contractor, Wilson Tree Service out of Norfolk will spray trees and vegetation in the right of ways in the western part of the ERPPD district in ranges; 7, 8, 9, and 10.

This is part of our vegetation management program that keeps trees from growing into the electric line and increases our reliability.

If you have questions about our vegetation management program please call the office at (800) 675-2185.



THE WOMEN OF PUBLIC POWER IN NEBRASKA



Nellie Gray Hill Benson, also known as "the first lady of Nebraska rural electrification" believed women should know what's going on in the world and should help make our country a better place. Below is a short timeline of some of her roles.

- ✦ 1924 -1925—One of the 1st Directors for the Polk County Farm Bureau
- ✦ 1926 -1929—President of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation.
- ✦ 1929 -1935—Served on the State Board of Control.
- ✦ 1936 - Elected as a director at The Polk County Rural Public Power District.
- ✦ 1939 - Vice President of the Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA)
- ✦ 1941 - First woman elected as president of the NREA.

SOURCE: POLK COUNTY ERPPD

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
 will be closed
Monday, May 27
 In observance of
Memorial Day
With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember

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|  <p>206 N 4TH ST PO Box 310 Battle Creek, NE 68715</p> <p>Office Hours: M - F 8:00AM - 4:30 PM</p> |  <p>General Manager: Mark Johnson CFO/Office Manager: Carmen Christensen Operations Manager: Todd Knutson</p> <p>Connect with us Online:</p>   <p>Customer Service: 402-675-2185 For Outages: 1-800-675-2185</p> | <p>Board of Directors</p> <p>Subdivision I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Miller, President • Dennis Kuchar, Treasurer • Hunter Frisch, Director <p>Subdivision II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Means, Secretary • Jerrell Dolesh, Director • Rod Zohner, Director <p>Subdivision III</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Thiele, Vice President • David Hoefler, Director • Raymond Payne, Director |
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