



82nd annual meeting highlights

The 82nd annual meeting was held at the Richland County Event Center June 6. The evening started with bucket truck rides and safety demonstrations. More than 200 members, along with approximately 300 guests, were in attendance for the meeting.

A new spin

Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) members may have noticed a few changes to this year's annual meeting. For starters, every member was mailed an annual

meeting report prior to the meeting. Therefore, all members received an update on LYREC, even if they were unable to attend the meeting. The annual meeting registration cards were eliminated. Registration was done electronically at the meeting.

For the past 35 years, Lower Yellowstone Electric served a roast beef dinner at the annual meeting. This year, LYREC served pork. Typically, the guest speaker gives legislative updates. This year's guest speaker, Rocky Erickson, entertained the members with local and state

sports-related stories. Even the door prize and scholarship drawings were changed to trim the meeting.

Co-op news

CEO Jason Brothen updated the membership on the projects from the year and what the cooperative is currently working toward in the coming year. Brothen stated that the load from the Richland substation has been transferred to the Helmut substation. The new Helmut substation will allow for future transmission growth. Brothen



Congratulations, scholarship winners! Lower Yellowstone Electric awards \$47,000 to local students, including, front row from left to right, Jace Johnson, Austin Stickland, Emily Swenson, Shelby Hier, Chantel Wilcoxon, Jaden Stickland, Alexis Sundheim, Alexis Smith, Holly Bouchard, Julen Idoate, Max Peters, Alex Lovegren, Kyle Topp; middle row from left to right, Colt Peters, Troy Monsen, Catalina Langwald, Carlee Candee, Josephine Langwald, Marianne Gartner, Bryar Lange, Jordan Slealey-Lange, Brynn Salsbury, Kelvin Hill, Hazen Fink, Cara Clemmer, Tess Ler, Connor Fink, Jerren Jensen, Ben Broadhead; back row from left to right, Rain Rehbein, Cody Johnson, Kaitlin Michael, Megan Greenwood, Emily Carda, Jenna Bieber, Peyton Beyerle, Madison Thiessen, Trey Bloesser, Owen Nelson, Tanner Lien, Kallie Candee, Rachel Prevost, Brittany Slater, Jordan Baxter, Jacob Kunda, Reagan Finsaas and Daniel Johnson.



Northern News Network's Rocky Erickson entertains the members with local and state sports stories.

reported on the pole testing progress and that the East Sidney substation is getting some minor upgrades and should be energized in the fall. Brothen also reported on the meter changes and the outages.

President Allen Thiessen reported

that LYREC is in good financial condition. Thiessen reported that LYREC's board of directors approved a capital credit retirement of \$2 million this year. Thiessen also reported on LYREC's power suppliers, and that there is no plan for a rate increase this year.

Guest updates

Soda Rice, LYREC's 2017 Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., representative, shared her Youth Tour experience with the membership.

Dylan Klasna, chairman of Operation Round Up, reported on the charitable giving program and thanked the membership for their support.

Directors elected

Jim Vitt was nominated for District 1 and Colin Gartner

for District 2. After no floor nominations were made, it was announced that Jim Vitt was re-elected for District 1 and Colin Gartner was re-elected for District 2.

Scholarships and prizes

The meeting ended with awarding 47 college scholarships. These scholarships are funded with the unclaimed capital credits which may only be used for educational purposes. Sharon Hill was the recipient of the grand prize Medora Musical package. Henry Maurer and Addison Christenson were the lucky bike winners.

LYREC would also like to thank all the members who attended the 82nd annual meeting. If you missed this year's meeting, we look forward to having you join us for next year's meeting. ■



The dog days of August are back!

The summer has flown by, but we still have a few weeks of hot weather left before we feel the relief of autumn. Cooling your home is a large part of your monthly energy use and can yield significant savings by doing just a few things:

1. **Air filter:** Purchase a jumbo pack of new HVAC air filters and replace your old filters monthly. Remove anything that may be blocking the return air grille, including dust buildup. Having maximum air flow will make your home more comfortable and increase efficiency.
2. **Direct sunlight:** We can recall the difference in returning to a car that was parked in the sun as opposed to the shade. The same is true when sun pours into your home through the windows. Shades, blinds and drapes are a great way to block radiant heat that is a result of direct sunlight and help your cooling system do its job. Landscaping can also be used on the south side of the home to block direct sunlight from entering your home.
3. **Air infiltration:** Gaps around exterior doors and old seals can allow heat to enter your home. Although the gaps may be small, the continual infiltration can make a big difference. Door sweeps and fresh seals can block air penetration and keep your home cooler. ■



MEDORA DISCOUNTS OFFERED

Planning a trip to Medora this summer? Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) is able to offer its members a discount by being a Touchstone Energy® member. Simply call 1-800-MEDORA-1 and give the discount code of "Touch 2018" for a 15 percent discount on any of the following during any night of the season:

Things to do:

- Medora Musical

- Pitchfork steak fondue
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course

Lodging at any of the following:

- Elkhorn Quarters
- Badlands Motel
- Rough Riders Hotel

LYREC members can also receive 20 percent off admission at the Cowboy Hall of Fame by providing the discount code "Touch 2018."

Valuable rebates offered by co-op

If you are a Lower Yellowstone Rural Electric Cooperative (LYREC) member, we have several rebates available.

Electric water heaters:

- At least a 40-gallon tank.
- \$4-per-gallon rebate, not to exceed \$300.
- Insulation factor of R12-13, EER (at least) 0.9.
- At least a 10-year warranty. (Extended warranties do not qualify.)

Electric heat:

- Rebate amount of \$25 per kilowatt of installed load of electric heat.
- It can be electric baseboard, electric plenum heaters or heat pumps.
- Space heating is the only use for the heater.
- The member may put the heaters under the electric heat rate program. (Contact our office for more information about the electric heat rate program.)

Heat pump:

- Rebate amount of \$150 per ton of installed heat pump.
- The heat pump can be either air- to-air or ground-source.

Service upgrade:

- LYREC agrees to rebate its member up to and not exceeding \$200 for upgrading a residential member's electric service.
- The cooperative retains the right to specify the brand, size and manufacturer of its choice.

Double-throw switch:

- LYREC agrees to rebate its member up to and not exceeding \$200 for installing a double throw-switch on a residential member's service.
- The cooperative retains the right to specify brand, size and manufacturer of its choice.

Grain drying:

- LYREC agrees to rebate its member \$30 per horsepower for an electric natural air grain drying setup on a grain bin.
- The cooperative retains the right to specify brand, size and manufacturer of its choice.

The member must provide proof of purchase for any of the above rebates. For more information on rebates, please call LYREC.

3200 W. Holly - Sidney, MT 59270


Phone: 406-488-1602
 Fax: 406-488-6524
 Website: www.lyrec.com

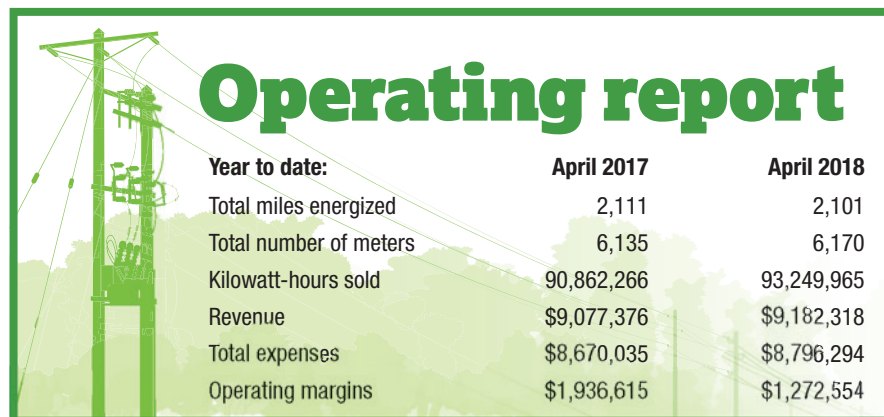
TRUSTEES

Allen Thiessen President
 Greg Rauschendorfer Vice President
 John Redman Secretary/Treasurer
 Colin Gartner Trustee
 Dennis Schmierer Trustee
 Dennis Nelson Trustee
 Jim Vitt Trustee

EMPLOYEES

Jason Brothen General Manager
 Brenda Bond Chief Financial Officer
 Jami Propp Member Service Manager
 Kyle Kavanagh IT Coordinator
 Margo Zadow Billing Coordinator
 Pam Wilcoxon Plant Accountant
 Tiffani Hentges Customer Service Representative
 Melissa Buckley CSR/Staff Assistant
 Chris Hillesland Chief Operations Officer
 Rich Gorde Foreman
 Eric McPherson Foreman
 Kevin Goff Operations Assistant
 Kelly Keyser Operations Manager
 Lee Alvstad Journeyman Lineman
 Aaron Eide Journeyman Lineman
 Bryan Franck Journeyman Lineman
 Jesse Obergfell Journeyman Lineman
 Blade Jankovsky Journeyman Lineman
 Tanner Roth Journeyman Lineman
 Ryder Peterson Journeyman Lineman
 Brandon Mueller Master Electrician
 Dan Gieser Energy Management Supervisor
 Mike Eberling Mechanic
 Richard Tremblay Service Technician
 Bo Kindopp GIS/Easement Technician
 Corey Candee Chief Information Officer
 Edwin Gatzke Line Locator/Meter Reader
 Justin King Warehouse Supervisor

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Operating report

Year to date:	April 2017	April 2018
Total miles energized	2,111	2,101
Total number of meters	6,135	6,170
Kilowatt-hours sold	90,862,266	93,249,965
Revenue	\$9,077,376	\$9,182,318
Total expenses	\$8,670,035	\$8,796,294
Operating margins	\$1,936,615	\$1,272,554