

31st year 9th Issue

October 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Can You Dig It? 1

October is Co-op Month 2

Contact Information/Shawna Glendy 3

Boardroom 4



CO-OP CONNECTIONS LOCAL BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS

(CHECK WEBSITE FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL DISCOUNTS):

- Herren Brothers True Value
- Same As It Once Was
- Country Corner Hair Shop
- Miller Soap Company
- Bloomers

Can You Dig It?

An underground utility line is **damaged once every 9 minutes** because someone didn't call 811.

Call 811, the "Call Before You Dig Number," at least **2 business days** prior to digging.


811 locators **do not detect** underground sprinkler systems, invisible fences, data communication systems, private water systems, or gas piping to a garage.

Even if you have previously had underground utilities marked, **utilities can shift**, so it's best to call before starting a new project.

Once **all of your utilities** have been located, then you can start your digging project!

Learn more at

Safe Electricity.org



Rain or shine,
day or night,
we're here for you.

**October is National
Co-op Month.**

#PowerOn

Since 1930, National Co-op Month has been October. Your Co-op, Niobrara Electric Association, exists to serve our members/owners. Our goal every day is to provide safe, affordable and reliable service. It takes a diverse group of people in a variety of roles to accomplish this goal each and every day. From our office staff to our crews in the field—we invite you to join us in celebrating #PowerOn this October.

Early September snow brought on a day of outages from the snow laden lines, and the trees heavy with wet snow accumulation getting into power lines.

As we spent the day repairing line and cleaning up damages, our office spent hours on the phone speaking with or trying to reach members regarding outages.

We have a number of old phone numbers in our system that need to be removed and replaced with current member numbers.

We never share your personal, private information - like cell phone numbers.

Since members have largely gone from listed land lines to private cell numbers, it is vital that we have this contact information up to date and in our system.

Help us provide our best service to you by making sure we have the information we need. Please call the office or write your current contact information on your bill stub.



Amid a whirlwind of activity this summer, Shawna Glendy joined the NEA team as the Executive Assistant. The pace hasn't slowed but she is thriving in her new role.

Asked what her thoughts are making the change from leading her department within Wyoming Department of Corrections to her role with NEA,

"This has been a very exciting time! The Board of Directors and fellow employees of NEA have been very welcoming and helpful during this transition. Everyone is working hard to teach me what I need to know about the non-profit electric cooperative business and I can say we have a great team working hard every day for the members to ensure affordable, reliable energy is at your doorstep! I am proud to be a part of the NEA family and am very excited to see what the future brings!"

nea@niobrara-electric.org

PO Box 697 Lusk, WY 82225

"This institution is an equal
opportunity provider and
employer."



Touchstone EnergySM

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

7:30 am—5:00 pm

Fridays 7:30 am—
4:00 pm

Electrician Department

6:00 am—4:30 pm (M-TH)

Outages1-800-322-0544
or 307-334-3221

Phones are answered 24 hours a
day. Phones will be answered by
Niobrara Electric Association
during office hours and SRS will
take all other calls and dispatch
NEA personnel.

The cooperative model nationwide is to deliver safe, affordable, and reliable power. We at NEA have been working hard to bring that to the members we serve. As a nation we are experiencing very challenging times with COVID-19, presidential election, and uncertainty in the economy. NEA has not stopped working for our members best interests. We are currently working diligently to obtain a second delivery point from Rocky Mountain Power approximately 20 miles north of Douglas.

This delivery point is a major deal for the members of NEA. Currently we have one feed that comes from Glendo that runs to NEA's Podolak substation. If something happens to that line every single member of NEA loses power. The second feed North of Douglas will allow us to sectionalize our lines which will allow us to provide power to those not impacted by the outage area rather than the entire system being down. The Board of Directors and NEA have been trying for over 40 years to get this done to provide the most reliable service possible.

Reliability has been a major focus for us at NEA, so I wanted to give you an update on two additional projects. We are currently in the process of rebuilding our distribution lines from our Van Tassel Substation East to Harrison. This will give our Eastern members a more reliable feed. Additionally, we are rebuilding our transmission line from US Hwy 20 North to Kirtley Rd. This transmission project will give our members more reliable power North from Lusk and West towards Lance Creek. Our current line is overloaded and in need of costly maintenance. Reducing the load and maintenance costs while increasing reliability and safety will improve the service to our members while helping us keep the members rates as low as possible, which is our ultimate goal.

I ask that you please contact me if you have questions or concerns about your electric service. I greatly appreciate all our member owners and I hope you all stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Kevin Inman, General Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|----------------|
| John Hester | 1 | Keeline, WY | President |
| Andy Barnette | 2 | Lusk, WY | |
| David Keener | 3 | Marsland, NE | Sec./Treas |
| Bill Wilson | 3 | Harrison, NE | |
| Jack Hammond | 1 | Lance Creek, WY | |
| Jim Dunn | 3 | Harrison, NE | |
| Neal Wurdeman | 2 | Lusk, WY | |
| Andy Greer | 1 | Lance Creek, WY | |
| JD Wasserburger | 2 | Lusk, WY | Vice President |

Board Minutes .

- Manager Inman gave an Operations and Safety Report—no accidents or close call. Levi Clarks promotion and 90 day delinquent issues were discussed
- Manager Inman reported capital margins are better than the previous year, cost of purchases are down as is consumption. Pole testing and easements were discussed.
- Duane Highly from Tri-State presented information on new transmission lines and delivery point.
- Director Keener spoke on NREA business.
- Director Greer spoke on WREA business.
- Director Wilson spoke on Tri-State business