



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

**SEDGWICK COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

currentnews

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

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Kyle Pipkin
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Contact Information

Headquarters
P.O. Box 220
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Cheney, KS 67025
316-542-3131
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FROM THE MANAGER

Co-ops Vote Welcomes Legislators



Scott Ayres

As a leader in the communities we serve, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative continues to engage our member-owners and policy-makers through Co-ops Vote,

a non-partisan campaign focused on boosting voter turnout in areas we serve and educating voters and policymakers on issues important to rural Kansans.

As part of this year's Co-ops Vote activities, Sedgwick County Electric Co-op along with Butler Electric Cooperative hosted Kansas legislators and local officials at Flint Hills National Golf Club located in Andover on Nov. 4, 2019, to discuss topics related to the delivery of affordable and reliable electricity in rural areas. Lawmakers in attendance were Rep. Emil Bergquist, 91st District; Rep. John Carmichael, 92nd District; Rep. Will Carpenter, 75th District; Rep. Renee Erickson, 87th District; Rep. Nick Hoheisel, 97th District; Rep. J.C. Moore, 93rd District; Debbie Luper with Congressman Ron Estes office; and

Tyler York from Jerry Moran's office.

Staff of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, who helped coordinate the event, discussed issues including lack of access to high-speed, reliable broadband, renewable generation, retail wheeling and utility rate making for non-profit electric co-ops. KEC staff also outlined the economic impact electric co-ops have on their communities and the United States, supporting nearly 612,000 American jobs and contributing \$440 billion in U.S. Gross Domestic Product between 2013 and 2017, or \$88 billion annually. In 2017 alone, electric cooperatives generated \$22.5 billion in federal, state and local taxes.

This is an opportunity for not only our local representatives but also for

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Manager/CEO Scott Ayres (left) visits with electoral candidates to discuss issues affecting electric Co-ops.

Co-ops Vote ...

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Kansas Electric Cooperatives CEO Bruce Graham (left) provides updates on legislative proposals at the Co-p Vote event.

our board of directors and key staff to interact with those leaders and to be able to share our local concerns with our elected officials and hear back from them the issues they're facing.

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative is committed to providing safe, reliable, innovative energy solutions for you, our member-owners. This means being more than an electricity provider; it means being a partner in economic development and other activities that improve the lives of our members.

Nominating Committee Volunteers Needed

The Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors is seeking volunteers for the nominating committee.

The committee's purpose is to select nominees for three positions on the cooperative's Board of Directors. The election of directors will be held at the annual meeting on April 7, 2020.

The committee will meet Feb. 13 at the cooperative's office in Cheney. A meal will be provided.

The Board has historically requested the nominating committee put forth at least two names for each seat. The committee members are responsible for contacting possible candidates.

If you would like to be considered for the committee, please contact Executive Assistant Jacque Matchett at 316-542-3131 or jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop by

JAN. 17, 2020.

Why is My Power Out?

When power goes out, we are working hard to restore it.

We hate it when the power goes out just as much as you do. When there is an outage, we work hard to restore service as quickly and safely as possible.

Many times, the reasons for outages are beyond our control. Here are the main reasons the power goes out:

- **STORMS** – Conditions brought on by storms such as high winds, ice and lightning can interrupt service. Lightning itself does not impact outages as much as people think, but it can strike trees and cause branches or even whole trees to fall on distribution lines. Lightning can cause a problem; however, if it strikes substation equipment, such as a large transformer. Strong, high winds and ice that accumulates on lines can also impact distribution.
- **ANIMALS** – It is estimated that **11%** of all outages are caused by our furry friend the squirrel. They love to chew on the weatherproof coating around lines. Other critters like turkeys, snakes and seagulls can interfere with service too.
- **TREES AND VEGETATION** – Branches, limbs or trunks can fall on lines and

vegetation (such as vines) can grow around poles, lines or other equipment. Ice and wind can make matters worse. This is why we continuously work to keep rights of way near power lines and equipment clear.

- **ACCIDENTS** – Cars, trucks and farm equipment that collide with a utility pole can cause an outage.
- **PUBLIC DAMAGE** – Unsafe digging, equipment or line damage, vandalism or theft can all cause interruptions in the energy chain.
- **OVERLOAD** – This happens where demand spikes, such as when too many air conditioners run on a hot summer day, causing blackouts or brownouts.
- **EQUIPMENT ISSUES** – We maintain and inspect all of our lines and equipment regularly; however, sometimes equipment malfunctions and we address those problems as soon as they happen.

Please contact Sedgwick County Electric at 316-542-3131 with any questions about outages or to learn more about the steps we take to provide safe and reliable service.



Apprentice Lineman Tommy Hill conducts a monthly substation inspection.



ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR



WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUNE 18-25, 2020



COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP



COLORADO

JULY 10-16, 2020



FREE TRIP & \$500 SCHOLARSHIP
APPLY BY **FEB. 14**
SEND APPLICATIONS TO

JMATCHETT@SEDGWICKCOUNTYELECTRIC.COOP | P.O. BOX 220, CHENEY KS 67025

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS

Please submit the application below to Sedgwick County Electric Co-op, P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025 or scan and email to jmatchett@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop by **FEB. 14, 2020**. Please complete both sections on page 16C and 16D.

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

2019-2020 Grade: _____ School: _____

Gender: M or F Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Student's Email: _____

I AGREE THAT ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION IS ACCURATE AND TRUE.

Applicant Signature: _____

I HEREBY GRANT PERMISSION TO THE ABOVE APPLICANT TO COMPETE IN THE YOUTH TOUR COMPETITION.

Parent's Name: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

List activities you have participated in at your school and any special honors you have received, such as class officer, plays, music, activities, etc.

Activities	Years	Remarks & Honors

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List extracurricular activities you have participated in, such as FFA, 4-H, church, community, etc.

Activities

Years

Remarks & Honors

List any hobbies, talents, special interests, etc. _____

What are your future plans? _____

Anything else you'd like to tell us about yourself? _____

Describe how electric cooperatives operate based on the seven cooperative principles. Share which of the seven cooperative principles you think is most important and why.

Working on the LINE

During the week of Nov. 11, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative line crew completed work replacing the Andale substation transformer. Upgrading the substation transformer was part of the cooperative's scheduled work plan improvements. Sedgwick County Electric Co-op identifies changes or updates needed to aging equipment through the cooperative's work plan which serves as a resource for the engineering and operations department along with the cooperative management to follow.



New Andale substation transformer installed to provide projected increase demand usage.