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316-542-3131 or 866-542-4732
www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop



Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

**SEDGWICK COUNTY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

currentnews

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative

Board of Directors

Clint DeVore
President

Cindy Foster
Vice President

Margie Conyac
Secretary/Treasurer

Joe Baalmann
Director

Donald Metzen
Director

Eugene Scheer
Director

Alan J. Smarsh
Director

Rex Smith
Director

Stan Theis
Director

Staff

Scott Ayres
General Manager/CEO

Lora Alloway
Office Manager

Kyle Pipkin
Line Superintendent

Contact Information

Headquarters
P.O. Box 220
1355 S. 383rd St. West
Cheney, KS 67025
316-542-3131
Fax: 316-542-3943

FROM THE MANAGER

Reliable Power for Today — and Tomorrow

Ring in a new year sparks a sense of renewed hope and optimism about the future. As the General Manager/CEO of Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative, for me, it's a time to reflect on where we are and where we're going. At the heart of this reflection, I think about ways we can better serve you, the members of our cooperative.

Our team at Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative is always looking ahead, exploring ways to innovate and use new technologies to improve our services. As our nation increasingly relies on electricity to power the economy, keeping the lights on has never been more important. We're committed to powering — and empowering — our community at a cost local families and businesses can afford.

So how are we working to ensure reliable and affordable power while adapting to a changing energy landscape and our community's evolving needs?

One critical component of reliable

power is the mix of energy resources used to generate the electricity that keeps the lights on across our territory. Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative purchases electricity from Kansas Electric Power Cooperative Inc. (KEPCo). To help

subsidize monthly electricity requirements, the cooperative has two 1 megawatt solar farms along with a diesel generator. From there, we distribute electricity to homes and businesses throughout our community. Our current energy resource mix is made up of 64.4% non-greenhouse gas emitting resources, 19% solar/wind, 24.2% coal, 27.8% nuclear, 11.3% gas/oil, 17.4% hydro and 0.6% other.

We're increasingly using more electricity generated from renewable energy sources, but we still depend on a diverse energy mix to ensure reliable



Scott Ayres

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Happy Holidays

From our co-op family to yours, wishing you
a joyous holiday season and a peaceful new year!

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON DEC. 25, DEC. 26, AND JAN. 1.

Ayala Promoted to Journeyman Lineman



Victor Ayala with his journeyman lineman training certificate.

In September 2023, **VICTOR AYALA** accepted the journeyman lineman position. Ayala began his career with Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative in May 2017 as a summer intern. After attending Pratt Community College's Electrical Power Technology program, Ayala was hired as an equipment operator in September 2017. Ayala continued to gain cooperative experience and moved his way up through the cooperative's apprentice program.

With hard work and dedication, Ayala completed the necessary hours to advance to journeyman lineman in September 2023. Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative would like to thank Victor for his dedicated service.

Reliable Power for Today — and Tomorrow

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power that's available to our members whenever they need it.

In addition to managing a reliable energy mix, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative is using technology to enhance our local grid, limit service disruptions and improve outage response times.

Advanced metering technology, also known as AMI, enables two-way communication between the co-op and consumer-members. In the event of a power outage, AMI helps pinpoint the exact location of the outage and can even analyze damaged or tampered meters. AMI helps Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative save money with real-time data, and ultimately improves power reliability for our entire community.

Proactive tree trimming is another way

we limit service disruptions. Scheduled trimming keeps power lines clear from overgrown limbs that are likely to fall. We use advanced mapping software to better maintain the environment while providing more reliable service.

One of the best methods for improving our services to you is monitoring trends and leading practices from other electric co-ops in Kansas and across the country. Learning from other co-ops is one of the many benefits of the cooperative business model because for us, it's about cooperation, not competition.

As we turn our focus to 2024, Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative will continue working to provide the reliable, affordable and safe electricity you expect and deserve — for today and tomorrow.

Board of Directors Election Notification PROCESS AND QUALIFICATIONS

SECTION 4.02. ELECTION AND TENURE OF OFFICE. Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the members of the Cooperative from nine (9) Director Territories and shall serve for a term of three (3) years, or until their successors shall have been elected. The Cooperative shall stagger Director Terms by dividing the total number of authorized Directors into groups of three (3) and Members must annually elect three (3) Directors.

The Cooperative members shall elect Directors by a plurality of the votes cast, and Cooperative members may not vote for write-in candidates, by proxy, and there shall be no nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by ballot and from the members of the Cooperative. The individual presiding at the annual meeting shall announce the results of the election.

All persons desiring to run for an open seat on the Board of Directors shall submit an Application for Director to the Cooperative at least 60 days before the Annual Meeting. The Cooperative shall then post a list of candidates running for Director

on the Cooperative's website at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual Meeting of the Cooperative.

SECTION 4.03. QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A DIRECTOR CANDIDATE AND BE ELECTED AND REMAIN A DIRECTOR. Any natural person shall be eligible to apply to be a director candidate, be elected and remain a Director of the Cooperative who:

(a) Is a member and bona fide resident in the area served or to be served by the Cooperative for at least three years; and

(b) Has not been employed by the Cooperative within the past thirty-six (36) months; and

(c) Is not in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling energy, energy services or energy supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the Cooperative, and

(d) Is not closely related to an incumbent Director or an employee of the Cooperative. The term "closely related" means the relationship of spouse,

POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION

The following territories will be voted on during the annual membership meeting currently scheduled for April 9, 2024.

- ▶ **TERRITORY 4** – West of 167th St. W., East of 295th St. W., South of US-54.
- ▶ **TERRITORY 5** – West of 407th St. W (170th Ave.), West side of Cheney Lake.
- ▶ **TERRITORY 6** – East of 407th St. W (170th Ave.), South of 29th St. N. (Smoots Creek Road), West of 167th St. W., North of US-54.

father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandparent, and grandchild existing by reason of blood, marriage, or adoption; and

(e) Other reasonable qualifications, procedures or policies approved by the Board.

Upon establishment of the fact that a Director is holding office in violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the Board of Directors shall remove such Director from office. Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever, the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Attention High School Sophomores & Juniors

Sedgwick County Electric is sending two students on a **FREE SUMMER TRIP PLUS A \$500 SCHOLARSHIP TO ANY COLLEGE OR TRADE SCHOOL!** We will also be awarding **TWO ADDITIONAL STUDENTS WITH A \$500 SCHOLARSHIP.** To be eligible, a parent or legal guardian must be an active residential member of Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative. Here's how to **APPLY BY FEB. 9, 2024:**

ONLINE

www.sedgwickcountyelectric.coop

MAIL

P.O. Box 220, Cheney, KS 67025.

EMAIL

jluhrs@sedgwickcountyelectric.coop

APPLY FOR A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

JUNE 14-20, 2024
AN ALL-EXPENSES-PAID TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

An all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., sponsored by your local electric co-op.

A week of visiting historic monuments, touring world-class museums and meeting elected officials.

An opportunity to develop lifelong friendships with delegates from across the country!

FIND OUT MORE

CYLC

JULY 12-18, 2024

☆☆☆ COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP ☆☆☆

LEADERSHIP
Learn about the co-op business model and develop leadership skills.

COMMUNITY
Students from Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming create a candy co-op, run camp activities and make meaningful connections.

MEMORIES
From rafting on the Colorado River to exploring downtown Steamboat Springs — you'll be sure to capture memories to remember for a lifetime.

COLORADO Camp

LEARN MORE

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

2023-2024 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 SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION.

Parents Name: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

Parent or Guardian Phone Number: _____

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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Attention High School Sophomores & Juniors *Continued from page 12C* ▶

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?

What moment in American history do you wish you had been a part of and what would you have contributed?



UPGRADE UNLOCKED

NEW LOOK. NEW EXPERIENCE. SAME SMARTHUB.

Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative's online and mobile account management site is getting a facelift. From the SmartHub account dashboard you'll see:

- ▶ Quick links that will lead you to all the other features of SmartHub.
- ▶ Usage overview graphs to help you analyze and understand your energy usage trends.
- ▶ Get the latest communications and alerts from Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative.
- ▶ Pay button to make quick payments right from the home screen.

SmartHub is available to all Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative members. If you haven't already created a SmartHub account now is a great time to do so. If you have questions regarding the redesign or need help with account login, please don't hesitate to contact the office at 316-542-3131.

