



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

501 S. Huston Ave, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330
866-784-5500
www.twinvalleyelectric.coop

TWIN VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE NEWS

Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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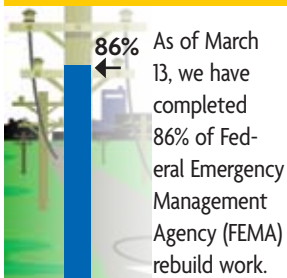
Wayne Revell
Trustee

Robert Webster, Jr.
Trustee

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Contact Us
501 S. Huston Ave., P.O. Box 368
Altamont, KS 67330
620-784-5500
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FEMA Rebuild Update



FROM THE MANAGER

Join us at Annual Meeting April 19



Ron Holsteen

Last month, I reported that the Board of Directors had set April 19 as the date for this year's Annual Meeting of the Members.

The meeting will be held in the Labette County

High School cafeteria and registration will open at 6 p.m. with dinner served from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

The nominating committee has met, and a short bibliography of each of the candidates is posted on page 16-C of this newsletter. One director will be elected from each of the three districts.

This year will feature speakers from the Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo), our wholesale power supplier and the Kansas Electric Cooperatives (KEC), our statewide electric cooperative association. KEPCo's Director of Information Services, **SHAWN GEIL**, will address power supply issues and KEC's Vice-President of Member

Services, **DOUG SHEPHERD**, will visit with you concerning statewide cooperative issues.

Last year's winners of the "Government in Action" Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., and the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO, will report on their experiences. The winners of the 2012 trips will also be announced.

Reports will be given on last year's activities. Last year was another good year financially for the cooperative, but our wholesale power costs are continuing to increase significantly. Some of the increases in wholesale power costs are due to a new rate tariff put into effect last year by KEPCo, but much of it is due to the increased demand set by our members last August.

The annual meeting is an excellent opportunity for you to visit with the staff and directors of your cooperative and learn more about the issues we are dealing with and learn how you can participate and be more involved in your cooperative. We hope to see you April 19.

Mark Your Calendars!

The 2012 Annual Meeting for members of Twin Valley Electric is Thursday, April 19, at 7 p.m. following a meal at 6 p.m. at the Labette County High School cafeteria.

We hope to see you there!

April 2012						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOTES FROM OPERATIONS

Restoring Storm Outages



William Worthy

No matter what state I'm in, every resident will say the same thing, "If you don't like the weather in (fill in the blank), give it 15 minutes and it'll change." On February 28, 2012, the weather

changed when a fast moving line of storms blew through and left a lot of destruction in its wake. The start of Spring is not officially here until the calendar turns to March 20, but Mother Nature let us know that she runs by her own schedule and she'll bring in the storms when she wants.

When the storm passed, more than 90 percent of Labette County was without power. Most of Twin Valley Electric Cooperative's members, who were without power, were affected by transmission line poles that were down serving the Altamont Substation and the Oswego metering point. These delivery points are served by Westar's 69kV transmission line. The transmission line is set up on a loop, to be able to serve from either direction and we thought the substation and meter point would be up and running after switching was complete. Upon further investigation, poles were discovered down on both sides of the loop and one side would need to be repaired before service could be restored. Westar started working on the line that runs down Wallace Road. Only four poles were down on Wallace, compared to nine on Meade Road. Rebuilding began, but the digging took time due to rock that made it a slow go.

Also, some of our members in the Chetopa area were left in the dark when Empire District Electric lost a 34.5 kV pole feeding the Chetopa Substation.

As Westar and Empire dealt with their issues, Twin Valley's linemen started responding to calls of poles and wire down. Nine poles on Kiowa Road, north of 160 Highway four poles on Elk Road, north of 160 Highway; three poles on Ford Road, south of 160 Highway; and various single poles scattered here and there. Twin Valley lost 22 poles all together.

We dealt with tin and building materials wrapped around our lines and entire buildings that had blown into our poles and guy wires. No matter the issue, your Twin Valley linemen went to work and kept going through the night and the next day to get the lights on. Shortly after Westar energized their transmission line, Twin Valley crews had the majority of the needed repairs made and the lights were turned back on in most areas.

As stated in previous articles, we concentrate on doing the work that will get the lights on to the most people and then go to

work on the isolated outages. I'd like to thank the members who called in and their patience and understanding as the crews worked to restore the power. The linemen and office staff worked hard with safety and service always on their mind, and I am proud of the team we have working for you. None of the Twin Valley linemen or the office staff that were handling the phones knew what awaited them at their own homes, but they knew their families were safe and that let them concentrate on getting your lights back on.

As always, I look forward to hearing feedback on this article or ideas for future articles. I can be reached at wworthy@wavewls.com.



One of nine poles down on Kiowa Road, just north of 160 Highway.



The storm brought scenes like this one where a steel and tin hog barn was wrapped around a single phase pole and guy wire.

Meet Your Board Candidates

District 1

BRYAN COOVER and his wife, Debbie, live in the rural Galesburg area and have seven children.

Coover attended and graduated from Kansas State University. He owns and operates Coover Feed in Galesburg.

He enjoys woodworking, bee keeping, tending to his cow-calf operation and spending time with family.

Coover has been a Twin Valley member since 1990 and an active Director for 12 years. He currently is the Vice President on the board.



Bryan Coover

District 2

FRED VAIL and his wife, Anita, live in the rural Edna area.

Vail retired in 2007 from John Deere after 38 years as a Quality Engineer. Since retirement, he has stayed busy farming and ranching.

"I am interested in serving in different capacities for the community," Vail said. "Now that I am retired, I have more time to dedicate to my community."

Vail has been a Twin Valley member since 1987.



Fred Vail

District 2

RONALD MCNICKLE and his wife, Carolyn, live in the rural Cheryvale area. They have three grown children.

McNickle attended Kansas State University and served in the United States Air Force.

He raises cattle and sheep, and hays. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his grandchildren, attending their activities and is an active Gideon.

McNickle has been a Twin Valley member since 1962 and an active Director for 12 years. He is currently the Secretary for the board.



Ronald McNickle

District 3

ROBERT "BOB" WEBSTER, JR and his wife, Joyce, live in the rural Altamont area and have three children.

He attended Missouri Southern State College and graduated from Labette Community College. He is employed at the Parsons State Hospital & Training Center. Webster enjoys being active in church and working on his small farm.

He has been a Twin Valley member since 1992 and a Twin Valley Director for 12 years.

"I've really enjoyed serving these past 12 years on the board and hope to serve many more," Webster said.



Robert Webster, Jr

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Go Paperless Today

Whether you're busy taking care of your family, or just always on the

go, we know how hard it is to get everything done in 24 hours. That's why Twin Valley Electric is proud to offer online bill pay.

You have the ability to pay your bills online, view your account history and your statements with our Online Bill Pay system. Just visit our website at www.twinvalleyelectric.coop and click the Online Bill Pay icon. You'll be directed to our secure site. Once there you will need to create a user ID, the first time you log on. You can then view and pay your bill online. It's really that easy.

Our Online Bill Pay system is secure and designed to protect your account and payment information. Payment methods include personal check, or use your Visa or MasterCard card.



Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't get your electric bill caught in a spin cycle! When doing laundry, use cold water. If your dryer has a moisture meter, use it to prevent over-drying clothes—50 minutes often works best for a full load. And remember to check your lint filter each time before you run a load to help your dryer run more efficiently. Find more ways to save at TogetherWeSave.com.



**I CHANGED MY AIR FILTER.
AND MY WARDROBE.**

**Saving money on my electric bill seemed like a good
enough reason to update my closet. Find out what
you can do at TogetherWeSave.com.**



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