



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1511 14,000 Rd, P.O. Box 368, Altamont, KS 67330

866-784-5500

www.twinvalleyelectric.coop

**TWIN VALLEY
ELECTRIC CO-OP**

NEWS

Twin Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Board of Trustees

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Trustee

Office Hours

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

Contact Us

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Concern for Community

In 2018, Twin Valley donated
\$1,403.98 to Food for Kids.

FROM THE MANAGER

See You at the Annual Meeting

Planning has begun for the Twin Valley Electric Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the Labette County High School Cafeteria in Altamont.

Twin Valley is governed by a board of directors. Each year, three director positions open after previous director three-year terms have expired. Twin Valley's bylaws state that one director shall be elected from each district each year for a term of three years as terms of office expire or until successors have been elected and qualified. Those directors whose terms are expiring this year are **BRYAN HUCKE**, District 1; **DAN PETERSON**, District 2; and **LARRY "DAVID" HUBBELL**, District 3.

The bylaws require the board to appoint a nominating committee not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days before the annual meeting. The committee shall consist of not less than five nor more than 13 members who shall be selected from different areas of the co-op. No member of the board may serve on this committee.

The board has appointed the following members to the nominating committee: **PHILLIP BILLMAN, PERRY SORRELL, LARRY GREGORY, KEITH TUCKER, KYLE ZWAHLEN, GARY HUCKE, PHYLLIS HUBBELL, RUSSELL HINE, CATHY KIBLER AND PAM BAKER**. The nominating committee met at Twin Valley's office at

6:30 p.m. on Feb. 6, and prepared a list of nominations for director positions. Those nominated are as follows:

► District 1

BRYAN HUCKE

► District 2

JOHN BEBB JR

KEVIN GUDDE

JARED NASH

► District 3

LARRY "DAVID"

HUBBELL

April 2019						
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	26			

This list will be posted at the office of the co-op at least 20 days before the meeting. The secretary shall mail a statement of the number of directors to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates nominated by the committee at least 10 days before the date of the meeting. Fifteen or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition. Any nominations made by petition shall be posted in the same location as that of the committee nominations, which are received at least five days before the meeting, shall be included on the official ballot. Later nominations by petition shall be treated as nominations from the floor. Additionally nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting. No member may nominate more than one candidate. If you have questions regarding the nominating and election process, please call the office at 866-784-5500.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN kW & kWh



Homeowner #1

Demand (kilowatt—kW) is:

Peak usage of electricity at a specific moment in time.

Energy (kilowatt hour—kWh) is:

The total amount of electricity used over a period of time.

Applied to filling a swimming pool with water:

- ▶ The total gallons of water to fill your pool is similar to energy — kWh
- ▶ How fast you fill your pool is similar to demand — kW
- ▶ Homeowner #1 and homeowner #2 use the same quantity of water (energy) to fill their pools
- ▶ Homeowner #1 fills their pool with a large capacity hose very quickly
- ▶ Homeowner #2 fills their pool with a garden hose slowly
- ▶ Homeowner #1 has greater demand than homeowner #2 because their usage occurred very quickly.



Homeowner #2

Home Energy Cost Assistance

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a once a year benefit.

The 2019 application period is from Jan. 22, 2019, through Friday, March 29, 2019. Applications must be received prior to 5 p.m., March 29, 2019. To qualify:

- ▶ An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or the fuel vendor.
- ▶ Applications must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchase of the primary heating energy.
- ▶ The combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 130 percent of the federal poverty level according to the guidelines at right.

2019 Income Eligibility Guidelines

Persons Living at the Address	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$1,316
2	\$1,784
3	\$2,252
4	\$2,720
5	\$3,188
6	\$3,656
7	\$4,124
8	\$4,592
9	\$5,060
10	\$5,528
11	\$5,996
12	\$6,464
*+1 – \$468 for each additional person	



For further assistance
call 800-432-0043
or to apply online visit
www.lieap.dcf.ks.gov.

Meter Replacement Update

In 2018, staff recommended and the Board of Directors approved replacing our aging metering system. This spring, crews will begin changing out a majority of our commercial and residential meters. Our meter technician will try to initiate contact at each location before starting the exchange. The process should take roughly five minutes and service will be disrupted during this time. You do not need to be home for your meter to be replaced; if there are access or repair issues that prevent re-

placement, we will contact the member to arrange a return visit.

As with our current meters, members will be able to view their usage by logging into the SmartHub app on their smartphone or tablet. The information can also be accessed from the Twin Valley website by clicking on the SmartHub button at the top of the home page.

If you have any questions on the upcoming meter exchanges, please call us at 866-784-5500.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

SUMMER TIP: Spring is nearly here! Now is the perfect time to test your A/C and ensure it's ready for summer. Remember to check the evaporator coil, which should be cleaned annually for optimal efficiency.



Electric Co-op Policy Priorities for the New Congress

Every time a new Congress convenes, electric cooperatives have the opportunity to educate new lawmakers on issues that matter most to their consumer-members and the communities they serve. The 116th Congress kicked off in January with more than 100 new members in the House and Senate.

Since then, co-ops have been working with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) to introduce ourselves to new members on Capitol Hill. Here are several priority issues we're bringing to lawmakers' attention.

Energy Policy and Infrastructure

The potential for energy and infrastructure legislation presents a significant opportunity to meet the growing needs of local communities. NRECA will work to ensure any infrastructure package focuses on more than roads and bridges, including opportunities to modernize the electric grid and expand rural broadband access. This is critical to ensuring rural America is not left behind in the 21st century economy.

Environment

NRECA will promote and encourage bipartisan support for renewable energy

research and development programs—including programs that focus on finding a viable use for carbon capture, utilization and storage, which comprise a suite of technologies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. Cooperative renewables use has increased substantially in recent years, more than doubling since 2010.

Broadband

Expanded rural broadband access remains a priority for NRECA. As electric co-ops engage the new Congress, we will work to ensure that all rural broadband discussions include the electric co-op perspective on the need to expand high-speed internet service in rural areas. According to the Federal Communications Commission, 23 million rural Americans lack access to broadband—millions of them are members of an electric co-op. That's why roughly 100 electric cooperatives are working to close the digital divide by bringing broadband to their communities, and more are exploring the option.

Tax Policy

The 2017 tax reform law included a provision that treated federal grants as income. This threatens the tax-exempt

This is critical to ensuring rural America is not left behind in the 21st century economy.

status of some electric cooperatives, because many co-ops rely on government grants to maintain and expand their infrastructure and provide services to their local communities. America's electric cooperatives will seek to fix this unintended consequence of the tax law.

Grid Resilience

Protecting our nation's vast power grid is a national priority and focus for electric cooperatives. Ensuring appropriate information sharing and preserving existing partnerships and structures are essential to these efforts. We will advocate for resources and technologies that meet the unique cybersecurity and recovery needs of small and medium-sized utilities to help protect our systems.

With such a large freshman class of lawmakers, educating them about electric cooperatives and the issues we care about will take time. Advocating for the interests of our consumer-members and the communities in which they live is at the very heart of our business.



COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

Electric cooperatives are different than other types of energy providers.

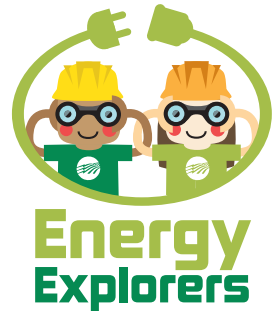
- We are led by consumer-members just like you.
- We were built by the community we serve.
- We still belong to the community.

That's the cooperative difference!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY QUIZ

Are you an energy efficiency whiz? Test your knowledge by taking the quiz below.

Hint: Check your answers at the bottom of the page.



1. Taking a long bath saves more energy than taking a short shower.

A) True

B) False

2. LED bulbs typically use _____ less energy than incandescent light bulbs.

A) 75%

B) 50%

C) 35%

3. Which of the following is an energy vampire? (Hint: Energy vampires consume energy even when they aren't being used.)

A) Dishwasher

B) Electric mixer

C) TV

4. If you see this logo on a product, it has an excellent energy efficiency rating.

A) ENERGY SMART

B) ENERGY STAR

C) ENERGY WISE

5. Turning off the tap water while brushing your teeth can save up to four gallons of water per minute.

A) True

B) False

ANSWER KEY

ANSWERS: 1. B 2. A 3. C 4. B 5. A