

Reed Presides at Federated Meeting



Steve Reed
CEO/Manager

West Central Electric Cooperative General Manager Steve Reed presided over Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange's annual meeting held in March in Anaheim, Calif. Reed is the chairman of Federated's board

of directors and represents Region 6 on the board. Region 6 is comprised of South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota.

For the past 45 years, Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange has been the leading provider of property and casualty insurance for rural electric utilities in 40 states. Federated is unique because it was created to provide a stable insurance market specifically for the rural utility market. The primary goal was to provide long-term coverage availability and service at a reasonable cost.

In 1999, Federated made the transition from a stock-owned company to a reciprocal exchange, which means it is as close to being a cooperative as the insurance industry will allow. Federated's member insureds have a voice in the company through the 20-member board representing the 10 NRECA regions. Cooperative members also share in the margins of the company, in keeping with cooperative principles.

In addition to traditional coverage programs for electric utilities, Federated provides financial protection for a growing number of telephone systems and the diverse commercial activities of its member insureds. All business is produced on a direct basis through internal staff and all underwriting, claims services and administrative functions are handled in-house.

Co-op Statistics

KWH Purchased:

	FEBRUARY	YTD
2008	12,867,577	26,999,177
2007	12,843,115	26,024,787

Hours worked without a loss-time accident:
5,496 through March

WCE Audit Performed



Auditors Todd Netten, Cole Turner and Aaron Clayton from the auditing firm of Eide Bailly, LLP, out of Sioux Falls, SD completed the annual audit of West Central Electric's records the week of March 24.

The audit provides management and the board of directors with an independent opinion as to the accuracy and accounting compliance of the cooperative's financial statements. It is a check of the co-op's system of internal controls and compliance with the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) regulations. RUS requires an annual audit of the electric cooperative's books by an approved accounting firm. The audit includes checking member electric account billings, inventory of material and supplies, board minutes, policies and review of other accounting transactions. WCE Finance Manager Jeff Birkeland, Staff Assistant Rob Kaiser, Accountant Jill Rankin and the staff worked with the auditors throughout the week answering questions and providing the necessary records.

The results of the audit will be presented to the West Central Board of Directors at a later date.

From the Mailbag

Thank you for the 4-H trophy you sponsored for me.

Morgan Bower, Vivian

Thank you for sponsoring my beef trophy. Your support of 4-H is greatly appreciated.

Levi Brakke, Presho

Thank you for sponsoring my trophy in 4-H Achievement Days.

Landon Fanning, Presho

The Lyman Wrestling Club would like to thank you for your support and generous donations this past weekend at the Mid Dakota Monster wrestling tournament. This tournament could not be such a success without your help. We look forward to your continued support.

Lyman Wrestling Club

Thank you West Central for the rebate I received from you for installing an electric furnace and heat pump, which I'm really enjoying.

Yvonne Ehlers, Presho

West Central Electric Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 018-988)

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Operation's Report

This Season... 2008



Dean Nelson
Operations Manager

The 2008 season is here. The West Central crews will be busy with a variety of projects, none which are large, but will still take considerable time and resources none the less.

As soon as the weather permits, crews will start on extending three phase service to the new West River Lyman Jones / OST pump station northeast of Philip. This will require conversion of one half mile of single phase line to three phase plus two miles of (new) overhead three phase. We believe this will be the last of the "larger" sites requiring electric service for rural water loads.

The City of Kennebec recently awarded a bid to reconstruct over four blocks of 2nd Street, from just east of Main Avenue to the School Auditorium. This will require the Co-op to relocate its existing power line several feet north to accommodate the new curb, gutter and sidewalk. The existing line was scheduled in our work plan for replacement; it will happen just a bit sooner than we anticipated. We understand the actual street work will not start until school is dismissed for summer break.

Rehabilitation of the Chamberlain / Oacoma Bridge is scheduled to start this spring with completion in the fall of 2009. This will require West Central to relocate its 69kv transmission facilities adjacent to and on the bridge. We will take this opportunity to replace and reconductor an additional five structures along the causeway. The Co-op's transmission line, which is attached to the top of the bridge, will remain in place for the long term requiring us to work closely with the bridge contractor during this process. This line serves as a tie with Northwestern and will not be readily available for a majority of this construction. This will put our members (and Northwestern's) at risk of extended outages during emergency conditions. We will know more about the details of this construction once we have an opportunity to meet with the general contractor of this project.

Last season we started the process to convert the town of Draper to 14.4kv. We presently have about one half of the conversion complete and plan to finish the job this season. The existing 2.4kv facilities were not salvageable, so rebuild of the entire system is in order.

As mentioned above, the location of the last large pump station for the rural water system has been determined. This offers us the opportunity to convert the remaining of our three phase missile line to single phase. There are approximately 11 miles of three phase between Kadoka and Belvidere which is up for conversion. This project will be on the work plan for this summer as well.

As we state every spring, if you have a project planned which involves West Central, please take a minute and give us a call. It's a great help to us to know in advance.

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