

Sheridan Electric Cooperative

# LiveWire

Sheridan Electric Cooperative - Medicine Lake, Mont. 406-789-2231

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

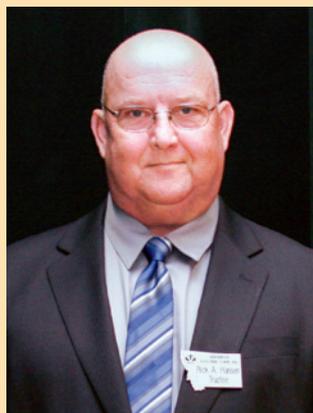
- Nominating Committee report
- Education project begins
- Statistical report

# YOUR ANNUAL MEETING IS COMING SOON

## Oct. 12

### Medicine Lake High School gymnasium

- 8 a.m. .... Registration**
- 10 a.m. .... Business session**
- Noon ..... Dinner**
- Door prizes**
- Drawing for some great gifts**
- Drawing for a bike for the kids, along with a movie**
- Movie tickets for all kids at meeting**
- Progressive drawing is up to \$400 at the 2019 meeting**



**Rick Hansen**  
DISTRICT 5



**Rob Rust**  
DISTRICT 3



**Jody Lagerquist**  
DISTRICT 2



## Absentee ballots 2019

### Sheridan Electric Cooperative Inc.

Every year, Sheridan Electric Cooperative has trustee elections as three-year terms expire. Although trustees can be nominated for additional terms, other candidates can also run for the positions.

One component of this process is the absentee ballot process. In this process, a member of Sheridan Electric can vote by proxy if they cannot be present at the scheduled annual meeting.

The process is simple, but has to be requested by the member when needed. Below is the section from the Sheridan Electric bylaws that describes the process.

“Absentee ballots for elections of officers are available upon request. Absentee ballots will only be issued upon request of a member. Ballots will be mailed to the member no more than 45 days nor less than 15 days before the annual meeting of the members. Absentee ballots must arrive at the cooperative offices no later than five (5) days before the annual meeting of the members.”

We encourage any member of Sheridan Electric Cooperative to use this feature for voting by proxy. Just give Tasha or Jamie a call at 406-789-2231.

Thanks for all of your support. ■

## District Nominating Committee report

Every year, you have the opportunity to vote for three directors at the annual meeting. The directors serve for a three-year term. The directors whose terms expire this year are in District 2 (this includes the area in and around Westby), District 3 (all areas in North Dakota), and District 5 (area from Bainville to Culbertson and north to the Sheridan County line).

Sheridan Electric Cooperative uses several steps to help members get on the ballot. First, we appoint a Nominating Committee. This committee is made up of members in each district who are your neighbors. These committee members then hold a meeting and nominate who they think would be good board members. These nominations then appear on the printed ballot at the annual meeting. This year, all of the incumbents were nominated.

In District 2, incumbent Jody Lagerquist was nominated. In District 3, incumbent Rob Rust was nominated. In District 5, Rick Hansen was nominated.

There were no further nominations.

We want to thank the district Nominating Committee for assuming the responsibility of nominating these candidates. Finding members with the time to serve on the board is difficult. We hope to see you, the members, at the annual meeting Oct. 12 so you can vote on these candidates. ■

A photograph of a sunset over a field with trees in the distance. The sky is orange and yellow, and the sun is low on the horizon.

**Work for a cause,  
not for applause.  
Live life to express,  
not to impress.  
Don't strive to make  
your presence  
noticed, just make  
your absence felt.**



## Cooperative education project goes into full swing

BY SCOTT WESTLUND

September will be a full month in regards to school presentations. Sheridan Electric Cooperative has been working on a cooperative education project to teach young folks (sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders) about cooperative history, past, present and future. Having done pilot projects at the Westby school and in Medicine Lake, we have fine-tuned this project to meet with all 10 schools in September.

The project was born out of necessity, as we learned that most students don't know what a cooperative is or about the cooperative business model. Targeting the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders, we will do this annually so the sixth-graders will receive the training three times before they graduate. We have dubbed this endeavor as a 10-year plan. It is also part of the strategy to target these age groups, because in 10 years, they will be 19-, 20- and 21-year-old members who will understand what cooperatives are all about in this region.

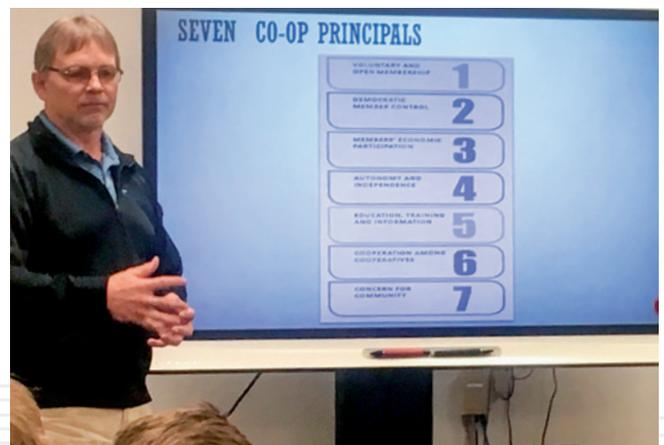
Now to take the project even further, we will have a scavenger hunt at the annual meeting in October. This will consist of students attending the meeting, and meeting the employees and board members. Each employee and board member will have tokens with their

names on them to be given out. This will also consist of defining, in an essay, what the manager's report meant to them and the message he was sharing.

Keep in mind that this is a group effort from a school for the best representation at the meeting. The best school representation and participation, and tokens collected, will receive a check from the cooperative as a donation.

The message is clear. We care about the future of cooperatives in this region. We care about who our next board members, CEOs, office managers and accountants will be, and we care about answering the issues that haunt all cooperatives – dwindling participation in the business model and member engagement.

We are taking all of this seriously. Wish us luck. Please encourage all students to attend, whether they saw the presentation or not, and let's continue to believe in the cooperative way. ■



# Lighting to be given away



In the spirit of efficiency, Sheridan Electric Cooperative is giving away light-emitting diodes (LEDs) each month. Each month's winner will receive 12 new LED bulbs.

So this month, take a moment to complete and mail the coupon. Maybe you'll be this month's lucky winner and save on your energy costs. Good luck. ■

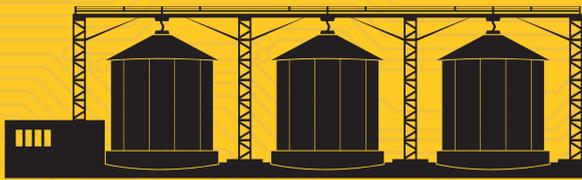
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Congratulations to **Joy Rasmussen** for winning this month's light bulb giveaway.*



## Sheridan Electric Cooperative STATISTICAL REPORT

	June 2018	June 2019
Total miles of line	2,831	2,835
Consumers billed	3,081	3,112
Kilowatt-hours purchased	9,653,105	10,099,969
Kilowatt-hours sold	9,341,997	9,292,474
Average KWH per residential consumer	868	807
Average bill per residential consumer	\$120.37	\$107
Cost of purchased power	\$439,294	\$491,841
Margins year to date	\$2,167,853	\$2,390,326

### LINE DEPARTMENT STATS

	June 2018	June 2019
Weather	21	21
Age or deterioration	5	6
Animals and public	4	11
Power supplier	1	1
Equipment	0	0

### SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED

	June 2018	June 2019	Year to date
Pole installations	8	36	48
New construction	15,087	4,363	20,530
Miles driven	23,819	23,256	123,832
New accounts	10	6	19
Accounts retired	1	5	13

### SHERIDAN ELECTRIC CO-OP

Medicine Lake, Mont. 59247  
406-789-2231

#### TRUSTEES

Rod Smith, President ..... Dagmar, Mont.  
 Rick A. Hansen, V. President ..... Froid, Mont.  
 Rob Rust, Sec. .... Alkabo, N.D.  
 Kerrey Heppner, Treas. .... Plentywood, Mont.  
 Alan Danelson, Trustee ..... Scobey, Mont.  
 Andrew Dethman, Trustee ..... Brockton, Mont.  
 Harlan Skillingberg, Trustee ..... Plentywood, Mont.  
 Jody Lagerquist, Trustee ..... Westby, Mont.  
 Sherl Shanks, Trustee ..... Brockton, Mont.

#### EMPLOYEES

Rick Knick ..... Manager  
 Riley Tommerup ..... Office Mgr./Accountant  
 Scott Westlund ..... Marketing/Member Service Manager  
 Jamie Ator ..... Accountant  
 Lisa Salveold ..... Office Assistant  
 Tasha Roness ..... Customer Service Representative  
 Torie Waller ..... Work Order Clerk  
 Kory Opp ..... Line Superintendent  
 Bryan Lenz ..... Line Foreman  
 Nick Oelkers ..... Staking Tech  
 Tim Ereth ..... Operator/Utilityman  
 Josh Johnson ..... Electrical General Foreman  
 Tom Hinds ..... Electrical Foreman  
 Steve Augustine ..... Line Sub Foreman  
 Dan Roeder ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Shawn Sansaver ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Josh Marottek ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Josh Ming ..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Bill Baillie ..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Nolen Drury ..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Tristan Ereth ..... Apprentice Electrician  
 Rod Luft ..... Warehouse/Utility  
 Vicky Haddix ..... Custodian

OUTAGES • CALL 24 HOURS A DAY  
406-789-2231

OFFICE HOURS: 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative