



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

News

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Annual Meeting 2021 Report

Annual Meeting day in 2021 started early as members were lined up in their vehicles to register. For the second year in a row, Sac Osage Electric Cooperative conducted an all-day drive through registration prior to the business meeting at 6:30.

Over 1,250 members passed through the Cooperative's warehouse from 9:00AM to 6:30PM to register and collect their door prize. Members had fun with the event, some driving through on motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and even a camper truck.

At 6:30 the business meeting was called to order by board president, Neale Johnson. Mr. Johnson who decided not to run for another term on the board this year, opened the meeting for the seventh year in a row. He called

on Reverend Jack Daniel for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, then turned the business meeting over to Chris Hoberock, the Cooperative's attorney.

The business meeting announced the reelection of Jim Murray in District 7 and Ken Hacker in District 8, both were running unopposed. No member petitioned for the position of District 9, and a member will be appointed by the board of directors to fill that seat.

The board of directors met immediately after the Annual Meeting for reorganization. Ken Hacker of District 8 was chosen as the new board president. Jim Murray of District 7 was chosen as Vice President. Tim Minehardt of District 1 was chosen as Assistant Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer.



Door prizes were ready to go.



Members could register without leaving their car.



Neale Johnson opens the Annual Meeting.



Special thanks to Conexon Connect for sponsoring part of the door prize at the Annual Meeting. Learn more at ConexonConnect.com/SacOsage



Two lanes were available providing for low wait times.



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Two Sac Osage Linemen Volunteer to Help With Hurricane Relief



Garrett Mays and Kelly Eck get ready for the long trip to Louisiana.

Hurricane Ida left a trail of damage and destruction along the Gulf Coast following its landfall on Sunday, August 29. In response, Missouri's electric cooperatives mobilized to answer a call for help. At the request of DEMCO Electric Cooperative, Baton

Rouge, Louisiana, more than 150 Missouri lineworkers from 30 of the state's electric cooperatives travelled to Louisiana to assist in the cleanup. Missouri sent both construction and service crews to help with the power restoration efforts at the co-op just east of Baton Rouge. Most of Missouri's crews

including one from Sac Osage Electric Cooperative left early Tuesday, August 31, to help with the restoration efforts.

Electric cooperatives around the country participate in a mutual aid program that sends lineworkers from areas out of the path of a major storm into the areas that need help. Missouri co-op crews have travelled to several hurricane zones over the years, including the area served by DEMCO in 2012 after Hurricane Isaac made landfall. Their most recent hurricane help was last year when they helped Louisiana's Beauregard Electric Cooperative after Hurricane Laura caused extensive damage.

During the major ice storms of 2009 in Missouri, Louisiana sent lineworkers to Missouri's electric cooperatives to help repair damage. This mutual assistance follows one of the seven cooperative principles, "Cooperation among Cooperatives."

The Missouri crews started Wednesday from a staging area in Batesville, Mississippi. The local electric cooperative in Batesville, Tallahatchie Valley Electric, greatly assisted Missouri's cooperatives, helping with truck repairs and tire changes, ensuring the lineworkers could travel safely to Baton Rouge.





Lineworkers arrived at DEMCO on the afternoon of September 1st and were given safety and operational orientations. Lineworkers from a handful of Missouri cooperatives were given assignments to head into the field Wednesday to start restoring power to more than 80,000 members who were without. The remainder of the crews started restoring power before sunrise on Thursday morning. Their efforts were made more treacherous due to the wet, swampy terrain around Baton Rouge coupled with the swath of damage Ida left behind.

On Thursday, Sept. 9, DEMCO reported, "Damage to the system and service area is like nothing we've ever seen. Transmission and distribution infrastructure is severely damaged or obliterated in Ascension, Livingston, St. Helena and Tangipahoa parishes. Extensive damage in areas makes it difficult to provide restoration estimates, but we are working to gather and share detailed information and updates as soon as we know it."

In a week the cooperative teams had made great progress. On September 16, DEMCO reported that ninety-eight percent of members were back in service and 97 percent of the lines were energized. Sac Osage linemen, Kelly Eck and Garrett Mays returned home on September 20th.





Tabervillie Gets New Substation

Members in the Tabervillie area had to deal with some transition pains over the last few months. KAMO Power, Sac Osage Electric's power provider has built a new substation to serve members. The construction finished in early September.

During the last few months the con-

struction has proceeded in phases. For a brief period, KAMO brought in a mobile substation. For each of these phases, members had to endure various outages, so the construction could proceed safely. Sac Osage appreciates the patience the members have shown.



KAMO construction crews make final connections to new Tabervillie substation.



The old Tabervillie substation was a wooden structure designed to be temporary. It served the cooperative for many years.



Linemen, Dustin Bray and Jared Asmus, worked high in buckets to complete the cut-over from the mobile sub to the new Tabervillie substation.



**Offices will be closed Thursday,
November 25 and Friday,
November 26th in celebration
of Thanksgiving Day**



Sac Osage linemen, Josh Berning and Justin Wrinkle, and their families represented the Cooperative in the Stockton Walnut Festival.