



April 2015

RURAL MISSOURI

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

News

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Attention Members in Districts 7, 8 & 9

The term of the Director who represents your District will expire on June 9, 2015, the date of the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative. If you are a member of District 7, 8 or 9, a Nominating Petition is inserted inside this issue. Use the petition if you would like to nominate a candidate for Director from your District.

2015 Annual Meeting

June 9, 2015, has been set as the date for the Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. On the date of the meeting the three-year terms of John J. (Jim) Murray, Jan Neale and Neale Johnson will expire.

According to the Bylaws of the Cooperative, a Nominating Petition is to be mailed to each member who resides in a District in which a vacancy will exist on the date of the Annual Meeting. Therefore, members in Districts 7, 8 and 9 will find a Nominating Petition inserted in this issue of Rural Missouri. The petition includes instructions for nominating a qualified member as a candidate for a position on the Board of Directors.

Sections from the Bylaws of the Cooperative pertaining to the Annual Meeting appear on the inside cover of this issue. Please read those sections for more information about the Annual Meeting and the nomination and election process. Complete copies of the Bylaws are available at the office of the Cooperative.

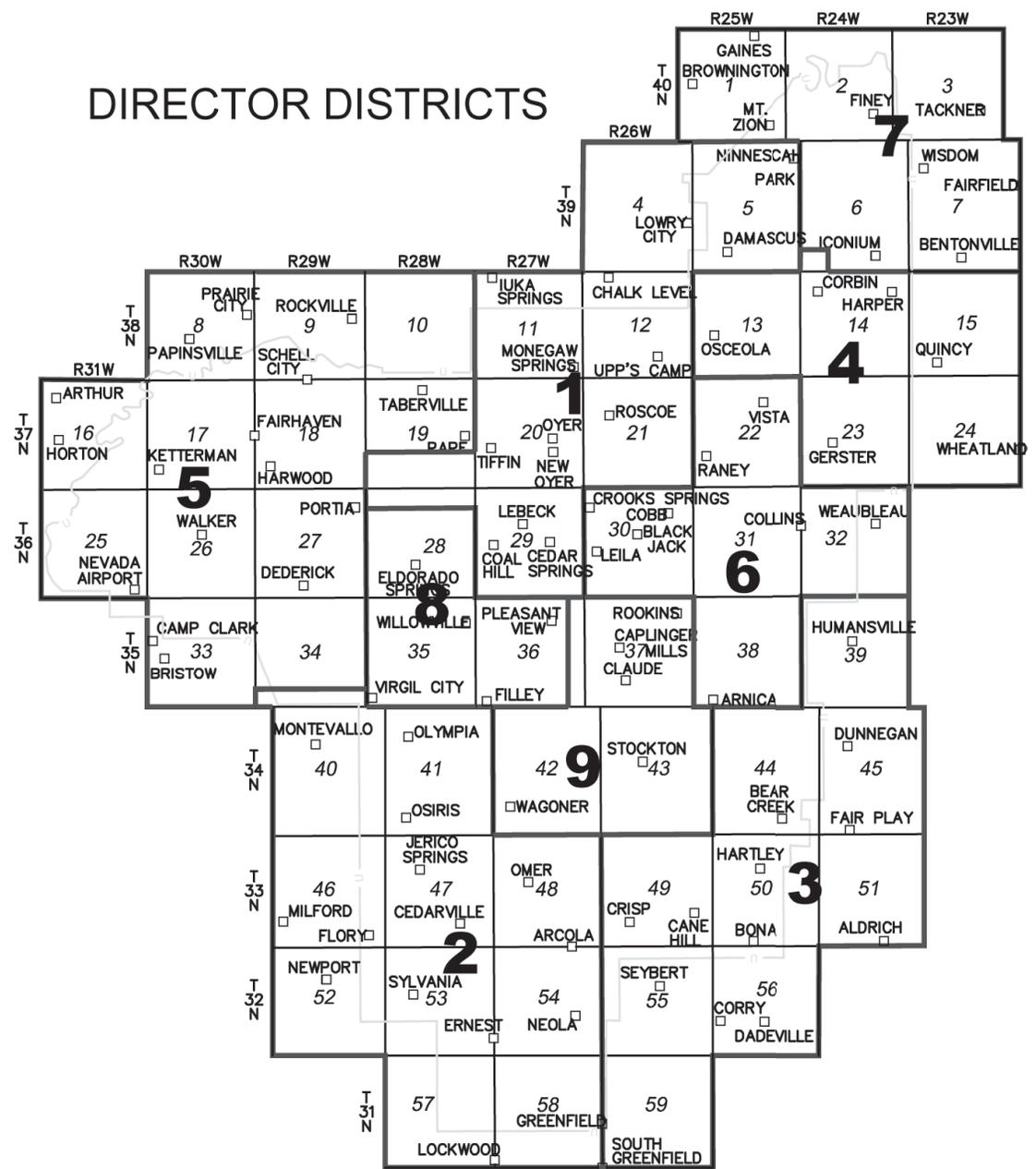
This year only members in Districts 7, 8 and 9 are eligible to receive a ballot for the Director election and of those three Districts, only members in Districts with more than one nominee will receive ballots. If you have a question about which District you live in, please refer to your electric bill. Your District number appears in a box labeled "Board District".

This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Cooperative's headquarters located at 4815 E. Highway 54, El Dorado Springs, Missouri (two miles east of El Dorado Springs on Highway 54). Member registration will begin at 5 p.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.

The business Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This year the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting will be published in the June Rural Missouri issue and will include Ballots as required by the Bylaws.

DIRECTOR DISTRICTS



Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

District 7

John J. (Jim) Murray represents members in District 7. Mr. Murray plans to seek re-election in his District at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

District 8

Jan Neale represents members in District 8. Mrs. Neale plans to seek re-election in her District at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

District 9

Neale Johnson represents members in District 9. Mr. Johnson plans to seek re-election in his District at the 2015 Annual Meeting.

2015 Annual Meeting Tuesday, June 9

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the Members of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2015. The following sections from Articles I, III, and IV of the Bylaws explain the requirements for membership and the election process.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIPS

SECTION 1. Requirements for Membership.

Any person, entity, firm, association, corporation, or body politic or subdivision thereof will become a member in SAC OSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE (Hereinafter called the Cooperative") by:

- a. filing a written application for membership therein;
- b. actually purchasing from the Cooperative electric energy as hereinafter specified; or, in the case of a small power producer or co-generator being interconnected with the Cooperative's line system;
- c. agreeing to comply with and be bound by the articles of incorporation and bylaws of the Cooperative and any rules and regulations adopted by the board, and
- d. paying the membership fee hereinafter specified;

No person, entity, firm, association, corporation or body politic or subdivision thereof may hold more than one membership in the Cooperative, and no membership in the Cooperative shall be transferable, except as provided in the bylaws. No person, entity, firm, association, corporation or body politic or subdivision thereof holding membership in the Cooperative shall have more than one vote on any matter properly coming before the membership at any annual or special meeting thereof, irrespective of the number of services or connections that member may have.

ARTICLE III - MEETING OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the members shall be held on such day after the first of June and prior to the first day of October of each year as shall be fixed by the Board beginning with the year 1951 at such place in the County of Cedar, State of Missouri, as shall be designated by the Board. The annual meeting shall be held for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports for the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to make adequate plans and preparations for the annual meeting. Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative.

SECTION 5. Ballot.

A ballot if required shall be mailed to each member with the notice of meeting. The ballot so mailed shall constitute the sole and only official ballot to be cast by a member pursuant to Section 7 of this Article or in person at the meeting in accordance with Section 6 of this Article. In the event a member fails to receive a ballot or loses or misplaces his ballot, he may make and deliver a sworn affidavit to that effect and shall be issued another ballot, provided however, the affidavit must be delivered to the office of the Cooperative no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the membership meeting. No additional ballots shall be issued after twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

The ballot may be in two (2) parts and shall be printed or mimeographed. The first part of the ballot shall list the candidates, if there are two (2) or more, standing for election to the office of director from that member's district who have been nominated by nominating petition as provided in Section 4 of Article IV. The names of the candidates shall be arranged by district in the order the nominating petitions were received by the Cooperative.

The second part of the Ballot shall list the propositions, if any, requiring special notice and any other proposition which, in the discretion of the Board, should be put to a vote of the membership.

SECTION 6. Voting.

Each member shall be entitled to only one vote upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members in accordance with Section 1 of Article 1. All questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person or by mail, except as otherwise provided by law, the articles of incorporation or these bylaws. All voting for directors, removal of directors or bylaws amendments shall be by secret ballot, provided however, the board may adopt a reasonable method of controlling the validity of any ballot.

If a membership is held in the name of the husband individually or the wife individually then only the husband or the wife, as the case may be, may cast the vote represented by the membership. If a membership is held in the name of a husband and wife jointly, then either the husband or wife, but not both, may cast the vote represented by the membership.

SECTION 7. Mail Voting.

Any member may cast his, her, or its vote by mail or by delivery of his ballot to the office of the Cooperative upon any proposition submitted to a vote at any annual meeting of the members except a vote at an annual meeting for the removal and replacement of a director(s) pursuant to Article IV, Section 6. Such member voting by mail shall enclose the ballot in a sealed, stamped envelope addressed to Inspectors of Election, c/o the Cooperative at the principal office of the Cooperative, deposit same in the United States mail with sufficient postage to insure delivery. All ballots received up to the hour of convening the member meeting shall be held and delivered unopened to the inspectors of election, who shall open, verify and count such ballots at the time other ballots are counted.

ARTICLE IV - DIRECTORS

SECTION 2. Election and Tenure of Office.

The persons serving as directors on the day of the adoption of this amendment shall compose the Board of Directors until the first annual meeting following the adoption of the amendment of this article to be submitted to the membership on June 8, 1976, or until their successors have been elected and shall have qualified. Beginning with the annual meeting held in the year 1977, the directors of the Cooperative shall be divided into nine districts numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. The terms of office of the directors of Districts 1, 2 and 3 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1977 and shall expire at the annual meeting in 1980; the terms of office of the directors serving in Districts 4, 5 and 6 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1978 and shall expire at the annual meeting in 1981. The terms of office of the directors of Districts 7, 8 and 9 shall be for a term of three (3) years and they shall be elected at the annual meeting in 1979 and shall expire at the annual meeting held in the year 1982. At each annual meeting after the annual meeting held in 1979, three directors shall be elected by ballot for a term of three years, such directors to be elected from the districts served by those directors whose terms are expiring, or until their successors shall have been elected and shall have been qualified for a three year term in the order and sequence above set forth as to the nine numbered districts. If an election of directors shall not be held on the date designated herein for the annual meeting or any adjournment thereof, the Board of Directors shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members or as soon thereafter as practical.

No member of the Board of Directors shall serve more than five (5) consecutive terms. This limitation shall apply upon completion of a current director's term and any director who has served five (5) consecutive terms shall not be eligible for reelection for a period of three (3) years. Any member appointed or elected to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors who serves at least one-half of a term of office shall be considered to have served a term in that office.

SECTION 4. Nomination and voting.

Not later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare or cause to be prepared and mailed to each member residing in the districts in which vacancies will exist at the annual meeting a form of nominating petition. The nominating petition shall inform the members that a vacancy will exist in their district at the annual meeting, the name of that incumbent and whether the incumbent intends to seek reelection. Within twenty days following the mailing of the nominating petitions any qualified member may be nominated as a candidate for election to the office of director in any district in which the candidate resides and a vacancy will exist at the forthcoming annual meeting. The nominating petition shall state the date upon which the nominating process will close, which date shall be the twentieth day following the mailing of nominating petitions to the members.

A qualified member shall be nominated when a petition naming that member is timely delivered to the office of the Cooperative signed by fifteen (15) members residing in the district in which the vacancy will exist. No member shall sign more than one nominating petition. In the event two (2) or more petitions contain the signature or signatures of members who have signed petitions previously submitted to the Cooperative, the signature shall not be counted on any petition after the first petition bearing the same signature has been submitted.

Following closure of the nominating process, no further nominations shall be received, and in those districts in which two (2) or more persons have been nominated it shall be the duty of the Secretary to prepare and mail or cause to be prepared and mailed along with the notice of meeting as described in Article III, Section 3, the official ballot as described in Article III, Section 5. The ballot may be mailed, in accordance with Article III, Section 7, or voted in person at the membership meeting in accordance with Article III, Section 6. Only those members residing in districts in which vacancies on the board will exist at the annual meeting shall be mailed part one of the ballot. Part two of the ballot, if there shall be a part two, shall be mailed to all members. If only one (1) person is nominated for the position of director in any district, ballots shall not be mailed and the person nominated shall be deemed elected at the annual meeting of the members. Any director elected without opposition shall commence serving immediately after the election results are announced at the annual meeting of the members.

Each properly nominated candidate shall be entitled to submit to the Cooperative a biographical sketch and position paper which shall be included with the notice of meeting. The biographical sketch and position paper shall not exceed five hundred (500) words in length. The Cooperative shall be entitled to delete from the materials submitted by a candidate any statements which may be deemed obscene or defamatory of any other candidate. The Cooperative shall have absolute discretion in determining whether the statement contains obscenities or defamation.

Each member of the Cooperative voting by mail or in person shall be entitled to vote only for one candidate residing in the same district as that member. No member shall be entitled to vote in any district election in which the member does not reside. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes cast by mail and in person shall be elected to the board representing the district in which he resides even though such candidate may not receive the majority of votes cast for candidates from that district. Ties between two or more candidates shall be resolved by a coin toss or tosses.

Improving thermal efficiency

Good choices can save energy dollars when remodeling

Dear Jim: We are planning to remodel our older home, and I've read that increasing thermal mass can improve energy efficiency. What exactly does this mean, and how do we incorporate it into our home? — Sharon T.



by Jim Dulley

Dear Sharon: Increasing the thermal mass means increasing the ability of materials to retain heat energy. This can be done at anytime, but it is ideal when remodeling. Increasing the thermal mass does not require a "Fred Flintstonesque" décor with a pile of rocks in the center of every room. Actually, most of these improvements are quite attractive.

The concept of increasing thermal mass means having the house structure and interior objects absorb and hold as much heat energy as possible. The heavier the items in your home, the more mass it has to better absorb heat. As the outdoor temperature changes, thermal mass helps moderate indoor temperature swings to improve comfort and efficiency. It is comparable to the way a heavy, high "physical" mass automobile provides a smoother ride by absorbing the energy from bumps.

Old-fashioned solid log and heavy timber-framed houses used this thermal mass concept. Even though a log house has a small amount of actual insulation R-value when compared to a typical framed house, its utility bills are often not significantly higher, particularly during the summer months.

There are several ways thermal mass can save energy in your home. By reducing the indoor temperature swings during winter months, less heat is lost through the walls and windows. This is particularly true in rooms where heat is generated, such as the kitchen or bathroom, or in rooms with large south-facing windows. During summer months, the mass will help keep rooms cooler and delay the use of air conditioning.

In winter months, during the day, heat produced by the HVAC system is absorbed by the home's thermal mass. At night, heat is released to warm the home. The greater the mass, the more it will keep the

home comfortable.

During the summer, high thermal mass delays the need for the air conditioner to kick on in the morning and throughout the daytime. Unless high humidity is an issue, opening windows at night and running a whole-house or window fan allows the thermal mass to lose the heat stored from the daytime. Close the windows in the morning and the cooled thermal mass absorbs heat coming in without causing the room temperature to rise as fast. The thermal mass of air is extremely low, so the cold outdoor air quickly absorbs heat from the indoor thermal mass.

Increase the thermal mass in your house by selecting proper high mass, or heavier, materials. They should be located throughout the home, but concentrate on rooms that generate heat or tend to over-heat during the summer. When building a house or adding rooms, use heavy foam insulating sheathing on the outside of the wall framing. This allows the framing lumber to become part of the interior thermal mass.

The thermal mass of various materials is rated by heat capacity properties. Water has a high relative heat capacity of 62.4 per cubic foot compared to drywall at only 1.3 per cubic foot. Wet soil rates about 55, concrete is about 31, brick is about 27, and stone/tile ranges from 18 to 36 depending on the type. Their natural thermal properties, in addition to their densities, determine their heat capacity.

Installing a dark, ceramic tile floor near a door or window is an excellent source of thermal mass. Decorative walls using solid bricks work well in a room with a fireplace or large windows. Heavy granite or slate countertops in a kitchen are effective. Wooden floors also can be a good source for thermal mass. Remember, the idea is to replace lighter materials with heavier materials.

The damp soil in large potted plants can store much heat, and the plants naturally purify the indoor air. For emergencies, storing old milk jugs full of water under cabinets and near your heating system increase thermal mass.

Do you have an energy-efficiency question for Jim? Email him at contact@dulley.com or write to: James Dulley, Rural Missouri, 6906 Royal-green Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244.



photos courtesy of Eldorado Stone



Thanks for a Job Well Done

Monday, April 13, will be a special day for the employees of your electric cooperative who work so hard to keep the power flowing. That day has been designated "Lineman Appreciation Day" by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

It takes a special breed of person to be a lineman. They must be willing to work high off the ground. Sometimes they are held there by two steel spikes embedded in a pole. Other times they work from a bucket that seldom sits still.

They need nerves of steel to work inches away from high-voltage power lines. They must wear special equipment and follow a rigid safety routine to keep from being hurt.

They must be ready and willing to work long hours in the worst possible conditions: rain, sleet, ice, extreme cold and intense heat. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, ready to spring into action when even one member is without power.

They brave chiggers, ticks, snakes, wasps and other critters that don't always appreciate their efforts. They work in mud and dust.

They must be troubleshooters, electricians, pathfinders, mechanics, acrobats, and at times, diplomats when their trucks leave tracks in someone's field.

Their reward is often creosote-covered splinters, sore backs and sunburns. That's why the nation's electric cooperatives have set aside this day to pay tribute to these courageous individuals.

I wish you all could experience just once what linemen do day after day. It's hard work, and not many of us would want to do it. Yet, without exception, our crews love what they do.

They know that their work keeps the power flowing. They take these storms that cause outages personally. It's a challenge to them to restore power, because they know that someone's life could depend on electricity.

I do believe linemen are at their best when the chips are down and some natural disaster has sent the rest of us running for shelter. That's when they will load up the trucks and head into the fray like knights in shining armor.

Please join us in praising these "high-wire heroes" for all they do. Setting aside a day in their honor is the least we can do to say thanks for a job well done.



Youth Tour Deadline —

There is still time if you are a high school junior to enter the 2015 Youth Tour Program. It is a chance to take a "trip of a lifetime" to our nation's capital this summer.

"How Electricity Has Affected My Education" is the topic of this year's essay contest. The winner receives an opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. this June with approximately 85 other students from across Missouri. The deadline for entering is Friday, April 3rd. For more information you may visit our website at www.sacosage.com or call either Janna Dody or Aaron Ash at 417-876-2721. Good Luck!



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Now that spring is here, you can use ceiling fans to cool off for less. Ceiling fans use no more electricity than a standard light bulb. However, be sure to turn fans off when you leave — they only cool people, not rooms. Also be sure you change the switch so that it turns counter-clockwise in the summer.

Just a friendly reminder that May is catch-up month for those members on Budget Billing.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In accordance with Federal Law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The person responsible for coordinating this organization's nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Jim Davis, General Manager of Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, Inc. Complaints must be filed within 180 days after the alleged discrimination. Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent possible.