#### GM'S REPORT

# PROTECT YOURSELF FROM

Over the past few months, electric cooperative members from across Ohio have reported receiving suspicious phone calls claiming to be from their cooperative's office. Scammers are becoming more savvy and are using increasingly sophisticated methods. Practically every day, news agencies report a new type of fraud. Whether a scammer claims to be a grandchild in need of money to avoid jail, or a technician who needs remote access to your computer to remove a virus, the goal is the same to con victims out of their hard-earned money.

One of the most common deceptions used by scammers is a "spoofing" app, which creates a fake caller ID to trick you into thinking they are someone else, such as your co-op or other trusted source. The scammer will tell members they are late paying their bill, claim they owe money due to incorrect meter readings, or insist that invalid checks were used to make a payment. The scammer often instructs the member to head to their local convenience store to purchase a reloadable debit card and call back with the card information. The thieves don't stop there, however. Some scammers encourage the member to deliver cash in person at a meeting spot. Others come to the member's front door and claim they need to read the member's meter for money. If someone comes to your door claiming to be from the co-op, always look for a red Firelands Electric Co-op vehicle with the company logo on its doors.

Scammers can be very smart and quite deceiving. One co-op member in



Dan McNaull GENERAL MANAGER

Ohio even received a voicemail instructing them to call a third-party number to pay their electric bill or they would be disconnected. The scammers went so far as to have a recording of their co-op's phone introduction and menu so that it sounded authentic. E-mails are also widely used by scammers to contact potential victims, and some members have recently reported receiving fraudulent text messages as well.

Not only are scammers out for your money, they also want your personal information so that they can use it to commit additional crimes. Identity theft is probably the most common. Scammers use your information to steal additional money by making charges to your existing credit cards; opening new credit card, checking, or savings accounts; writing fraudulent checks; or taking out loans in your name.

Firelands Electric Cooperative wants to remind members to take precautions to protect themselves. Do not, under any circumstances, give out any account numbers or personal information over the phone or online to

Continued on Page 20



Continued from Page 19

someone other than a legitimate representative from your electric utility. And, if in doubt, always hang up and contact the Firelands Electric Co-op office directly at 1-800-533-8658.

Also be aware of companies that may contact you regarding discounted electrical rates. Several of these companies may use high-pressure sales tactics, even after you advise them you're a member of an Ohio electric co-op.

Firelands Electric Cooperative wants to help you protect yourself from any and all types of scams. If you receive a

call, e-mail, or text from a scammer claiming to be from Firelands Electric, do not respond. And if you believe you have been contacted by a scammer, report them to the local police, or contact the Ohio Attorney General at 1-800-282-0515 or online at www.ohioattorneygeneral. gov/About-AG/Contact/Report-A-Scam.

Check out the box below for additional tips on how to spot a scam — and avoid putting your financial information in danger.

PROCEED

WITH

CAUTION

### Stop scammers in their tracks

- Never give out or confirm confidential, personal, account, or financial information over the phone to non-cooperative personnel. Firelands Electric will never demand that type of information over the phone. If in doubt, hang up and call Firelands at the number printed on your bill.
- If you believe you are being scammed, collect as much information about the situation as possible, including the phone number the scammer asks you to call back, and report it to the co-op or local police.
- If you have any questions about your payment or bill status, please call the number on the back of your bill. Remember that scammers can make their caller ID look like it is Firelands Electric Cooperative calling, so you must dial the number on your bill to ensure safety.
- 4. Never let anyone claiming to be a Firelands Electric employee into or around your home without asking to see their company-issued ID. Any Firelands Electric employee on site will have a cooperative logo on their clothing, hat, and company-issued red vehicle.
- 5. Do not meet up with anyone to make an electric bill payment. Payments should only be made by mail, in person at the co-op office, over the phone via our toll-free number (1-800-533-8658), or online at https://firelandsec.smarthub.coop.
- 6. If a caller specifically asks you to pay using a prepaid debit card, cash, or money order, this is a red flag.
- 7. If you feel pressured to make a payment or decision in a rush, hang up. That is a sure sign of a scam.
- 8. Be wary of e-mails or text messages demanding payment or asking for confidential information. If it looks suspicious, contact the office to verify.

20 OHIO COOPERATIVE LIVING · SEPTEMBER 2018

# community commitment

#### IN THE COMMUNITY

accountability

BY TRACY GIBB

# **GENTLE GIANTS**

integri

Josh and Lindsey Welch, along with their children Braden and Lillian, raise beef cattle on approximately 60 acres outside of Ashland. Their animals aren't typical, however. The family's farm, known as Sycamore Valley, is home to over 20 Scottish Highland Cattle — a hardy breed dating back to the sixth century.

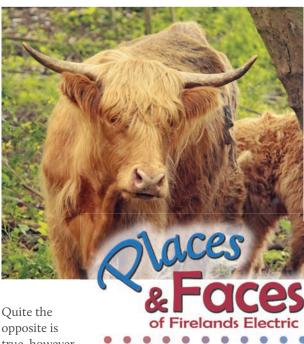
Scottish Highlands are what is known as a heritage breed. Animals with this designation have a long history in the U.S., but are now rare, or even endangered, due to changes in agricultural practices over the past several decades. Heritage varieties are bred to suit a specific environment and, like the Scottish Highland, they thrive in a pasture-based setting.

While it takes modern breeds like the Angus just 18 months to be ready for market, it takes nearly three years for a Highland. It's worth the wait, though. Highland beef is tender and low in cholesterol, and the demand for it has increased in recent years. "Our culture has changed. People want to know what's in their food and where it comes from," Lindsey says.

The leaner meat is attributed to the Highlands' thick, double-layer coat, which protects the cattle from harsh winter weather. The animals' need for fat to insulate them from the cold is greatly reduced, resulting in a healthier meat.

This shaggy coat also gives the animals a unique look. Scottish Highland Cattle have long, wavy hair that comes in seven different colors, and often covers their eyes. Combined with their sweeping trademark horns, they can look somewhat intimidating.





true, however.

The breed is quite

docile, and the Welches' animals are no exception they are always looking for an affectionate scratch on the head or hand-fed treat.

Those impressive horns do create challenges, however. "Standard cattle equipment isn't always practical," Josh says.

A perfect example is the battered hay feeder now lying abandoned at the farm. One of the cattle got their horns caught in the slots and Josh had to perform a "rescue." The animal came away unscathed, but the feeder wasn't so fortunate. "We've found it necessary to have some equipment custom-made to accommodate their horns," Josh says.

For now, the Welches are limiting their operation to raising Scottish Highland Cattle for freezer beef, but are considering adding heritage breed hogs and chickens to the farm in the future.

Sycamore Valley Farms is located at 753 County Road 1775 and can be reached at 419-282-0344 or sycamorevalleyfarm.ohio@gmail.com. They can also be found by searching for Sycamore Valley Farms on Facebook.

Places & Faces is a monthly feature showcasing people, businesses, and organizations located throughout the Firelands Electric Cooperative service territory.

#### YOUTH PROGRAMS



Education helps shape the leaders of tomorrow. That's why Firelands Electric includes it as one of our seven core principles. At the beginning of 2017, the cooperative introduced a new program to encourage students in their pursuit of academic excellence. Students in grades 6–8 are invited to become part of "The A Team" and be recognized for their hard work and dedication to education.

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Winners of July drawing receive iTunes gift cards



Ashlee Gantz Ashland Middle School Daughter of Raymond and Melanie Gantz



**Jonathan Shafer** Hillsdale Middle School Son of Todd and Angie Shafer

#### Send us your grade card and win! Next drawing will be held on December 10.

#### How you can win

Students in grades 6–8 who have a minimum of three A's on their most recent report card, and whose parents or guardians are members of Firelands Electric Co-op, are eligible to apply. A copy of the report card should be submitted by mail to Firelands Electric Co-op, Attn: The A Team, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851. Report cards may also be e-mailed to members@firelandsec.com.

Be sure to include the student's name, age, school, grade, address, phone number, the parents' name(s), and e-mail address on your entry.

Complete program details are available at www.firelandsec.com/ content/team.



Kaitlyn Detterman New London Middle School Daughter of Kurt and Maria Detterman

## integrity community commitment accountability innovation

#### MEMBER TOOLS

# THE POWER OF Smarthub

#### Why use SmartHub?

Firelands Electric Co-op's SmartHub isn't just for paying bills. Members can sign up to receive important account notifications via e-mail, text message, or a combination of both. SmartHub users have the ability to add multiple contact numbers and e-mail addresses, as well as choose which notifications are sent to each contact. Selections can be changed at any time — giving members total flexibility and control.

Members can also monitor their electric consumption with SmartHub. They can view their use from individual months, days, and even hours. They can also compare use from two different months and check out their average energy consumption.

Put the power in your hands! Visit www.firelandsec.com/ content/smarthub-101 today and take charge of your electric account with SmartHub.

#### **Notifications**

#### **Billing Alerts**

- Payment Confirmation A payment made through SmartHub has been received.
- Scheduled Payment Notification An online payment to your account has been scheduled or canceled.

#### Service Alerts

- Planned Power Outage
- Power Outage
- Power Restored

#### **Usage Alerts**

 Power Usage Alert — Receive notifications when your kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage reaches a threshold that you set. Thresholds can be set for hourly use, total daily use, or both. Notifications are sent each day around 4 p.m. if your usage meets or exceeds these levels.

#### **Miscellaneous Alerts**

• Auto Pay — A change has been made to your Auto Pay Program information.

• Contact — Confirmation that you have sent a message to the co-op through SmartHub.

#### **On Demand Alerts**

- FEC Peak Alert Load management is currently taking place for members enrolled in Firelands' voluntary load management program.
- FEC Peak Alert Possible Conditions are such that a peak alert may occur today.

#### **Usage tools**

- Usage Explorer Members can click through a series of graphs to view usage by month, day, or hour. High, average, and low temperatures for each time period can also be viewed.
- Usage Comparison Select two different months to compare how much electric was used.
- Average Usage Members can view their average electrical usage over a range of dates, which are selected by using the calendar at the top of the screen. Average use can be viewed by the month, day of the week, or time of day.
- Usage Planning Tool Members can add a "marker" to their account (for example: "Shut off pool pump"). This marker shows up on the Daily Usage screen in Usage Explorer to help members identify if the event causes a change in electric consumption.

#### Additional SmartHub features

- Choose whether to receive a paper or electronic version of your monthly statement.
- View billing and payment history on your account.
- Sign up for Firelands Electric's Auto Pay Program by clicking on Auto Pay Program in the Billing & Payments tab.
- Update or remove your payment method for the Auto Pay Program.

#### CO-OP NEWS

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#### Firelands Electric Co-op launching community solar program

Interest in renewable energy is growing, but installing solar panels is incredibly time-consuming and expensive. So let your electric co-op do all of the work for you!

Firelands Electric Cooperative is launching OurSolar, a community renewable program which allows co-op members to purchase electric produced by the new solar array being built at the cooperative's new facility.

OurSolar offers one of the cleanest and most affordable renewable energy sources available. By grouping solar panels together, costs can be shared, power output can be maximized, and the hassles of rooftop installation can be avoided. Firelands Electric Cooperative's residential members have the opportunity to purchase a subscription to energy from the solar array located at the cooperative's new campus at 103 Industrial Drive, New London. OurSolar gives all members an opportunity to benefit from this clean energy source because it's built and maintained at a central location by experts in the field. This eliminates common barriers — such as trees, roof size, and house location — that prevent people from installing solar panels on their property. Further, all ongoing costs are included in the subscription rate, so there is no need to worry about unexpected costs popping up in the future!

Details on signing up for OurSolar will be available later this month. In the meantime, check out the next page for answers to some of the most commonly asked questions.

> number of panels installed by Firelands Electric Co-op

number of kilowatts output by Firelands Electric's solar field

# accountability innovation

#### What is the cost to participate?

The cost of electric produced through the OurSolar program is 11.85 cents per kWh. That's 1.5 cents more than today's standard residential rate. The average cost per panel is less than \$2 per month.

#### Is there a limit to the number of panels I can subscribe to?

Residential members can subscribe to the energy output of up to 10 panels.

#### How long is the term of the agreement?

The agreement can last for five, 10, or 15 years — your choice. The OurSolar rate will be fixed during the agreement but is subject to change after the agreement ends.

#### What happens if I move?

If you move to another location within Firelands Electric Co-op's service territory, your subscription can "move" with you! If you move out of the service territory, you have the following options:

- 1. Transfer your subscription to another member of Firelands Electric Cooperative.
- 2. Transfer your subscription as part of the sale or rental of your home.
- Return your subscription back to Firelands Electric Cooperative at no cost.

#### What if I cancel the agreement early?

If the agreement is canceled early due to moving or death, then the options under "What happens if I move?" apply. If the agreement is canceled early due to a different reason, then the subscription may be returned to the cooperative by paying an administrative fee of \$50 per panel.

## If I subscribe to a panel of OurSolar, will I stop receiving my monthly bill?

No. You will continue to receive your monthly bill, but your bill will now show that a portion of your energy is produced by your solar panels and paid for at the OurSolar rate.

#### Will this lower my bill?

No. OurSolar is not intended as a cost-savings initiative but as an alternative to pricey rooftop solar.

#### How will my bill be calculated?

The entire site will be metered at a single point. Subscribers' monthly statement will include their per-panel portion of the array's output.

## Will any equipment be connected to my home?

No. The power generated by OurSolar will be transported throughout the community by the co-op.

#### How will this help increase sustainability?

OurSolar is a local power source, which allows the community to have more control over a portion of their power supply. Generating energy with solar power creates no pollution or carbon dioxide emissions, and is a clean, renewable, and sustainable alternative energy source.

#### How does OurSolar compare?

OurSolar gives all members an opportunity to benefit from this clean energy source because it's built and maintained at a central location by experts in the field. This eliminates common barriers — such as trees, roof size, and house location — that prevent people from installing solar panels on their property. Further, all ongoing costs are included in the subscription rate, so there is no need to worry about unexpected costs popping up in the future!

## Can I take advantage of any incentives to bring down the cost of a panel?

OurSolar has sought out and taken advantage of all available tax credits, rebates, and incentives in order to make the program as affordable as possible. These cost reductions are included in the subscription rate.

#### Is energy production guaranteed?

No. The energy produced for each panel is expected to be about 375 kilowatt-hours per year, but may be more or less in any given year depending on weather conditions.

#### Can anyone sign up for Firelands Electric's OurSolar program?

Only residential members of Firelands Electric Cooperative may subscribe to panels.

## POWERING THE CO-OP COMMUNITY — ONE RAY AT A TIME

#### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

# Shining the light on energy savings

When it comes to lighting, the potential for energy efficiency is just too great to ignore. Around the home, changing bulbs can change your electric bills, and the monthly savings can add up.

Members regularly use dozens of bulbs, out of necessity and convenience. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, nearly 130 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity are consumed by residential lighting each year, representing about 9 percent of all home energy use.

> As light-emitting diode (LED) design options increase, prices are coming down, and more members see LEDs as an alternative to the incandescent bulbs first popularized by Thomas Edison in the 1880s.

Cool white, dimmable, decorative, three-way, and color are now among the options, with LEDs taking up an increasing share of shelf space in the lighting sections of hardware, discount, and home improvement stores.

"The economics make sense," says Alan Shedd, director of energy solutions for Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives. "When LED lamp products were \$20, it was a tough sell. Now, for a couple of bucks, members can get a lamp that uses as little as one-tenth of the energy and lasts 10 times longer."

To get an idea of your potential for energy savings, complete a home inventory. Don't just count fixtures count bulbs, and note the type of bulb now in use: incandescent, halogen, compact fluorescent lights, or fluorescent tubes. The average single-family home has between 50 and 75 bulbs, including hallways, garages, and storage areas, and that savings can add up.

#### Lumens, not watts

Cashing in on lighting efficiency is easier if you rethink the way you buy and use lighting products. Think in lumens instead of watts. When shopping for LEDs, keep in mind that bulbs with lower watts use less energy, while those with lower lumens are dimmer.

According to Shedd, education, or re-education, is the key. Once you realize that lumens are a measurement of the amount of light given off by a bulb, it's easier to understand that the number of lumens (not the number of watts) determines the brightness of the bulb.

Also take into consideration the bulb's color temperature, or Kelvin. Bulbs with a higher Kelvin have a brighter light, while bulbs with a lower Kelvin produce a more yellow color.

Replacing compact fluorescent lightbulbs with LEDs also provides energy savings, though more like 30 to 50 percent rather than the 90 percent from replacing incandescent bulbs.

"The energy savings and life expectancy of an LED is incrementally better," Shedd says. "The early CFLs did not offer good color, and they took a long time to reach full brightness, particularly in cold environments."

To figure out how much you can save by switching to LEDs in your home, visit www.firelandsec.com/content/ energy-education and check out Firelands Electric Cooperative's lighting calculator.

#### LEDs room by room

#### Living Room Lamps

Table or floor three-way lamps using LED bulbs provide 620, 1,600, or 2,150 lumens of light.

#### Kitchen

Dimmable recessed LED conversion lights add a warm glow of up to 1,200 lumens for kitchen workspaces and add far less heat to your kitchen.

#### **Bedrooms and Hallways**

Long-lasting LEDs are ideal for ceiling fixtures. A 9-watt LED produces the same 800 lumens of light as a 60-watt incandescent and uses about 80 percent less energy.

#### Bathrooms

Omnidirectional LED globe bulbs are designed to provide a warm glow ideal for bathrooms. A 6-watt bulb produces 450 lumens and lasts up to 15,000 hours.

#### Outdoors

A 6-watt, 500-lumen LED bulb can replace a 40-watt incandescent bulb.

Source: NRECA's Straight Talk

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#### SAFETY

# STAY SAFE THIS

As farmers make plans for fall harvest, Firelands Electric Cooperative urges them to be alert to the dangers of working near overhead power lines. Operating large equipment near these lines is often overlooked — and potentially deadly.

Start by making sure every farm worker knows to maintain a 10-foot minimum clearance between their equipment and all power lines and poles. Simply working too close to a power line is dangerous because electricity can arc or "jump" to conducting objects, such as a ladder, pole, or truck. Even non-metallic materials like lumber, tires, ropes, and hay can conduct electricity depending on dampness, dust, and dirt contamination.

Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting tractors or other equipment on trailer beds. Many tractors now have tall antennas extending from the cab that could make contact with power lines. Avoid raising the arms of planters or cultivators near power lines, and never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.

If your equipment does make contact with a power line, do not leave the cab. Immediately call 911, warn others to stay away, and wait for utility crews to cut the power. Even if a line has landed on the ground, there is still potential for the area to be energized.

The only reason to exit equipment that has come into contact with overhead lines is if the equipment is on fire, which is rare. If it is absolutely necessary to exit the cab, jump out with both feet together, so that they hit the ground at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time.

For more tips and information on how to stay safe this harvest season, visit www.SafeElectricity.org.

# Tips for a Safe Harvest

Harvest season brings hard work and can be exhausting, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous (even deadly!) when working near overhead power lines. We urge farm operators and workers to keep the following safety tips in mind:



Use care when operating large machinery near power lines.



Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.



Always keep equipment at least 10 feet away (in all directions) from power lines.



Remember to lower extensions when moving loads.



If a power line is sagging or looks to be dangerously low, please call us immediately.

Source: SafeElectricity.org

EMPLOYEE NEWS

# KOLLEEN PATTON CELEBRATES

This month, Kolleen Patton marks her 15th anniversary with Firelands Electric Cooperative.

Kolleen joined the cooperative in September 2003 as an accounting clerk, handling accounts payable and capital credits. In 2010, she was promoted to accountant, where she is responsible for payroll, processing work orders, and handling the retirement and estate allocations of capital credits for the cooperative's members.

Kolleen received her associate's degree in business management from North Central State College and is currently pursuing her bachelor's at Mount Vernon Nazarene University.

"I like being part of the Firelands family and enjoy helping our members," Kolleen says. Firelands is a notfor-profit electric cooperative that emphasizes service first, and having fellow employees that are dedicated to giving members the best possible service is very rewarding, she adds.

Kolleen and her family live in the rural Nova area. Her husband, Don, works for the Village of New London, and the couple are the proud parents of twin daughters, Adelynn and Lydia. Outside of work, Kolleen enjoys spending time with family and friends.



Kolleen Patton

Wishing you a safe and happy Labor Day !

The Firelands Electric Co-op office will be closed on

### Monday, September 3

in observance of Labor Day. As always, emergency service is available 24/7 by calling 1-800-533-8658.



## Fridge on the fritz?

Visit www.firelandsec.com/content/ member-programs to find out how you can qualify for a rebate on a new fridge, freezer, washing machine, dishwasher, or dehumidifier.

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#### CO-OP NEWS

# Become an advocate for your co-op

Formed in 1966, the Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE<sup>®</sup>) is a multicandidate political action committee (PAC). Its mission is to make sure that the voice of rural electric cooperative consumers is heard in the U.S. Congress.

ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action<sup>®</sup> (often referred to as Co-op Owners) is the PAC's consumer arm. Co-op Owners gives you, the member, an opportunity to raise your voice on behalf of your electric cooperative.

Government officials make policy decisions that affect your local cooperative and your way of life. Co-op Owners is an easy way for you to help determine who gets elected to make those decisions. The program supports current and potential candidates for state and federal office who will speak for — and protect — the interests of electric cooperatives and their member-owners. It's important for co-ops to strengthen our political voice and let legislators know how their proposals will affect our members and their electric bills.

For just \$2.08 per month, you can join the 366 Firelands Electric members, 5,671 Ohio members, and 10,399 Co-op Owners nationwide who are part of ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action. Of the 47 states with electric cooperatives, Ohio has more than three times the number of ACRE Co-op Owners members than any other state. This means that the Buckeye state has more active members making a difference.

Your voluntary participation in the nationwide Co-op Owners program ensures that the voice of electric cooperatives remains strong in our nation's capital and in our state legislature. Maintaining a grassroots presence in the political process is instrumental to the long-term success of the electric cooperative program — and to the communities they serve.

To join ACRE Co-op Owners, complete and return the form to the right — and make your voice heard!

# for Political Action

### **Authorization Form**

I want to help keep the voices of rural electric cooperatives heard in the political process by participating in ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action<sup>®</sup>.

No need to send a check. Please add the following amount to my monthly electric bill:

Regular Member: \$2.0	08 per month	(\$25 per year)
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Century Member: \$8.03 per month (\$100 per year)\*

President's Member: \$41.60 per month (\$500 per year)\*

Other Amount:	\$
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I affirm that my contribution is made with non-corporate funds:

Name:\_\_\_

Address:

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Cooperative:\_\_\_\_\_

Account No.:\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\_

\* Federal election law requires the following information for contributions equal to or exceeding \$200:

Employer:

Occupation:\_

This completed form can be submitted online by e-mailing it to members@firelandsec.com, or mail it to Firelands Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 32, New London, OH 44851.

Enclosed check payable to Firelands Electric Cooperative for a one-time donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action are strictly voluntary. Contributions to federal and state political action committees are not tax deductible. Member-owners have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Contributions may be stopped any time upon notification to the cooperative. The contribution guidelines are suggestions only. You may contribute more, or less, than the recommended amount.

#### COOPERATIVE UPDATE

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# BOARD MEETING highlights

*Firelands Electric Cooperative's board of trustees met June 21 and covered the following items:* 

- The board reviewed safety and training reports for meetings held June 5 and June 9.
- General Manager Dan McNaull announced the co-op's OurSolar program to the board. He provided a copy of a proposed rate schedule for the community solar program, which was adopted by the board.
- Director of Finance and Accounting Tabi Shepherd reviewed the May financials and reviewed loan draw-down procedures for the cooperative's building loan and work plan. She also reported on recent accounting and billing department activities.
- The board discussed broadband service within the cooperative's service territory. They also reviewed the experiences of Ohio electric cooperatives that have entered the broadband industry. Following discussion, the board decided to await further action until after researching and hearing discussion at an upcoming statewide meeting in August.
- Dan McNaull advised the board that outside vendors are removing their attachments from Firelands Electric's communication tower within the next six to 12 months, in preparation for selling the co-op's

existing properties and buildings. Following discussion, the board requested the general manager to interview brokers regarding value of the properties

• Management updated the board on the status of constructing the cooperative's new facility, and advised that the building was on schedule.

and report back to the board at the July meeting.

- The board and management discussed arrangements and assignments for the cooperative's upcoming June 23 annual meeting event in Ashland.
- Director of Electric Operations Don Englet reported on recent projects and crew activities in the operations department. He discussed the Coulter substation and changes to the cooperative's voltage regulators in the substation.
- Director of Member Services and Communications Andrea Gravenhorst updated the board on recent projects and activities involving the member services department. She discussed the cooperative's revised rebate programs and benefits available to members utilizing the programs.

The cooperative's next board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 25, at Firelands Electric's office, located at One Energy Place, New London.

#### FIRELANDS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

OUTAGE HOTLINE 1-800-533-8658

#### OFFICE

One Energy Place P.O. Box 32 New London, OH 44851 419-929-1571

**OFFICE HOURS** Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. www.firelandsec.com



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES** Dan Schloemer President, District 1

Bruce Leimbach Vice President, District 4

Carl Ayers Secretary/Treasurer, District 5

W.E. Anderson District 8

Steve Gray District 3

Gene Lamoreaux District 2

John Martin District 9

Kevin Reidy District 6

Rob Turk District 7 **GENERAL MANAGER** Dan McNaull

**HAVE A STORY SUGGESTION?** E-mail your ideas to: members@firelandsec.com

