

2018

# ANNUAL REPORT

April 24, 2019 | GREAT BEND EVENTS CENTER  
3111 10TH STREET IN GREAT BEND



USDOT-999397  
Scott City, KS.  
GRW-42,000



# MEETING AGENDA

GREAT BEND EVENTS CENTER  
3111 10TH STREET IN GREAT BEND

Invocation & Lunch | 11:30 a.m.

Posting the Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem

Annual Meeting Call to Order

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

Recognition of Trustees/Spouses

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

Recognition of Special Guests

**BRUCE W. MUELLER** | General Manager

Declaration of Quorum

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

Official Notice | Affidavit of Mailing

**JIM MCVAY** | General Counsel

Financial Report (Treasurer's Report)

Video Presentation

**RADONA SMYTHE** | Director of Finance

Annual Summary

Video Presentation

Youth Trip Winners

**TREY GREBE** | Assistant General Manager

Scholarship Awards

**TREY GREBE** | Assistant General Manager

Service Awards

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

Old Business

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

New Business

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

**JIM MCVAY** | General Counsel

Grand Prize Drawing

**WILLIAM BARNES** | President

Adjournment

Retiring the Colors



# VOTING

## TRUSTEE NOMINEES

The following members have been nominated by the nominating committee for the position of Wheatland Electric Cooperative trustee:

### DISTRICT 5



**WES CAMPBELL**

106 Diamond Hill Drive  
Garden City, KS 67846

### DISTRICT 6



**ROBERT HISS**

2001 Broadway Avenue  
Great Bend, KS 67530

### DISTRICT 7



**WILLIAM BARNES**

719 Market Street  
Caldwell, KS 67022

## PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The Wheatland Board of Trustees has recommended the following amendments regarding Article 4 Trustees, Section 3 Qualifications of a Trustee.

### ARTICLE 4 TRUSTEES, SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS.

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee of the Cooperative who:

- 1** Is not a member and taking electric service in the area served or to be served by the Cooperative;
- 2** Is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business

selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures, or supplies to the members of the Cooperative; or

- 3** That has a close family member that is an employee of the Cooperative. A close family member means a spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandchild, grandparent, aunt, uncle,

niece, nephew and the same for in-law and "step" relationships.

Upon establishment of the fact that a trustee is holding office in violation of any of the foregoing provisions, the Cooperative's Board of Trustees shall remove such trustee from office.

Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Trustees.

# FINANCIALS

## OPERATING STATEMENT

for year ending Dec. 31, 2018 (unaudited)

Income	
Electric Revenues	\$97,823,040
Water and Broadband Revenues	\$5,534,556
Interest Income	\$623,730
Capital Credits from Other Cooperatives*	\$4,282,629*
Non-Operating Income (Other)	(\$265,479)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$107,998,476</b>
Expenses	
Purchased Power/Cost of Sales	\$58,249,233
Operations & Maintenance	\$10,854,322
Administrative & General	\$8,432,010
Depreciation	\$11,246,311
Interest	\$9,401,824
Taxes	\$5,020,309
Other	\$41,791
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$103,245,800</b>
<b>Total Margins</b>	<b>\$4,752,676</b>

(\*) Of this amount \$3,115,161 is a non-cash allocation of margins from Sunflower Electric Power Corporation and Mid-Kansas Electric Company for the year of 2018.

## PROPERTY TAXES

Wheatland Electric will pay a total of \$4,122,938 in property taxes for 2018. These amounts were assessed against assets such as electric lines, poles, buildings, trucks and water and broadband-related equipment owned by Wheatland. As a not-for-profit cooperative, Wheatland is exempt from income tax.

At right, is a listing of property taxes assessed by county for 2018.

## BALANCE SHEET

as of Dec. 31, 2018 (unaudited)

Assets	
Cash & Short-Term Investments	\$5,458,081
Memberships and Other Investments	\$85,472,080
Notes Receivable	\$5,178,101
Accounts Receivable	\$10,634,145
Materials and Supplies	\$2,980,088
Other Current and Accrued Assets	\$4,777
Deferred Charges	\$4,284,784
Plant Assets (All Operations)	\$380,614,923
Accumulated Depreciation	(\$107,483,002)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$387,143,977</b>
Liabilities	
Principal Owed on Long-Term Debt	\$218,403,594
Interest Payable on Long-Term Debt (in 2019)	\$674,380
Notes Payable	\$39,323,207
Accounts Payable	\$5,640,930
Property Taxes Payable (due in 2019)	\$2,107,977
Consumer Deposits	\$740,518
Other Liabilities/Deferred Credits	\$4,647,551
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$271,538,157</b>
Equities	
2018 Operating Margin	\$65,653
2018 Non-Operating Margin	\$4,687,022
Prior Years Margins	\$109,818,073
Other Equities	\$1,035,072
<b>Total Equities</b>	<b>\$115,605,820</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$387,143,977</b>

County	Amount	County	Amount
Finney	\$1,342,924	Kingman	\$120,082
Barton	\$486,514	Gray	\$37,497
Harper	\$444,176	Reno	\$5,627
Kearny	\$357,572	Logan	\$3,535
Scott	\$304,302	Wallace	\$3,190
Hamilton	\$284,617	Sedgwick	\$2,596
Greeley	\$246,280	Lane	\$287
Sumner	\$246,078	Haskell	\$94
Wichita	\$237,505	Seward	\$62

Total 2018 Property Tax Expense (18 counties) \$4,122,938







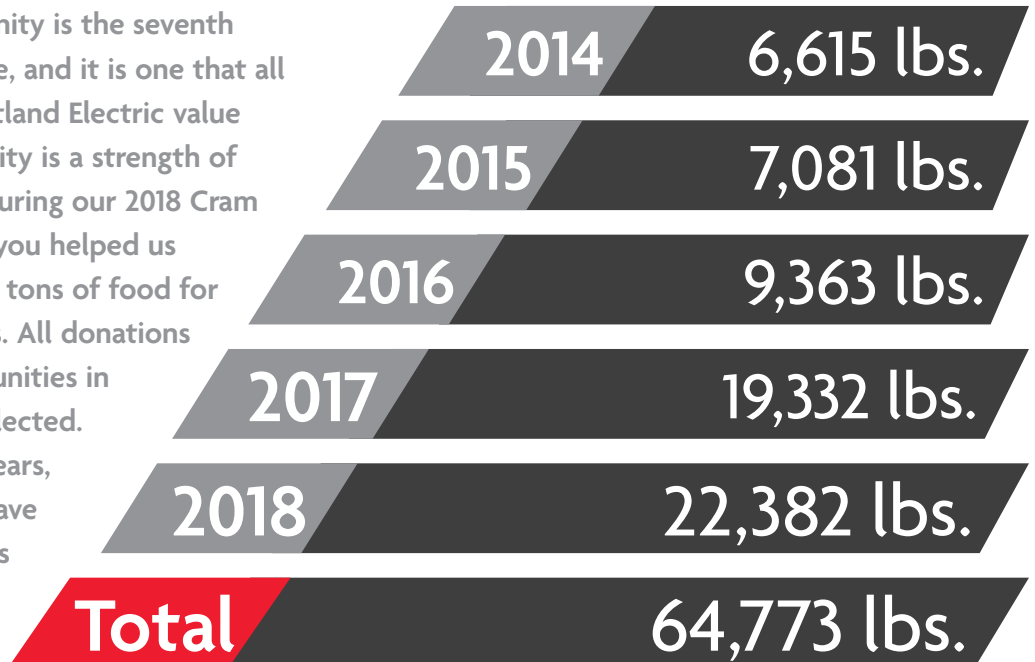
# COMMUNITY



## CRAM THE VAN

Concern for community is the seventh cooperative principle, and it is one that all employees of Wheatland Electric value year-round. Generosity is a strength of our members too. During our 2018 Cram the Van food drive, you helped us collect more than 10 tons of food for our local food banks. All donations stayed in the communities in which they were collected.

Over the past five years, more than 32 tons have been donated thanks to Wheatland members.





# YOUTH TOUR WINNERS

Each year, Wheatland sponsors four local youth to attend all-expense-paid trips of a lifetime. Two will attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June 2019, and two will travel to Steamboat Springs, Colorado, for the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in July 2019. Congratulations to this year's winners!

## WASHINGTON, D.C.



**DELANEY  
MAYO**  
Caldwell High School



**OLIVIA MULL**  
Great Bend High School



**TORI POE**  
Norwich High School



**FABEL YANEZ**  
Greeley Co./Tribune High School

## STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS | 2019

Wheatland awards up to \$14,000 in scholarships, each year, to seniors graduating from one of the 13 high schools in our service territory, plus one at-large.

**BRANT COTTA** | Argonia High School

**SOPHEE SPRAGUE** | Caldwell High School

**JAMIE MANNING** | Chaparral High School

**MOLLY SCHMANKE** | Conway Springs High School

**YADIRA JUAREZ-SOTO** | Deerfield High School

**GRACE SOUPISET** | Great Bend High School

**SEBASTIAN TORRES** | Greeley County/ Tribune High School

**JASMINE PALACIOS** | Holcomb High School

**HANNAH HOLLER** | Norwich High School

**CHASETON CUPP** | Scott Community High School

**CADE DVORAK** | South Haven High School

**WYATT CARTER** | Syracuse High School

**KAIYA GERSTBERGER** | Wichita County/ Leoti High School

**ABBY FLICKNER** | At-Large

# 2018 MINUTES

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the members of Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (Wheatland or Cooperative) was held on April 25, 2018, in the William Carpenter 4-H Building in Scott City, Kansas at 12:30 p.m. CDT. The meeting was held pursuant to notice provided each member of the Cooperative. Charles Ayers presented an invocation prior to the luncheon that began at 11:30 a.m.

Woody Barnes, Board President, served as Chairman throughout the meeting. The Chairman called to order the 70th Annual Meeting and welcomed all members and guests. Chairman Barnes introduced the Trustees of the Cooperative. Bruce Mueller, Wheatland's General Manager, introduced the executive staff of Wheatland and special guests in attendance to include: Stuart Lowry, President and CEO of Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, and Ed Wiltse, General Manager of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative. At that time, a color guard presented and posted the colors, and members recited the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the playing of the National Anthem.

Chairman Barnes announced there were 112 members present in person at the meeting and 32 members present by proxy. Those members present by proxy were reported and posted by overhead projection. The Cooperative membership exceeds 1,000, and therefore, 50 members or more constitutes a quorum. A quorum was announced by the Chairman.

The Chairman presented that the official Notice of Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing and the Certificate of Membership would be read to the members present. Motion was made by members from the floor, seconded and passed by unanimous vote to waive the formal reading of the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing and the Certificate of Membership. Jim McVay, legal counsel for the Cooperative, summarized the Official Notice of the Annual Meeting, the Affidavit of Mailing and the Certificate of Membership.

The 2017 Annual Meeting minutes were provided to the members when registering at the meeting. The Chairman presented that the 2017 Annual Meeting minutes would be read to the membership. Motion was made from the floor to dispense with the reading of the 2017 minutes and to approve them as presented; it was seconded and approved by unanimous vote. The reading of the previous minutes was waived. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes and they were approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

Radona Smythe, Wheatland Director of Finance, presented the Financial Report/Treasurer's Report by video, which was also published in the April issue of the Kansas Country Living magazine and was mailed to each of the members, along with the official Notice of Meeting. Once concluded, the Chairman asked the members if there were questions relative to the report. The Chairman announced that he would entertain a motion to accept the report as mailed to each member of the Cooperative. Upon motion made, seconded, and passed by unanimous vote, the Financial Report/Treasurer's Report was approved and adopted.

Bruce Mueller made a special video presentation to the members on the Wheatland highlights for 2017. He presented on the service territory protection statute passed by the Kansas legislature and signed by the governor. Bruce presented that this change in the law will protect the rights of cooperatives to maintain a franchise in their assigned service territory or be properly compensated by any municipality that annexes the territory of an electric cooperative.

Operations Manager for Wheatland, Phillip Shelley, provided a video presentation on Winter Storm URSA and the impact it had on the western part of Wheatland's Service Territory. Phillip talked about the AMI deployment and the effect it had in helping with Winter Storm URSA. Phillip also gave an update on the construction activity and substation work being performed in Wheatland's District 7.

Jevin Kasselmann, Director of Broadband and Information Technology, provided a video presentation on the use of drone technology that will aid Wheatland in inspecting its facilities and during electric outage emergencies.

Pam Brungardt, Director of Consumer Services, provided a video presentation about SmartHub and how it can help members monitor and lower their usage. SmartHub also gives members the ability to pay their bill online and receive text notifications when their bill is due.

Assistant General Manager, Trey Grebe, gave a video presentation about the success of Cram the Van in 2017 and how the program has continued to grow and expand over the last four years. Trey also presented on the capital credits retirement in 2017 in the amount of \$750,000.00. The Wheatland membership was able to interact with Wheatland employees at Capital Credits Harvest Days. More than 350 members attended Harvest Days to pick up their capital credits retirement checks. Trey gave an update on Wheatland's Key Accounts program. Key Accounts is a member focused program designed to proactively work with some of our largest and most critical members.

Bruce Mueller, Wheatland's General Manager, concluded the video with some additional good news that the Board of Trustees have announced another \$1,000,000.00 capital credits retirement for the year 2018.

Trey Grebe, Wheatland's Assistant General Manager, announced the Cooperative's winners for the Youth Tour programs as follows:

- ▶ **CADE DVORAK**, South Haven High School – Washington, DC
- ▶ **SEBASTIAN TORRES**, Greeley County High School – Washington, DC
- ▶ **BRANT COTTA**, Argonia High School – Steamboat Springs, CO Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp
- ▶ **SAMMIE STRNAD**, Caldwell High School – Steamboat Springs, CO Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp

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SCOTT CITY



# 2018 MINUTES

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The 2018 Scholarship recipients were also announced by Trey Grebe, Assistant General Manager. Bruce Mueller, General Manager, presented certificates to the students attending the meeting.

The 2018 recipients were announced as follows:

- ▶ **TREVOR PIERCE** – Argonia High School
- ▶ **JUSTIN BROWN** – Caldwell High School
- ▶ **HUNTER SMITH** – Chaparral High School
- ▶ **MAKENNA BEESLEY** – Conway Springs High School
- ▶ **LAUREN MILLER** – Great Bend High School
- ▶ **ARELY YANEZ** – Greeley County/Tribune High School
- ▶ **KYLE HAMMOND** – Holcomb High School
- ▶ **PAYTON GARRISON** – Norwich Consolidated Schools
- ▶ **DEXTER GOODEN** – Scott Community High School
- ▶ **KENDALL RAY** – South Haven High School
- ▶ **MACEY DEWEESE** – Syracuse High School
- ▶ **MARELI SALAZAR** – Wichita County High School

Service awards were then announced by the Chairman to employees and Trustees as follows:

<b>35 YEARS</b>	<b>15 YEARS</b>	<b>10 YEARS</b>	<b>5 YEARS</b>
Rick Klaus	Josh Holt	Paul Aguiniga	Lucy Martinez
Phillip Shelley	Michael Ille	Dan Bonine, Trustee	Eric Newberry
<b>30 YEARS</b>	Pam Murphy	Mark Douglas	Neil O'Connell
Marcia Matthies	Perry Smith	Steve Gerard	Clay Shelton
<b>20 YEARS</b>		Steve Hageberg	Jim Welker
Jevin Kasselmann		Jillane Koochel	
			Creighton Demel
			Katie Eisenhour, Trustee
			Tyler Gehring
			Chris Oliver
			Chris Schurle
			Justin Skelton

The Chairman then inquired of the members of whether there was any old business to come before the meeting. There was no old business to come before the meeting.

The Chairman then called for new business. There was no new business announced from the floor. The Chairman announced two items of new business. There was a proposed change to the Wheatland Bylaws that would enhance the membership's ability to receive capital credits due decedent's estates. Also, there were three Wheatland districts up for election. Jim McVay read the Nomination Committee Affidavit. The Nominating Committee was composed of Ed Cupp, Milan Reimer, Dale Wetzel, Marvin Graber, Robert Buerkle, Matt Hoisington and Kim Miller. The Nominating Committee placed into nomination and selected the following candidates: Mike Thon, District 3; Dan Bonine, District 6; and Mark Arnold, District 7. Jim presented that all nominations were made by motion, seconded and passed by unanimous vote. The members were once again told that additional Trustee candidates could be nominated from the floor. The qualifications for the Office of Trustee were read to the members verbatim from the Wheatland Bylaws.

Thereafter, the Chairman asked for nominations from the floor. After waiting more than one minute, there were no nominations from the floor. Motion was made, seconded and passed by unanimous vote to close the floor nomination process. Because there were no nominations from the floor and no nominations by petition, there was a motion from the floor to dispense with the casting and counting of ballots of Trustees and to approve and adopt the full slate of candidates selected by the Committee on Nominations. On motion made, seconded and passed by unanimous vote, there was no casting and counting of ballots for Trustees and the nominations made by the Committee on Nominations were approved by unanimous vote of the membership. Mike Thon in District 3 was elected for a 3 year term; Dan Bonine in District 6 was elected for a 3 year term; and, Mark Arnold in District 7 was elected for a 3 year term.

The Chairman announced there was still an item of new business for the casting and counting of ballots for the change of Wheatland Bylaws to expand the right of members to receive capital credits due estates. Jim McVay announced that a ballot counting committee had been assembled. The ballot counting committee consisted of Jerome Berning, former Wheatland Trustee; Thomas Yeager former Captain, USA; Dexter Gooden, Wheatland scholarship winner; and Pat Miller. The ballot counting committee then took all ballots and properly counted the ballots with regard to the proposed change to the Bylaws. The ballot counting committee then announced that the change in the proposed Bylaws passed. Therefore, the proposed change to the Bylaws will take effect as of the date of the 2018 annual meeting.

During the counting of ballots, a video presentation was presented to the membership entitled "When the Lights Come On" that shows what electricity meant to the people of southwest Kansas.

Thereafter, the Chairman announced that Linda Barber was the winner of the grand prize Traeger grill.

The Chairman asked for and found that there was no additional new business to be presented at the meeting. The Chairman, Woody Barnes, ordered that the meeting was adjourned by motion made, seconded and carried at 1:35 p.m. CDT.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, JAMES M. MCVAY, GENERAL COUNSEL**







# YOUR CO-OP

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



William Barnes

TRUSTEE



Wes Campbell

TRUSTEE



Stacey Addison-Howland

TRUSTEE



Mark Arnold

TRUSTEE



Dan Bonine

TRUSTEE



Vic Case

TRUSTEE



Katie Eisenhour

TRUSTEE



Robert Hiss

TRUSTEE



John Kleysteuber

TRUSTEE



Mike Thon

TRUSTEE

## WHEATLAND MANAGEMENT

▶ **BRUCE W. MUELLER**

General Manager

▶ **TREY GREBE**

Assistant  
General Manager

▶ **JIM MCVAY**

General Counsel

▶ **RICK KLAUS**

Director of  
Operations

▶ **BARBARA KIRK**

Director of  
Human Resources

▶ **RADONA SMYTHE**

Director of  
Finance

▶ **JEVIN KASSELMAN**

Director of Information  
Technology &  
Broadband

▶ **PAM BRUNGARDT**

Director of  
Consumer Services

▶ **LUKE WEST**

Director of  
Corporate Services  
& Water Division

▶ **ALLI CONINE**

Manager of Member  
Services and Corporate  
Communication

▶ **QUINTEN WHEELER**

Manager of Safety  
& Compliance

▶ **RHEI THURMAN**

Executive Assistant





# SERVICE AWARDS

## 30 YEARS

Chris Huber, Great Bend

## 20 YEARS

Matthew Riley, Syracuse

Carlos Pardo, Garden City

## 10 YEARS

Woody Barnes, Harper\*

Vic Case, Leoti\*

Clinton Gulick, Caldwell

Bob Hiss, Great Bend\*

Nathan Porter, Leoti

Kyle Strickert, Garden City

Debbie Stonestreet, Syracuse

Trent Suchy, Great Bend

## 5 YEARS

Mario Diaz, Garden City

Logan Mattheyer, Garden City

Blake Reed, Great Bend

Rabeca Lopez, Garden City

## 25 YEARS

Bruce Loy, Leoti

## 15 YEARS

Kevin Morpew, Garden City

Nick Buehler, Scott City (WBS)

Dave Morris, Garden City

Curtis Peterson, Garden City

\*Indicates Wheatland Trustee





## COINS KEEP SAFETY IN MIND

Last November, Wheatland shared its Commitment to Zero Contacts initiative with you. As part of that initiative, Wheatland provided its linemen a coin to carry in their pockets each day to remind them of why they work safely. Little did we know the impact this coin would have on more than just the linemen who work for Wheatland.

**KAYLEE STRICKERT** is much like any four-year-old; some days preschool drop-off is more difficult than others. Kaylee was worried about being safe at school. Kyle, her dad and a lineman at Wheatland Electric for the past 11 years, reassured her that her teachers at school were there to keep her safe. Kyle also reminded her that God was in her heart and he would keep her safe as well. After multiple days of being reassured that she was safe at school, Kaylee needed something more. She wanted to go to work with her dad and also wanted to know what keeps him safe at work. Kyle told her that God keeps him safe at work and keeps his co-workers safe too, and that linemen look out for one another. While Kaylee clung tightly to him, Kyle reached into his pocket and pulled out his coin. Kyle handed the coin to Kaylee and told her that this is what keeps him safe every day. "I look at this coin and I think of you. I think of your brother and I think of your mom. It reminds me to not take any shortcuts," Kyle told her.

Kaylee now keeps the coin in a pouch in her backpack and carries the coin with her every day as a reminder that she's safe.

Kyle was on call in early January and got called to work



**Kyle Strickert has been a lineman at Wheatland Electric since May 2008. Kyle and his wife, Sydney, have two children: Kaylee (4 years old) and Eli (2 years old).**

around 4 a.m. Kaylee woke up as Kyle was walking out the door and wanted her coin. Kaylee got her coin out of her backpack and fell fast asleep with the coin in her hand.

Kyle now carries a new coin with him in his pocket every day. Linemen are often asked by Wheatland's General Manager Bruce Mueller if they have their coin. If they do, which most of them do, they receive a special gift. Wheatland places a strong emphasis on safety and stories like this are the reason we do.

"When you put your hand in your pocket and you feel your coin, it makes you stop and think," Kyle said. "It reminds me to slow down. It makes me think of my family and the importance of walking through the door each night."

When you put your hand in your pocket and you feel your coin, it makes you stop and think. It reminds me to slow down. It makes me think of my family and the importance of walking through the door each night.



# SERVICE AREA

## WHEATLAND OFFICES

### SCOTT CITY-MAIN

101 Main Street  
PO Box 230  
Scott City, KS 67871  
620-872-5885

### GARDEN CITY

2005 W. Fulton  
PO Box 973  
Garden City, KS 67846  
620-275-0261

### GREAT BEND

2300 Broadway  
PO Box 1446  
Great Bend, KS 67530  
620-793-4223

### HARPER

906 Central  
PO Box 247  
Harper, KS 67058  
620-896-7090

### LEOTI

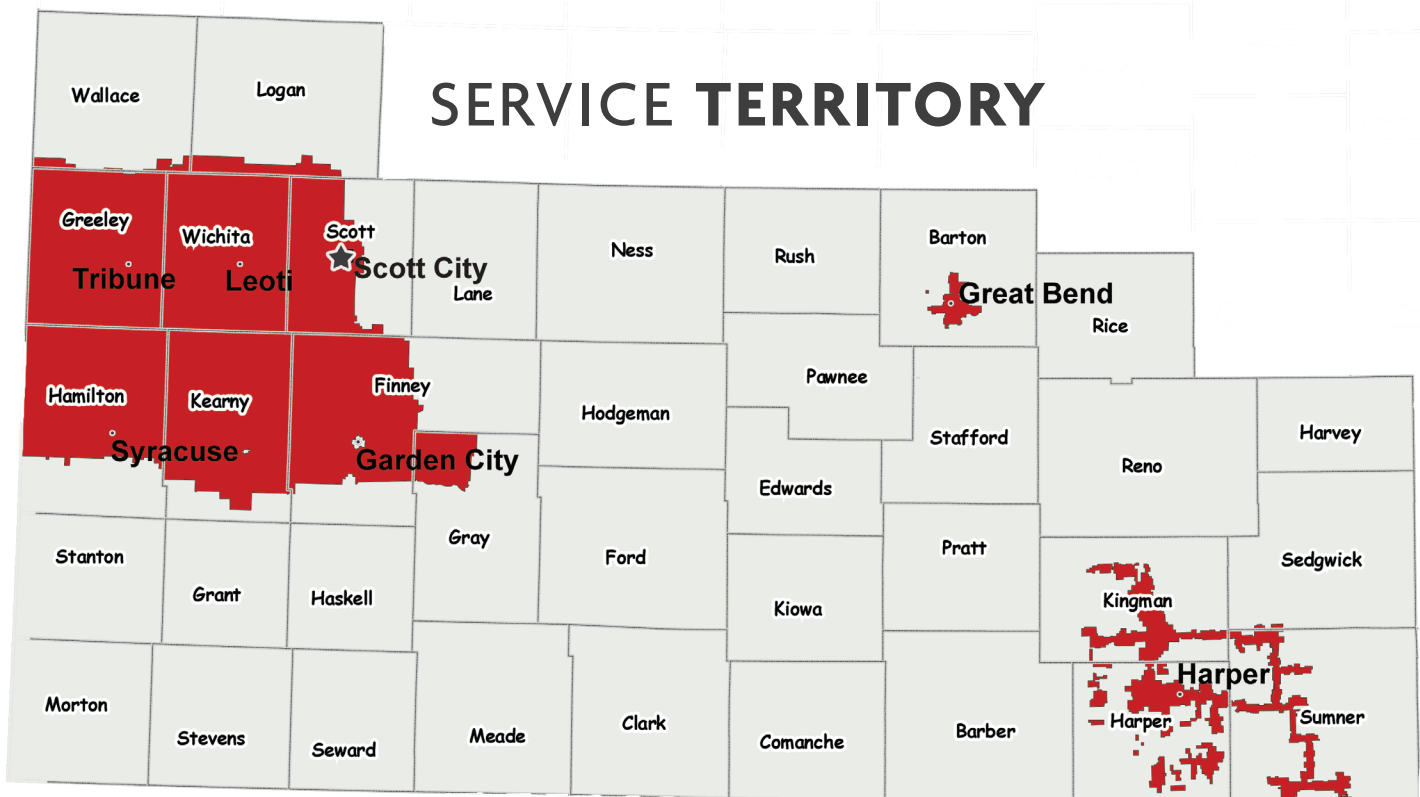
N. Hwy 25  
PO Box 966  
Leoti, KS 67861  
620-375-2632

### SYRACUSE

206 1/2 N Main  
PO Box 1010  
Syracuse, KS 67878  
620-384-5171

### TRIBUNE

310 Broadway  
PO Box 490  
Tribune, KS 67879  
620-376-4231



 Wheatland Electric Cooperative Territory

 Cooperative Headquarters

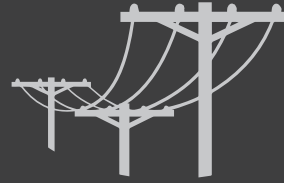


# YOUR COOPERATIVE



**140**

**Employees**



**4,621**

**Miles of Line**



**32,499**

**Meters**

Visit us at [www.weci.net](http://www.weci.net) or “like” Wheatland Electric on Facebook

