



WHEATLAND ELECTRIC

WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Bruce Mueller—General Manager

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District Offices

- | | |
|---|--|
| Garden City
2005 W Fulton
P.O. Box 973
Garden City, KS
67846
620-275-0261 | Scott City—Main
101 Main Street
P.O. Box 230
Scott City, KS
67871
620-872-5885 |
| Great Bend
2300 Broadway
P.O. Box 1446
Great Bend, KS
67530
620-793-4223 | Syracuse
206 1/2 N Main
P.O. Box 1010
Syracuse, KS
67878
620-384-5171 |
| Harper
302 W. 6th
P.O. Box 247
Harper, KS 67058
620-896-7090 | Tribune
310 Broadway
P.O. Box 490
Tribune, KS 67879
620-376-4231 |

- Leoti**
N Hwy 25
P.O. Box 966
Leoti, KS 67861
620-375-2632

FROM THE MANAGER

Why You Should Attend Wheatland's Annual Meeting



Bruce Mueller

It's that time of year again—annual meeting time. On behalf of Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc., I'd like to personally invite you to join us on April 15,

2015, at The Fair Building in Syracuse. We look forward to gathering with you, the members of Wheatland Electric, to catch up, hear what you have to say and enjoy some good food and fellowship.

We will have some great door prizes to give away and will be announcing the winners of the 13 scholarships for local seniors, two Electric Cooperative Youth Tour recipients who will travel to Washington, D.C., and the winner of the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Colorado.

This event is not only a chance

to visit with other members of the cooperative, but a great opportunity to learn about what Wheatland has accomplished in the previous year, and also what we are planning in the upcoming year and beyond.

It's also an opportunity for you to exercise one of the greatest benefits of being a member of Wheatland Electric, by voting for the upcoming board of trustees.

Wheatland Electric is not owned by far away investors. It's run by a democratically elected board of trustees, a board who is given the privilege to serve because of your vote. Our trustees are members of your community. They are concerned with the issues you face every day because they face them too.

So make it a point to attend the Wheatland Electric Annual Meeting and exercise your right as a member of the cooperative and vote.

Until next time, take care.

Wheatland Annual Meeting is April 15

The Wheatland Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015, at the Fair Building in Syracuse (806 S Main). Lunch is at 11:30 a.m. mountain and the meeting will follow at 12:30 p.m. MDT.

We hope to see you there!

April 2015						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Members Give Wheatland High Marks “Overall Satisfaction” Way Above That

Wheatland Electric members gave Wheatland a terrific vote of confidence in the second quarter of 2014, awarding a score of 90 points out of 100 for “providing reliable service.”

Last year, Wheatland surveyed roughly 250 members each quarter to try to get a feel for what it’s doing well and where improvements are needed.

Another highlight from the second quarter: those surveyed gave Wheatland 90 points for “restoring electric service when power goes out.” In the comments section, one respondent wrote, “They are the greatest in the world. They came out at 3 a.m. just to fix a problem.” Members who lose power simply need to call Wheatland’s local office to report the outage.

Members gave Wheatland 89 points for “having competent and knowledgeable employees.”

Wheatland has made easy access to those employees a cornerstone of its service philosophy.

82
 overall
 satisfaction

“A lot of people in Great Bend are pleased that they reopened the local office... Now you can go in and talk to them,” wrote one member in the comments section.

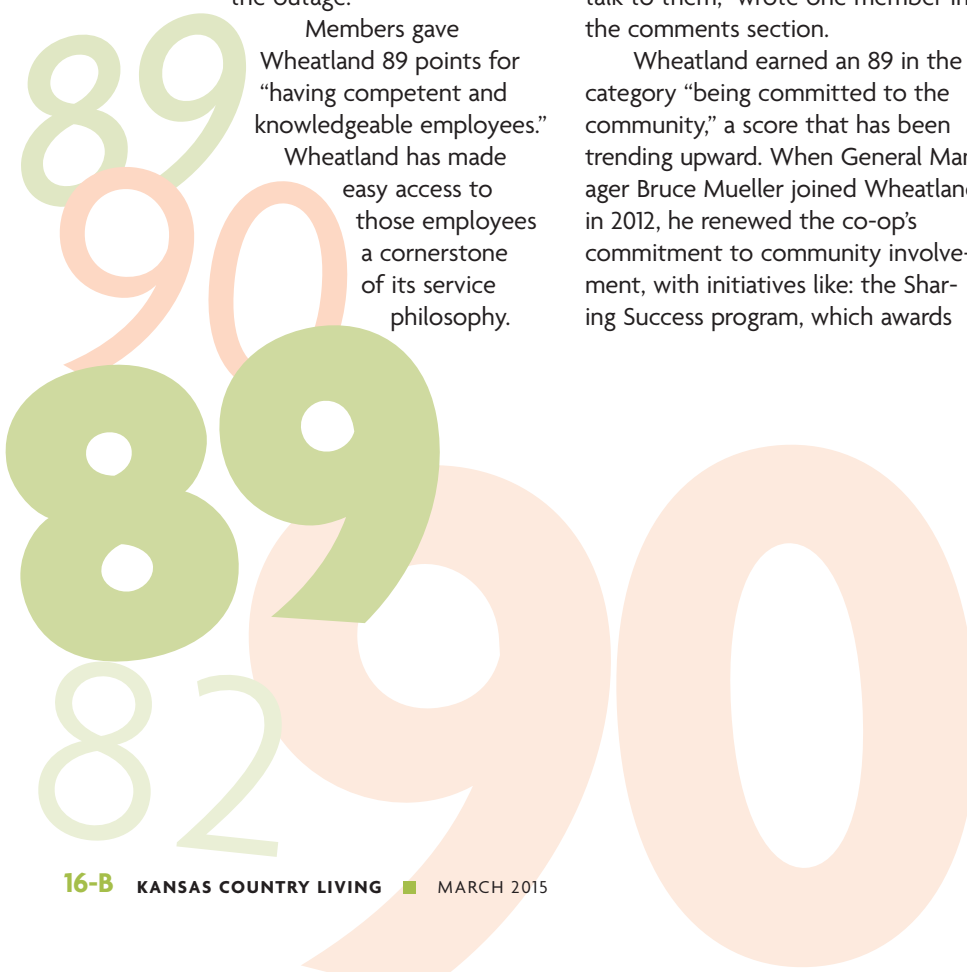
Wheatland earned an 89 in the category “being committed to the community,” a score that has been trending upward. When General Manager Bruce Mueller joined Wheatland in 2012, he renewed the co-op’s commitment to community involvement, with initiatives like: the Sharing Success program, which awards

\$10,000 each year to worthy non-profit organizations doing good work in Wheatland’s service territory; the Cram-the-Van food drive, which collected 6,615 pounds of food for the hungry in 2014; a scholarship program for 13 outstanding high school seniors; as well as the Youth Tour program, which sends students to Washington, D.C., or Steamboat Springs, CO, to encourage participation in civic activities and development of life-long leadership skills

“Concern for Community” is one of the 7 Cooperative Principles the cooperative movement was founded on,” said Mueller. “Those principles were written decades ago, but they are just as relevant today. We at Wheatland have always been devoted to our community. Now, we’re trying to do a better job of letting people know that.”

Members awarded Wheatland an “Overall Satisfaction” score of 82 out of 100, on average, during the first three quarters of 2014 (fourth quarter figures will be available soon). For comparison purposes, investor-owned for-profit electric utilities and municipal utilities most recently earned

90
 providing reliable
 service



Thanks for “Reliable Service” of Other Utilities

90

restoring electric
service

customer satisfaction scores of 75, on average, seven points below Wheatland's score. These scores are derived from the American Consumer Satisfaction Index, a national standard.

TSE Services, the company that conducted the surveys, said in its comments: “Based on year-to-year comparisons, Wheatland's scores show noticeable improvement in ‘providing good value for the money you spend’ and ‘having a goal to provide electricity at the lowest possible cost.’”

Last month, Wheatland announced it was passing along 100 percent of wholesale power costs savings to members in its western service territory.

In another effort to save members money, Wheatland offers the Co-op Connections Card and mobile app, which provide members more than 24,000 local and national discounts on products and services.

One of the most valuable features of the card is discounts on healthcare—and members are taking note. One member surveyed wrote, “I like that they gave a prescription card. It's made a big difference on my

prescription expenses.”

Members' lowest mark for Wheatland was a 76 for “helping you learn to manage your energy use.” In response to this constructive criticism, Wheatland has implemented Energy Efficiency Rebates that reimburse members as much as \$500 for buying an efficient heating and cooling unit; placed Kill-A-Watt meters in every library in its service territory that tell you which of your appliances uses the most energy; and upgraded the Wheatland website including “Save Energy” and “Save Money” informational links with virtual tours of a business and a residence that show you how to curb your energy usage.

“We're grateful that our members responded to every single question with a rating somewhere between ‘very satisfied’ and ‘satisfied,’” Mueller said. “But we won't rest on our laurels. Our goal is to continue to excel in what we do well, innovate where there's room for improvement and let members know about all the great things that are happening at Wheatland.”

89

competent
knowledgeable
employees

Attention Colorado Members

On March 2, 2015, Wheatland mailed every member in Colorado a ballot to vote on self-regulation. We encourage every member in Colorado to cast a vote and return their ballots in the postage-paid envelopes that were provided with the ballots.

Your member-elected Wheatland Board of Trustees urges you to choose self-regulation by voting “YES.”

**BALLOTS MUST
BE RECEIVED BY
MARCH 23, 2015.**

If you have any questions about Colorado self-regulation, please feel free to visit our website at www.weci.net and see Self-Regulation under the news tab or feel free to call our corporate office at 620-872-5885.

Vote “YES” to Self-Regulate by March 23



Efficiency Tip of the Month

Your home works hard for you. Consider giving it an energy checkup. Hire a professional energy auditor to diagnose where your house could be losing energy and where you can start saving money. Auditors check for air leaks, inspect insulation, survey heating and more. After making efficiency upgrades, you could save 5-30 percent on your energy bills.

Check Out a New Way to Curb Your Energy Usage

Borrow a Kill-A-Watt at Your Local Library Today!



The Kill-A-Watt™ EZ is an electricity monitoring device designed to easily measure how much electricity is being used by your plug-in appliances at home or work.

Find out how much money you would save in your electricity bills by turning them off and being smarter in your home energy management.

The Kill-A-Watt EZ is now available for checkout at your local library.

You must have a valid library card to borrow a Kill-A-Watt through this program.

Rebates Available to Upgrade Your HVAC Save Energy, Save Money



Did you know that Wheatland offers rebates to residential members for the installation of energy-efficient heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems?

Heating and cooling a house often accounts for the majority of a household's monthly energy costs. Many homeowners have a great opportunity to save energy and money by installing a more efficient HVAC system.

Essentially, higher efficiency equates to lower monthly energy bills and improved comfort. For example,

you could receive a \$410 rebate for a four-ton (48,000 BTU) heat pump.

For eligibility requirements or to download a rebate form, visit www.weci.net and click on the "Energy Education" tab and then on "Rebates." You can also contact any local office.

Rebate Levels

BTU	Min SEER	Central A/C	Heat Pump
Up to 36,000*	13	\$200	+\$150

*Add \$30 for each ½ ton above 3 ton (36,000 BTU)

Plug-in to Savings!