



POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC


www.vremc.com


MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Mark your calendars for our Annual Meeting on March 25!



MARY JO THOMAS,
CEO

Join us online at 1 p.m. on Facebook.com/WhitewaterValleyREMC to see the annual meeting live. You do NOT need to have a Facebook account to view the meeting and if you're unable to view the live broadcast, the recording will be available on www.vremc.com following the meeting.

Once again, we won't be able to meet in person, but members won't miss out on the chance to win. We'll have several bill credits and cash prizes to give away, as well as the 10 scholarships awarded through the WWVREMC Scholarship Program!

Members will receive a voting packet in the mail with instructions for electing Directors and nominating Committee members. Follow the instructions to cast your vote by March 23 and you'll automatically be entered into our annual meeting prize drawings.

As I write this message, we are all still impacted by a global pandemic. In consideration of the continuing state of emergency, WWVREMC's Annual Meeting will be presented as a virtual event on March 25, 2021.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Members will receive a ballot, information, and instructions by mail around February 24. There are three director positions and three nominating committee positions to vote for. Please vote for the candidates in all three districts, even if you do not live within that district. Return the ballot in the provided postage-paid envelope and send it directly to Survey and Ballot Systems. To ensure your vote is counted, please do not send in your ballot with your bill or bring the ballot to the office.

WHEN DO I VOTE?

Voting will open Wednesday, February 24, 2021. Ballots must be received by March 23 at the address stated in the instructions.

We will certainly miss seeing all our members in person, but hope you'll join us to see how we powered on in 2020, conduct important business and how we plan to continue our mission of providing the power for our member-owners to enhance their quality of life.



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• HAPPY •
Valentine's Day

February Due Dates

The due dates for payment of electric bills are **February 19 and 26.**



2021 Cooperative Annual Meeting Slate

Each year your cooperative holds an annual membership meeting, wherein elections are held to fill positions on the WWVREMC Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. The 2021 annual membership meeting is Thursday, March 25. In accordance with WWVREMC bylaws and nominating policy, the Nominating Committee has nominated the following candidates.

DIRECTOR SLATE

North

Mark Miller, Lynn (Incumbent)

Central

Jodie Creek, Richmond (Incumbent)

South

Terry Hillman, Connersville (Incumbent)

Ashley Harvey, Brookville

Kevin Pinkerton, Liberty

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE

North

Kristy Anderson, Richmond (Incumbent)

Heather Pegg, Greens Fork

Central

Todd Duke, Centerville (Incumbent)

South

Ellis McQueen, Connersville (Incumbent)

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Three board seats are up for election in 2021. The members running for Whitewater Valley REMC's Board of Directors are listed below and on the following pages. Members can vote for one candidate in each district. All members will receive a ballot in the mail including instructions on how to vote. Ballots will be mailed to all members this month, and will be accepted through Tuesday, March 23. Voting for the board of directors will not take place during the annual meeting.

All candidates were asked to provide the following information:

1. Number of years as a member of Whitewater Valley REMC
2. Education and specific degrees
3. Current employment and employment history
4. Leadership and community activities
5. Why are you interested in becoming a member of Whitewater Valley REMC's Board of Directors or serving another term?

NORTH DISTRICT

MARK MILLER, LYNN

Number of years as a member of WWVREMC

34 years

Education

I have successfully completed the requirements for the Credentialed Cooperative Director.

Employment

I am the owner and operator of the Old Barn Repair Shop. I also farm 800 acres in Lynn. I started my own agriculture career at age 17 and worked for the local John Deere dealership for nine years and was service manager at the time I left.

Leadership and community activities

I am a member of the Spartanburg Christian Church where I serve as a deacon and a trustee. I am a member of the Randolph County Antique Club.

Why are you interested in serving another term on Whitewater Valley REMC's Board of Directors?

I would be honored to serve another term on the board and the Whitewater Valley REMC members. I am looking forward to and enjoy working with the board members

on the many challenges facing Whitewater Valley REMC the next three years.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

JODIE CREEK, RICHMOND

Number of years as a member of WWVREMC

15 years

Education

I graduated from Purdue University, School of Agriculture with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Economics.

Employment

I am currently a senior ag loan officer of Beacon Credit Union and work out of the Richmond office. I oversee a team of ag lenders while maintaining my own loan portfolio.

Leadership and community activities

I currently serve as secretary/treasurer of the Whitewater Valley REMC board of directors and I represent Whitewater Valley REMC on the board of directors of Hoosier Energy, REC., the cooperative's power supplier. Currently, I am treasurer of the Hoosier Energy board.

My husband, Brian, and I are involved with Brian's family's farming operation in Union County. In my spare time, I enjoy

volunteering for Junior Achievement, 4-H, and the Union County Ag Day committee.

Why are you interested in serving another term on Whitewater Valley REMC's Board of Directors?

I have enjoyed my time as a director for Whitewater Valley REMC. I genuinely believe in the "cooperative" way. The board works together to make informed decisions on policy and procedures for our local cooperative, our membership, and our community. I truly value the opportunity to make a difference for the membership that we serve.

SOUTH DISTRICT

TERRY HILLMAN, CONNERSVILLE

Number of years as a member of WWVREMC

50 years

Education

I am a graduate of Whitewater Township High School in Franklin County. I have a bachelor's degree in Education and master's degree from Ball State University, majoring in Physics and Mathematics. I have continued my education as a director for Whitewater Valley REMC by attending NRECA-sponsored institutes, workshops, and seminars. I have taken 29 courses offered by NRECA and earned Credentialed Cooperative Director, Board Leadership, and Gold certificates of achievement.

Employment

I taught math and science at Connorsville High School for 34 years. I was an adjunct teacher for Indiana East University for 3.5 years. At the present time, I farm grain and raise livestock and have been since 1983.

Leadership and community activities

I have been a SWCD director for Fayette County for 16 years. I was an elder for 47 years at Macedonia Christian Church. I am a member of the Connorsville High School FFA advisory committee and have been for 10 years. I am a member of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

Why are you interested in serving another term on Whitewater Valley REMC's Board of Directors?

I have had the privilege and honor to have been a Whitewater Valley REMC director for 15 years. The NRECA courses that I completed help me to make good decisions for our co-op. Thank you for allowing me to serve you. I would appreciate your vote.

ASHLEY HARVEY, BROOKVILLE

Number of years as a member of WWVREMC

9 years

Education

I attended Indiana University where I graduated with high distinction earning a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

Employment

Teacher, Union County/College Corner Joint School District

Leadership and community activities

I have 12 years of experience in various capacities at our elementary, middle, and high school. I have experience working in the technology department and I have been a classroom teacher for ten years. Throughout those years, I have worked alongside many people, which has given me the opportunity to work cooperatively with different personalities for a common mission.

Why are you interested in serving as a director for Whitewater Valley REMC?

I am interested in being considered as a candidate because I am looking for ways to become more involved in my community. I believe that I could make a meaningful contribution to the board by providing a new perspective. I feel that a position on the Whitewater Valley REMC Board of Directors would allow me to be involved with an organization that I not only rely on for electric service, but that I have great respect for because of its philanthropic role in our area.

KEVIN PINKERTON, LIBERTY

Number of years as a member of WWVREMC

23 years

Education

I am a graduate of Union County High School. I graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in Ag Economics.

Employment

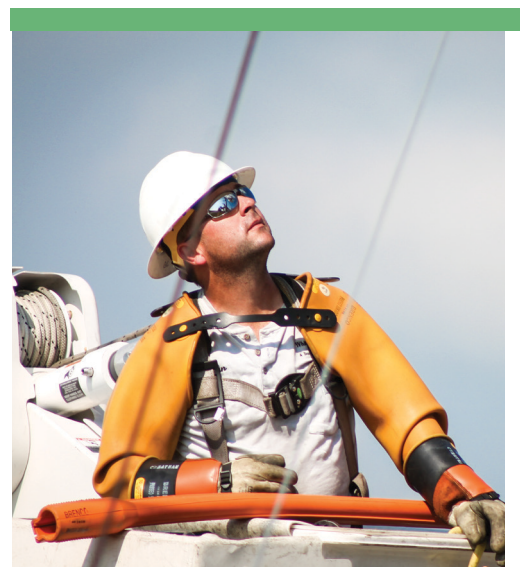
I am a self-employed farmer and auctioneer. After college I worked for Young and Guard in West Lafayette for two years before returning home to farm.

Leadership and community activities

Union County 4-H Auction Committee Vice President, Indiana Chi Association, Sims Cemetery Association Treasurer and Trustee, Liberty FFA Advisory Committee

Why are you interested in serving as a director for Whitewater Valley REMC?

I am interested in serving on the board of directors to help ensure that our local cooperative continues to provide reliable, affordable energy. As a member, I am also a consumer like you, so I will have the best interest of the cooperative at the forefront. My door is always open, and I will listen to the needs and concerns of all members. I would be proud to be associated with the positive impact Whitewater Valley REMC has on our community.





Each month we hide an account number in the Powerlines. Did you find it?

KEVIN GILPIN WINS!

Kevin Gilpin, West Harrison, found his hidden account number in the December 2020 newsletter and won a \$25 bill credit. Keep reading your Powerlines each month because the next hidden account number could be yours!

Congratulations to our 2020 Operation Round Up Membership Campaign Prize Winners!



Thanks to everyone who signed up as a new Operation Round Up participant, made a one-time donation, increased their monthly donation amount, or donated their capital credit refund back to the program. The hidden account number is 11602.

The winners of the \$100 Amazon gift cards are Michael Lykins, Brownsville; Terrence Hauck, West Harrison; and Vicki Dunn, Richmond. Paul Bennett, West Harrison and Roger Crownover, Economy, each won a \$25 bill credit.

Payment Options

US Mail

Whitewater Valley REMC, P.O. Box 3199, Martinsville, IN 46151-3168

SmartHub

Log-on at www.vremc.com

Pay-by-Phone

Call 844-827-4759. Set up your PIN. Follow prompts.

Liberty Office

In person or in the drop box.

Automatic Withdrawal

Simply request a form and submit it to our office.

FCN or Franklin County National Bank

In person or in the drop box. (Bring payment stub.)

First Merchants Bank (Richmond Location)

In person or in the drop box. (Bring payment stub.)



For more information about payment options, please call us:

765-458-5171 or 1-800-529-5557

Bill Credit Winners

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2020 annual meeting continues. Here are this month's winners.

FEBRUARY

Sara Anderson, Modoc

Chris Breese, Richmond

Fred Kaufman, Metamora

Chris Mangas, Winchester

Lori Ward, Hagerstown

Helpful Information

Liberty Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

CLOSED SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

To Report an Outage or Emergency

Call 1-800-776-0493, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Login to your SmartHub account or sign up for outage texting at www.vremc.com.

Be ready to provide the following information:

- The name and account number under which your electric service is listed.
- Map location number.
- Your phone number - needed to call back or confirm power restoration.
- The type of problem you are experiencing - flickering lights, complete power outage, etc.

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info?

Visit www.vremc.com



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