

FEBRUARY 2023

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

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February Due Dates

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



wwwremc.com

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Mark Your Calendars for our Annual Meeting on April 3!



MARY JO THOMAS
CEO

Our theme this year is
“Cooperative by Design”.
A part of that unique
business model is member
participation. As a member
of the cooperative, you
have the opportunity to be
a participant and share your

perspectives. At the annual meeting co-op leaders
will share an overview of the past year, priorities,
challenges and financial health for the coming years.
If you’ve never attended our annual meeting, or if it’s
been a while, please choose to come this year. Our
co-op family looks forward to visiting with you! The
meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 3 at Civic Hall
in Richmond.

The election of board and nominating committee
representatives will be done by mail-in ballot. Election
results will be announced during the meeting. In
addition to hearing business updates, we’ll have
several bill credits and cash prizes to give away during
the meeting, as well as the ten scholarships awarded
through the WWVREMC Scholarship Program.

The cooperative’s annual meeting is YOUR meeting.
We hope you can attend. With your participation and

support, we’ll work with renewed energy to be the
best electric cooperative for all members.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Members will receive a ballot, information and
instructions by mail around March 1. There are three
director positions and three nominating committee
positions to vote for. Please vote for one candidate
in each district, 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 opens March 1, 2023, and closes March 30,
2023, at 5:00 p.m. EST. Please follow the instructions
for casting your vote included in the voting
information packet you receive in the mail.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

In this issue see “Meet the Candidates” to learn about
those who are on the ballot.



2023 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 hidden account number is 1312703. The 2023 annual membership meeting is Monday, April 3, 2023. Meeting details will be included in the March 2023 newsletter. In accordance with WWVREMC bylaws and nominating policy, the Nominating Committee has nominated the following candidates.

DIRECTOR SLATE

North

Joe Nocton, Greens Fork (Incumbent)

Central

Garry Sayne, Liberty (Incumbent)

South

Mark Singer, Brookville (Incumbent)

Nicholas Brown, Connersville

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SLATE

North

Patrick Barker, Williamsburg (Incumbent)

Central

Craig Hale, Liberty

South

Ashley Harvey, Brookville

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Three board seats are up for election in 2023. 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 in March and will be accepted through March 30, 2023. Voting for the board of directors will not take place at 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

JOE NOCTON, GREENS FORK (INCUMBENT)

Number of years
as a member of
WWVREMC

46 years



Education

Northeastern High School graduate and Credentialed Cooperative Director certification through NRECA.

Employment

I am the owner of Greens Fork Alignment and Service, which has three locations and sixty employees. I also farm 1,000 acres in Wayne county with my son.

Leadership and community activities

I am a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, a lifetime member of the NRA and the Old Trails Gun Club.

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

I always think of members first.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

GARRY SAYNE, LIBERTY (INCUMBENT)

Number of years
as a member of
WWVREMC

54 years



Education

Short High School graduate and Management Internship Program graduate through NRECA.

Employment

I retired from WWVREMC as director of member services. During my 25 years at

the cooperative, I also served as chief operating officer and acting CEO.

Leadership and community activities

I currently represent the cooperative as our Indiana Electric Cooperative's representative. My past community involvement includes serving on the Franklin, Wayne and Union County Chambers. I am a 52-year member of American Legion Post 122. I am a member of the Hanna's Creek Church.

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

I enjoy serving on the Whitewater Valley REMC Board. I find working with the needs of our membership, the commitment of our employees and the management of our CEO both rewarding and fulfilling.

I possess 33 years of combined experience in the utility industry between board service years and employment and I feel I provide a unique point of view on a number of current issues. I hope you will allow me to continue these efforts and I ask for your support in doing so.

SOUTH DISTRICT

MARK SINGER, BROOKVILLE (INCUMBENT)

**Number of years
as a member of
WWVREMC**

39 years

Education

Brookville High School graduate, Credentialed Cooperative Director, Board Leadership, and Director Gold certification through NRECA.



Employment

I am a crop adjuster at Zurrich and farm in the Whitcomb area.

Leadership and community activities

I am a member of the Franklin County Cattleman's Association and attend the Whitcomb United Methodist Church.

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

I have really enjoyed serving the membership the past 27 years and look forward to serving another three years.

NICHOLAS BROWN, CONNERSVILLE

**Number of years
as a member of
WWVREMC**

5 years

Education

Connorsville High School graduate.

Employment

I am an ordinance officer for the Connorsville Police Department.

Leadership and community activities

I am currently a volunteer fireman for the Blooming Gove fire department. I have been an INDOT foreman and subdistrict manager, a fire chief in Everton, and a reserve deputy at the Henry County Sheriff's department.

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

I have always had a lot of respect for the crews working to keep the power on. I understand the danger they deal with when working on the roadways. I am interested in becoming a board member to help in anyway needed. I have years of experience working with the public and handling high stress situations. I never mind phone calls or meetings. I am willing to learn more if given the chance.



WENDE SHIPLEY RETIRES

Wendy Shipley began working at WWVREMC in 1995 as a cashier. She transitioned into the operations department about a year later and wrapped up her career as the operations and engineering coordinator. A quote Wendy is driven by is, "Leave things better than you find them." That kind of mindset has helped her achieve many goals in the workplace for 27 years.

Wende plans on traveling, spending more time with her three grandkids, playing golf, doing volunteer work, and mastering cooking on her black stone. Wende has been a great asset to the cooperative throughout her career. We will miss her and wish her the best of luck in this next chapter of her life. Congratulations!



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

NO DECEMBER WINNER

Keep reading your Powerlines each month because the next hidden account number could be yours!

Payment Options

US Mail

Whitewater Valley REMC, P.O. Box 350
Liberty, IN 47353

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.

VanillaDirect

Visit vanilladirect.com for payment locations and details.



For more information about payment options, please call us:

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

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 and report your outage.

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.

Congratulations to our 2022 Operation Round Up Membership Campaign Prize Winners!



Thanks to everyone who signed up as a new Operation Round Up participant. We also had members make a one-time donation or increase their monthly donation amount during the fall campaign. Several members also donated their capital credits refund back to the program.

The winners of the \$100 Amazon gift cards are: SuzAnn Branter, Richmond; Craig Whiteley, Hagerstown; and Becky Nieu Kirk, Milton.

Bill Credit Winners

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2022 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

FEBRUARY

Gene Toschlog, Richmond

Keith Lanning, Brookville

Terren Frenz, West Harrison

Nelson Hofer, Brookville

Michael D. Allen, Richmond

Check out our new website!

www.vremc.com



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