

POWERLINES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF WHITEWATER VALLEY REMC

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2

Meet the Candidates for the 2026 Election

PAGE 3

Understanding Our New Rates and How You Can Lower Energy Costs, Continued

Meet the Candidates for the 2026 Election, Continued

PAGE 4

Bill Credit Winners

Celebrations This Month

Apply Now for Camp Kilowatt

APRIL DUE DATES

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







wwwremc.com



JOSHUA JOHNSON
CEO

As your electric cooperative, our main goal has always been to deliver safe and reliable power at the lowest possible cost. Our members count on us every day for the energy they need. To fulfill this responsibility, as I shared in February's *Powerlines*, we regularly

review our rates to make sure they accurately reflect the costs of serving all members without sacrificing the reliability our members expect. This month, we are introducing new retail rates. We want our members to understand what goes into their bill and why bills are increasing. We also want to provide ways for you to manage your energy costs effectively.

Why Rates Are Changing

A significant portion of every electric bill, about 64 cents of every dollar, goes directly to paying for wholesale power from our power supplier. The remaining portion reflects the cost of Whitewater Valley REMC providing electric service.

In addition to retail rate adjustments, members may also notice changes related to the wholesale power adjustment, which reflects the actual cost of power we purchase. This is a pass-through charge, meaning it simply reflects the cost we pay, which can vary throughout the year based on various factors.

What Makes Up Your Electric Bill

Your bill includes several components that work together to support reliable service:

- **Monthly Service Fee:** Helps cover the fixed costs of providing electricity, even during months when little or no energy is used.
- **Energy Charge:** Based on how much electricity you use, measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh), with seasonal rates reflecting changing costs throughout the year.
- **Demand Charges:** Certain rate classes may include demand charges that reflect equipment and capacity needs.

Opportunities for Energy Savings

As these new rates take effect, now is the perfect time to refresh your energy habits. Small changes can add up to meaningful savings — without sacrificing comfort.

- Schedule HVAC maintenance for spring and fall tune-ups, which help keep your system running efficiently before peak seasons. We also offer incentives for these services. Visit our website at wwwremc.com/residential-incentives to explore all available rebates for members and start saving.
- Use ceiling fans wisely. Set fans to rotate counterclockwise in warmer months to create a cooling breeze.
- Adjust your thermostat. Even a two- or three-degree adjustment can reduce energy use.
- Cut back on hot water use. Shorter showers and mindful water use can lower energy and water costs. Consider lowering the thermostat on your water heater.

continued on page 3

Meet the Candidates for the 2026 Election

This year, three board of director positions and three nominating committee positions are up for election. Below you will find information about each candidate running for the board of directors. The candidate information for the nominating committee will be in the next issue of *Powerlines*.

The election will open on May 4, 2026, and ballots will be accepted until June 2, 2026. Members can vote for one candidate in each district.

Members with an email address on file should watch for their electronic ballot in their inboxes. Mail-in ballots will be mailed for those without an email address. Additionally, SmartHub users can vote directly through the SmartHub application. Voting will not take place during the annual meeting, but winners will be announced at its conclusion.

All candidates were asked to provide the following information:

1. Number of years as a member of Whitewater Valley REMC
2. Education and degrees
3. Current employment and history
4. Leadership and community activities
5. Why are you interested in becoming/ serving another term as a WWVREMC board member?

NORTH DISTRICT

Lawrence (Larry) McCurdy, Richmond



Number of years as a member:
21 months

Education:

- BS in Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University
- MS in Project Management, Ohio University
- Licensed Master Electrician

Employment:

- D.R. McCurdy Construction - Family construction business where I learned accountability, hands-on problem-solving, and the importance of completing the projects, efficiently and responsibly.
- Dayton Walther Marvel Division - Compact refrigeration, design, new model building, test chamber construction, and performance testing.
- F-Systems - Wide variety of projects, consistent with the paint finishing industry. From paint booth designs, parts washers, paint kitchens, power and free, conveying systems, robotic painting, and parts burn off ovens.
- Union City Body Company - Worked in industrial engineering, developing jigs and fixtures, assembly line, layout, and requires staging equipment, and supervise maintenance department construction associated with assembly line, fabrication equipment, and cooling.
- Larry McCurdy General Contractor Inc. - Started my own construction company in 2001 as a general contractor, focused on custom design and construction of both residential and commercial projects. This is where I have gained experience in managing budgets, leading teams, and taking full responsibility for results. (Current Employment)
- NATCO Credit Union - Worked as Network and Systems Manager for the past 17 years. I focused on technology strategies, data analysis, and long-term planning. I regularly support executive leadership and the board with trend data and decision-support information. (Current Employment)
- Purdue Polytechnic and Ivy Tech - Taught part-time a wide variety of both construction, electrical and engineering courses for over 20

years for both schools. This has strengthened my ability to communicate clearly and work with diverse groups.

Leadership and community activities: Through the years I have done many different opportunities, including being a Cub Scout leader working with Boy Scouts, work heavily with my church, as a deacon and usher, and have been on building committee to major church renovations and additions. Several years I have aided in the construction and design of floats for community events, as well as charitable help with the Hope House in Richmond, Indiana.

Why are you interested in becoming a WWVREMC board member? As a lifelong resident of Wayne County, this community is home to me. I am committed to serving our membership with thoughtful leadership, careful analysis, and they focus on long-term, reliable, and responsible growth. I would be honored to help guide the future of Whitewater Valley REMC and serve the membership with integrity and sound judgment.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Garry Sayne, Liberty **INCUMBENT**



Number of years as a member:
57 years

Education: I graduated from high school in Union County, have taken some IU classes, and approximately 40 utility-specific classes. I have also graduated from the National Rural Electric Management Internship Program in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Employment: 38th Infantry, 152nd mechanized - Army National Guard/Honorable Discharge; 25 years utility experience and 12 years on the board of directors. Over the years I have worked several jobs as a rural electric employee and filled several roles from janitor, warehouseman, member service representative, member service/director of marketing, chief operating officer, shared service employee (Jay County and Wayne County), acting CEO (short period), Indiana Director (I.E.C.) 5 years and Director of Whitewater Valley REMC.

Leadership and community activities: Hannah's Creek Church and American Legion Post 122, 55-year member

Why are you interested in serving another term as a WWVREMC board member? Each morning, I search for the most up-to-date utility news available. I ask, how can this news affect the customers we serve? Are there opportunities? Are there threats? And I ask questions. I sincerely am seeking knowledge from the generation point, the transmission lines, the substation and our distribution lines right up to your house or your business. But most importantly - I say a prayer. A prayer that all our employees return safely home to their loved ones every day.

Keith Patten, Richmond



Number of years as a member:
1 year

Education: I have a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. I have also completed graduate courses in mathematics and obtained my Professional Engineering license in the State of Indiana. During my working career I have attended training in finance and in purchasing.

Employment: My first job as a degreed engineer was with General Motors (gas turbines). I have worked for Indiana Gear (helicopter gearing), Allison Engine Company (gas turbines), and Rolls Royce (gas turbines).

Leadership and community activities: My career followed a traditional path for an engineer by starting as a staff engineer, progressing as a group leader, then Engineering Manager, then a factory Manager. Later in my career I enjoyed being a mentor to new employees and teaching purchasing/finance folks about manufacturing and engineers about finance and negotiations. My community activities started when my kids were young with scouting leadership, then progressed into Habitat for Humanity and Project Angel (Hendricks County food charity). I became a board member and officer for Project Angel. After my kids were raised I evolved into a Deacon at my church and also was a Big Brother to two young boys that did not have a positive male model in their lives. I also enjoy volunteering at food pantries and have volunteered at a homeless kitchen as well as holiday meal events for low income families.

Why are you interested in becoming a WWVREMC board member? Being new to

- Download our Smarthub app to monitor your daily electricity usage and discover ways to save energy. It helps you track consumption and find opportunities to save energy.

We're Here to Help

Your cooperative is committed to working hard every day to keep bills as low as possible. We also offer a range of programs and members can take to help reduce bills and manage their energy use. The hidden account number is 1601800. If you have questions about the new rates, your bill, budget billing options, or energy-saving programs, please contact us. Together, we can make smart energy choices that support your household and the long-term strength of your cooperative.



the area, I am always interested in ways I can become embedded in my community and meet my neighbors. If I can engage in mentally stimulating activities about interesting and complex subjects, I think I will age as slowly as possible. I also think it a bit of serendipity that my education and experience as well as my available time and energy would seem to be a perfect match. Lastly, because my home is heated and cooled with geothermal and I get my water from a well I am very motivated to do whatever I can to assure WWVREMC is as reliable and affordable as I possibly can.

Garrett Walther, Centerville



Number of years as a member:
1 year

Education: I graduated from Centerville High School and Purdue University with a B.S. in Agricultural Economics.

Employment: I am Co-Owner of Walther Family Farms and work at Matt Walther Farms.

Leadership and community activities: I have taken leadership roles at the local, state, and national level. I served as a trustee on the American Junior Simmental Association, the President of the Indiana Junior Simmental Association, and the Vice President of the Indiana Junior Beef Cattle Association. While at Purdue University, I served on the Ag Week Task Force as an Events Chairman. At a local level, have been actively involved in the 4-H program as well as representing Wayne County in 2022 as a Lilly Endowment Scholar. Each of these endeavors have taught me one important lesson: The people of each and every organization are the single most important factor due to their uniqueness.

Why are you interested in becoming a WWVREMC board member? I have served on numerous organizations as a leader and would love to continue serving and leading through

the WWVREMC Board of Directors. I am only 22, however I believe my age difference can be a valuable tool for our membership and board of directors moving forward. By having board representation by a younger member, I believe I can increase involvement of younger generations. It is my belief that these factors combined will allow me to serve as a reliable, upstanding director for an organization with such a strong focus on helping its community flourish.

SOUTH DISTRICT

Mark Singer, Brookville INCUMBENT



Number of years as a member:
47 years

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

Employment: 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 as a WWVREMC board member? I have truly valued the opportunity to serve the members of Whitewater Valley REMC and contribute to the cooperative's success. Serving on the board has been both meaningful and rewarding, and I would be honored to continue giving back and representing the membership for another term.

Kellie Conklin, West Harrison



Number of years as a member:
4 years

Education: I have a Bachelor of Science in Energy Management from West Liberty University and Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Indiana Wesleyan University.

Employment: Director, Business Operations, AEP (retiring in May 2026). 37 years of experience in the utility industry across Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, and Tennessee. Experienced senior leader across areas including energy services, customer operations, budgeting and planning, strategy, training, continuous improvements, planning and analysis, financial forecasting and analysis, performance management, and other business operations areas.

Leadership and community activities: Currently serve on the Board of Directors of North Dearborn Pantry. I have a long history of serving communities in roles ranging from non-profit boards to general volunteering serving community organizations such as coaches, sports programs, scout troops, and business groups.

Why are you interested in becoming a WWVREMC board member? I have a strong belief in being an involved member of my community and using my God-given talents for the benefit of my neighbors. While I have moved throughout my life as required for my career, I now consider this area home. With my retirement in spring of 2026, I wish to dedicate my experience to my home community and serve the members of WWVREMC. Between my experience in corporate roles providing information to the Board of Directors and my non-profit board director roles, I have a solid understanding of the responsibilities of Board Directors in terms of stewardship, governance and compliance, strategic oversight, risk management, and always ensuring member focus.

See the full annual meeting slate and Nominating Committee candidate information in next month's *Powerlines!*

HIDDEN ACCOUNT NUMBER

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

NO FEBRUARY WINNER

Keep reading your Powerlines each month. The next hidden account number could be yours!

PAYMENT OPTIONS

U.S. Mail

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

SmartHub

Log on at wwwremc.com.

Pay-by-Phone

Call 855-940-3859. Set up your PIN. Follow prompts.

Liberty Office

In person or in the drop box.

Automatic Withdrawal

Sign up on SmartHub, over the phone, or in the office.

Franklin County National Bank (FCN)

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

1201 S. State Road 101, Liberty, IN 47353

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.

Log in 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.



BILL CREDIT WINNERS

Our monthly drawing for five \$20 bill credits from all voting members of the 2025 annual meeting continues. Here are the winners.

APRIL

Allen Wiwi, W. Harrison
Denise Thibaut, Liberty
David P. Stanley, Centerville
Philip Welty, W. College Corner
Charlotte Lady, Richmond

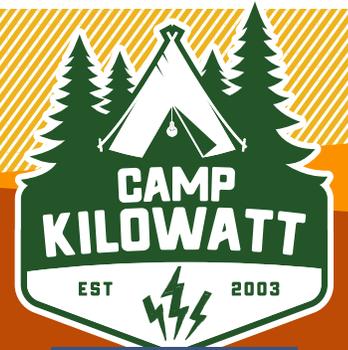
celebrations this month

Congratulations to **Derrick Mullins** on his promotion to Director of Operations.



APRIL 13
NATIONAL LINEWORKER
APPRECIATION DAY

APRIL 22
ADMINISTRATIVE
PROFESSIONALS' DAY



JULY 26-29, 2026

APPLY NOW!

AN EXCITING SUMMER CAMP FOR SIXTH GRADERS!

Visit CampKilowatt.org to apply by May 1, 2026!



1201 S. State Rd. 101, P.O. Box 349, Liberty, IN 47353
765-458-5171 • 1-800-529-5557 • wwwremc.com • info@wwwremc.com
President and CEO - Joshua Johnson • Powerlines Editor - Jennifer Scott