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**OFFICE HOURS**

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**

3086 W. 100 N.  
 Peru, IN 46970

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P.O. Box 168  
 Peru, IN 46970

**POWER OUTAGES**

To report a power outage, call 844-473-6668. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dennis "Jim" Savage, *President*

Todd Smith, *Vice President*

Cindy Scott, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Tony Caldwell

Mark B. Hahn

Scott Marschand

Donald E. Willson

**STAFF**

Robert Schwartz  
*CEO*

Mike Barron  
*Director of Member Services*

Lora Goodman  
*Human Resources Director*

Matt Mavrick  
*Director of Information Technology*

Liz Vance  
*Office Manager*

Brandon Williams  
*Director of Operations*

Stephanie Ziems  
*Director of Finance and Accounting*

# ARE YOU READY TO SERVE?



In one of the most notable inaugural speeches given, President John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." His inspiring words urged Americans to take actions that benefited the greater good. In essence, Kennedy was saying our country thrives when we all contribute our talents to the common good.

On a smaller scale, I think the same can be said about our co-op, specifically with regard to our board members. Miami Cass REMC's board members are community-minded individuals with a variety of skill sets. Our board is made up of farmers, business owners, and even a PGA career consultant. We rely on their many talents to help us make informed decisions on long-term priorities and investments. Our directors live right here in the co-op's service area, and we consider them the eyes and ears of the community because they provide their perspective on important community issues.

We recognize it takes many people with different skills to create a well-rounded board that can represent the full spectrum of our community. That's why when we're seeking new directors, we want folks with diverse perspectives, experience, expertise and views.

## SERVING ON THE BOARD

Serving on our board means you're making a difference locally, using your individual talents and perspective to guide big decisions about the co-op that in turn benefit the larger community. While day-to-day decisions are made by co-op staff, major decisions are made by the board, whose mission is to look out for the vitality of the co-op and the community it serves. On a granular level, Miami Cass REMC's

board members typically provide input and guidance on:

- budgets
- co-op goals and direction
- co-op's community/charitable contributions
- capital investments and upgrades in equipment and technology
- renewable investments and energy mix
- co-op's role and involvement in economic development
- broadband services

The energy industry is undergoing a major transition. Technology advancements and increased consumer preference for more renewable energy is driving change. Miami Cass REMC is facing big decisions, and board members have an opportunity to help chart a course for our future. To serve the community best, we need input from a wide range of people that represent the broad spectrum of views within community.

While you don't need to be an expert in electricity or business to run, you do need to have a passion for the community and a willingness to actively serve and learn. We're looking for individuals who can represent the full gamut of the members we serve. Our board meets on a regular basis, and we offer specialized training opportunities to help board members make informed decisions. Board members gain a deeper understanding of the electric utility industry, the cooperative business model and local economic development efforts.

Ultimately, our board is the community pulse for the co-op and helps keep us on the right track. We love our community and want to help it thrive. If you share the same commitment and want to contribute to the greater good in a tangible way, I hope you'll consider running for a board position.

For more information please contact us at 765-473-6668.

**ROB SCHWARTZ**  
 CEO



**SAVE THE DATE!**

Miami-Cass REMC  
 Annual Meeting is June 16.

## IN THE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

# Ronnie Rubio



Our latest cooperative employee to highlight is Ronnie Rubio, an underground installer with Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami-Cass REMC. He joined the team in October 2021 and is responsible for the installation of underground fiber from the utility pole to a member's home in preparation for connection inside the home.

Rubio is a 2012 graduate of Logansport High School. He was born in Chicago, but the family moved to Logansport when he was in fifth grade. Rubio married his wife, Abigail, in 2019, and the couple are raising their seven children – three boys (ages 17, 11 and 7) and four girls (ages 9, 6, 2 and 1).

In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and says that some of his happiest times are when they are all together sitting around eating popcorn

and watching a movie together. Rubio also enjoys drawing, but said not many people know about his artistic side. He also said that he is pretty good at building gaming PCs.

While Rubio was growing up, he enjoyed the show COPS and always wanted to be a police officer when he grew up. After graduating from high school, he got a job at the Cass County Jail where he worked for six and half years as the officer in charge. After leaving the jail and law enforcement, he worked at Waste Management for a couple of years before accepting a position with the REMC.

One challenge Rubio has had to overcome is creating harmony and balance while blending a family. On his bucket list is traveling to Hawaii. Something he would like to do, but has never tried, is sky diving.

When asked what he enjoys most about working at Broadway Broadband, Rubio said he enjoys his coworkers. The most challenging part of his job is overcoming obstacles, like crossing creeks and working around fences and trees. He defines success as being able to leave a job site looking as if they had never been there.

A lesson he learned while working at the jail is to be cautious when doing his job and to always be aware of his surroundings. He has carried this lesson into his career with the REMC, and this would be his advice to anyone new to his position.

We at Miami-Cass are proud to have Rubio as part of the REMC family. He is a dedicated employee, and we are fortunate to have him on our team.

## IS IT TIME TO SERVICE YOUR COOLING SYSTEM?

When was your cooling system last serviced? Most manufacturers recommend an annual tune-up for your home's cooling system. March is a great time to schedule this

service so you can beat the summer rush when the pros are busiest.

A qualified professional can check the amount of refrigerant, accuracy of the thermostat, condition of belts

and motors and other factors that can greatly impact the efficiency of your system.

**Source: Department of Energy**



# why IS MY WINTER ELECTRIC BILL HIGHER?

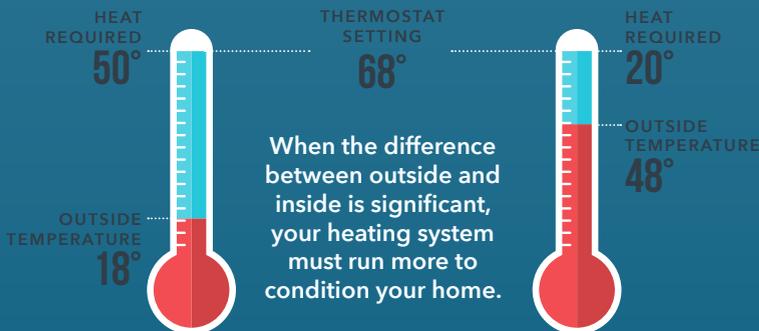


*a frigid fact:* You use more energy in cold weather.

## HERE'S WHY:

In cold weather, your heating system works much harder to keep your home comfortable.

Even if you don't change your thermostat setting, it runs longer to heat your home.



Even gas heating systems use electricity to power the fan and distribute the warm air.

## ENERGY USE MATTERS

Your monthly bill is largely determined by the amount of energy you use.

### ENERGY USED

The meter on your home measures the energy you consume. **This is your "use."**



### ELECTRIC RATE

There is a charge for each kilowatt-hour you use. **This is your "rate."**

**miami-cass remc**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

## Board meets in JANUARY

1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney Jeremy Fetty also attended via teleconference.
2. CEO Rob Schwartz presented the WVPA report.
3. Fetty presented the legal report.
4. Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
5. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
6. Financial report given by Schwartz.
7. December monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
8. Set the next board meeting for Monday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.

## METER TAMPERING IS A CRIME!

**Meter tampering can result in electric shock, is illegal and will cost you hundreds of dollars in charges and fees.**

- Never break a meter seal or open a meter base.
- Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.
- Only REMC personnel are authorized to work on your electric meter.
- If a homeowner, landlord or electrician breaks a meter seal, your power will be disconnected, and you will be charged for the tampering.

*If you know of or suspect that someone has tampered with his/her meter, please contact us immediately.*

**POWER  
MOVES**

Energy-Smart Solutions from  
Your Local Electric Cooperative



# SHIFT INTO MORE GREEN

When everybody's using electricity during peak times, costs can go up. But with a Wi-Fi thermostat and a little help from our **PowerShift Wi-Fi Thermostat Program**, we make tiny temperature adjustments that save everyone money when electricity is most expensive. Get **\$50 just for signing up** — and another **\$25** for each year you stay enrolled.

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Enroll today at [enrollmythermostat.com/powershift](https://enrollmythermostat.com/powershift).

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\*Not all Wi-Fi thermostats are eligible for this program; see complete list at [powermoves.com/powershift](https://powermoves.com/powershift).