

CEO ANNUAL MEETING REMARKS

CONTACT US

Office: 765-473-6668 / 800-844-6668

WEBSITE

www.mcremc.coop

EMAIL

mcremc@mcremc.coop

OFFICE HOURS

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

STREET ADDRESS

3086 W. 100 N.
Peru, IN 46970

MAILING ADDRESS

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

Alex Tompkins
Director of Finance and Accounting

Liz Vance
Office Manager

Brandon Williams
Director of Operations

HOLIDAY CLOSING

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, our office will be closed on Nov. 28 and 29.

You can still report outages by calling our 24/7 outage line.

Welcome to your 85th Annual Meeting I'm Rob Schwartz, CEO of your co-op. With us tonight are your board of directors — President Jim Savage, Vice President Todd Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Cindy Scott, Don Wilson, Mark Hahn, Scott Marschand, and Tony Caldwell. Also, here are some staff members — Mike Barron, member services; Matt Mavrick, IT and fiber operations; and Kerri Gaumer administrative assistant and board liaison. I would like to thank pastor Dr. Cole Westwood for the invocation and Rocket Schwartz for the playing of the national anthem.

After some long conversations in the board room, we decided to have our business meeting virtually, like we did during COVID. However, we are doing this for different reasons. We believe it will be easier to find different venues for Member Appreciation Day if we won't have to accommodate a business meeting. We have also done some benchmarking with other co-ops in our state, and most are doing the business meeting virtually.

It has been a crazy and busy year since we all met last. The electric side of the business has been running like normal and we have had a safe year, which makes me proud.

Our outages were extremely low for 2023. Our average member saw 2.2 hours of outage time. This year started out about the same until May through now. We have seen more inclement weather, which has brought up outage time. Hopefully it will settle down and will get back normal. The cost of power we have to purchase has gone up considerably due to the

weather as well. Material poles, wire, and transformers have increased by 24% on average since the last quarter of 2023. However, the lead times on equipment/supplies seem to be getting better, except for transformers.

Our fiber initiative is moving along, although not as fast as we would like. We are throwing a lot of man power and time at it. We are approximately half way done with building out the infrastructure. We are beginning to average six installs per day and hope to increase that to 10 in the next few months.

To remind you, we are building in Miami, Cass, Carrol, and parts of Howard and White counties. We have also seen a significant increase in fiber material costs. We have seen a 28% increase pretty much across the board. Lead times for the communication equipment needed has gone up 38% and the lead times have increased by a minimum of six months. So, needless to say, it has its challenges.

We strive hard as your cooperative to bring the necessities you need to thrive in this ever-changing world. Electricity and internet go hand-in-hand to help us all navigate all aspects of what it takes to be safe, healthy, successful, and content. Miami-Cass REMC exists to serve you, our members.



ROB SCHWARTZ
CEO

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY IN PHOTOS

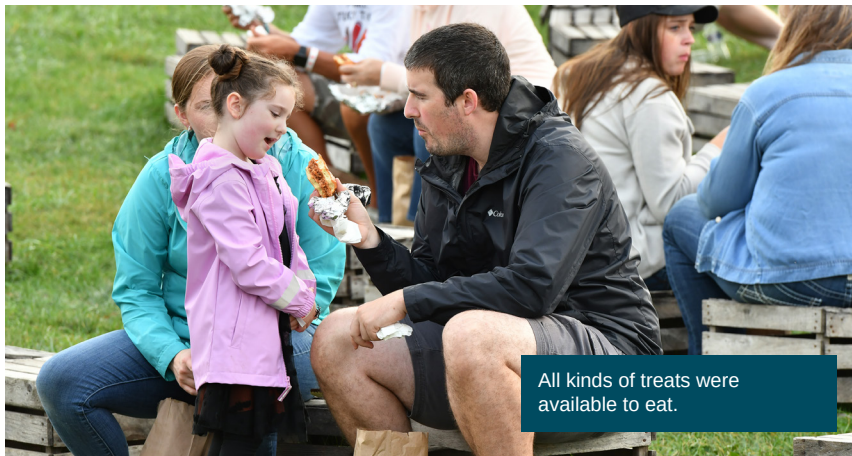
EVENT AT MCCLURE'S ORCHARD WAS FUN FOR EVERYONE!



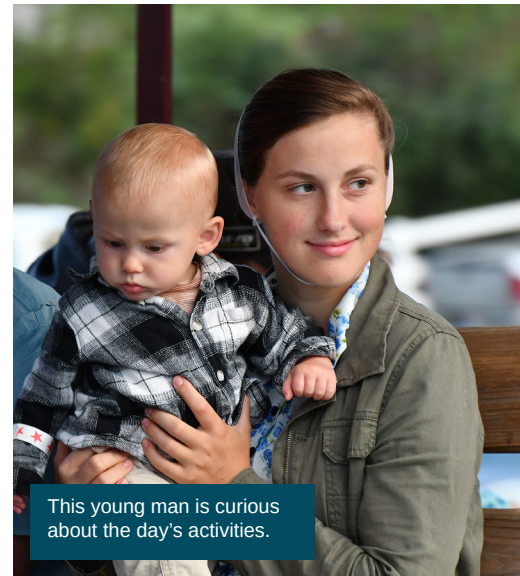
This young couple gets ready to enjoy the day at McClure's Orchard/Winery.



The Stars and Stripes greeted attendees as they entered the orchard.



All kinds of treats were available to eat.



This young man is curious about the day's activities.



Member Appreciation Day was fun for all ages.

Thanks to everyone who attended!

ANNUAL MEETING recap

The 85th Miami-Cass REMC Annual Meeting was held on Sept. 24, 2024, at the Miami Cass REMC headquarters. Total attendance at the meeting was 100 registered members representing 2% of the total voting membership. All registered members who attended received a \$15 bill credit.

Miami-Cass REMC employee Mike Barron welcomed everyone, Dr. Cole Westwood gave the invocation, and Rocket Schwartz played the national anthem on the piano.

REMC Board President Jim Savage called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for tuning in to the virtual meeting. He then spoke about the past year and all the hard work being put into maintaining electric lines and working on fiber internet.

Then, CEO Rob Schwartz addressed the members (see highlights on page 5).

J. Michael Deweese, Miami-Cass REMC attorney, announced that the board appointments ran uncontested this year and that the following board

members were, thus, duly elected to serve for another three-year term.

Director election results:

DISTRICT 1 – Jim Savage

DISTRICT 3 – Scott Marschand

DISTRICT 4 – Don Willson

The meeting was concluded with the selection of winners of \$500 and \$100 bill credits and scholarship winners.



SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney J. Michael Deweese also attended.
2. Jim Savage presented the WVPA monthly report.
3. Deweese presented the monthly legal report.
4. Rob Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
5. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
6. August monthly operating, member services, human resources, and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
7. August Monthly financials reports were reviewed and approved.
8. The next board meeting was set for Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.



WINTERIZING YOUR HOME BEFORE THE BITTER CHILL

START PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR WINTER NOW AND ENJOY THE COMFORTS OF KNOWING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WILL BE SAFE FROM UNEXPECTED DANGERS IN AND AROUND YOUR HOME.

Winterize electrical outlets on outside walls with insulating covers by carefully selecting outlet kits made to fit.

Check space heater cords for signs of wear or overheating. Make sure the plug fits securely in the outlet.

Never run cords under carpeting or rugs. Cords can be damaged when people step on them and are a trip hazard. They can also overheat and lead to a fire.

Make sure trees are properly trimmed and away from your electrical wires. Tree branches can fall and snap your power lines during a winter storm. NEVER approach a downed power line; it could still be energized.

Check your furnace or heat pump before you need it. A service technician can conduct a thorough cleaning and check. Make sure filters are clean.

If you notice odd sounds or smells coming from your furnace or heat pump, turn it off and call a service technician. Mechanical problems can lead to fires. Furnaces that use combustion can also release gases, such as carbon monoxide.


Have working flashlights or battery-powered lamps with fresh batteries on hand in case of a power outage.

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