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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*

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 Scott Marschand
 Donald E. Willson

STAFF
 Robert Schwartz
CEO
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 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

POWERING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH PURPOSE

Communities come in all shapes and sizes. Some are based on geographical proximity or shared interests and hobbies, and some communities can even be found in virtual spaces like social media groups. Regardless of where or how they are formed, communities can bring people together and create a sense of belonging.

Miami-Cass REMC is deeply committed to our consumer-members, and we're glad you are part of the electric cooperative community.

This month, more than 30,000 cooperatives across the U.S. are celebrating National Co-op Month. It's a time to reflect on all the aspects that set cooperatives apart from other types of businesses, but more importantly, it's a time to celebrate the power of co-op membership.

Electric cooperatives are not-for-profit utilities that are built by the communities they serve. For Miami-Cass, our mission has always been to provide you with reliable power. We care about your quality of life, and because we are locally operated, we're uniquely suited to meet our members' evolving energy needs.

Beyond the business of electricity, our employees and directors are equally invested in our local community. Why? Because we live here, too. That's why we work hard to support local economic development projects, youth programs and scholarships, charitable giving initiatives, and additional programs that make our community a better place to call home.

All co-ops, are guided by seven cooperative principles that embody the values and spirit of the cooperative movement. These seven principles are a framework to help all co-ops navigate challenges and opportunities while remaining true to our purpose:

- 1. Open and Voluntary Membership:** Co-op membership is open to anyone who can use the co-op's services.
- 2. Democratic Member Control:** Members make decisions that shape the cooperative because co-ops are created by the members for the members.
- 3. Members' Economic Participation:** Members contribute money to the co-op to ensure its smooth operation now and in the future. At Miami-Cass REMC this happens through paying your energy bills.
- 4. Autonomy and Independence:** Co-ops are independent and can operate on their own, which ultimately benefits the members.
- 5. Education, Training, and Information:** Co-ops continuously focus on education to ensure employees have the training and information they need to make the co-op successful.
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives:** Co-ops share with and learn from other cooperatives. We help each other out in times of need because we want other co-ops to thrive.

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co-op news

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7. Concern for Community: All cooperatives work for the greater good of the local communities they serve. Co-ops give back to their communities to help them thrive and grow.

This October, as we celebrate National Co-op Month and the power of membership, we hope you will recognize the

many aspects that set electric cooperatives apart. Our mission is reliable power. Our purpose is people — the local communities we're proud to serve.



ROB SCHWARTZ
CEO



AUGUST BOARD MEETING

1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney J. Michael Deweese attended via teleconference.
2. Jim Savage presented the WVPA monthly report.
3. Todd Smith presented the IEC report.
4. Deweese presented monthly legal report.
5. Rob Schwartz presented monthly CEO report.
6. Minutes from previous board meeting were approved.
7. June monthly operating, member services, human resources, and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
8. Monthly financials reports were reviewed and approved.
9. Set next board meeting for Tuesday Sept. 24, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at the REMC Headquarters.

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency improvements to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 empowers homeowners to save money on energy efficiency improvements and upgrades. Homeowners can save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the cost of efficiency upgrades by up to 30%. If you completed an upgrade this year or you are considering one, visit energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for a tax credit.

Source: Energy.gov. Source: Energy.gov



ELECTRICAL SAFETY IN YOUR HOME: **BABY-PROOFING DONE RIGHT!**

WHILE BABY-PROOFING YOUR HOME FOR BUMPS AND FALLS, DON'T NEGLECT ELECTRICAL OUTLETS AND CORDS.

Take a walk around the entire house and garage to map out all electrical outlets. Plug tight-fitting outlet covers into all unused outlets to prevent tiny fingers or a found object like a paper clip from being inserted into the outlet slots.

Get outlet boxes that enclose the entire outlet and the plugs to keep youngsters from pulling the plugs out and exposing the slots.

All new homes and homes renovated after 2008 must have tamper-resistant receptacles (TRRs) installed. These outlets use a spring shutter system that prevents a foreign object, such as a hairpin or paper clip, from entering just one side of the outlet. For a double layer of protection, you may still want to use outlet covers on TRRs.

Make sure all power cords dangling from an end table or desk are tightly secured to prevent little ones from tugging on them and pulling electric devices or appliances down on top of them. All charging cords for phones, laptops and other devices should be shortened or tucked away so babies cannot tug on them, put them in their mouth or chew on them, which could cause a serious electric shock.

Make sure night lights and appliances are completely plugged into wall outlets. Small fingers can easily find partially exposed prongs.


Make sure these same precautions are taken wherever your baby spends time, such as at a daycare, a grandparent's home or at a babysitter's. Always have extra plastic outlet covers in your diaper bag or luggage for protection when traveling with your baby in a new environment where outlet covers may not be in use.

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