

CONTACT US

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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

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Unplug AND Connect

with meaningful community programs



Most adults have a vague memory of a time when "checking for messages" meant listening to an answering machine. We

carried on with our days without relying on cell phones and managed just fine. But today, we are more connected than ever through our smartphones and other devices.

Our phones are so much more now — from cameras to calendars to social media connections — and truly disconnecting from them can be tough. But it's even harder for our kids to unplug because they only know life with these tiny screens. It's difficult for them to imagine life without computers, gaming devices, tablets or cell phones.

But there's great value in unplugging for children and adults, even if it's for just a short period of time. For kids, time away from the screen to be outside with other children allows them to connect with nature and others in a way that a virtual experience simply does not allow. They are able to experience life in the moment and allow their creativity and energy to break free.

Fortunately, we have access to

great community programs and organizations like the YMCA, and 4-H that provide children with a safe place to play, learn and grow, while cultivating new skills and interests.

While you and your children are disconnecting, take a moment to identify potential energy savings. Unplug electronics that are not in use to avoid "vampire" energy loss. This is the energy that is drained from technology and electronics even when they are not in use. For example, although it is turned off, your TV is waiting to receive a signal from the remote and your DVR is waiting to record the next show or perform an update.

Let's encourage youngsters to step away from the screens and join in. Encourage them to play and be part of an organization that helps them connect with others and find meaningful interactions and explore new activities and interests.

When you do plug back in, Miami-Cass REMC is here to help you save money and energy by connecting you with our energy saving programs and services. While we'd love to see you in person, we're also just a call or click away.

ROB SCHWARTZ
CEO

MIAMI-CASS REMC EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Joe Wyant

JOE WYANT

began his career with Miami-Cass REMC in April 2011 in accounts payable where he spent approximately five years. He is now a work order clerk and reports to the REMC's Director of Operations Brandon Williams. Wyant's primary role is to financially translate the physical material purchased to financial capitalized assets. In addition to that role, he is also involved in ordering material inventory, mowing the grounds and occasionally changing out meters.

Wyant is a 2005 graduate of Maconaquah High School and in 2009 he graduated from Indiana University Kokomo with a Bachelor of Science degree in business with a concentration in finance and economics. Throughout high school and college, he worked part time for Garden Gate Greenhouse in Peru. He continued with them



part time for six months after graduating. He also worked for American Trust Bank (now Berne) part time for the first six months after graduating, then went full time with them for a year prior to starting with the REMC.

Wyant grew up in southern Miami County. He and his wife, Neoma, live just a half mile from where he grew up. The couple have two children — a three-year-old son and a one-and-half-year-old daughter. He grew up farming and continues to farm corn, beans and hay. He also raises laying hens, hogs and cattle.

Besides farming, Wyant enjoys spending time with his family, hunting and camping. On his bucket list, he has visiting Alaska and the redwoods out west. He would describe himself as hard-working while others would say he is caring, thoughtful and honest. Wyant learned early on from his parents and grandparents that you need to work hard to do your job and you should do it to the best of your ability.

When asked how he defines

success in his position, Wyant said, "Successfully translating the information given to him to the proper paperwork and processing it properly." When asked what lessons he has learned throughout his career, Wyant said that respect from people cannot be demanded, it has to be earned.

Wyant indicated that his favorite aspect of working at the cooperative has been gaining knowledge about how power restoration works following a major storm. In November of his first year with the REMC, he was able to play a part in helping with a snowstorm that had left members without power for four and half days. He appreciated the opportunity to play a small role in bringing power back to the members. If he could switch positions for one day with anyone else at the REMC, he said it would be with a lineman.

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

YOUTH
power
& hope
AWARDS

Are you a middle schooler making a difference in your community?

You could be a winner.
Tell us your story.

Are you an Indiana fifth through eighth grader making a difference in your community?
APPLY NOW!

Up to five qualified candidates will each receive \$500, attend a special program in their honor this December and be featured in an upcoming issue of *Indiana Connection*.

Interested? Simply complete the online application. When doing so, provide examples of and information about your community service activities and share any relevant photos if available. Be sure to list references who we may contact for additional information.

Parents, visit indianaconnection.org/youthpowerandhope to apply and learn more.

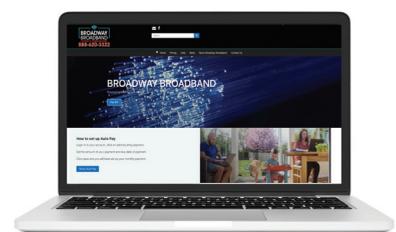
Questions? info@IndianaConnection.org or 317.487.2220

Applications are due Friday, Oct. 1.



Board meets in JULY

1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney Jay Michael attended via teleconference.
2. Financial audit presented by Earl Ridlen of LWG.
3. Jim Savage presented the WVPA report.
4. Michael presented the legal report.
5. Rob Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
6. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
7. Financial report given by Stephanie Ziems, director of accounting and finance
8. June monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
9. Set the next board meeting for Tuesday, Sept. 31, at 7:30 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.



VISIT US ONLINE AT
BROADWAYBROADBAND.NET!

OFFICE CLOSING

The Miami-Cass REMC office will be closed in honor of Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 6.

In case of emergency, contact us at 800-844-6668.



UNDERSTANDING POWER SURGES AND BLINKS

Have you ever noticed your lights blink during a thunderstorm? Or perhaps you've noticed a blinking microwave clock when you arrive home. When this happens, you've likely experienced a brief disruption to your electric service, which could result from a power surge or blink. While the symptoms of surges and blinks can appear similar, what's happening behind the scenes can be quite different.

WHAT'S A POWER SURGE?

Power surges are brief overvoltage spikes or disturbances of a power waveform that can damage, degrade or destroy electronic equipment within your home or business. Most electronics are designed to handle small variations in voltage; however, power surges can reach amplitudes of tens of thousands of volts — this can be extremely damaging to your electronic equipment.

Surges can be caused by internal sources, like HVAC systems with

variable frequency drives, or external sources, like lightning and damage to power lines and transformers.

Miami-Cass REMC encourages all members to install surge protective devices (such as surge protector power strips) to safeguard your sensitive electronics. If you're experiencing frequent surges in your home or business and you believe the cause is internal, contact a qualified electrician to inspect your electrical system.

WHAT'S A POWER BLINK?

Power blinks are also brief service interruptions, but they're typically caused by a fault (short circuit) on a power line or a protective device that's working in reaction to the fault. Faults can occur through a variety of instances, like squirrels, birds or other small animals contacting an energized power line; tree branches touching a power line; or lightning and other similar events. In fact, when it

comes to power disruptions caused by critters, squirrels reign supreme. In 2019 alone, squirrels were responsible for more than 1,200 outages.

Any of the events noted above can cause your power to blink, but you may also experience a brief interruption when protective devices that act like circuit breakers are working to detect the fault. Believe it or not, these brief power blinks caused by protective devices are actually good because that means the equipment is working as it should to prevent a prolonged outage.

Regardless of the cause, Miami-Cass REMC crews will be on their way to inspect the damage and make necessary repairs after a power outage. And you can help too! Any time you experience repeated disruptions to your electric service, please let us know by calling our office or visiting www.wcremc.com.