### co-op news



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

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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 Donald E. Willson, President Dennis "Jim" Savage, Vice President Cindy Scott, Secretary-Treasurer

> Tony Caldwell Mark B. Hahn

Scott Marschand Todd Smith

STAFF Robert Schwartz *CEO* 

Brandon Williams Director of Operations Matt Mavrick Director of Information Technology Kim Burton Director of Member Services

Stephanie Ziems Director of Finance and Accounting

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# *Consider serving* on your board of directors



Miami-Cass REMC is a non-profit cooperative owned by the people it serves. When the cooperative was founded in 1939, its bylaws

established a board of directors and its duties. Your board is made up of seven members from our service territory. Each year, two or three directors, depending on the year, are elected at the annual meeting to serve a three-year term.

Miami-Cass REMC has now begun the board of directors election process. Any REMC member-owner (whose name appears on the membership of record) may seek a position on the board of directors — if the district where he/she lives in is up for election.

The nomination process is by petition. Interested members can become director candidates by submitting a petition signed by 20 members (one signature per membership). Petitions can be picked up at the office and must be returned to our office by April 10 at 4:30 p.m. Eligible members' names will be placed on the ballot and voted on at our annual meeting on June 9 at Maconaquah High School.

Note: The bylaws do not allow for nominations from the floor at the meeting.

#### DIRECTOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The job of director is a very important one. A director is responsible for the following tasks:

- Establishing policies and procedures to guide the cooperative.
- Employing a chief executive officer and evaluating his/her performance.
- Setting service rate and fee schedules.
- Understaning the co-op's financials.
- Approving work plans, budgets, and financing for capital projects.
- Attending regular monthly board meetings and occasionally attending state, regional, and national conferences and training.

A director represents a district but makes decisions affecting the entire membership. A director must be selfconfident and have communication skills to express his/her opinion in a tactful and constructive manner.

If you would like more information, visit our website www.mcremc.coop to see our bylaws or you can contact our office at 765-473-6668.

#### DISTRICTS UP FOR ELECTION IN 2020

**District 2:** Adams. Bethlehem, Clay, Eel, Miami townships, Cass County. Incumbent — Cindy Scott

**District 4:** Butler, Clay, Deer Creek, Harrison, Jackson, Pipe Creek, and Washington townships in Miami County. Incumbent — Mark Hahn

# ROB SCHWARTZ

### co-op news



Petitions to run for the Miami-Cass REMC board of directors are now available! Please come into the office, located at 3086 W. 100 N., Peru, to pick up an informational packet.

Petitions must be turned into the office by April 10 to be considered for election. The board of directors election will take place at the Miami-Cass REMC Annual Meeting on June 9 at Maconaquah High School.

#### **DISTRICTS UP FOR ELECTION IN 2020**

**District 2:** Adams. Bethlehem, Clay, Eel, Miami townships, Cass County. Incumbent – Cindy Scott

**District 4:** Butler, Clay, Deer Creek, Harrison, Jackson, Pipe Creek, and Washington townships in Miami County. Incumbent – Mark Hahn

# Board meets in **JANUARY**

- Counted six board members present. Miami-Cass REMC attorneys Liane Steffes and Jeremy Fetty and one director also attended via teleconference.
- 2. WVPA board report was given by Jim Savage.
- 3. Rob Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
- 4. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
- 5. Financial report given by Schwartz.
- December monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
- Set the next board meeting for Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m. in the Miami-Cass REMC boardroom.



# SAVE THE DATE! MIAMI-CASS REMC ANNUAL MEETING

### **JUNE 9, 2020**

MACONAQUAH HIGH SCHOOL



## Miami–Cass REMC offers scholarships to benefit local students

Miami-Cass REMC will grant eight \$500 scholarships this year at its annual meeting on June 9. Any member who meets a few simple qualifications, completes a simple entry form (available at mcremc. coop/content/scholarship) and submits it to the REMC by June 1 will be eligible to win.

Qualifications are as follows:

- Recipient MUST be enrolled and attend any two-year, four-year or technical school as a fulltime student.
- Recipient or parents/guardians MUST be a member of Miami-Cass REMC.

- Recipient, spouse, or parent/ guardian MUST be present at the annual meeting on June 9 at Maconaquah High School to be eligible to receive a scholarship.
- A student is not eligible if he/ she has previously been awarded a scholarship by Miami-Cass REMC.
- All applications must be postmarked or delivered to the Miami-Cass REMC office by June 1.

During the annual meeting, eight names will be drawn for the scholarships.

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Apply for a Miami-Cass REMC Scholarship by June 1. Winners announced on June 9 at the annual meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Kim Burton by calling the REMC office at 765-473-6668 or by emailing him at kimb@mcremc.coop.

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### co-op news

## **REMC acquires Broadway Broadband**

Miami-Cass REMC has purchased Broadway Broadband, a locally owned and operated internet service provider. The company provides fiber and wireless internet to local communities and rural areas. It will now be called Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami-Cass.

Short-term, our members will see minimal changes. Long-term, you will begin seeing fiber installed in areas that are greatly underserved in its accessibility to high-speed internet.

Employees of Broadway Broadband are now working at the Miami-Cass REMC office in Peru and are looking forward to assisting with the expansion of high-speed internet to our members.

Miami-Cass REMC is preparing a plan to install fiber. We acknowledge that you will want to be one of the first to have fiber installed if it is not currently available, and as much as we would like to have fiber to everyone in the first year, it is something we must do in phases from a cost and quality perspective.

We will be publicizing our plans in our magazine (Indiana Connection), in the local newspaper and on our website www.mcremc. coop. A waiting list is being created on this exciting service to our rural customers. To have your name added to the waiting list, please email us at mcremc@mcremc.coop or call us at 765.473.6668.

Miami-Cass REMC is excited to begin making high-speed internet available to customers in areas that otherwise would be forgotten. We began as a company in 1939 to provide electricity to the underserved and it is now our turn to provide reliable and high-speed internet to those in same areas.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Burton at 765.473.6668 or email him at kimb@mcremc.coop.

# Plug into Safety WHEN CHARGING YOUR DEVICES



### Something as simple as charging a phone could be dangerous.

- Only purchase charging cords and devices from trusted sources. Low-priced options are often unregulated and untested.
- Only charge on cool, well-ventilated surfaces away from flammable objects. And, always unplug cords when they're not in use.
- If you're charging your phone and accidentally drop it in water, you could be electrocuted. Unlike hair dryers and electric razors, devices not meant to be used in a bathroom (phones, laptops, etc.) are not equipped with GFCIs (ground-fault circuit interrupters).