

Power On

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

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OFFICE HOURS

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

STREET ADDRESS

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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*

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As an electric cooperative, our top priority is always to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the consumer-members we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community — and this mission has never been more critical than in recent months. One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is “concern for community.” To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Miami Cass REMC, and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.” Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving a special community like ours.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Employees began working on staggered schedules to maintain separation. Some staff worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We also adjusted our

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walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members.

We’ve seen other local businesses rising to meet similar challenges during this time, because that’s what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I’m heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1939, Miami Cass REMC was built by the community to serve the community, and that’s what we’ll continue to do — Power On.

ROB SCHWARTZ
CEO



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WELCOME, NEW EMPLOYEES!

This is our final installment of highlighting employees recently acquired or hired by the REMC as part of Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami-Cass. Both employees started at the beginning of August and are fiber and repair technicians. As such, they are responsible for the construction of the new fiber loop as well as troubleshooting and repairing the existing system.

CADEN BIXLER

Caden Bixler is a 2020 graduate of Rochester High School. Prior to joining Broadway Broadband, Bixler worked



CADEN BIXLER

for Parkway Body Shop in Rochester doing body work while attending high school. He enjoys riding dirt bikes and tinkering on cars and car audio systems.

What he appreciates most about the job is being a part of the cooperative team and interacting with his fellow employees.

KEITH NIES

Keith Nies is a 2017 graduate of Pioneer High School. After high school, he attended Ivy Tech in Kokomo where he studied

sports management. He likes to work out and watch television. He also



KEITH NIES

plays in a volleyball sand league during the summer. He has been playing in the league with his father since he graduated from high school.

What Nies appreciates most about his new position is being a part of the cooperative team and working with a group of employees that gets along so well.

The staff and board of directors of Miami-Cass REMC are excited to have Bixler and Nies as part of the team of Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami-Cass.

If you see them, take a moment to say "Hi!" and welcome them to your cooperative.



FALL BACK

Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov. 1 at 2 a.m. Remember to set your clock back one hour before going to bed and to check those smoke detectors in your home.

MEETING RECAP

A big "thank you" to all those who attended the 2020 Miami-Cass REMC virtual annual meeting! We know it was a bit different than previous years.

Stay tuned for a recap of the meeting in the next issue of Indiana Connection, including highlights of the business meeting, election results and prize winners!



YOUR VOTE ON NOV. 3 HELPS PROTECT THE FUTURE OF INDIANA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

As a consumer of an Indiana electric cooperative, you are among 1.3 million Hoosiers who can claim ownership in a not-for-profit, consumer-controlled utility that provides electricity at cost.

Absentee ballot applications are available at IndianaVoters.com. Applications are due Oct. 22.

VISIT ACTION.INDIANAEC.ORG

Board meets in AUGUST

1. Counted seven board members attending. Miami-Cass REMC attorney Jeremy Fetty also attended.
2. WVPA board report was given by Jim Savage.
3. IEC board report was giving by Todd Smith.
4. Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
5. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved with corrections.
6. Financial report given by Schwartz.
7. July monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
8. Set the next board meeting for Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Miami-Cass REMC boardroom.

HOMEOWNERS' SAFETY TIPS FOR HALLOWEEN

- Make sure your yard is clear of such things as ladders, hoses, dog leashes and flowerpots that can trip young ones.
- Make sure any outdoor lighting or other electric decorations are rated for outdoor use.
- Battery-powered jack-o'-lantern candles are preferable to a real flame.
- If you do use candles, place the pumpkin well away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.
- Make sure paper or cloth yard decorations won't be blown into a flaming candle.



Be safe

AROUND ELECTRICITY WHEN MOVING FARM EQUIPMENT



WITH THE ARRIVAL OF HARVEST TIME, INDIANA'S FARMERS ARE SHIFTING INTO HIGH GEAR AS THEY MOVE INTO THEIR FIELDS TO BRING IN THEIR CROPS. THE INCREASED ACTIVITY PUTS FARMERS AND FARM WORKERS AT GREATER RISK.

Always look up and around before moving or raising equipment. Keep in mind power lines sag between poles, especially on hot days. A good rule of thumb is to stay at least 30 feet from all power lines and power poles.

Never try to raise power lines to allow passage of tall equipment. Even non-metallic objects such as wood poles or branches can conduct electricity.

Watch out for power poles, too. If you strike one, it may break, dropping a live line on your metal tractor or combine.

When considering the height of equipment, **don't forget about the radio antennas and GPS receivers** that may reach another couple of feet above the roof.

Take the time to fully lower grain augers and other portable equipment before moving them.

When moving equipment near power lines, **have a spotter on hand to ensure your safety.**



Remember new equipment could be bigger and taller than what it replaced. Don't assume the new equipment will fit in the same space.

If you're in equipment that touches power lines, stay in the cab and call for help. Tell others to stay away. In the rare case of a fire that requires you to escape, jump clear of the equipment. Keep both feet together and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away.