

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tim Fulton, President.....District 6  
 Joe Schiffer, V.P.....District 5  
 J. Allen Baue, S/T.....District 2  
 Reese Stahl.....District 1  
 Richard Pinkerton.....District 3  
 Steve Nile.....District 4  
 Dennis Johnson.....District 7

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

406-342-5521

## MID-YELLOWSTONE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.



## OFFICE PERSONNEL

Jason Brothen.....CEO  
 Marj Cunningham.....Office Mgr  
 Karen Morales.....Billing Clerk  
 Jessica Welch.....Cust.Serv.Rep.

## LINE PERSONNEL

Ken Rolandson....Operations Mgr  
 Daren Reeder.....Lineman  
 Trent Perkins.....Lineman  
 John Cunningham.....Lineman  
 Brent Battenfeld.....Lineman  
 Tyler Fennern.....Appr.Lineman  
 Ryan Silvis.....Appr.Lineman

P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038

## ALONG THESE LINES . . .



## RETIREMENT OF CAPITAL CREDITS

Your Board of Directors approved a retirement of capital credits to be paid before the end of 2025. The years that were retired were 2001-2004, 2006 (all 100%) and 2010 (23%). For our active members who were members during any of those six years, you may have noticed on your November bill statement that you received a credit on your account as payment for those retired capital credits—unless you contacted the office ahead of time to say you preferred a check, as was noted to do on your October bill statement. Budget bill accounts and some larger corporations should have received their retired amounts by check in the middle of December. Inactive-former members should have also received their payment by check.

This is a good time to remind our members that if you do move away from our system, you need to keep your address updated with us so that when future general retirements are processed we have a valid address to send a check to.

## TIPS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

- **Use Automatic Timers.** Preset your decorative lights to turn on and off with an energy-efficient timer. Timers can save a significant amount of energy over the holiday season and save on your electric bill.
- **Connect Your Lights To The Smart Technology In Your Home.** If you use a smart home device such as Google Home or Amazon Alexa Devices, connect your lights to them with a smart plug. This makes it easy and convenient to turn them on and off with just the sound of your voice.
- **Choose LED Lights.** Incandescent light bulbs are a thing of the past and use up a lot of energy. When choosing holiday lights, go with LED.
- **Space Out Your Bulbs.** Choose a light string where the bulbs are spaced out. It makes it easier to wrap with these types of strings, but also fewer bulbs use less energy usage.
- **Purchase Backup Bulbs.** Parallel circuits are fairly common in most energy-efficient strings lights. A parallel circuit means that each bulb has its own path to the battery source. If a bulb burns out, it won't affect the other bulbs and the others will continue to stay lit. You may have some lights that are in a series, so if one burns out, they all do. Keep some extra bulbs on hand even just for aesthetic purposes.
- **Use Extension Cords To Lengthen Light Strands.** Save space and use an extension cord to connect lights to the outlet without using another string light. Extension cords use less energy than another string light does. Source: Internet

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Rural Montana



*Merry Christmas*

## A STOCKING STUFFER FOR YOU...

For your new year, stop by and pick up a handy pocket calendar. Use it for mileage records, feeding records, labor records, weather records, or just a log of your upcoming events.



## ATTENTION STUDENTS!

High school seniors and college undergrads may apply for a **\$500** scholarship available through the **Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association**.

Applications are due February 25, 2026

High school seniors and college undergrads may apply for two scholarships, **\$1,500** and **\$1,000**, awarded by **Basin Electric Power Cooperative** to dependents of MYEC members.

Applications are due February 25, 2026

**MYEC** will award two scholarships based on the MECA Memorial Scholarship applications, one for **\$1,000** and one for **\$500**. Get your MECA applications to MYEC by February 25, 2026 in order to be eligible for these two scholarships.

Go to our website at **myec.coop** under Services/Scholarship to download these applications and see all of the scholarship opportunities given by Mid-Yellowstone Electric Cooperative, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association and Basin Electric Power Cooperative

**MID-YELLOWSTONE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

## Trustee Election Process Begins in December

Many of us don't think about the process of electing our Board of Trustees until we arrive at the annual meeting. But the procedure actually begins at the December board meeting when the trustees appoint up to eleven members to serve on a nominating committee. These people then meet to prepare a list of nominees to fill the expired terms. The number of expired terms varies with two trustees completing their terms one year, two trustees the next, and then three trustees the following year.

May members who are not on the nominating committee submit nominations for the trustee positions? Yes, a procedure is provided for such action.

The entire procedure for election of trustees is detailed in the bylaws of the Cooperative. Article IV, Section 3, states: *"It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to appoint, not less than 30 days nor more than 120 days before the date of a meeting of the members at which trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than eleven members who shall be selected from different districts of Mid-Yellowstone Electric's service territory so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the board of trustees may serve on such committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least 20 days*

*before the meeting a list of nominations for trustees; any 15 or more members acting together may make other nominations by petition not less than 45 days prior to*

### The trustee's role in a cooperative is:

- To act as a trustee for the membership's interest in the cooperative.
- To establish policies and procedures for the effective operation of the cooperative.
- To review and approve annual work plans and budgets.
- To receive periodic reports for conformity with the cooperative's objectives, plans and programs.

*the meeting and the Secretary shall cause such nominations to be posted at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. The Secretary shall be responsible for the mailing with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of trustees to be elected and the names and districts of the candidates. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the*

*validity of any election of trustees."*

With these provisions for nomination by petition, the members of Mid-Yellowstone can feel that they really do have a voice in the election of trustees. Plan to attend the MYEC Annual Meeting in March and vote your preference.

The districts which are up for election this year are: District #1 (Town of Hysham); District #3 (Sarpy/Sanders); and District #6 (Hammond).