

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

April 2021

Annual General Meeting - April 28, 2021

President Dean Knull started the virtual meeting with greetings to members and acknowledging this new virtual environment for the AGM.

Quorum was declared by unanimous approval | The minutes from the last AGM were approved.

Presidents Report:

Board of Director activities included a total of 18 meetings, excluding the AGM, as follows:

- 6 regular board meetings, 9 special meetings
- 1 formal meeting with FortisAlberta
- 2 meetings with Battle River Power Coop

The Board and Secretary met in person and over the phone with FortisAlberta representatives and members to discuss specific sites, upgrade requests, billing issues, vegetation management and new service designs. Additional phone meetings occurred with Battle River Power Coop to discuss member's consumption concerns, billing issues and arrears.

For 2020, West Wetaskiwin REA

- added three (3) new services and one subdivision
- issued four (4) replacement contracts and one (1) dismantle
- · microgeneration sites stand at 12
- is recording a membership/service count of 936.

Operations:

FortisAlberta was scheduled to begin our next vegetation management cycle in 2020. With the pandemic, some of the operations work was postponed and/or rescheduled as Alberta Health protocols changed. Vegetation management and other operation

work is continuing but we are still experiencing some rescheduling and postponement. We continue to work with our system contractor FortisAlberta and are informed as work progresses.

Financial Implications of Arrears:

There is one area that has negatively impacted the REA and that is arrears. We recognize that this pandemic has created hardship for many but we have a significantly greater number of members in arrears this year than ever before.

Some of these arrears are accruing over several months. Because of the co-operative nature of our partnership with Battle River Power Coop, West Wetaskiwin REA underwrote some of those arrears that Battle River Power Coop was obliged to take on. It is important for members to know, that as a co-operative utility, financial expenditures are attributed to the membership as a whole which has a negative impact on our bottom line.

Miscellaneous:

The report acknowledged the scholarship winners, Kyle Glen Turpin and Keogan Blouin. Additionally, in the absence of a head table for this AGM, two long-standing members were recognized (see reverse for details).

The report was respectfully submitted, by Dean Knull, President.

For power troubles or service requests, contact: FortisAlberta (the distribution system operator for West Wetaskiwin REA): Toll-free: 1-855-333-9473 or 780-310-9473

For REA inquiries contact:
West Wetaskiwin REA
R.R. #1 Station Main,
Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8
Phone: 780-335-9378 (WEST)
E-mail: westwet@telus.net
www. westwetaskiwinrea.com

For billing or account inquiries contact:

Battle River Power Coop

Box 1420

Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3

Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972

E-mail: brpc@brpower.coop

www.brpower.coop

Financial Report:

Michelle Miller, CPA, CA, from MNP presented the audited Financial Report.

Audit Opinion: The financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of West Wetaskiwin Rural Electrification Association Ltd. as at December 31, 2020, and the results of its operations, changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Motion to accept the financials and leave the choice of the auditor for next year to the Board's discretion passed.

Budget:

Jean-Anne Sjolin, Office Manager, presented the budget for next year, explaining the differences for various line items.

Election of Directors:

Ron Holmlund, as the lead of the nominating committee, facilitated the nominations this year and put forth 3 exceptional candidates for the 2 vacant Director positions. The candidates (alphabetical by last name) were: Dean Knull, Ron Stevens, and Kim Taylor. Elected Directors, each for a three-year term, are: Dean Knull and Ron Stevens.

Long-standing Member Acknowledgment:

Janet and Cliff Stone



Janet and Cliff reside in the Pigeon Lake area where electricity arrived on the family farm in 1952. The Stone farm produces products that in turn produce high

quality food and Janet and Cliff work alongside their oldest children who also own farm operations. They are hopeful that a fifth generation will continue the legacy as their grandchildren are starting to take an active interest in farming.

Dauna and Garry Dorchester



The Dorchester's received their electricity from the REA 53 years ago. Garry worked in the oil patch in the winter and raced

wagons in the summer until the couple settled in and started a cow/calf operation. They are currently retired and in 2013, Garry was inducted into the Wetaskiwin & County Sports Hall of Fame.

DEEPEST REGRETS



Ron Midtdal

It is with great sadness that we inform the membership that Ron Midtdal (pictured second from the right, *BOD photo 2016*), a long-time director and lifetime supporter of West Wetaskiwin REA, passed away suddenly on April 28th. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ron's family and friends during this difficult time. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Regulated Rate Option



The Regulated Rate Option (RRO) may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For April 2021, the RRO is priced at \$0.08434 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For May 2021, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.08150.

Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit <u>ucahelps.alberta.ca</u> or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).

Information on West Wetaskiwin REA's Code of Conduct Regulation Compliance Plan can be found on our website: www.westwetaskiwinrea.com