

Lane-Scott Electric Co-op Assn., Inc.

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Nate Burns
Manager of Electrical Operations

Katherine Lewis
Manager of Financial Services

In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 800-407-2217. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and standby personnel.

24-Hour Electrician Service

If you are without electricity or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day.

FROM THE MANAGER

2017 Year in Review



Ed Wiltse

The 68th Annual Meeting of the Members of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative will be held at the Lane County Fairgrounds on July 17, 2018. The Lane-Scott Electric Board of Trustees and employees invite you to a complimentary barbecue dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by the annual business meeting at 7:30 p.m. Please attend and exercise your democratic rights as a member of your electric cooperative.

Electric co-ops are just as much about the members we serve as we are about energy, so we invite everyone to enjoy the evening. Bring your family to enjoy the carnival rides prior to the meeting, and attend the business meeting for a chance to win a door prize. We will have many prizes, such as small appliances, hand tools and electric bill

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credits. But remember, you can't win if you don't attend, so make sure to stay for the business meeting.

We are pleased to report that Lane-Scott completed a successful year in 2017, with operating margins of more than \$800,000. As a cooperative, we belong to the people we serve, and our rates are set to cover the cost of doing business, not to generate profits for shareholders. We are your neighbors; your rates are our rates. This year, bill cycles for the native territory and the Mid-Kansas territory were consolidated, which has improved efficiencies in operating practices and reduced costs associated with maintaining separate billing practices.

Lane-Scott has remained committed to making improvements to our electrical distribution system by focusing on areas needing better service reliability and additional capacity. With the assistance of Sunflower Electric's engineering staff, Lane-Scott's operations personnel studied and evaluated the electrical system's requirements for the next four to five years. This study will provide information to be used for the Construction Work Plan, which will provide guidelines for system

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2017 Year in Review Continued from page 16A ▶

improvements and future construction projects.

This year's system improvements include the installation of two new regulator banks to provide voltage support out of the Beeler substation, and increase service reliability to the Utica area. We also replaced miles of copper weld wire with new wire and poles to bring greater reliability and capacity to our electrical system.

Members continue to use SmartHub, an innovative online tool that allows you to manage all aspects of your Lane-Scott account on your computer, smart phone or tablet. With SmartHub, you can pay your bill online, view your billing history, look at daily usage and schedule payments.

Electric reliability remains a priority and in 2017, Lane-Scott tested more than 2,150 poles and spent nearly \$75,000 on tree-trimming efforts. These endeavors protect our members and facilities, while reducing the potential for line damage and outages.

Lane-Scott is committed to workplace safety to ensure the safety of our employees and members. We conduct monthly safety meetings designed to provide proper training and work procedures. The commitment by our employees to remain accident free has resulted in more than 26,000 hours without a lost-time accident. Additionally, educating our members about safety is important, too. In the past year, our linemen and member services department conducted numerous safety demonstrations and safety awareness trainings at local schools, county road departments, emergency management responders, rural fire departments and sheriff departments.

As always, we strive to offer reasonably-priced services and be responsive to our member's needs. That is why Lane-Scott continues to offer electrical and heating and air conditioning service to our members. Our two master electricians and a heating and air condition-

July 2018						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Attend the 68th Annual Meeting on July 17, 2018, at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

ing specialist on staff can meet your electrical, appliance installation and repair, heating and cooling needs.

We are committed to being an excellent energy provider, and we are just as committed to building a better community. Lane-Scott employees display their dedication to the communities in which we live by assuming leadership roles on school and church boards. Our volunteerism can also be found in church activities, community clean-up, participation in community events, helping hang city Christmas decorations, coaching and assisting in youth sports and activities, and serving on a volunteer fire department. Lane-Scott also takes an active role in supporting our young people as we realize that the youth are our future. Lane-Scott provides sponsorships for 4-H and county fairs, the Electro-Rally electric car program, rodeos, Pheasants Forever, and Wild West Cat Backers. In addition, in the summer we sponsor two youth programs—a leadership camp in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, during which students learn how a cooperative operates for the benefit of its members; and a tour of Washington, D.C., where our youth learns about how our federal government works to serve all Americans.

Lane-Scott is a member owner of Sunflower Electric Power Corporation and Mid-Kansas Electric Company, both of which provide wholesale generation and transmission. Sunflower staff serve

as our chief engineering consultants and assist Lane-Scott in areas such as Spill Compliance Plans, transmission services and substation design.

The Sunflower and Mid-Kansas Boards of Directors, both of which seat trustees from Lane-Scott, value generation fuel diversity for electric reliability and affordability. The current fuel resources used by Sunflower and Mid-Kansas include natural gas, coal, wind, and a small slice of hydro. However, in February, Mid-Kansas announced a future solar project that will be the largest solar facility in Kansas. Mid-Kansas will purchase energy from the 20-megawatt facility, which is scheduled for construction in southwest Kansas in 2019. This project, known as the Johnson Corner Solar Project, will not only provide energy during our highest demand times—usually July and August—but also due to its location, will defer or eliminate costly transmission upgrades. It's one more way your electric cooperative can keep costs as low as possible, while using new and innovative technology.

Having access to wholesale generation and transmission services not only helps Lane-Scott keep costs as low as possible, it also means having energy advocates who let elected officials know how state and federal regulations and policies will impact you. This spring, the Kansas Legislature passed SB 323, which addresses several issues includes requirements for service territory annexation. One of the new provisions provides compensation for electric cooperative territory that is annexed by a municipality, thus offsetting the local co-op's cost for developed infrastructure and relinquished future revenue.

This past year was an interesting and challenging year, but by working cooperatively, it was a successful year. Be assured that Lane-Scott Trustees and employees remain member focused and committed to the cooperative principles that have served you for years.

Venters Retires after 32 Years at Co-op

For Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative retiree **BOB VENTERS**, the “seeds” of his eventual career path were planted in a high school shop class many years ago.

“I have always found electricity exciting. A classmate and I wired a house addition as a shop project in high school, and that piqued my interest,” Venters said.

But it was years later that a family friend coaxed Venters to apply for an position at Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative.

“I worked for my uncle for several years and then drove a truck for five years,” said Venters. “Then a family friend whose son worked at Lane-Scott encouraged me to apply for an opening at the cooperative.”

The influence of that family friend led to Venters’ 32-year career at Lane-Scott. Over the years, his positions included warehouseman, lineman, resale manager and member services.

Reflecting on his career, Venters noted, “Time traveled fast. One day you are 30, and then 62 is here before you know it.”

Working storm damage with long hours and days of inclement weather with seemingly no end in sight, had the most impact on him throughout his career. “I don’t think anyone who experienced them could ever forget them,” Venters said.



Nate Burns (left) and Bob Venters present a safety demonstration to Dighton grade school students.

Venters’ job challenges included the “rapid pace of changes in technology and in the industry.” He is most appreciative of the employees who made his job easier and were always there to help him in any way they could.

Ed Wiltse, general manager of Lane-Scott, recognizes Venters’ wealth of knowledge based on his decades of service to the cooperative.

“Bob has worked with the Youth Tour program extensively and has been involved in community and school safety,” Wiltse said. His relationships with our members, the communities, and his knowledge of the retail business will be difficult to replace.”

Looking forward to a change of pace and enjoyable activities in his retirement, Venters plans to build a shop and chase after his three grandkids.

2017 Nominating Committee Report

A meeting of the Lane-Scott Electric Nominating Committee was held on Monday, June 4, 2018, commencing at 6:30 p.m. in the offices of the cooperative at 410 South High Street in Dighton.

Members of the Nominating Committee present were **JOE CRAMER** and **LEX BUSH**, representing Lane and Gove counties; **RANDY SCHEUERMAN** and **JOHN BEATON**, representing Scott and Logan counties; **KENNETH SCHLEGEL** and **LANE COPELAND**, representing Rush and Ness counties; and **MARVIN BOHLING** and **DAN WEHKAMP**, representing Finney and Hodgeman counties. Also attending were attorney **JOSEPH GASPER** and General Manager **ED WILTSE**.

By vote the committee nominated the following individuals:

- ▶ **RICHARD (DICK) JENNISON** for the position of Trustee representing Lane and Gove counties;
- ▶ **HAROLD HOSS** for the position of Trustee representing Ness and Rush counties; and
- ▶ **CRAIG RAMSEY** for the position of Trustee representing Scott and Logan counties.

Members Enrolled in Call Capture Suite Automated Call System

MEMBER NOTICE: Lane-Scott Electric has a pre-recorded automated voice message service that may give member notification by phone for delinquent account/disconnect notices, account alerts, reminders, planned outages, tree trimming, and other general notifications.

Automatic Enrollment

ALL members will be enrolled in the pre-recorded automated voice message calling service.

Opt-Out Option

If you receive the automated voice message and do not wish to receive notices any longer, you may opt-out by contacting Lane-Scott Electric at 620-397-5327 or by pressing * key, if the opt out prompt option is available.

- ▶ **Opt-Out Results:** This will stop ALL voice messages from being received. Including important reminders such as delinquent account/disconnect notices to prevent possible disconnection.

- ▶ **Delinquent Account/Disconnect Notice Reminders:** Lane-Scott Electric personnel will no longer be making delinquent account/disconnect notice reminder calls. These calls will now be received via the pre-recorded automated voice message service only. If you chose to opt out, you will no longer receive any reminder calls.
- ▶ **A consent form** must be signed to be added back to the voice message system.

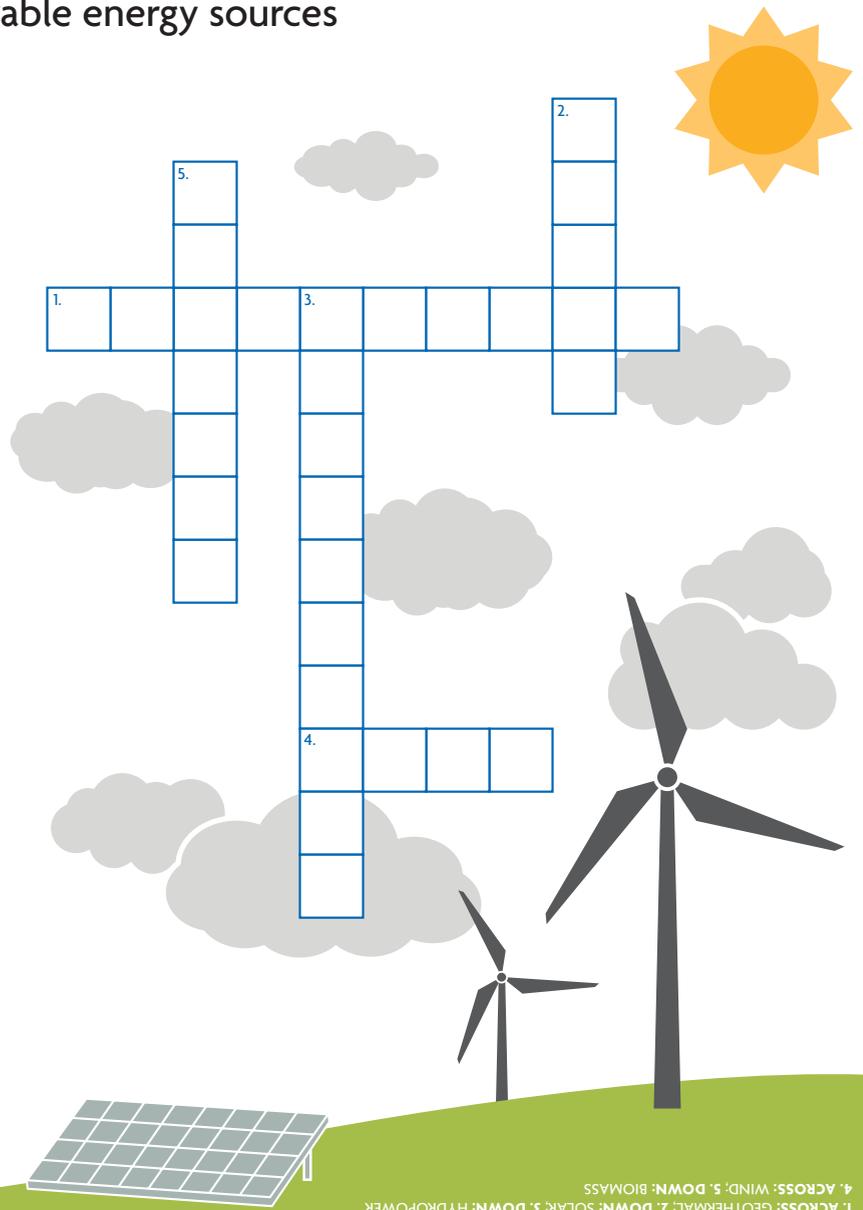


RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES CROSSWORD



Did you know the electricity you use in your home is generated using a variety of fuel sources? Some energy sources are nonrenewable (like coal and natural gas) and some are renewable (like solar and wind energy). Learn about renewable energy sources and complete the puzzle below.

1. **ACROSS:** _____ energy uses heat from the earth. People can use the heat to warm buildings or to generate electricity.
2. **DOWN:** _____ energy is produced through panels that convert sunlight into electricity.
3. **DOWN:** _____ is energy produced from moving water. The power plant is typically located on or near a water source.
4. **ACROSS:** _____ energy uses tall turbines with blades to collect kinetic energy.
5. **DOWN:** _____ is organic material that comes from plants and animals; it contains stored energy from the sun and when burned, uses chemical energy that is released as heat.



ANSWER KEY:
 1. ACROSS: GEOTHERMAL; 2. DOWN: SOLAR; 3. DOWN: HYDROPOWER
 4. ACROSS: WIND; 5. DOWN: BIOMASS