

# TAYLOR ELECTRIC CELEBRATES 89 YEARS

**TAYLOR ELECTRIC**  
*Cooperative*  
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

**T**aylor Electric held its 89th annual meeting on Tuesday, June 24th, at the Centennial Community Center in Stetsonville, with a total of 182 members participating both in person and by mail-in ballots.

Chairman Brian Hallgren addressed the membership by stating that sales were down and wholesale power costs were up in 2024. He also stressed the importance of reliability and rates and reported that demand billing has been delayed.

CEO Kenny Ceaglske began his report by announcing that the customer appreciation day will be held on Saturday, October 11th at the Centennial Community Center. Ceaglske also reported on the Co-op Day of Service held last October at the Sackett Lake Rec. Area, Medford. Employees from Taylor Electric, Jump River Electric and Dairyland Power worked together to improve the buildings and grounds area as part of a community service project.

Line Superintendent Wade Matyka gave the operations report, followed by Finance Manager Patti Nelson, who

presented the 2024 financial report. Vice-Chairman and Dairyland Director, Chuck Zenner, reported on Dairyland's transmission projects, decarbonization goals and community projects.

Youth Leadership Congress board member, Owen Klussendorf, gave a presentation regarding his time on the board over the past year. Highlights included a recent trip to Washington DC, WECA Education and Lobby Days and the State FFA Convention. Klussendorf expressed his gratitude to TEC for the opportunity.

Director elections between incumbents Dave Makovsky and Lisa Kohn and challenger Bruce Gumz were close. After several recounts, Makovsky and Gumz were declared winners.

Everyone in attendance received a \$10 electric bill credit as well as 1 lb. packages of cheese and butter at the end of the meeting. Prize winners included: Catherine Scott—\$100 bill credit, and 4—\$50 credits went to: Agnes Paul, Margaret Cypher, Jackie Robinson and Warren Behling.



Top row, left: Members enjoy the annual meeting meal.

Top row, right: Lincoln Johnas (left), Willow Fuchs (back), and Jack Henrichs (right) had big smiles as they joined their parents and TEC employees, Justin and Sheena Fuchs, at the meeting.

Far left: TEC employees (l to r) Tim Habermeyer, Geoff Mueller, Sadie Kapusta and Wade Matyka assist members with registration.

Right: TEC director, Cheri Klussendorf pictured with her son, Owen, who gave a presentation on his year as the WECA student representative.







# UNDERSTANDING NET METERING

**R**esidential solar systems are becoming more accessible, and more homeowners are exploring solar panels as an additional source for powering their homes. The amount of electricity produced by solar panels depends on several factors, including your home's sunlight exposure, energy use habits, and the number of panels installed. In some cases, solar panels can generate an adequate amount of electricity to power your home.

## What is net metering?

Taylor Electric currently offers a net metering program, which compensates solar owners for any excess electricity the system produces during a month. If a solar system generates more power than the home requires (typically during peak sunlight hours), the additional electricity can be fed back into the electric grid. In return, the homeowner will receive a credit on their energy bill for the excess energy. This billing arrangement is known as "net metering." While solar is the most popular renewable generation source for homeowners, it should be noted that net metering can also be applied to small-scale wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and biomass systems that generate electricity.

## What is net billing?

Net billing is a program that we are considering instead of net metering. It is a more real-time exchange of energy. With modern meters, we can look at the usage of a location in 15-minute intervals and determine which direction the power is flowing. This helps align costs which fluctuate throughout the day. For Taylor Electric and the Dairyland Power system, energy is more expensive in the evenings when we have to purchase it for all members (including solar producers), and less expensive in the daytime when energy, solar, and all others are more reasonably priced.

## How does Taylor Electric know how much to credit for the excess power?

When solar panels produce less electricity than the home requires, the electric meter registers power consumption, just as it would on a home without solar panels. But when the solar system generates more electricity than you need,

the electric meter registers power production into the Taylor Electric system. At the end of the billing cycle, you are charged for the "net" energy used from the electric grid. It's important to understand that the amount of electricity you use does not include the full cost of maintaining grid infrastructure that supports your home year-round. This is why TEC has moved the recovery of fixed costs into a higher fixed charge and why we are working towards splitting out demand costs and net billing.

## Who uses the excess power generated by the solar system?

The electricity produced by solar flows back to the distribution grid managed by Taylor Electric and is consumed by other services in the area. We then apply the credits for any excess power you've contributed. While generating electricity from the sun (and sending excess power back to the grid) is an exciting opportunity, it's important to thoroughly research the details before installing solar panels or any other type of small-scale renewable energy system.

Taylor Electric members who install solar and participate in net metering will need to sign an interconnection agreement, provide proof of insurance should the system create problems on the Taylor Electric system, have it installed by a licensed professional, have the electrical inspector approve it, and perform a test to ensure that in the case of an outage in the area the system cannot put power back onto the grid for the safety of our linemen and anyone who might encounter an energized line.

You should also work with a reputable solar vendor to ensure generation estimates are realistic and that your home is equipped for the system. As with many services, most providers are very good, but some are only after a sale.

It's important to note that net metering will not eliminate your energy bill. Even if you generate as much electricity as you use, which is rare, you will continue to be billed for essential services such as the grid access, service fees, and other fixed costs that are necessary to maintain a safe and reliable system.

If you're interested in solar or would like to learn more about net metering, Taylor Electric can help. By connecting with us first, you can gain a better understanding of the solar energy system, billing options, and more.





# KLUSSENDORF REPRESENTS WISCONSIN YOUTH AT NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TOUR



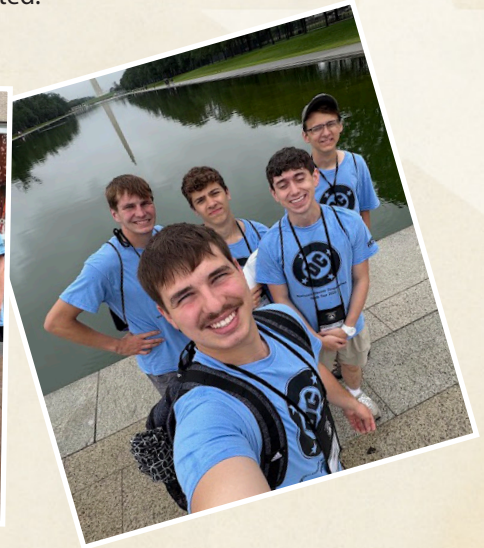
Owen Klussendorf, Youth Leadership Congress board member, traveled to Washington, D.C. for the 2025 NRECA Youth Tour, June 15-21. Klussendorf, along with 12 other students from across the state, visited monuments, toured the White House and were even able to witness a live Senate vote. Klussendorf noted he came home with new friends, fresh perspectives, and a stronger sense of what leadership really means.

Klussendorf ran for, and was elected to, the YLC youth board in July 2024 at the Youth Leadership Congress at UW-Stout. In this role over the past year he

attended several cooperative events, one in particular at the Education and Lobby Days in Madison where he lobbied on wild parsnip. He expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to learn about electric cooperatives and the knowledge he gained from this experience.

Owen is the son of Ryan and Cheri Klussendorf, Medford. Cheri serves as Taylor Electric's Board Secretary/Treasurer.

At the writing of this article, Owen was preparing for this year's Youth Leadership Congress on July 15-17, 2025, where a new board will be elected.



# DON'T LET THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER SURPRISE YOU!

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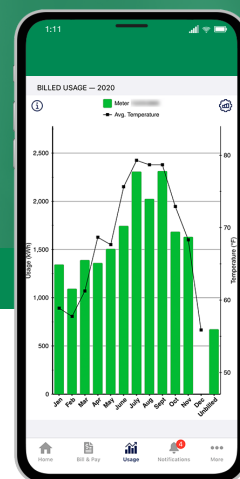


## USAGE MONITORING

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## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes dryers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower. Running heat-emitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary. —Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



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