# **Taylor Report**





August 2017

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451 • 715-678-2411 • www.taylorelectric.org

#### **Board Report – June 2017**

- Approved May disbursements totaling \$517,926, reviewed expenses paid by credit card, accepted 13 new member applications, and April construction in the amount of \$76,514.
- Reviewed financial results through May 31, 2017 with year-to-date net margin of \$135,655. KWh sales were up 0.2% in May 2017 compared to May 2016, and are down 0.5% for the first 5 months of 2017 compared to one year ago. 20 outages occurred in May, with 52 total for the year, totaling 0.5 hours per member of outage time.
- Early retirement of capital credits to 8
  estates was approved, retiring a total of
  \$7,544.74 of capital credits at the net
  present value of \$2,984.47.
- A member request for exemption from the Co-op's \$500 new service fee was denied by the Board.
- The Board and CEO viewed a presentation by National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation Regional V.P.
  Mike Bunney projecting Taylor Electric's 10-year financial forecast. Based

- on input from Dairyland Power Cooperative's load and wholesale rate forecasts, Taylor should maintain a stable financial position, with projected average annual retail rate increases of 1.5%.
- The Dairyland Power report included: May operating loss of \$3.6 Million which is \$1.3 Million under budget; review of the Dairyland annual meeting; and, reorganization of the Dairyland Board of Directors, with Taylor's Tesch being assigned to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
- The Board reviewed: 65 delinquent accounts owing nearly \$17,900 with disconnect pending on July 11th; member complaints; purchase of backup inverters for the community solar project; issue with communications towers for meter reading system; and, update on Taylor County Association of Cooperatives.
- Director Waldhart reported on the WE-CA Legislative Committee meeting, and an update of State and federal issues.
- Director Zenner reported on the WECA

- Education Committee meeting, which included scheduling 2018 director and employee education programs.
- Directors Engel and Waldhart reported on the May safety meeting which was a field observation of the line crew replacing a pole. Overall good safety practices were observed with 2 issues noted by the safety instructor: lack of hearing protection when using an impact tool, and wheels of the truck should have been chocked even though the surface appeared level.

### **Energy Efficiency**Tip of the Month

Setting your thermostat to a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

# **Power of Electricity**Powering your life. Every day.

As late as the mid-1930s, nine out of 10 rural homes were without electric service. Farmers milked their cows by the dim lights of the kerosene lantern, and the wife was a slave to wood range and washboard. The unavailability of electricity in rural areas kept their economies entirely and exclusively dependent on agriculture.

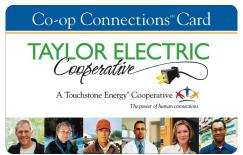
It was not until 1933 that things began to change for rural America. The federal government passed the Tennessee Valley Authority Act which authorized the construction of transmission lines to serve rural areas that were not otherwise supplied with electricity at reasonable rates. President Franklin D. Roosevelt also played a vital role in pioneering the power of electricity with the Rural Electrification Administration. Thanks to him, today, about 99 percent of the nation's farms have electric services.



As we look back at the history of electric co-ops, Taylor Electric Cooperative continues to thrive on the courage, commitment and dedication of all the individuals that got us here today. You might not think about it, but as a Touchstone Energy co-op member, dependable electricity for your lifestyle is something you can count on every day. That's comforting to know, because nowadays electricity is essential to energizing our lives and keeping us connected more than ever before. Through innovation and new technology, Taylor Electric Cooperative is doing everything we can to keep electricity reliable and affordable for you. And that's a powerful thing.

Plug in to the power of Taylor Electric's Touchstone Energy Cooperative membership at www.TogetherWeSave.com.

### **Co-op Connections**



Summer will soon be gone, but that doesn't mean the fun has to come to an end. Did you know Taylor Electric has a program in place to help you save on a variety of goods and services, from hotel discounts to fitness club memberships?

The Co-op Connections card is a free program that saves members money on everyday expenses. The card also gives you access to Cash Back Mall, where you can get money back from shopping online at over 3,000 leading online retailers.

Your Co-op Connections card gives you access to discounts from tens-of-thousands of retailers because it taps into a national business community. But it doesn't just help you save at big box stores and chains. The card also provides discounts for businesses right here in our community. In fact, it was created specifically to help businesses on our nation's main streets.

One of the most popular features is the prescription discount benefit. Even if you don't have

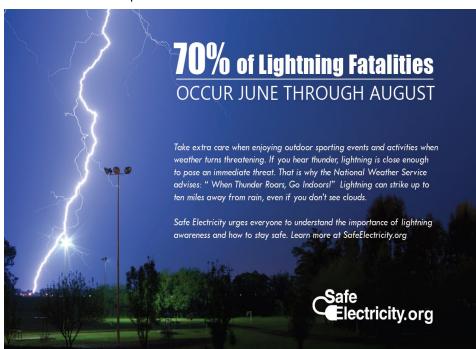
insurance, the card will help you save up to 85% on your medications at more than 60,000 pharmacies across the country.

We know how important it is to save, and we want to make sure that you are taking full advantage of the programs we offer. The Co-op Connections card is an easy way to see the value of being an electric cooperative member. So don't let the end-of-summer blues get you down.

Take advantage of your savings today. You can learn more by visiting www.taylorelectric.org or www.connections.coop.

## KNOW WHAT'S BELOW Dial 811 before you dig!!





### Where do Your Public Benefits Dollars Go?

Taylor Electric Cooperative, like all utilities in the state of Wisconsin, is required to collect a non-taxable fee which is referred to as "public benefits". This fee provides low-income energy assistance and supports energy efficiency initiatives for all TEC members.

In order to be in compliance with state law, electric cooperatives are required to collect an average of \$16 per meter per year to fund public benefit efforts. TEC's public benefits fee will not exceed three percent of each member's bill.

Half of the public benefits funds collected are sent to the State of Wisconsin for low-income energy assistance programs, which have benefited TEC members. For the past several years, the amount of energy assistance funds claimed by TEC members has been in excess of what Taylor Electric has sent to the state.

The remaining half of public benefits are sent to Focus on Energy, Wisconsin utilities' statewide energy efficiency and renewable resource program. Focus on Energy provides Wisconsinites with energy efficiency information, resources, and financial incentives. TEC members are able to utilize Focus on Energy information and funds to improve energy efficiency and save money at their homes and businesses. Visit www.focusonenergy.com for more information.