

Taylor Report

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October 2020

Concern for Community—Cooperative Principle #7

On Friday, September 18th Taylor Electric Cooperative's CEO, Ken Ceaglske presented member, Ryan Klussendorf with a \$6,000 check from the Safety First! Farm Rewiring Program. These funds were used to make repairs and safety upgrades at Ryan and Cheri Klussendorf's Broadlands Grass Farm following the devastating fire that occurred on April 5. The funds came from a program administered by WECA, the statewide electric coop association, and are intended to protect the safety of the members on farms and preserve and extend the life of facilities on the farm. For more information on Safety First! loans or grants, look to our web page at www.taylorelectric.org, or call our office at 715-678-2411.



October is Co-op Month

Then. Now. Always.
We're proud to power your life.
October is National Co-op Month.



#PowerOn

As an electric cooperative, our top priority is always to provide reliable, affordable energy to you, the consumer-members we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local community—and this mission has never been more critical than in recent months. One of the seven principles that guides all co-ops is "concern for community." To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Taylor Electric, and it sets us apart from other electric utilities. October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we "Power On." Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we

play in serving a special community like ours. Who would have thought in March, that the COVID-19 virus would amount to a test of our community and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities. Over the past several months, we have all been challenged to operate differently, and Taylor Electric has stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors. As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We also adjusted our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members. In addition, we redesigned the annual meeting to the drive-in style, incorporating WKEB radio to assist in the broadcast of the meeting to those who might not have wanted to attend in person. For the health and safety of everyone, we think these measures were the prudent course of action for the times. Life in rural America is surrounded by small businesses, mom and pop restaurants, and the like. All of us are neighbors who like working with each other. For a company that was built by you, the members, it has been a very different experience closing our lobbies, limiting visits, and isolating. We have certainly missed visiting with you in person. It has been good to see the support that has been shown by the community during the trying times that we have been through. Like your local coop, we all will continue to work together to— *PowerOn*.

—Ken Ceaglske, Pres. & CEO, Taylor Electric Cooperative

UNDERSTANDING THE SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

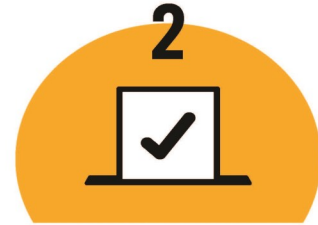
Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance.

These principles are a key reason why America's electric cooperatives operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of our members first.



1 VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Membership in a cooperative is open to all people who can reasonably use its services and stand willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, regardless of race, religion, gender or economic circumstances.



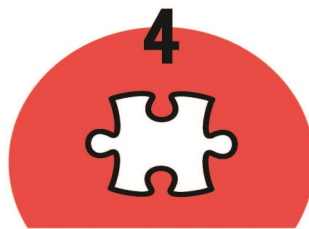
2 DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Representatives (directors/trustees) are elected among members and are accountable to them. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote); cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.



3 MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.



4 AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control as well as their unique identity.



5 EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors/trustees), CEOs and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of their cooperatives. Communications about the nature and benefits of cooperatives, particularly with the general public and opinion leaders, help boost cooperative understanding.



6 COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

By working together through local, national, regional and international structures, cooperatives improve services, bolster local economies and deal more effectively with social and community needs.



7 CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies supported by the membership.

THESE ARE
THE WORDS
WE LIVE BY.

