

Taylor Report



February 2017

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

SAVINGS WITH TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

BRIGHT HORIZONS SOLAR ARRAY



Sign up now and begin the year by helping the environment as well as saving money on your electric bill.

If you are interested in solar but don't want or can't afford the cost of the investment, give Taylor Electric a call. We have solar units for sale. A unit is 350 watts of energy producing capacity. Taylor Electric Bright Horizons community solar garden is comprised of 274 saleable units. (A half-unit of 175 watts is also available). The cost for one unit is \$930 or you can buy 1/2 unit for \$465. Either pay the full amount up-front or make payments. Stop by the office and take a look at the solar array or come into the office and see the solar display so you learn more about the power of the array.

It's the easiest way to participate in solar. Call us today at 715-678-2411 or stop in to fill out your paperwork and make a down-payment.

2017 INCENTIVES

If you are planning to purchase new appliances, light bulbs, electric heat, etc. be sure to check with us to see if you are eligible for an incentive. You can also contact Focus On Energy at 800-762-7077 for additional incentive information.

CO-OP CONNECTIONS CARD

Co-op ConnectionsSM Card



Use your Co-op Connections card and save at local participating businesses. From discounts on dining to auto repair, there is something on the list for everyone. Call us today at 715-678-2411 for a card and list of participating businesses.

Also, don't forget to sign up for Cash Back Mall and get money back from your online purchases. Simply go to: connections.coop, select the Partner Deals tab and Cash Back Mall to get started. Find other great savings ideas there as well.

CONGRATULATIONS, MARY!



After 28 years with Taylor Electric Cooperative, Mary Lavin retired at the beginning of 2017. Mary was hired in 1989 as billing clerk and stayed in that position during her tenure at the cooperative with the exception of a title change to customer service representative. Although she remained in the same position, a lot changed over that timeframe. From outages and changes to the billing system, to the extinction of the old self-read meters and the ever-changing computer programs, technology kept her job full of challenges.

In her retirement, Mary plans to enjoy spending more time with her family and friends as well as focusing on her love of crafting and wedding planning to keep her busy.

She will be missed by everyone at the cooperative and we wish her many years of health and happiness.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Taylor Electric Cooperative's annual meeting will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 starting at 9:30 AM at the Medford Area Senior High School with lunch to follow. Come visit with your neighbors and support your cooperative!



Board Report – Dec. 2016

- Approved November disbursements totaling \$693,420.17, accepted 13 new member applications, reviewed credit card expenses, and October construction in the amount of \$168,812.93.
- Reviewed financial results through November 30, 2016 and projections for year-end 2016. Operating Margins for the first 11 months of the year are \$226,021 with Total Margins for the year at \$317,251 compared to \$79,167 one year ago. Year-end projections for 2016 are for Operating Margins of approximately \$276,000, and Total Margins of approximately \$525,000 (including estimated Dairyland Power Co-op capital credit allocations of \$175,000).
- One request for discounted capital credit retirement to estate was approved with net present value of \$578.73.
- The Board reviewed and approved a PCA credit of 0.1676¢ per kWh to be applied to all usage (electric bills) for the month of December 2016.
- Forfeiture of \$397.96 of unclaimed capital credits was approved. The forfeited amount will be sent to Federated Youth Foundation for use as Taylor Electric scholarships and charitable purposes.
- Board approval was given to ask National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation to raise the Co-op's mortgage debt level to \$40 and begin paperwork for a new 5-year PowerVision loan in the amount of \$8 Million. PowerVision loan funds are drawn as funding to support construction and system upgrades.
- The Dairyland Power report included a review of the 2017 budget, with the average wholesale power cost projected to increase to 7.374¢ per kWh (0.6% increase for 2017 over 2016) and a capital additions budget of nearly \$60 Million (most of which is for transmission system upgrades).
- Director Tesch reported on the Dairyland Power board meeting which included: the Dairyland Board will be making a decision at its January board meeting on disposition of the 2007-2013 Nuclear Waste Policy Act reimbursement that was received from the Federal Government - it is anticipated that most of the funds will be returned to the member distribution co-ops; margin of \$1.7 Million for the month of November with year-end forecast of more than \$23 Million total margins; more input is requested from the distribution co-ops on concerns and issues of extending the Wholesale Power Contract; and, the Genoa 3 generating plant outage has been extended due to the turbine assembly sustaining blade damage at the repair shop when it rolled over with the flatbed trailer that it was being loaded onto, as it was being prepared to ship back to the generating plant.
- Reviewed 83 delinquent accounts processed for collection in December [83 in 2015] with a total balance owing of more than \$27,300. Small claims court actions are

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



A crackling fire in the hearth warms the house, but don't let it heat up your electric bill! Caulk around the fireplace hearth and keep the damper closed when a fire is not burning.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

used to file liens against delinquent customers during winter months.

- The Board approved the capital improvement budgets for 2017: \$35,729 for the office and IT needs, \$200,000 for vehicles and equipment, \$281,500 for tools, meters, AMR modules, security and test equipment, and, \$800,000 for line construction projects. Line construction projects include 9.75 miles of overhead and 6.5 miles of underground construction. The overhead projects will be completed by the Co-op's crews as time permits, and underground cable failures will determine where underground replacements will be made.
- The Board approved the 2017 operating budget with an expected 2% decrease in kilowatt-hour sales, and a target of no rate increase. Staffing changes for 2017 include one office staff retirement, transfer of a part-time office assistant to full time, and, a lineman to be hired for replacement of a senior crew member expected to retire by year end. There was discussion that weather can have a huge impact on sales (growth or loss), and that excessive outages, storm damage, and other risks can impact achieving the budgeted margins. Projections of cash flow, equity, and loan fund needs were also discussed.
- Director Tesch reported on the CFC meeting he had attended. He provided highlights of a strategic update that was given at that meeting.

Do You Know Where These People Are?

Baumer Estate, Margaret
Dunst, Roxanne
Graumann, Donna M
Hammon, John & Karla
Horton, Harold
Kaulfuss, Arch
Malecki, Gail
Petersen, Carol

Ploeckelman, John
Rust, Charles & Ruth
Wilson, David & Maryann
Woyak, Dean
Zelinski, Lester & Viola
Zolper, Thomas