



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

March 2017

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



Did you know every cooperative is required to conduct an annual meeting of the membership? High Plains Power's 19th Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 18th at the Thermopolis Middle School. The purpose of the meeting is to hold the election for the board of directors and share important financial and cooperative information. Remember your electric cooperative is not owned by investors and it is not managed by an appointed board of directors. Your cooperative is run by a democratically elected board that is given the privilege to serve because of your vote. YOU are the member-owners of High Plains Power, Inc.

High Plains Power's Annual Meeting is a community gathering where neighbors can meet new neighbors--or catch up with old acquaintances. As our lives get busier with the "errands of life" and more of our interactions with others are online (via social media), we must renew the value of face-to-face human connections. Very few organizations are uniquely positioned like High Plains Power to bring together all member/owners of our local communities.

While in rural Wyoming, we probably do a better job of staying connected to our neighbors (in part because we need too), it is not something we should take for granted. The simple act of smiling, saying hello and shaking someone's hand truly lifts both parties.

Our country and community face many challenges. Our economy feels like it has been stagnant for years. Presently we are experiencing an economic down-

turn in Wyoming and overcoming these challenges will only happen if we come together.

High Plains Power's Annual Meeting is designed to take care of the important business of your co-op and the equally important business of building a real sense of community. All cooperatives serve both an economic and social purpose. While safe, reliable and affordable electric power is crucial to our mission, improving the quality of life for all member/owners is at the core of what we do every day.

On pages 2 and 3 is a list of the candidates posted for Districts 4, 5, 9 and 10. The nominating committee met on January 27th to nominate the candidates. At this meeting they submitted the names of the nominees who will be running to represent their respective board districts. There are other ways to be nominated for a position on the Board of Directors. You may be nominated from the floor at the Annual Meeting or a member-owner can be nominated by petition. The petition requirement is that fifteen (15) or more active member/owners can sign a petition nominating a qualified member/owner to represent a district, that they reside in, to be on the ballot.

If you have not attended the Annual Meeting in the past or if it has been a few years, we urge you to take the time to be with your fellow co-op members.

We get out of life what we put into it. High Plains Power is connected to you by more than just powerlines. We are your neighbors, and we look forward to seeing you at your Annual Meeting.

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2017 Annual Meeting
Saturday,
March 18th at the
Thermopolis Middle
School

Don't Forget To Leap
Ahead on March 12th.



The POWER of Co-op Membership

2017 Annual Meeting

The 19th Annual Meeting of High Plains Power will be held Saturday, March 18, 2017 at the Thermopolis Middle School. Important business to be conducted includes the election of four members to the cooperative's board of directors. In addition, there will be reports from the President of the Board, the Treasurer, the CEO and a representative from Tri-State Generation and Transmission.

Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting notice will be mailed to each High Plains Power member/owner the first part of March. A proxy card will be included with the notice. If you are NOT able to attend the Annual Meeting, please complete the card and mail it to the Riverton office. If you are planning on attending the meeting, please do not use the proxy card.

Why should I attend?

As a member/owner of High Plains Power, you have the right to attend the Annual Meeting where you have a voice, both voting for those to represent you on the board of directors and in the business of the Cooperative.

Unlike for profit utilities, your vote counts just as much as a member of the Cooperative that uses the most electricity, so you have just as much say. Remember - one member, one vote!

Without stockholders, we focus on generating only enough revenue to pay the Cooperative's operating costs and to repay our lenders. In other words, our rates are set to cover the cost of doing business, not generate profit for distant stockholders. We exist only to serve you and to meet your needs for reliable and affordable electricity.

On the social side - the Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to visit with friends and family, enjoy a meal, and maybe even win one of the many great door prizes.

Election of Directors

Elections for four director districts will be held at the annual meeting.

Elections will be held for:

- District 4—Rural Riverton areas
- District 5—North of Riverton and Midvale areas
- District 9—Lysite, Lost Cabin, Moneta, Grass Creek and Hamilton Dome areas
- District 10—Worland area



RICHARD HAUN - DISTRICT 4

DISTRICT 4

Richard Haun

Richard Haun is seeking reelection for Board of Director for District 4. He and his wife, Janice live in the Riverton area. They have 3 grown children. Haun is the incumbent Director and has served on the Board for Riverton Valley Electric and High Plains Power since 1979. He has been a member since 1967.

Mr. Haun was elected to the Wyoming Rural Electric Statewide Board in 1988 and served on that Board until 1999. He served as the statewide secretary/treasurer from 1991-1993, vice-president from 1993-1996 and president from 1996-1998. He also has served as the Riverton Valley Electric president for two years.

Mr. Haun states, "If I am reelected I would strive to keep costs as low as possible

and still give the prompt service we have received in the past."

DISTRICT 5

Bret Gardner

Bret Gardner is seeking to serve as a Board member to represent District 5. He and his wife, Laurie, have 2 children, Chad and Melissa. Both children are graduates of the University of Wyoming. Gardner is pleased with the way High Plains Power is being operated at the present time. Bret was born

2017 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



BRET GARDNER - DISTRICT 5

and raised in the Missouri Valley area and knows the importance of reliable power for his ranch and livestock trucking business. "I have learned a lot about cooperatives and REA from my dad, Dave Gardner, who has served on the Board for over 30 years."

Bret has been a member of Riverton Valley Electric and High Plains Power since 1980.

DISTRICT 9

Matt Brown

Matt Brown is the incumbent director seeking reelection for District 9. Brown has been a rancher/farmer all of his life.

Brown states, "Three years ago I was elected to represent High Plains Power on the Tri-State Board. It is my goal to help guide Tri-State through some very trying times. The Tri-State family must be united in the common goal of making Tri-State stronger, by keeping Tri-State financially stable and governed by the board of directors which you as member owners have elected. High Plains Power's Board of directors must be strong to have a strong Tri-State. If re-elected I will use my knowledge and experience for both High Plains and Tri-State."

Matt was born and raised and



MATT BROWN - DISTRICT 9

lived on a cattle/sheep farming operation on Owl Creek west of Thermopolis. He has received electric power from Hot Springs REA and since the merger of Riverton Valley Electric, receives reliable, affordable electricity from High Plains Power, Inc. He and his wife, Teresa, have 4 children and 6 grandchildren who keep them busy in their spare time. They also belong to numerous organizations to help their community and industry.

DISTRICT 10

Jim Miller

Jim Miller is the incumbent board member seeking reelection to represent District 10. He has been a director since 2005.

Miller states, "I enjoy representing district 10. I look forward to the 4th Friday of every month because that is when my wife and I get to go to Riverton. She gets to do some shopping and I get to participate in making decisions for



JIM MILLER - DISTRICT 10

the best organization in the state. High Plains Power has the finest men and women providing safe and reliable electricity to our members of any coop in the state. All of our Member-Owners are important to the future of our cooperative and my goal is to stay current on the things that will affect our cooperative members and base my decisions knowing that what we decide will affect our residential, farm and ranch and industrial members."

Miller and his wife, Shellie have 3 grown children. He is actively involved in the family farm north of Worland. Miller has lived on the farm his whole life and has been supplied electricity from High Plains Power and Hot Springs REA.

**YOU'RE A MEMBER
YOUR VOTE COUNTS**

**Remember...
If you are planning on attending the meeting, please do not mail in your proxy card.**

Co-op Connection Cards



Use your Co-op Connections Card. This card-based member/owner benefit program is designed to deliver added value to our members by offering valuable discounts at participating local and national businesses. Remember, **this is not a credit card...** it is a discount card. Below are the local businesses that have agreed to participate by offering a discount to those who present your Co-op Connection Cards. If you need more cards, please give us a call and we can send you another one. To find out more log on to www.connections.coop.

Company Name	City
AAA Self Storage	Riverton
Absaroka Western Designs	Dubois
All Star Auto Glass	Riverton
Anderson Carpet Cleaning	Casper
Bank of Thermopolis	Thermopolis
Barker-Ewing Whitewater	Jackson
Baymont Inn and Suites - Casper	Evansville
Bearlodge Angler	Worland
Best Western Cotton Tree Inn	Rawlins
Big O Tires Riverton	Riverton
Bill's Quality Auto Glass, Inc.	Lander
Broadway Bygones Antique Store	Thermopolis
Casper Lodging Company	Casper
Christina's Critter Cutts	Riverton
Computer Wiz Tech	Thermopolis
Cost Plus Appliance & Design	Casper/Cody
Country Bloomers Greenhouse	Worland
Cowboy Custom Pro Property	Mills
Crooked Creek Guest Ranch	Dubois
Curves of Riverton	Riverton
D J's Glass Rawlins, LLC	Rawlins
Devin Murray - Electronics Handyman	Riverton
Dew This	Thermopolis
Durbin Street Golf, LL	Casper
Ease The Squeeze Storage	Lander
Flannigan's Furniture Outlet	Casper
Flying Eagle Gallery	Thermopolis
Fremont Motor Company	Lander
Frigid Frog	Farson
Full Throttle Power Sports	Dubois
Gear UP & Get Out There	Casper
Hammer Electronics/Radio Shack	Riverton
Heaven Scent Grooming	Thermopolis
Home Source Realty	Riverton
Hot Springs County Museum & Cultural Center	Thermopolis

Jem Works Pottery & Gifts, Etc.	Basin
La Curl Beauty Salon	Crowheart
Lander Bodyworks	Lander
LaQuinta Inn	Casper
Las Fuentes Mexican/American Grill	Thermopolis
Lava Mountain Lodge	Dubois
Leather Design	Riverton
Lehman Studio	Riverton
Mountain Ledge Baking	Riverton
National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center	Dubois
Needful Things Emporium	Thermopolis
Nobe Screen Printing	Evansville
North Fork Sales	Lander
Outdoors Wyoming	Riverton
Owl Creek Graphics	Thermopolis
Owl Lumber Inc.	Thermopolis
Paintbrush Inn	Thermopolis
Painted Valley Ranch Supply	Dubois
Parkway Plaza Hotel & Convention Center	Casper
PC Cowboys	Cody
Peggy Sue's Treasures	Casper
Plains Tire & Auto	Riverton
Platte River Raft N Reel	Casper
Porters MVS	Riv./Casper
Prazma Paint & Auto Body, Inc.	Casper
Precision Outdoor Power	Riverton
Profiles Hair Design	Riverton
Properties West, Inc.	Thermopolis
Quick-Set Auto Glass	Riverton
Rapp It Up Ceramics	Riverton
Red Ranch Retreat	Thermopolis
Refine Medical Laser and Aesthetics	Lander
Rocky Mountain Lodge	Dubois
Saratoga Hot Spring Resort	Saratoga
Skyler Inn	Casper
Sleep Inn & Suites	Casper

Sleeping Bear RV Park	Lander
Special Arrangements	Lander
Stagecoach Motor Inn	Dubois
Star Trims	Riverton
Storyteller	Thermopolis
Sundowner Station	Riverton
T & T Appliance Repair	Riverton
Taylor Creek Exxon & Deli	Dubois
Teton Athletic Club	Riverton
The Black Bear Inn, Dubois	Morrison
The Historic Virginian Hotel	Medicine Bow
The Print Shop	Riverton
The Shake Shop	Thermopolis
The Trailhead Restaurant	Riverton
The Warehouse, LLC	Riverton
The Winter Law Firm PC	Riverton
TNT Auto Service, LLC	Thermopolis
Total Elegance Boutique	Casper
Uncommon Grounds	Powell
Urban Swagga LLC	Shoshoni
Washakie Museum & Cultural Center	Worland
Waterwheel Gifts & Books	Dubois
Western Bouquet LLC	Dubois
Western Supply	Riverton
Wind River Canyon Whitewater & Fly Fishing	Thermopolis
Wind River Gallery & Framing	Riverton
Wind River Gear	Dubois
Wind River Realty	Riverton
Wind River Upholstery	Lander
WOW Discount	Thermopolis
Wyoming Anglers	Casper
Wyoming Backroad Tours	Riverton
Wyoming Sight & Sound	Thermopolis
Wyoming Windows & Cabinets	Lander
Wyoming Winds Quilting & Embroidery	Riverton
Yellowstone Hideaway	Pineville

High Plains Power

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is an official publication of High Plains Power, Inc., PO Box 713, Riverton, WY 82501.

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This is a monthly publication made available by High Plains Power, Inc., with the Wyoming Rural Electric News. Ideas, questions and comments are welcome.

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