



July 2023

PLUGGED IN WITH . . .

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

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PREMA

PREMA's 78th Annual Meeting

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) held its 78th Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 31st in Alliance.

RD Sutphen, President of the Board for PREMA, called the meeting to order and reported on the results of the director election. Michael Collins and Wayne Crawford, both from District #2, were elected to three-year terms.

President Sutphen reported that 2022 was a good year both financially and operationally. Sutphen thanked the employees for their work over the past year, noting their contribution to a successful year.

General Manager, Zac Bryant, reviewed the 2022 Report to Members with a series of slides highlighting the previous year's operational activities and financial condition.

Bryant reported that 2022 was a successful year in terms of safety. There were no lost-time accidents in 2022 and there have been none since 2011. PREMA also kept its very favorable Workers Compensation Experience Rating which was well below the state average for the tenth straight year.

Bryant informed the attendees PREMA invested nearly \$1,236,524 in upgrades and replacements of infrastructure which included 698 new poles, 190 crossarms, 65-meter loops, 80,000 feet of new conductor wire, 935 feet of overhead secondary wire and 16,000 feet of underground wire. Net margins for 2022 were \$609,236 with operating margins at \$398,986. **PREMA returned \$498,958 of capital credits to its members with over \$12,300,000 being returned to members since inception.**

Chris Macy and Travis Lurz were honored in 2022 for fifteen years with PREMA, as well as Kevin Bestol for his twenty-five years. We also congratulated Ryan Reiber on his thirty-four years with PREMA and wish him well in his retirement. Thank you all for your service!

Bryant gave several examples of how PREMA gives back to the membership and the area communities which included: the Grant County Pool Board, Alliance Recreation Center, United Way of Western Nebraska, WNCC Powerline Construction and Maintenance Program, economic development loans, energy efficiency rebates and college scholarships.

Bryant also touched on some of the technology PREMA is using which allows members to save money and brings more efficiency to PREMA. PREMA offers Smart Hub, which permits the members to view their account information, weather history and billing data. PREMA currently has 745 accounts using Autopay. PREMA is using Facebook and the website www.prema.coop to inform and communicate with members. This year's annual meeting Zoom link was available on Facebook and the website.

Director Election Results

District 2

Michael Collins37 votes

Wayne Crawford38 votes

Mr. Collins and Mr. Crawford were elected to a three-year term by the membership. Thank you to all who ran and those who took the time to fill out and submit your ballots.

Congratulations

**TO THE WINNER OF THE EGO
POWER+ 650 CFM BLOWER**



Pictured above is PREMA's General Manager Zac Bryant along with member Brett Ditsch & his son Maverick.

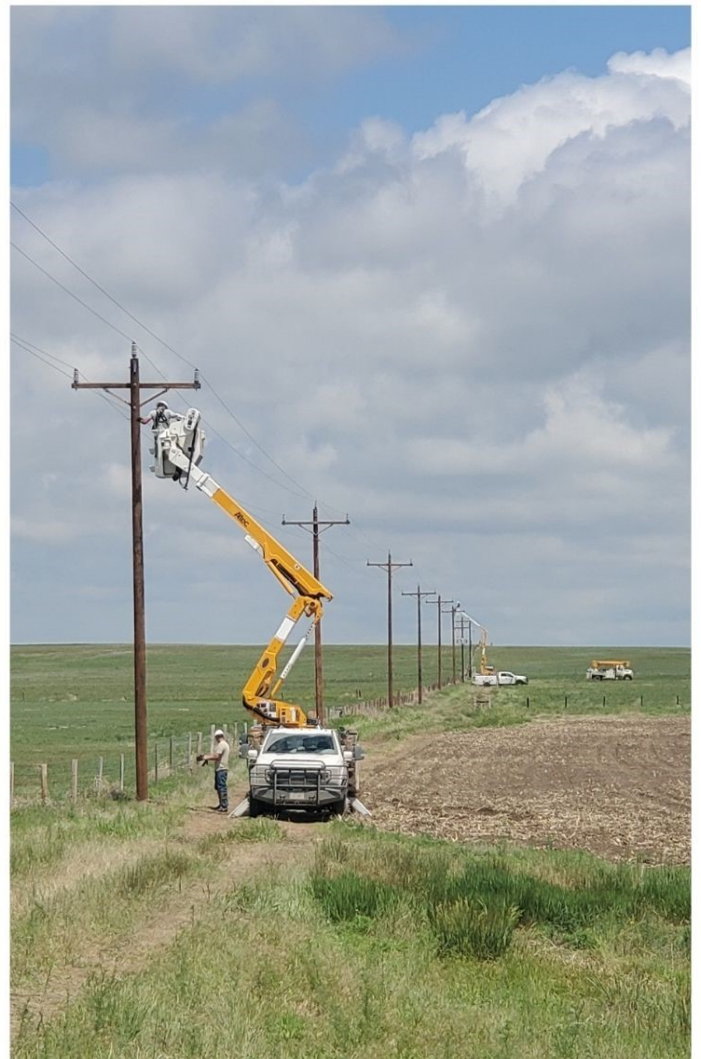


These are just a couple of the projects that the crews have been busy working on.

Irrigation season is in full swing, and the crews have been hard at work converting several diesel wells over to electric services. One of these projects required the crew to convert a single-phase line to a three-phase line in conjunction with building a new quarter mile three phase tap off the mainline to accommodate the new service.

The other service built not only required converting a half mile of single-phase line to a three-phase line, but also required converting the primary voltage to a higher voltage.

While working between several rain showers, the crews finished both projects in a timely manner: close to a week a piece. Here are some pictures of the guys in action.





Have a happy and safe Independence Day!

Our office will be closed Tuesday, July 4th in recognition of the holiday.

Notes From Load Management

Load Management customers please consider the following:

PREMA recommends, pivots on Load Management should have auto restarts installed. Make sure the auto restart function is working properly and pivots start when load control is inactive.

Off peak hours (no control) are 10:00 PM to 11:35 AM and there is no load control occurring on Sundays or holidays.

Customers can view which control groups are being curtailed by going to PREMA's web site at www.prema.coop. Status can also be checked by calling the office 24 hours per day.



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PREMA

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MANAGEMENT STAFF

**Zac Bryant—General Manager
Boone Manion—Operations Manager
Dale Knapp—Staking Engineer**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Dale Berndt — Lakeside
Michael Collins — Alliance
Wayne Crawford — Alliance
Marty Larsen — Whitman
Bryan Monahan — Hyannis
RD Sutphen — Lakeside
Phil Zochol — Alliance
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