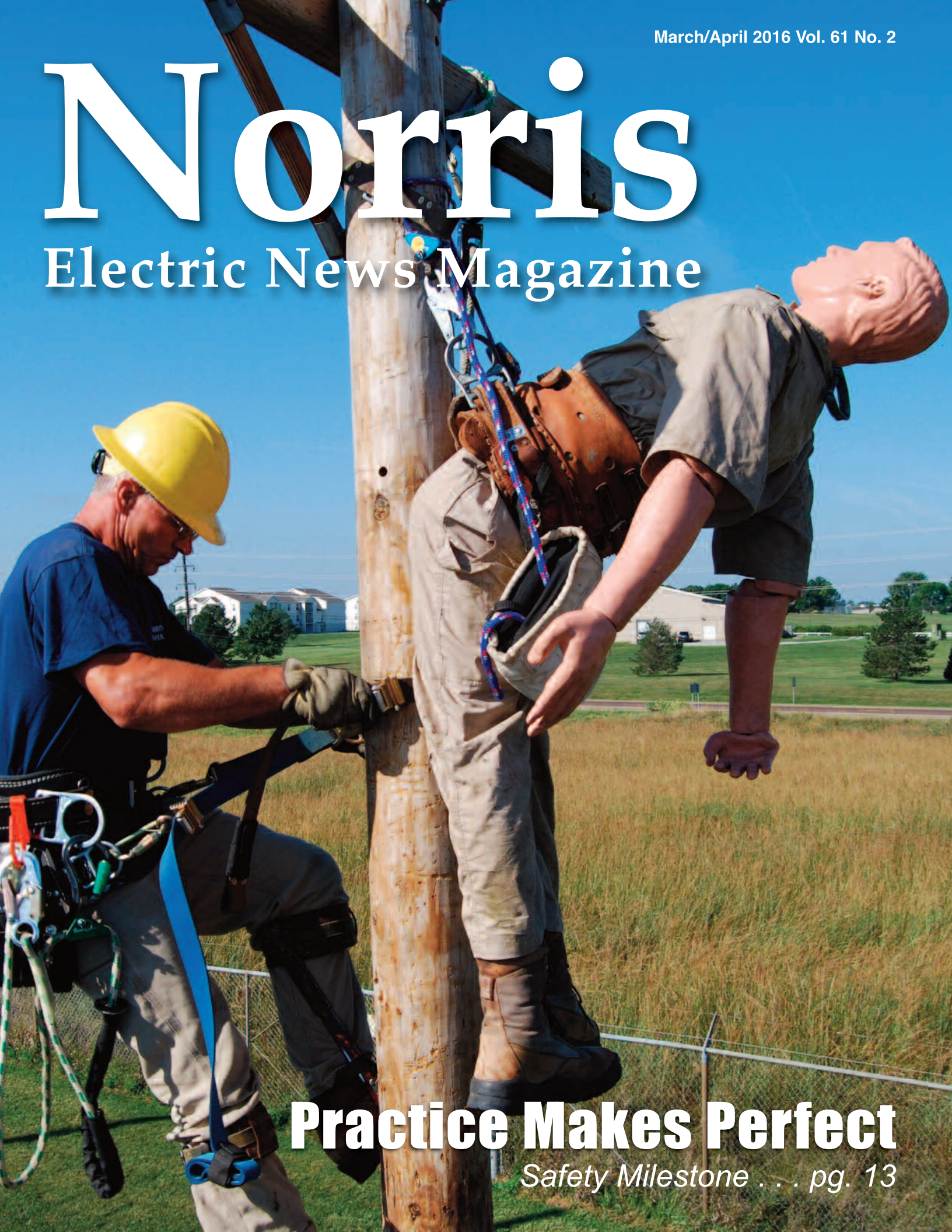


Norris

Electric News Magazine



Practice Makes Perfect

Safety Milestone . . . pg. 13

NORRIS ELECTRIC NEWS

"Dedicated to Serving You"

(USPS-391-880)
Published Bi-Monthly by
NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
606 Irving Street, P.O. Box 399
Beatrice, NE 68310-0399
Phone: 402-223-4038
www.norrisppd.com
email: comments@norrispower.com

Subscription Rates:
Fifty cents per issue

Postmasters: Send notices and returns to:
Norris Public Power District
P.O. Box 399
Beatrice, NE 68310-0399

Periodicals Postage Paid at Lincoln,
Nebraska and additional offices

Board Meeting Information

Unless otherwise provided by resolution of the Board of Directors, regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held monthly on the first Wednesday of each month. The Directors shall hold their meetings at the principal office of the District, or at such other place or places as the Board may from time to time determine. Notice of regular meeting shall be given as provided by law.

Officers and Directors

Stewart Huneke - President
Subdivision V, Wilber

John Novotny - Vice-President
Subdivision VIII, Odell

Mark Knobel - Secretary
Subdivision VII, Fairbury

Randy Steinhausen, Treasurer
Subdivision VI, Lincoln

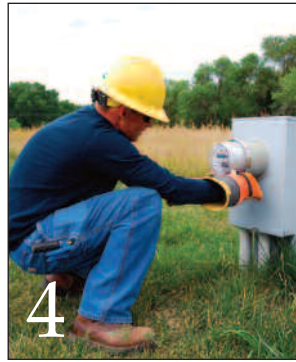
Berneal Warner, *Subdivision I, Waverly*
Dennis Buel, *Subdivision II, Hickman*
Gary Kroese, *Subdivision III, Adams*
Kenneth Myers, *Subdivision IV, Holmesville*
Roger Rada, *Subdivision IX, Tobias*
Rodney Heinrichs, *Subdivision X, Carleton*
Bruce Tegmeier, *Subdivision XI, Jansen*

On the Cover:

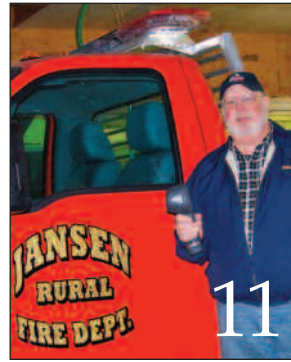
Ray Paulsen, Journeyman Lineman - Crete, performs pole top rescue techniques that would be utilized to assist or save an injured coworker. Norris service personnel rehearse various rescue techniques on a routine basis.

"Practice does not make perfect. Only perfect practice makes perfect." Vince Lombardi

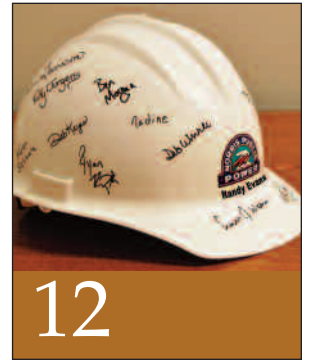
MARCH/APRIL 2016



4



11



12

- 3** **Watt's Up At Norris Public Power District**
New Manager - Trevor Wehrer
Board of Directors - Officers 2016
- 4-5** **District News**
Customers to Reap Benefits of AMI Technology
Message from Bruce Vitosh, General Manager/CEO
- 6-9** **Financial Report**
2015 Financial Report
Michelle Junker, Manager of Finance and Accounting
- 10** **Dedicated Years of Service**
Milestone Service Anniversaries
Mark Engler, 30 Years
Jody Smith, 20 Years
Brian Pospisil, 5 Years
- 11** **Operation Round Up**
First Quarter Awards Granted
- 12** **Retirement Celebration**
Randy Evans Retires
- 13** **Workplace Safety**
Norris Employees Reach Key Safety Milestone
- 14** **Preventative Maintenance**
Pole Inspection Program
- 15** **Youth Education**
Electrifying Opportunity
Youth Energy Leadership Camp
- 16** **Community Events Calendar**

NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT CONTACT NUMBERS

Main Office – Area III
Beatrice: 402-223-4038
Toll Free: 1-800-858-4707
Hours: M-F 7:30 AM–4:30 PM

Area I
Hebron: 402-768-6515
Toll Free: 1-800-827-8099
Hours: M-F 8:00 AM–4:30 PM
Closed each day from
12:00 PM–12:30 PM

Fairbury: 402-729-3835

Area II
Roca: 402-423-3855
Toll Free: 1-800-743-3899
Hours: M-F 8:00 AM–4:30 PM
Crete: 402-826-2517

Bruce Vitosh
General Manager/CEO
bvitosh@norrispower.com

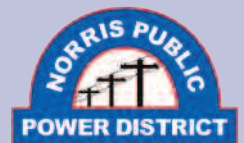
Jerry Enns
Manager of Engineering
jenns@norrispower.com

Trevor Wehrer
Manager of Operations and Safety
twehrer@norrispower.com

Vicky Jurgens
Norris Electric News
Magazine Editor
vickyjur@norrispower.com

Emily Shockley
Administrative Coordinator
eshockley@norrispower.com

Michelle Junker
Manager of Finance and Accounting
mjunker@norrispower.com



Follow us on Twitter



Connect on LinkedIn



Like us on Facebook



Norris Public Power District Welcomes New Manager



Trevor Wehrer
*Manager of Operations
 and Safety*

Norris Public Power District is pleased to announce the hiring of Trevor Wehrer as the District's Manager of Operations and Safety. Trevor began working on February 1, 2016 at the District office in Beatrice. Trevor was selected to help lead the District and the employees of the District in the position that was vacated upon the retirement of Randy Evans in February 2016.

within the guidelines of the District's safety policies. Trevor is responsible for maintaining a safe work environment for all employees and providing the mandatory training for District personnel.

Trevor and his wife Dawn have two children. Their son Riley is sixteen years old and their daughter Tali is twelve years old. Currently the Wehrer family resides near York. Trevor and his family will be relocating in the near future and will reside within the District's service area at the end of the current school year. Riley and Tali plan to attend Wilber-Clatonia High School this fall.

Trevor's hobbies include hunting, fishing and training his two German Wirehair Pointers. The Wehrer family enjoys spending weekends on the lake boating.

Trevor is familiar to a few District employees, as he completed his utility line internship at Norris Public Power District in 1993. In 1994, after graduating from Northeast Community College with an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Utility Line, Trevor began his career in the utility industry working at Perennial Public Power District located in York, Nebraska. Perennial serves customers throughout York and Fillmore counties. During his twenty-two years at Perennial Public Power District, Trevor worked in various positions including Lineman, Meter Technician, Operations Coordinator, Safety Coordinator and Assistant Manager of Operations.

Trevor is responsible for two vital components of the daily operations of Norris Public Power District, which are operations and safety. Trevor will supervise the construction and maintenance activities of the District's subtransmission, distribution and substation facilities. Trevor will also ensure that work being performed by District personnel is executed

"Norris Public Power District has a highly trained and talented team of linemen. I am honored to be a part of this dedicated group of employees who are committed to serving the customers of the District. My first and foremost priority as I begin my new position at Norris Public Power District is to make sure that all employees continue to work in an environment that is safe and healthy.

I look forward to working together as a team to deliver safe, reliable and affordable electricity to customers of the District."

- Trevor

Please join us in welcoming Trevor and his family to the Norris District.

Norris Public Power District 2016 Officers for the Board of Directors

At the January 2016 Board of Directors Meeting, the Board elected the following Directors to serve as officers.



Norris Public Power District Board of Directors newly-elected officers for 2016 from left to right are: Stewart Huneke - President, John Novotny - Vice-President, Randy Steinhausen - Treasurer and Mark Knobel - Secretary



Customers to Reap Benefits of

Bruce Vitosh
General Manager/CEO

New and improved technologies continue to develop rapidly and have an impact on our lives. These innovations seem endless and include advances in most everything from smart phones, flying drones, global positioning systems (GPS), healthcare, robotics, etc. Technological advances have also impacted the electric utility industry. It is important that the District become familiar with new developments and only implement those technologies that are proven and provide value to both District customers and operations.

Since the late 1980s, the District has used a Power Line Carrier (PLC) based Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system to read substation, industrial and commercial metering systems. A District wide expansion of this system to read all meters was never implemented since the costs outweighed the benefits. This system is also currently used to provide load management for irrigation and electric water heaters. As you may surmise with this vintage of technology, the vendor no longer provides acceptable support for the system. Therefore, over three years ago, the District began extensively evaluating a new AMI system to meet the District's existing needs and to also provide additional benefits for both our customers and daily operations.

AMI is not a single technology, but rather an integration of many technologies. AMI systems collect and report available electric meter information, such as electric consumption and demand through a secure two-way communication system between the customer's meter and the District offices. After extensive research and evaluation, the District believes the improved technology in radio communications provides the best communication option for the District's AMI system.

The evaluation of AMI included a pilot program that was implemented in July 2013. In the southern portion of the District's service area, 115 existing meters were replaced with new AMI meters allowing the District to test hardware, software and equipment. District personnel worked closely with the manufacturer which led to some enhancements to the AMI system being evaluated.

Once the new AMI system is operational, all customers will no longer be required to read their electric meters. Hourly electrical usage data will be available for customers to review with access to their online account. Outages will be reported immediately, allowing for improved outage restoration times. From an operations standpoint, the District will be able to operate and design the electrical distribution system more effectively through the collection and review of electrical usage and demand collected through the AMI system.

At the November 4, 2015 Board meeting, the Norris Directors approved the purchase of the AMI system and equipment from Eaton's Cooper Power Systems. District personnel have commenced installing radio communication equipment. The District plans to utilize a metering installation contractor to replace all meters and load management devices throughout the District beginning this summer. It is expected to take at least one year to complete this massive undertaking.

The District is committed to utilizing new and improved methods of providing better service to customers and to improve operational efficiencies only if these new technologies can be implemented in a cost effective manner. More details and status updates regarding the AMI project will be communicated through future Norris Electric News Magazines, Norris Electronic Newsletters and other direct communication with customers.

“Real-time” data is a great tool for helping customers understand how much electricity they are using and when it is being used.

AMI Technology

Customer Benefits of AMI

1. Customers will no longer be required to submit their meter readings, thus saving time, postage and phone calls.
2. Customers who live elsewhere during the winter will receive a bill that reflects their actual monthly usage rather than an estimate.
3. Customers will not have to wait for their bill to see their energy consumption as customers will have immediate access to their usage data online.
4. Billing errors, estimates and disputes will be reduced with accurate and consistently recorded meter readings.
5. Prepaid metering may be implemented, allowing customers to avoid a meter deposit requirement and purchase power on an as needed basis. Prepaid metering provides the customer with greater control of their usage and more flexibility in making smaller payments throughout the month instead of one larger monthly payment.
6. Infrequently, a meter does fail and ceases to accurately record all of the energy consumed. AMI will provide for early detection of meter failure and require less estimation of usage for a more accurate billing of actual energy consumed.
7. AMI will provide early detection of electric distribution facility problems and hardware failures, leading to improved service.
8. Outage restoration times will improve as instantaneous and specific outage location information will be reported, which will benefit District personnel who respond to outages.
9. Individual electric service outages may be identified and possibly restored prior to a customer returning home.
10. Irrigation services may be billed using demand readings rather than relying on horsepower capacity charges. Using demand readings will more accurately reflect customers' use of the electric distribution facilities.
11. Customer service personnel will be able to immediately process disconnect, reconnect and transfer of services for customers.
12. Precise data will be available for use in energy audits requested by customers.
13. For customers who receive an annual bill for seasonal services, electric service issues may be identified on a timely basis.
14. AMI will enable the District to detect electric blinks, which may enable corrective action before an outage occurs.
15. With the ability to read meters remotely, the District will save a significant amount of vehicle miles and employees' time traveling to customers' meters to obtain meter readings.

Are you ready to say good-bye to reading your electric meter?

As the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project progresses, meters will start being read automatically by the District. **In the meantime, if you are a customer who reads and submits a monthly meter reading, please continue to do so until we notify you that we have taken over reading your meter for you.**

Continue to follow updates in the months ahead as information will be shared regarding the status of meter replacements throughout the District's five-county service territory. Project updates will be published in upcoming issues of the Norris Electric News Magazine, E-Newsletter and may also be found on our website.



2015 Financial Report

Michelle Junker
Manager of Finance and Accounting

Norris Public Power District is a public corporation and a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, providing electric power to approximately 18,800 customers in Gage, Jefferson, Lancaster, Saline and Thayer counties in Nebraska. I am pleased to present the District's annual operating results for 2015 to our customers, the District's most important stakeholders. For every dollar collected or disbursed, we consider our mission of providing electricity and related services to customers at competitive prices, in the safest, most reliable, efficient and environmentally responsible manner.

OPERATING REVENUES

In 2015, for the second straight year, there was no rate increase for all customers of Norris Public Power District. Operating revenues decreased 1.2% to \$68.56 million in 2015 from \$69.38 million in 2014. Kilowatt-hour sales decreased 2.6% overall in 2015. A decrease in operating revenues and kilowatt-hour sales was anticipated in the budget process and operating revenues and kilowatt-hour sales did exceed the budget for 2015. All revenue classes showed a decline in kilowatt-hour sales compared to 2014 with the exception of irrigation and wholesale customers. Weather was a major contributor to the kilowatt-hour sales in 2015 as we experienced milder temperatures throughout the year. A large industrial customer performed an extended planned shutdown for maintenance which resulted in a decrease in 2015 sales to large power customers. Even with this decrease, the District's large power customers accounted for 53% of the District's kilowatt-hour sales in 2015.

COST OF POWER

The District had no rate increase for production demand and energy from its main power supplier in 2015, although an increase in transmission costs, which impacts 10% of our power bill, accounted for an overall 1% increase in power costs on a kilowatt-hour basis. The total cost of power is \$49.12 million in 2015. This is a decrease from \$49.98 million in 2014 and can be attributed to a decrease in the number of kilowatt-hours purchased in 2015 as compared to 2014. The cost of purchased power is the District's largest expense representing 71% of the District's revenue requirements.

OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

Other operating expenses due to inflationary trends have a tendency to increase each year, and 2015 was no different. The increase of 5.8% in 2015 was anticipated and was below the approved budget. 7% of revenues or \$5.17 million was expended in 2015 on subtransmission and distribution activities. These activities include all expenses related to maintaining all of the subtransmission and distribution lines and substation facilities required to provide reliable service to our customers, including outage restoration, trimming and removing trees, and preventive maintenance of District electric facilities. Another 5% of revenues or \$3.86 million were required for administrative and customer service expenses, including bill processing, meter readings, insurance and building maintenance. 7% of revenues or \$4.65 million relates to depreciation expense on \$161.5 million in total assets.

OPERATING MARGINS

\$5.75 million in operating margins remained after all expenses were accounted for and surpassed budget expectations.

ENERGY DATA	2015	2014
Kilowatt-hours sold	816,199,873	837,799,601
Average revenue per kilowatt-hour sold	\$0.0828	\$0.0816
Kilowatt-hours purchased	849,158,176	872,222,791
Average cost per kilowatt-hour purchased	\$0.0579	\$0.0573
Average actual monthly load factor	73.12%	72.21%
Annual actual load factor	60.01%	58.76%
Line loss	3.90%	3.95%

NONOPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENSES

Investment and other income decreased \$325,000 in 2015 in comparison to 2014. In 2014, the District recorded a gain on sale of assets that did not recur in 2015. Interest earned on cash and investments decreased \$21,000 due to a decrease in investment reserves in 2015. As investments matured during the year, the proceeds were not reinvested in order to fund construction of a new Area 2 Operations Center from existing cash as planned. Interest and amortization expense related to the District's long-term debt decreased \$48,000 in 2015 in comparison to 2014 as outstanding debt is paid down.

INCREASE IN NET POSITION

The increase in net position is \$6.15 million in 2015 in comparison to \$7.15 million in 2014 and represents 9% of revenue requirements. The increase in net position exceeded the 2015 budget of \$5.40 million. Because of its continued strong financial position, the District was able to absorb an increase in operating costs and avoid a customer rate increase in 2015. Annual increases in net position are used to pay principal on debt, to reinvest back into the electric facilities through the construction work plan, and to maintain adequate cash reserves. In 2015, Norris paid \$1,415,000 in principal on long-term debt and invested \$8.2 million in the District's electric facilities and equipment.

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash and investments on hand at December 31, 2015 totaled \$36.26 million, which was an increase of \$1.93 million over December 31, 2014. Of the \$36.26 million on the balance sheet, \$4.88 million is restricted for revenue bond reserves and the return of customer deposits. Another \$2.84 million in cash is projected to be used in 2016 to fund the completion of the new Area 2 Operations Center. The remaining \$28.54 million of cash and investments provides an adequate reserve to meet operating and capital needs and meets industry standards.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Net capital assets increased 5.4% to \$104.34 million in 2015 from \$99.01 million in 2014. Major construction projects in 2015 included work on ten miles of subtransmission line and thirty-three miles of distribution line. A substation was relocated and rebuilt while Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) control and protective equipment upgrades were installed in four substations.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Long-term debt, net of current maturities, at December 31, 2015 was \$12.90 million as compared to \$14.41 million at December 31, 2014. The District did not access its credit line during 2015 and all credit lines were paid in full as of December 31, 2015. The District's debt service coverage in 2015 is 6.27 as compared to 6.67 in 2014 and well exceeds the 1.25 that is required by District bond covenants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Norris Public Power District, Manager of Finance and Accounting, 606 Irving Street, Beatrice, Nebraska, 68310.

NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT Customers and Miles of Line Data

	<u>December 31, 2015</u>	<u>December 31, 2014</u>
Number of Customers	18,801	18,656
Total Miles Energized:		
Transmission Line	611	611
Distribution Overhead Line	3,947	3,934
Distribution Underground Line	527	516
Total Miles Energized	<u>5,085</u>	<u>5,061</u>
Number of Customers Per Mile	3.70	3.69
Operating Revenues	\$68,555,251	\$69,381,683
Per Customer	3,646	3,719
Per Mile of Line	13,482	13,709
Operating Expenses	\$62,801,055	\$62,908,596
Per Customer	3,340	3,372
Per Mile of Line	12,350	12,430
Electric Plant	\$161,525,606	\$153,302,747
Per Customer	8,591	8,217
Per Mile of Line	31,765	30,291
Long-Term Revenue Bonds Payable	\$12,896,467	\$14,406,212
Per Customer	686	772
Per Mile of Line	2,536	2,847

NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2015 and 2014

ASSETS	2015	2014
CAPITAL ASSETS		
Electric plant	\$161,525,606	\$153,302,747
Less accumulated depreciation	57,180,828	54,292,459
Net capital assets	<u>104,344,778</u>	<u>99,010,288</u>
NONCURRENT ASSETS		
Capital in other organizations	377,774	306,288
Investments	11,680,083	14,092,482
Restricted investments	2,112,500	2,951,000
Total noncurrent assets	<u>14,170,357</u>	<u>17,349,770</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	16,551,615	13,435,090
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,928,254	1,857,224
Investments	3,150,000	2,000,000
Restricted investments	838,500	—
Accounts receivable	7,093,860	5,882,603
Other receivable - FEMA	105,507	—
Unbilled revenue	903,434	979,420
Interest receivable	431,498	369,517
Materials and supplies inventory	2,779,798	2,929,849
Prepaid expenses	393,570	398,814
Total current assets	<u>34,176,036</u>	<u>27,852,517</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$152,691,171</u>	<u>\$144,212,575</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred charges	580,280	448,100
Unamortized loss on defeasance of debt	1,825	6,431
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>582,105</u>	<u>454,531</u>
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>\$153,273,276</u>	<u>\$144,667,106</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	2015	2014
NET POSITION		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$90,212,337	\$83,476,935
Restricted	4,623,796	4,534,190
Unrestricted	28,308,270	28,982,046
Total net position	<u>123,144,403</u>	<u>116,993,171</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred customer credits	221,234	160,689
Deferred gain on sale of a portion of service territory	1,351,901	1,757,472
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>1,573,135</u>	<u>1,918,161</u>
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		
Revenue bonds payable	14,406,212	15,882,732
Less current maturities	1,509,745	1,476,520
Total revenue bonds payable	<u>12,896,467</u>	<u>14,406,212</u>
Other postemployment benefit obligation, net	1,947,306	1,644,377
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>14,843,773</u>	<u>16,050,589</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	9,119,577	5,166,827
Accrued expenses	910,754	886,087
Accrued taxes	965,610	1,010,197
Customer deposits	1,206,279	1,165,554
Current maturities of long-term debt	1,509,745	1,476,520
Total current liabilities	<u>13,711,965</u>	<u>9,705,185</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION	<u>\$153,273,276</u>	<u>\$144,667,106</u>

Unaudited Statement

NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

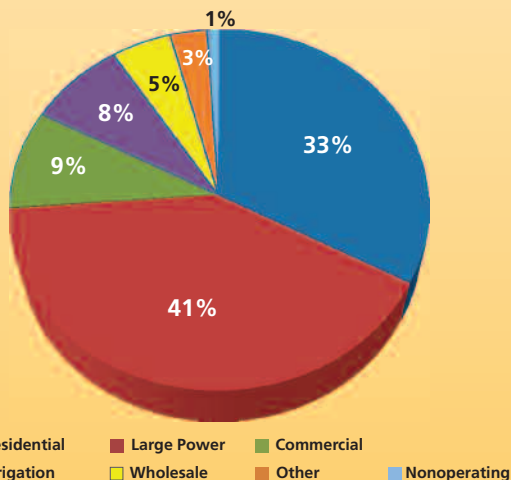
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

Years Ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
OPERATING REVENUES		
Rural residential	\$16,553,467	\$17,481,041
Towns and villages	6,447,156	6,525,518
Irrigation	5,734,386	5,530,684
Small commercial	6,011,117	6,005,447
Large commercial and industrial	28,113,122	28,608,032
Public street lighting	259,135	260,361
Annual services	1,009,025	1,088,998
Sales for resale	3,516,624	2,892,475
Unbilled revenue adjustment	(83,486)	(33,093)
Total electric energy sales	<u>67,560,546</u>	<u>68,359,463</u>
Other revenues	994,705	1,022,220
Total operating revenues	<u>68,555,251</u>	<u>69,381,683</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Cost of power	49,124,661	49,978,523
Transmission and distribution	1,863,335	1,674,466
Customer accounts	1,202,529	1,188,334
Customer information and conservation	141,849	155,585
Administrative and general	2,330,350	2,199,398
Maintenance	3,474,293	3,244,003
Depreciation	4,651,400	4,455,649
Taxes and lease fees	12,638	12,638
Total operating expenses	<u>62,801,055</u>	<u>62,908,596</u>
OPERATING INCOME	5,754,196	6,473,087
INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME	907,679	1,232,873
INCREASE IN NET POSITION BEFORE DEBT AND OTHER EXPENSES	6,661,875	7,705,960
DEBT AND OTHER EXPENSES	510,643	558,580
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	<u>\$6,151,232</u>	<u>\$7,147,380</u>

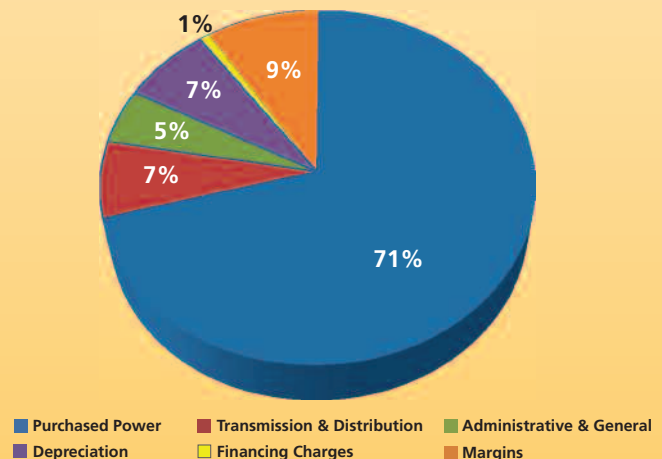
Unaudited Statement

**Norris Public Power District
Sources of Revenues
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015**



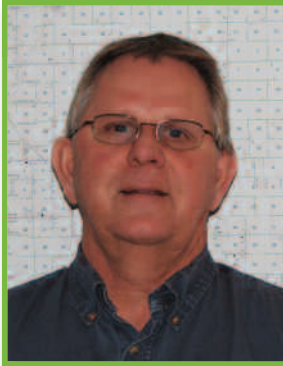
Total Sources of Revenues for 2015 were \$69,462,930

**Norris Public Power District
Uses of Revenues
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015**



Total Uses of Revenues for 2015 were \$69,462,930

Milestone Service Anniversaries



Staking Technician
Beatrice

Mark Engler - 30 Years

April 1, 2016, honors Mark's thirty year service anniversary with Norris Public Power District. Prior to working at the District, Mark worked as a lineman for eleven years at Northeast Nebraska Public Power District in Wayne, Nebraska. On April 1, 1986, Mark was hired as a Construction Foreman at the District's office located in Fairbury.

On May 1, 1992, Mark was promoted to Construction Superintendent at which time Mark and his family relocated to Beatrice. Mark was again promoted on August 1, 2000 to an Area Manager for the District.

In 2005, Mark was transferred to a position within the District's Engineering Department as a Staking Technician. He supports the Engineering Department in line routing, permit preparation, easement acquisition and the surveying of the District's distribution and subtransmission lines.

Mark meets with District customers regarding new services and service upgrades. He assists customers with technical advice, cost estimates, and the staking of new line. Mark determines the appropriate billing rate schedule for services and establishes customer account and billing information. He also completes detailed staking sheets that include materials and necessary construction information which are utilized by linemen when services are being built or upgraded.

Mark and his wife, Linda have three children, Andrea, Adam and Amber. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, hunting and reloading ammunition.

"I am fortunate to have the opportunity to work in the electric industry for the past forty-one years. I know all District employees are here for a common good, which is to provide reliable electrical service as well as outstanding customer service whether it is outside in the field or in the office." Mark



Construction Foreman
Roca

Jody Smith - 20 Years

Jody grew up in Ord, Nebraska. He began his career in the electric industry working at Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District located in Ord for four years. On April 15, 1996, Jody accepted a position at Norris Public Power District in Crete as an Apprentice Lineman.

In 1999, Jody completed the Merchant Job Training and Safety certification program and achieved the position of Journeyman Lineman. Jody was promoted to his current position of Construction Foreman in Roca on March 14, 2005.

Jody and his wife Joni live in Crete. The Smiths have three children. Hillary lives with her husband in Richmond, Virginia. Marcus lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Max attends Peru State College in Peru, Nebraska. Jody and Joni have one granddaughter, Sutton. In Jody's spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and his hobbies include any activity that involves being outdoors.

"Norris has been a good career choice for me. I have met a lot of good people, including my coworkers and customers of the District. I have enjoyed working at the District over the last twenty years, and I look forward to providing the customers of the District with dependable electric service in the future." Jody



Maintenance Technician
Beatrice

Brian Pospisil - 5 Years

Brian began working at Norris Public Power District on April 25, 2011 as a Maintenance Technician. Brian works in the Technical Services Department and is responsible for the installation, troubleshooting and maintenance of the District's oil and gas filled equipment, which includes transformers, voltage regulators, oil circuit reclosers and other related equipment.

Brian and the other employees of the Technical Services Department also install and maintain the District's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, which is used to acquire information from various pieces of equipment in the District's service territory. Brian will be an integral part of installing and maintaining the District's new Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. Brian is also responsible for testing, installing and troubleshooting metering installations.

Brian lives in Wilber with his wife Jennifer, son Gavin who is four years old, and daughter Bria who is two years old. Outside of work, Brian enjoys being outdoors, hunting, fishing, golfing, playing sand volleyball and just about any other type of sport.

"Advancements in technology are constantly evolving in the electric industry. My coworkers and I, in the Technical Services Department, embrace change as the District progresses into the future. We strive to continually provide new technology and advanced metering services to District customers." Brian

Please join us in honoring Mark, Jody and Brian for their dedication, electrical knowledge and expertise.

First Quarter Awards Granted



Decorative street lights have been installed in Plymouth, by the Plymouth Improvement Association with the assistance of a grant they received from the Operation Round Up program.



Gary "Butch" Hermsmeier, Chief - Jansen Rural Fire Department, holds a thermal imaging camera that was purchased with a grant from the Operation Round Up program. The camera absorbs infrared light that is emitted from objects at elevated temperatures.

NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT GOODWILL FUND - 2016 FIRST QUARTER AWARDS

<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION/AGENCY</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
\$ 1,500	Huntington-Vasey-Young American Legion Post #346 - Liberty	Beverage Cooler
1,500	Beatrice Police Department Community Based K9 Program	Kennel, Fencing and Housing Equipment
1,500	Gage County Sheriff's Office	Heat Alert System and Harness Vest
1,500	Jansen Rural Fire District #9	Thermal Imaging Camera
1,500	Legacy Development of Chester, LLC	Digital Sign
1,500	Plymouth Improvement Association	Historical Street Lights
50	District OR-1 Public Schools	Post Prom
50	Friend Public Schools	Post Prom
50	Malcolm Public Schools	Post Prom
50	Norris School District	Post Prom
50	Sterling Public Schools	Post Prom
<u>\$ 9,250</u>	TOTAL	

Application Deadlines: April 1, 2016
July 1, 2016
September 30, 2016

Board Meeting Dates: April 12, 2016
July 12, 2016
October 11, 2016

Randy Evans Retires

On February 19, 2016, Randy Evans spent his last day at Norris Public Power District celebrating his 37 years of dedicated service to the District with family, friends, business associates and coworkers. For Randy and his wife, Jerilyn, who are both devoted Nebraska baseball fans, it was an appropriate day to celebrate Randy's retirement, as the season opener Husker baseball game coincided with his launch into retirement. Randy began his celebration by announcing to his guests, "Let's eat, there is a baseball game beginning at 3:00 and I don't want to be late!"

Randy started his career in the electric industry working at Schmader Electric with his father, Leo Evans. In the 1970s, Schmader Electric worked as a contractor for the District installing underground cable. While working for Schmader Electric, many of the construction jobs that Randy helped to complete were done for Norris Public Power District. In 1979, Randy heard of an open position at Norris Public Power District, applied and was offered the position of Apprentice Lineman. Randy began his career journey at the District on February 19, 1979 and served the District and its customers in the following positions:

Apprentice Lineman	1979 – 1982
Chief Area Serviceman	1982 – 1989
Construction Superintendent	1989 – 1993
Area II Manager – Roca	1993 – 2005
Manager of Operations	2005 – 2012
Manager of Operations and Safety	2012 – 2016



Bruce Vitosh – General Manager and CEO, Norris Public Power District, congratulates Randy on his well-deserved retirement after many years of outstanding service to the District.

*Goodbye,
Good Luck
and
GO BIG RED!*



"Randy has served the District by being a manager who was always ready and willing to lead the charge. Randy chose to make more than a career out of his work; he chose to make a difference out of his work."

Bruce Vitosh, General Manager and CEO

Randy is looking forward to spending more time on the golf course, playing with former Norris retirees and hoping to beat their scores. Randy and Jerilyn are looking forward to spending more time with family and also traveling to wherever the Husker baseball team takes them.

As the District loses decades of experience and a great employee, we want to thank Randy for his many years of leadership and outstanding service to the District and its customers.

The District extends its warmest wishes for a healthy and enjoyable retirement to Randy and Jerilyn.



Randy (right) receives his Resolution of Appreciation Certificate from Stewart Huneke – President, Norris Public Power District Board of Directors.



The Evans Family from left: Randy, Jerilyn (wife), Aaron (son), Ryan and Kara (son and daughter-in-law), Leo and Shirley (parents). Not pictured is Becky (daughter-in-law).

Norris Employees Reach Key Safety Milestone

In 2015, District employees worked twelve consecutive months without a lost time injury. A lost time injury is any accident severe enough to take an employee out of the workforce. With 76 full-time employees working a total of 146,840 hours, service vehicles being driven 657,134 miles and large construction equipment being operated 13,381 hours in 2015, in adverse working conditions makes this milestone truly significant. The District never really sleeps. Employees are not the traditional 8 to 5 workforce, they work when needed

around the clock. Their hours can be long, in various environments and in inclement weather making this safety milestone a remarkable achievement.

Randy Evans, Manager of Operations and Safety, said “Reaching this key milestone is largely the result of District employees who have an unconditional dedication to safety and the successful implementation of various District safety policies and practices.”



We Did It!

**146,840 Hours
Worked Without A
Lost Time Injury**



**Congratulations to the employees of
Norris Public Power District.**

“Safety is the District’s top priority. I am very proud of these employees for achieving this extraordinary safety milestone. My job has been to provide District employees with tools, training and policies to enable each one of them to perform their job safely. I want every employee to put safety first, for their own well-being, their coworkers and their families. As I retire from my position as the District’s Manager of Operations and Safety in February 2016, I want each and every employee to continue to be focused on safety so the milestone can be extended.

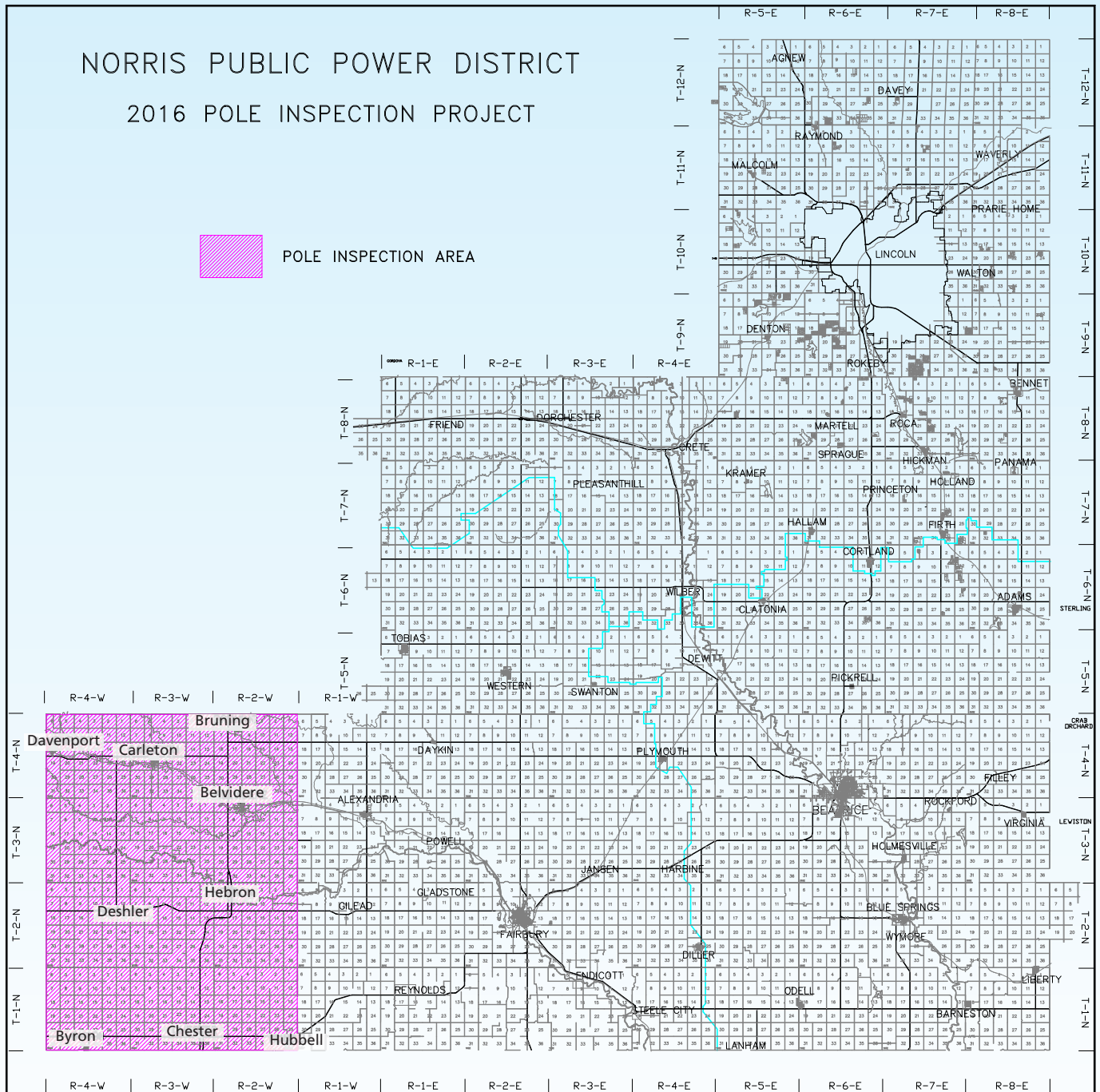
As I leave, most importantly, I want each of you to continue to work safely, and protect each other so that you will always return home to the people you care about most.”

Randy Evans, Manager of Operations and Safety

Pole Inspection Program

In an effort to identify poles in need of treatment or replacement due to age or damage, Norris Public Power District has contracted with SBS Inspections, Inc., of Olathe, Colorado to perform pole inspections in 2016. Pole inspection and treatment is an established practice within the utility industry and is a standard preventative maintenance program which helps reduce outage frequency and in some cases outage duration.

The 2016 pole inspections will take place in the pink shaded area marked on the map. The area includes western and central Thayer County. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the work scheduled to be completed by SBS Inspections, Inc., please contact your local area office at 1-800-827-8099. SBS Inspections, Inc. is scheduled to begin work in March.



ELECTRIFYING OPPORTUNITY

Nebraska Rural Electric Association



Norris Public Power District is accepting applications from area high school students to attend the Nebraska Rural Electric Association Youth Energy Leadership Camp at the Nebraska State 4-H Camp in Halsey National Forest, July 11 – 15, 2016. The goal of the camp is to offer a program that challenges students educationally, recreationally and socially.

Campers will learn about the electric industry through interesting workshops, fascinating demonstrations and presentations by regional experts addressing the many issues affecting the rural electric industry. Tours of Gerald Gentleman Power Station, a coal-fired power plant near Sutherland and Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power Plant at Lake McConaughy near Ogallala will provide a first-hand look at the process of generating electricity.

Selected participants will join other high school students from Nebraska, South Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming, along with adult counselors and junior counselors. The adult counselors are employees of rural electric systems who donate their time and talents to the camp. The junior counselors are selected by their peers from the prior year's camp.

Activities Include:

- Utility pole climbing • High voltage trailer demonstration • Canoeing
- Sports tournaments • Banquet and Dance • Talent Show

Parents or guardians of camp applicant must receive electric service from Norris Public Power District.

Camp meals, lodging and transportation are provided by Norris Public Power District.

WIN A FREE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Three Youth Energy Leadership Camp participants will be selected by their peers at the end of camp to serve as Nebraska's Ambassadors at the 2017 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.

Investing today in the leaders of tomorrow.

2016 Youth Energy Camp Application

Name: _____ Age: _____ Current Grade: 9th 10th or 11th

Address: _____ Phone Number: (____) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Name of Parents or Guardians: _____

Return Application Form to:

Emily Shockley, Norris Public Power District, P.O. Box 399, Beatrice, NE 68310-0399
Applications Are Due By: April 30, 2016

For More Information Contact Emily at 1-800-745-2799 or send an email to eshockley@norrispower.com

Sponsoring Rural Electric System: Norris Public Power District

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Community events are provided as a courtesy, based on information submitted by the public. Norris Public Power District is not responsible for errors. Events are subject to change, please check with sponsoring organization for updated information.

To have a community event published on this page, please submit the event information to vickyjur@norrispower.com or by calling Vicky at 1-800-858-4707. Norris Public Power District reserves the right to accept or decline event submissions and to edit material submitted due to space availability limits.

With a bi-monthly publication, calendar items must be submitted on a timely basis to ensure that the event will be published. If the deadline is missed for publication, the event will be in the current list of community events on our website at www.norrisppd.com. Look for the Community Events Calendar on the right hand side of your screen.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18TH

Hickman American Legion Post 105 Fish Fry

106 Locust Street, Hickman

Starts at 5:00 p.m.

Fish, ham, baked potato, coleslaw, baked beans and dessert

SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH EVENTS:

20th Annual Hubbell Woman's Club China Luncheon

Acreage Steakhouse, Hubbell

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. - luncheon at 12:30 p.m.

Reservations required

Contact Lisa at 560-3352 or Brenda at 324-4176

2nd Annual "Stems Up Wine Down"

Pickrell Community Hall

5:00 - 11:00 p.m.

\$5.00 Entry fee

Wine tastings and beer cave are an additional cost

Proceeds to Pickrell Veteran Memorial

FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH - GOOD FRIDAY

Barneston American Legion Fish Fry

Serving 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

All you can eat pan fried fish, ham, potatoes, salads and drinks

SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH EVENTS:

Village of Western Community Events

Pancake Feed - 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fire Hall

Easter Egg Hunt - 1:30 p.m.

Park

Fairbury Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt

Jefferson County Courthouse Lawn

1:00 p.m.

For children 0 - 10 years old

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

For information contact Fairbury Chamber of Commerce at 729-3000

SUNDAY, MARCH 27TH

EASTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH

6th Annual Pork 'N' Pints Beer and Wine Tasting Festival

Beer and wine sampling from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Choice of a Pork 'N' Pints Mug or Swine 'N' Wine glass with paid admission

Smoked pork from Totally Smoked BBQ with all the fixings

Rock Star Entertainment 6:00 p.m. - midnight

For information contact Fairbury Chamber of Commerce at 729-3000

SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH EVENTS:

Village of Western Community Club Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fire Hall

Saline Public Regional Weather Seminar

Saline Center Hall on Highway 15

12:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Weather spotter training, storm chaser vehicles on display and much more

Door prizes and free lunch at seminar conclusion

Freewill offering to help offset expenses

For more information contact BJ Fictum at 821-8080

Swanton United Methodist Church Annual Pancake Feed

Swanton Auditorium

Serving 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Pancakes, sausage, eggs, sausage gravy over biscuits and fruit

Freewill donation

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH - SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH

Malcolm Public Schools Alumni

All School Alumni Weekend

Friday and Saturday at the school:

Basketball, volleyball and kickball tournaments

Saturday from 5:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Dinner, dancing and silent auction at the Tower Hall

Sunday:

Golf tournament at Highlands Golf Course

For more information visit www.malcolmschools.org

and click on Alumni or contact Nadine Link at 580-3959

or Jessie Johnson Matthes at 417-5439

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH

Denton Community Historical Society

Annual Fund Raising Tea

Denton Community Center, 7115 Lancaster Ave.

Noon

Theme: "Yesterday's Dolls, Today's Treasures"

For tickets or information contact LaVonne Uffelman at 234-7728

FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND

Barneston American Legion Fish Fry

Serving 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

All you can eat pan fried fish, ham, potatoes, salads and drinks

SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH EVENTS:

Gage County Relay for Life - American Cancer Society

Gage County Fairgrounds, Beatrice

Noon - midnight

For information contact Corinne Koch at 239-3904

www.relayforlife.org/gagecove

Camp Sunshine Open House

13440 S. 25th Street, Roca

Come anytime from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

For information visit www.CampSunshineMemories.org

or call 423-8746

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH EVENTS:

Camp Solaris Open House

2349 State Highway Spur 34B, Firth

Come anytime from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

For information visit www.CampSunshineMemories.org

or call 423-8746

Hallam Area Foundation Fund's 8th Annual Mexican Fiesta

Hallam Auditorium

Serving 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Freewill donation - proceeds toward community projects

Odell Community Garage Sales

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Maps available

To get your name on map contact Kristie at 806-2468

SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH - SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH

Nebraska Antique Farming Association

Tractor Relay Across Nebraska

Begins at Homestead National Monument on June 4th

Registration deadline is May 1st

For information contact Donelle Moormeier at 429-2480

www.antiquefarming.org