

Another Wheat Belt Director Achieves Credential Cooperative Director

This month another Wheat Belt Public Power District director received their certificate. President, Brian Zimmerman, presented the NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association) Credential Cooperative Director certificate to Jennifer Eckhardt of Dalton during the May Board Meeting.

The NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program requires attendance and demonstrated understanding of the basic competencies contained in five core courses:

- Director Duties and Liabilities
- Understanding the Electric Business
- Board Operating and Process
- Strategic Planning
- Financial Decision Making

An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative and public power district directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in the electric utility business, new governance

Continued on 12-D



LUCKY DRAWING



Congratulations to Anthony and Rayma Armer, our July “Lucky Draw Winner”!

Anthony & Rayma moved to the Redington area in 2004 once their two girls, Tiffany Muzzey and Erica Misner, had left for college. Tiffany has two boys, and they live in DeRidder LA., where her husband Morgan is stationed at Fort Polk with the Army. Erica is a veterinarian in Thornton CO., where she has several fur babies of her own. Rayma has worked for Bridgeport Public Schools as a para-educator the last 17 years and Anthony is employed by Deuel County as the Highway Superintendent. The Armer’s stated, “Wheat Belt has served us for 19 years with very little problems. We are at the end of a service line and thought we would have had more issues. So, when we moved in we bought a backup generator and have only had to use it three times.”

With country life, most of their time is spent at home taking care of the critters that end up there. They have taken it upon themselves to care for unwanted and neglected animals over the last 19 years. At one point they had over 20 dogs and 30 feedlot bucket caves that needed to be attended to. They are very busy and said they wouldn’t trade it for anything else. Anthony and Rayma also have the great pleasure of entertaining the two grandsons every summer.

Anthony and Rayma received a \$50 credit on their account for their prompt payment. If you would like to be included in our next drawing, and avoid a \$5 delinquent fee, please send your payment before the 16th of the month.

For your convenience, we offer several payment options. Please give us a call at 308-254-5871, or visit wheatbelt.com, and select the Customer Engagement page for more information.



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Wheat Belt Hires Engineering Technician



Kurt Cleveland
Engineering Tech

Kurt Cleveland joined our team as an Engineering Technician in July of this year. He stated his favorite part of the job this far is being part of a team that takes pride in their day-to-day business and providing power to our local area.

Prior to joining the Wheat Belt team, Kurt worked at Cabela's and Lippert Industries. He has lived in Western Nebraska his whole life including the towns of Kimball, Sidney, Dalton and Lodgepole. Kurt and his wife Brittany recently welcomed their first child, Spencer, to their family in July.

In his spare time, Kurt enjoys anything outdoors from archery hunting to camping and trapping. He also has a hobby of working on classic cars and pickups.



Rebates

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, LED lights and more.

Must be new installations only and submitted within 90 days. Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits include:

- *Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton 15 SEER Minimum
- *Electric motors 10-500 hp \$10/hp
- *Old refrigerator and freezer going to be recycled - \$60
- *Clothes Dryers - \$30-\$90
- *Induction Cooktops 30" or larger(must be replacing gas)
- *LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp, 500 Lumens or greater
- *Electric trimmer, chainsaw, or pruner, electric blower or lawnmower - 25% of cost, up to \$150
- *Whole House Fans - \$100
- *Smart Thermostats - \$25

Receipts are required. Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors. Please go to www.wheatbelt.com to see a list of all qualifying products. Contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at (308) 254-5871.



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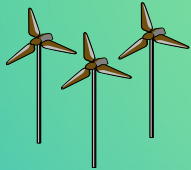
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NET METERING

SOLAR POWER

Solar array converts energy from sunlight into electricity.



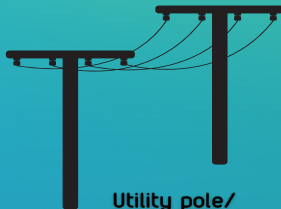
WIND POWER

Wind turbines use wind to make electricity. Wind turns the propeller-like blades of a turbine around a rotor, which spins a generator, which then creates electricity.



Excess energy not used by your home, goes back to the electric grid.

Energy used by your home from the electric grid.



Utility pole/
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CONTACT OUR OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING
NET METERING AND RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Phone: (308) 254-5871
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Understanding

Net

METERING

Let's get to
know the
facts!

Net metering in Nebraska is a billing arrangement that promotes the adoption of renewable energy sources. It allows customers with solar panels, wind turbines, or other distributed energy resources to receive credits for surplus electricity they generate and feed back into the grid.

Eligibility and System Size	Both residential and commercial customers investing in renewable energy systems are eligible for net metering. System size limits vary, usually ranging from 5 to 25 kilowatts for residential and higher for commercial customers. Nebraska requires the size of the generator to match the load it serves.
Credit and Roll-Over	Customers receive credits at the wholesale rate for excess electricity supplied to the grid. Wheat Belt applies any surplus credits back to the customer's account on a monthly basis.
Impact on Renewable Energy Adoption	Net metering has been instrumental in encouraging the use of renewable energy sources in Nebraska. By offsetting costs and incentivizing investment, it contributes to a greener and more sustainable energy landscape.
Engineering Requirements	There are sometimes engineering limitations on the grid that would prevent a renewable energy source from connecting at a specific location on Wheat Belt's system. Customers that are interested in or researching renewable energy are encouraged to contact Wheat Belt (or your power supplier) before purchasing a system to verify eligibility or just to learn more about the benefits of net metering.
Wheat Belt's Current Net Metering Status	Currently, Wheat Belt has 22 customer owned renewable energy generators interconnected to their power grid. In 2022, there was a potential of 302 KW total generation available from those systems and collectively, they produced 455,380 kilowatt hours. Of that 455,380-kilowatt hours, 55,509 kWh was surplus that Wheat Belt credited back.

Net metering empowers consumers to participate actively in Nebraska's renewable energy transformation, supporting the state's commitment to sustainability and environmental conservation. As technology advances, net metering will continue to play a vital role in Nebraska's and Wheat Belt PPD's journeys towards a cleaner energy future.

Moe's

Brian (Moe) Moffat

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Credential Director cont'd from 12-A

skills and solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. Public power districts have a commitment to work through NRECA and the statewide organization (Nebraska Rural Electric Association) to sharpen this body of knowledge for the benefit of their customers.

Jennifer has been on the Wheat Belt board since April 2021. She stated, "As long as the lights come on when we flip the switch, it's easy for all of us to take electricity for granted. And while I joined Wheat Belt with considerable board room experience, I didn't fully comprehend the breadth and depth of power generation and distribution. NRECA's CCD certification program gave me a deeper understanding of the power industry, as well as the governance, strategy, and finance that make it all work. As a result of this program and together with the rest of the Board of Directors, I'm better able to ask critical questions and make informed decisions on behalf of Wheat Belt customers."

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know fall is the perfect time to schedule a tune-up for your heating system? Home heating accounts for a large portion of winter energy bills, and no matter what kind of system you have, you can save energy and money by regularly maintaining your equipment.

Combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings can save about 30% on your energy bills.

Source: Dept. of Energy



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Our Mission

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