



LIGHT LINES

"THE POWER TO BRING YOU THE BEST"



NATIONAL & LOCAL EVENTS

MARCH 2024

Red Cross Month
Craft Month
Nutrition Month

DATE

- 17 *St. Patrick's Day* 🍀
- 18 Supreme Sacrifice Day
- 19 *First Day of Spring* 🌸
- 19 Let's Laugh Day
- 21 Flower Day
- 21 Teenager Day
- 23 Meteorological Day
- 24 *Palm Sunday*
- 25 Full Moon
- 25 Medal of Honor Day
- 27 Red Cross Giving Day
- 28 MLB Opening Day
- 29 *Good Friday*
- 29 Vietnam Veterans Day
- 30 Walk in the Park Day
- 31 *Easter Sunday* 🐰
- 31 Farm Workers Day

APRIL 2024

Cancer Control Month
Financial Literacy Month
Stress Awareness Month
Volunteer Month

DATE

- 1 *April Fools' Day* 🎈
- 1 Fun Day
- 1 US Air Force Academy Day
- 2 DIY Day
- 2 Reconciliation Day
- 3 Walking Day
- 5 Self Care Day
- 6 Army Day
- 6 Library Day
- 6 Student Athlete Day
- 7 World Health Day
- 10 Siblings Day
- 10 Pet Day
- 14 Good Deeds Day
- 14 Gardening Day
- 15 *Tax Day* 📅

CEO'S VIEWPOINT

Dear Bridger Valley Electric Association Members,

As we move into 2024, we want to take a moment to update you on some crucial matters regarding our association's operations and upcoming events.

Firstly, we want to remind you that in September of 2023, our esteemed Board of Directors approved a rate change slated to begin in January 2024. This change would have seen the implementation of a three-part rate structure, consisting of a customer charge of \$52.00, an energy charge of \$0.055 per kWh, and a demand charge of \$1.25 per KW. However, due to market conditions and load changes from our largest customer, management made the prudent decision to delay the implementation of this rate change.

Instead, we have chosen to closely monitor our revenues, update our financial forecasts, and reassess the rate structure. We intend to implement the three-part rate, albeit possibly with adjustments to the energy and demand charges to reflect current circumstances better. We want to assure you that both management and the board of directors are committed to ensuring that our rates remain affordable for our members while maintaining the high level of service you have come to expect from Bridger Valley Electric Association.

Considering these ongoing developments, we would like to announce that our annual meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 10:00 AM, to be held at Mountain View High School. This meeting presents an excellent opportunity for you, our valued members, to engage with us, voice your concerns, and learn more about the direction of our association.

Furthermore, an election will be held for District 2 and District 3. Members residing in these districts will receive their ballots by mail. However, if you prefer, you may also register to vote at the meeting itself. We strongly encourage all members to participate in the elections and to attend the annual meeting.

Your involvement and input are crucial to the continued success and
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BRIDGER VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 399
Mountain View, WY 82939
Phone: 307-289-0776

www.bvea.coop

Office Hours

Standard Time
8:00am - 4:00pm
Monday - Friday

Daylight Savings Time
7:00 am - 5:30pm
Monday - Thursday

CEO/General Manager

Andy Hewitt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1

Gary Nix, Vice President
Lacey Bernard
Mountain View, Robertson, Uintalands, Manor
Lands

District 2

Jason Haycock
Rick Maxfield
Lyman Area

District 3

Ruth Rees, Secretary/ Treasurer
Ft. Bridger, Milburne, Carter, Piedmont, Bear
River Area (excluding Uintalands & Manor
Lands)

District 4

Clark Anderson
McKinnon, Manila, Dutch John Areas

District 5

Trip Applequist
Farson, Eden, Granger Areas

To Report Outages Call:

307-289-0776
24 Hours a Day

Underground Cable Locates:

Call 48 Hours in Advance
800-849-2476
or dial 811

Publication of Bridger Valley Electric
Association, Inc.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

The Board met on February 13, 2024, and took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting;
- Reviewed and updated the scholarship application forms for each of the 4 high schools in BVEA's service territory;
- Approved the sponsorship of three of 2023 Youth Camp participants to attend the 2024 Youth Tour in Washington, DC;
- Voted President Trip Applequist as the voting delegate for the upcoming NRECA Annual Meeting and Vice President Gary Nix as the alternate;
- Approved seven names to represent the Election Credentials Committee for the board election at the 2024 BVEA Annual Meeting on April 27, 2024;
- Scheduled for and distributed board member and CEO evaluations for a future meeting;
- Heard reports from CEO and department managers;
- Approved financial report, write-offs, estate refunds, new memberships, and the safety report;
- Heard reports from Deseret Power and Federated Rural Utility Exchange representatives;
- Next regularly scheduled meeting will be March 12, 2024.

Save the Date



BVEA'S 86TH ANNUAL MEETING
Saturday, April 27, 2024
at the Lyman High School PAC

Please join us for a fresh cooked breakfast starting at 8:00a.m. Register for the meeting and enter for your chance to win door prizes, including meat from 4H fair animals. Be sure to cast your ballot for a board member if you live within the boundaries of District 2 or 3. The business meeting will commence at 10:00 a.m.

CEO'S VIEWPOINT (cont.)

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vitality of Bridger Valley Electric Association. We look forward to seeing you on April 27th and working together towards a brighter future for our community.

Sincerely,



Andy Hewitt, CEO/ General Manager



ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS
CALL AT LEAST 48 HOURS
BEFORE YOU DIG!



2024 BVEA BOARD ELECTIONS – CANDIDATE PROFILES

The BVEA Board of Directors consists of seven members who represent five districts within the service territory. Each of these directors serves a three-year term on a rotating basis. Annual elections are held for one, two, or sometimes 3 positions, depending on the year. This year, two seats are up for election (one in District 2 and the other in District 3). The following are the candidates running for their respective districts:

District 2 Candidate



Jason Haycock (Incumbent) – Jason has served on the board of directors since 2014 and has appreciated the opportunity to be involved with Bridger Valley Electric. He is grateful for the trust the community has placed in him, as a board member, to help maintain reliable and affordable electricity.

Jason is married to Traci (Platts); they have three children and six grandchildren. As a Doctor of Chiropractic, he has practiced in the Bridger Valley for over 20 years. Jason serves in his church and contributes to various causes in the schools, local organizations, and individuals in need. He has enjoyed the associations and community connections made while serving on the board the past 10 years.

Believing that he is a person that lives his life with high moral character and integrity, he feels that as a board member these qualities are most important. Standing up for what is best for Bridger Valley Electric and its members, is what being a director is all about.

As a doctor, Jason faces a variety of concerns with each new patient. He says, "It is important that I use my experience, education, and problem solving skills to make decisions that most effectively benefit my patient's needs. This same skillset helps me as a board member, to make decisions that will best serve the community to keep costs down while maintaining reliability."

Additionally, Haycock has continued his Director Certification training. Certification requires a director to attend 5 courses that provide a director with the basics of the electric utility industry and financing. Jason has completed all five courses.

Jason Haycock asks that the Lyman area will continue to support him with their vote on April 27, 2024.

District 3 Candidate



Ruth Rees (Incumbent) – Ruth has considered it an honor to serve on the Bridger Valley Electric board of directors. The electric business is very complicated and always facing new obstacles. She realizes that serving on the board is a great responsibility and she takes the job serious. The board is ultimately responsible for the success of the cooperative. Good financial policy, attention to business trends, and observing what other co-ops are doing around the country is important in seeing that Bridger Valley Electric is run as efficiently and as progressively as possible. Ruth also represents BVEA on the Wyoming Rural Electric Association (WREA) board of directors. The WREA board takes an active role monitoring,

drafting, and challenging legislation that affects the rural cooperatives and their members.

Ruth and her husband, Allen, live outside of Fort Bridger where they operate a beautiful ranch. They are blessed with four children and ten grandkids. Aside from the ranch, Ruth keeps very busy with the grandkids, working in

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2024 BVEA BOARD ELECTIONS – CANDIDATE PROFILES (cont.)

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her yard, and quilting. She loves her community and has served on the Uinta County Fair board, Cemetery board, and was involved in the American Legion Auxiliary and the Mountain View FFA. She is the founding member of “Make a Child Smile”. This is a group of talented women who make beautiful quilts that they hand deliver to Primary Children’s Hospital. These in turn are given to sick and injured child patients. This coming year will be the 24th since inception. Near and dear to her heart, Ruth has also served on the Primary Children Hospital Foundation board of directors.

Ruth is willing to put in the time and hard work to make sure that Bridger Valley Electric continues to be a successful cooperative. That commitment requires a lot of time, dedication, and travel. Ruth looks forward to serving BVEA for the next three years. She encourages all District 3 members to vote when their ballots arrive in April, and would appreciate your support. THANK YOU!

District 3 Candidate



Trina Cervantes – Trina, her husband David, and their 3 children reside in Milburn. It was a conscious choice to move to Bridger Valley nearly 10 years ago. They chose this community for the outstanding people here, and wanted to raise their children around these quality people. Trina grew up in the foothills of Star Valley, learning all the key principles of hard work, honesty, diligence, sweat equity, standing up for truth, and the joy that comes with them.

Trina believes quiet, consistent service within a community is far more important than with fanfare and titles. She has served professionally in the medical community since the age of 16, with 12 of those years being a Registered Nurse. The experience of serving in this capacity brings a variety of people to her care. She has learned significant lessons about life, community, and the values we all hold. She has been an advocate for every one of those entrusted to her care and will do so for cooperative members. Trina believes it is possible to align business principles and decisions with the community in ways that are beneficial for both. Community interdependence, stewardship, and ownership of one’s responsibilities are driving forces behind Trina’s candidacy.

There is no issue within the cooperative that Trina will shy from; she has a passion for education, credible sources, and drive to learn. She will face the future with the people in mind as the energy industry and the national economy continue to face tumultuous times. Trina has a firm belief that the hard working people of Wyoming should be put first with legislation, contracts, and representation. Trina will be a liaison of the economic difficulties facing more and more households and will do so with fiscally sound decisions and judgements. She plans to push for open communication with members of the cooperative, in ways that are accessible, clear, and concise. Trina hopes to be your candidate. She would love to have anyone reach out for an open, honest conversation about the many reasons she would like to represent the members of District 3.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Lengthen the life of your clothes dryer with regular cleaning. Clean the lint filter after every load, which improves air circulation and safety. Check the lint trap opening to ensure it’s clean. Use a vacuum to remove any lint that’s fallen inside the opening.

If you use dryer sheets, check the lint filter for residue buildup. Remove any residue with hot water and a nylon brush or toothbrush. Over time, dryer sheets can leave a film on the filter, which can affect the performance of the motor.

