

# T.I.P. *Current* Connection

*T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative*

October 2025

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## 2025 Annual Meeting

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative held its 87th Annual Meeting on Wednesday, August 27, at the cooperative headquarters in Brooklyn.

The Annual Meeting was called to order by Board President, Jerry Henning.

The Certification of a Quorum, the reading of the Notice of the Meeting and Treasurer's Report was given by Ronald Hoffman, Secretary-Treasurer. There were motions to waive the reading of last year's Annual Meeting Minutes.

The 2025 election process was explained by Amanda James, Sullivan & Ward, P.C., Cooperative Attorney, and the report of the Nominating Committee and election results were given by Nominating Committee Chairperson, Dean Huls. The following were re-elected for three-year terms: three incumbents, Gene Von Ahsen, representing Iowa County District 2, Anne Axmear, representing Keokuk County District 4 and Lisa Tichy, representing Tama County District 1.

Scott Long, CEO/General Manager, then gave an explanation of the prizes and \$5.00 bill credits for voting.

With there being no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

## 10 Year Service Awards



Pictured above left to right are Directors, James De Smet and Randy Upah, holding their Appreciation Certificates for 10 years of service on your T.I.P. REC Board of Directors.

Their guidance and knowledge of the cooperative is an invaluable asset and T.I.P. REC would like to thank James and Randy for their dedicated service.

## National Fire Prevention Week: October 5 - 11

**CHARGE**  
**into Fire Safety™**

**Lithium-Ion Batteries  
in Your Home**

- BUY only listed products.
- CHARGE devices safely.
- RECYCLE batteries responsibly.

**NFPA**  
fire prevention week  
fpw.org

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
ANNUAL MEETING BILL CREDIT WINNERS!**

**\$250.00 Bill Credit Winners:**

- Delmar Bayer
- James F. Conrad
- Kari L. Hahn
- Roger Walz

Thanks to All the Member-Owners Who Voted!

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



## Are Your Energy Dollars Going Through the Roof?



Are your energy bills on the rise? Do you have drafty rooms or uneven temperatures between rooms? If you're experiencing these problems, you could be losing energy through a leaky attic. Grab a flashlight and a pair of gloves and head up to your attic to see if you can find ways to keep your energy costs down.

### Check insulation levels

Having the right amount of attic insulation is critical for heating and cooling efficiency and comfort. But how do you know if you have the right amount? Most attics have batt insulation or loose-fill. Batt insulation is the fuzzy stuff that comes in rolls, often with brown paper on the back; insulation level is measured in R-value, which should be listed on the brown paper.

If you have loose-fill, checking the insulation level is a little more complicated. Shove a ruler or tape measure down into the insulation at several places in the attic to measure the depth. Go to ENERGY STAR®'s website to determine how much insulation you need. If you can see the tops of the joists, you probably need more insulation.

### Put a stop to air leaks

Check for air leaks. All that insulation won't be as effective if energy escapes through gaps or holes in your attic. Locate all ceiling fans, recessed lighting fixtures and electrical outlets in the ceiling below your attic. Each of these is a potential source of air leakage. From the attic, pull back the insulation to find the cutouts and seal them with caulk or expandable foam. Check for and seal gaps around plumbing vents, furnace flues and ductwork. Also, seal the attic door or access with weatherstripping.

By taking these steps, you can raise the comfort level of your home and see your energy bills drop.

## Forgetting to Pay your Electric Bill?

T.I.P. REC offers Automatic ACH where you may pay your monthly bill automatically by having it conveniently deducted from your checking account. **There is no charge**, you simply fill

out the form and send it with a copy of a voided check to our office.

**To print a form go to: [tiprec.com/payment-options](http://tiprec.com/payment-options) or call our office and request a form.**

Approximately the 18th of each month we take the payment out of your account and apply it to your electric bill.

Fill out a form today and never have to worry about your bill being paid on time.



BE A  
**FIRE SAFETY**  
HERO



Use this checklist with a grown-up to help **make your home safe** and **know what to do if there's a fire**.

#### Home Fire Safety Checklist

- ☒ Check outlets to make sure they are not overloaded.
- ☒ Make sure cords are not frayed or under rugs.
- ☒ Test smoke alarms.
- ☒ Find two exits in every room.
- ☒ Practice yelling "FIRE" loudly.
- ☒ Find the fire extinguisher.
- ☒ Know how to call 911 and share your full address.
- ☒ Practice a fire drill.
- ☒ Pick a family meeting spot outside of the house.
- ☒ Know how to stop, drop and roll.

Safe  
Electricity.org



## Powered by Purpose

In October, electric cooperatives across the country take time to celebrate National Co-op Month and reflect on the unique advantages of being part of a cooperative. It's also the perfect time to thank you - the members who make it all possible. For us, it's not just a celebration. It's a chance to reaffirm the values that guide everything we do.

At T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, we see purpose in action every single day. Unlike investor-owned utilities, our co-op doesn't exist to make profits for distant shareholders. We exist to serve you - our members, our neighbors and our communities. That purpose is what sets us apart. It's why we were founded, and it's what continues to drive every decision we make.

At its core, being a cooperative means we are member-owned and locally controlled. That's not just a tagline; it's the very heart of our business model. Members have a voice in how our co-op operates. You elect board members who live right here in our service area and understand the unique challenges and opportunities our communities face. Decisions aren't made in corporate boardrooms hundreds of miles away; they're made here at home, by people who care about the same things you do.

This local accountability means we can stay focused on what matters most: delivering reliable, affordable, environmentally safe electricity and providing real value to the people we serve.

We do that by investing in essential infrastructure upgrades and technologies that strengthen our local grid and improve electric service. We work hard to manage costs and keep rates as low as possible - because we know how much rising prices affect families and small businesses in our area. And when storms hit or outages occur, T.I.P. REC crews are here and ready to respond quickly, because we live here too.

But our commitment doesn't end at the power lines.

Co-ops were built to meet community needs, and that purpose extends well beyond delivering electricity. Whether we're supporting local schools, sponsoring youth programs, or volunteering in our communities, we are always looking for ways to improve the quality of life in the places we serve. Community support isn't an afterthought - it's part of our mission.

We're also planning for the future. As electricity demand grows due to new technologies and economic development, electric co-ops are working to ensure we continue to meet those needs with a balanced, reliable energy mix. We know our member-owners care about affordability and dependability, and we're committed to delivering both.

That's the power of the cooperative difference. That's what it means to be Powered by Purpose.

This National Co-op Month, we encourage you to take pride in your cooperative membership. You're not just a customer - you're an owner, and a vital part of a larger effort to keep our communities strong, connected and energized.

Thank you for the trust you place in us. We're proud to be your local electric cooperative.



**Moving? Don't Forget to  
Notify Us**



It's Time For your  
**FALL HVAC**  
MAINTENANCE



Now is the perfect time to schedule maintenance for your heating system. HVAC techs are less busy in the fall, making it an excellent time for any necessary updates or repairs. A qualified tech can clean filters, check for leaks and make sure your system is in tip-top shape to keep you cozy this winter.

## Keep Trick or Treaters Safe this Halloween

Halloween is fast becoming one of the most popular holidays in this country and later this month, masses of little super heroes, cartoon and TV characters will be out for trick-or-treat fun. When preparing your little ones for Halloween, keep these safety tips in mind:

### Costumes

- Always wear costumes that are labeled flame resistant.
- Wear bright, reflective costumes or add strips of reflective tape to improve visibility.
- Wear makeup and hats rather than costume masks that can obstruct their vision.
- Test the makeup you plan to use in advance for a possible allergy.

### Trick-or-Treating

- Only visit homes that have a porch light on. Accept treats at the door - never go inside.
- Walk, don't run. Use the sidewalks, not the streets. And don't cut across yards or use alleys or cross between parked cars.
- Have a grown-up check the goodies before eating making sure to remove loose candy, open packages and choking hazards for little ones.

T.I.P. REC wishes you and your family a safe and fun Halloween!

**NOTICE:** The Brooklyn office will be closed on Thursday, October 23 from 7:00 am till Noon for an all-employee safety meeting.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



As winter approaches, now is the time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows. Leaks reduce indoor comfort and lead to higher heating costs.

If you can see daylight around the edges of a window frame or if a window rattles slightly when touched, air is likely leaking.

Caulking and weatherstripping are simple, effective methods of sealing windows. These materials are available in a variety of compounds and forms, each designed for different types of surfaces. Choose the right product and apply it properly to reduce heat loss, improve comfort and lower energy bills.

**WANTED:**  
Rural Iowa  
high school  
students  
who have a  
passion for  
leadership



Attend our webinar series in October for a chance to win Apple AirPods and a \$1,000 college scholarship! Learn more at [IowaYouthTour.com](http://IowaYouthTour.com)

## 4 WAYS TO SECURE YOUR DATA



### Use Strong Passwords

Create unique, complex passwords and use a password manager.



### Enable 2FA

Add an extra layer of security with Two-Factor Authentication.



### Update Regularly

Keep your software and devices updated with the latest security patches.



### Back Up Your Data

Regularly back up your data using external drives or cloud storage.

Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to [www.tiprec.com](http://www.tiprec.com) and Click on the blue Pay Now tab at the top or log into SmartHub or Call 833-619-0894.

### Non-Discrimination Statement

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

T.I.P. Current Connection is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 320 Industrial Drive, Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.