



TIPS From T.I.P.

Published By The T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

August 2020

Brooklyn, Iowa

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF T.I.P RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Annual Meeting of the Members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative (“Cooperative”) (“Annual Meeting”) will be held at the BGM Schools Campus, located at 1090 Jackson Street, Brooklyn, Iowa 52211, at 8:00 a.m., on August 29, 2020, to take action upon the following matters:

1. The reports of officers, directors, and committees;
2. The election of three (3) directors of the Cooperative for a term of three (3) years;
3. To vote on proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation as recommended by the Board of Directors. The complete text of the proposed amendments have been previously mailed to the members; and,
4. All other business which may come before the meeting, or any adjournment(s) thereof.

You are urged to attend this Annual Meeting via a drive-thru process this year so that we can satisfy our legal quorum requirements, and to allow our members to participate in this very important Annual Meeting process.

To satisfy the quorum requirements for our Annual Meeting, we are asking that members participate this year by way of driving to the Annual Meeting sight where Cooperative staff members will be present to receive a member’s registration for the Annual Meeting, and also providing a ballot and voting procedures for the director election and proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation as recommended by the Board of Directors.

Please note that the Cooperative’s current By-Laws do not allow for mail-in ballots. In order for your vote to be counted it will need to be cast at the Annual Meeting using the drive-thru process this year.

Annual Meeting Booklet

You will be receiving your Annual Meeting booklet soon. A map of the drive-thru route, candidates running for the Board of Directors, reports and much more will be in the booklet so please make sure to read all the information.

(Continued on Page 2)

T.I.P. Rural Electric

Regular Hours 7:30 to 4:00 Weekdays..... 641-522-9221
 or Toll Free..... 800-934-7976
 After Hours (Outages & Emergencies Only) ..641-522-9223
 or Toll Free 800-934-7976
 website: www.tiprec.com

(Continued from Page 1)

Following the collection of the ballots in this manner, a continuation of the Annual Meeting will take place for purposes of counting of ballots with respect to the director election and voting on the proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and receiving reports of officers, directors, and committee persons.

In light of the current situation relating to COVID-19 (coronavirus), the attendance at the Annual Meeting will be restricted to our Nominating/Inspectors of Election Committee members, officers, and directors.

In order to memorialize and document the holding of this Annual Meeting, the meeting shall be recorded and made available the day of the Annual Meeting for viewing by the Cooperative's members via the Annual Meeting page on our website.

These are certainly challenging times for everyone. The decision to hold the Annual Meeting in this manner this year is being made with the health and safety of all of our members and employees in mind.

Dated: August 1, 2020.

Sincerely,



Ronald Hoffman, Secretary

Your Vote Counts on Saturday, August 29, 2020!

It is not every company that invites its customers to an annual meeting to elect the board of directors. But your electric cooperative does just that. When you signed up as a consumer of the electric cooperative, you automatically became a member and part-owner of that utility.

Cooperatives use a business model that is different from other companies. They do not sell stock on Wall Street, so there are no out-of-town investors. Control of a cooperative utility is local.

Each consumer of a cooperative is an equal partner in that utility. You may run for a seat on the Board of Directors and vote for the candidates who do run and know that every candidate is also a consumer of the cooperative.

Membership in a cooperative comes with these privileges. It also comes with the responsibility to keep on top of cooperative matters and cast your vote for the directors you think will do the best job.

U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley Visits T.I.P.



On July 9th, U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley (standing in the picture above) came to the T.I.P. office in Brooklyn and had an engaging question and answer session with cooperative personnel and the Board of Directors.

We would like to thank Senator Chuck Grassley for taking the time to visit our cooperative.

August TIPS from T.I.P.

Your Board of Directors Encourages You to Vote “Yes” to these Changes to Enable Flexibility for Future Annual Meetings.

AMEND ARTICLE VII, SECTION 4

Section 4. No member of the Association may own more than one membership and each member shall be entitled to one vote and no more at all meetings of the members of the Association. ~~The vote of each member of the Association shall be cast in person and not by proxy. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary stated in these Articles of Incorporation, the vote of each member of the Cooperative shall be cast in person or alternatively, the Board of Directors may authorize alternative voting methods by members on any proposition of which the members have been previously notified in writing, but in any event, no voting shall be permitted by proxy. Alternative voting methods shall mean a method of voting other than in person, including voting by mail-in voting, electronic, telephonic, internet, or other means that reasonably allows members the opportunity to vote in a secure and verifiable manner.~~

AMEND ARTICLE VIII, SECTIONS 1 AND 3

Section 1. The first regular annual meeting of the members of the Association shall be held on the 8th day of June, 1938. Thereafter, the regular annual meetings of the members shall be held on such date as shall be fixed by the By-Laws. ~~All meetings shall be held at the city or town in which the principal office of the Association is located. All meetings shall be held at such location within the operating territory of the Cooperative, or by such means as shall be determined by the Cooperative’s Board of Directors from time to time.~~

Section 3. Remote Participation at Annual and Special Meetings.

(a) Members may participate in any meeting of the members by means of remote communications to the extent the Board of Directors authorizes such participation for such members. Participation by means of remote communication shall be subject to such guidelines and procedures as the Board of Directors adopts. Members participating in a members meeting, by means of remote communication shall be deemed present and may vote at such meeting provided that the Cooperative has implemented reasonable measures to do all of the following:

(i) verify that each person participating remotely is a member of the Cooperative; and,

(ii) provide such members a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting and to vote on a matter submitted to the members, including an opportunity to communicate, and to read or hear the proceedings of the meeting, substantially concurrent with such proceedings.

AMEND ARTICLE XII

As amended October 11, 1963

The Board of Directors by a vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the Directors may adopt, alter, amend or repeal By-Laws in force until altered, amended or repealed by a vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present, or voting by alternative methods if authorized by the Board of Directors at any annual or special meeting of the membership.

AMEND ARTICLE XIII

As amended October 11, 1963

The Association Cooperative may amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in these Articles of Incorporation by the affirmative vote of seventy-five percent (75%) of the members present or voting by alternative methods if authorized by the Board of Directors at any annual or any special meeting called for that purpose, provided that at least ten (10) days before annual meeting or special meeting a copy of the proposed amendment or summary thereof be sent to all members having voting rights.

Notice of Patronage Dividends Payments

In accordance with a policy change enacted in 2018 by a vote of your Board of Directors, all active Members will receive patronage dividends in the form of a bill credit. **That bill credit will be applied to your bill mailed on August 10th.**

This year's patronage dividend includes allocations for the following years:

- 25% of 2003 Allocations (this fully retires the 2003 allocation)
- 75% of 2004 Allocations
- 10% of 2019 Allocations

By not printing and mailing a paper check, your Cooperative is being both environmentally friendly and financially efficient.

If you have a credit on your electric bill and would like the credit to cover other electric bills in your name, please contact the office.

If you would like to know the exact dollar figure for dividends applied for each of the years above please call our office after August 10th, 2020, and we can look it up for you. Our office hours are Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Phone: 1-800-934-7976.

2020 Nominating Committee



Pictured above left to right: Harold Joseph, Dale Bringmann, Donald Henning, Dean Papesh, Mike Bensmiller and Ronald A. Waechter.

Your nominating committee met on July 1, 2020, to nominate candidates for your Board of Directors to be voted on at the Annual Meeting Saturday, August 29th.

We hope to see you at the meeting!

NOTICE:

The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, August 18th from 8:00 a.m. till Noon for an all-employee safety meeting.

Welcome, Tanner



Pictured above is Tanner Meeks who began working June 15th as an Apprentice Lineman on our Brooklyn crew.

Previously Tanner was an intern at T.I.P. and then attended Marshalltown Community College and graduated from the Powerline Technician program.

His hobbies and interests include spending time with his family and friends, fishing, farming, and riding ATVs.

Tanner is looking forward to working alongside his coworkers as well as learning more about the trade through their experiences.

We would like to welcome Tanner to our T.I.P. family and we are excited to have him as a part of our team.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Installing a smart power strip is a quick and easy way to start saving money while making your home more energy efficient. Smart power strips can actually cut power off to save energy since they are able to detect when a device is in standby mode.

Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to www.tiprec.com and Click on Rapid Pay or log into SmartHub or Call 888-999-0275.

Non-Discrimination Statement

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 612 W. Des Moines St., Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.