

CUSTER

PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

With Area Service Centers in Sargent,
Callaway, Stapleton and Thedford

Currents



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2018 Calendar

Newsletter of the

Custer Public Power District

Serving Custer, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, and parts of Sherman, Garfield, Brown, Cherry, Lincoln, and Dawson Counties

Custer Public Power District Newsletter

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Custer Public Power District
P.O. Box 10
625 E South E Street
Broken Bow, NE 68822

Phone: (308)872-2451
1-888-749-2453

Website: www.custerpower.com

Staff

Rick Nelson
General Manager

April Gross
Customer Service
Manager

Jamie Hurlburt
Operations Manager

Dustin Miller
Purchasing Manager

Alex Coleman
Accounting Manager

Jason Chaplin
Engineering Manager

Officers & Directors

Brad Bartak
Merna
President

Wayne V. Licking
Theadford
Asst. Treasurer

John Blakeman
Merna
Vice President

Lloyd Ramsey
Broken Bow
Director

Greg Smith
Milburn
Secretary

Sadye Taylor
Broken Bow
Director

Tom Roberts
Loup City
Treasurer

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:

Custer Public Power District
P.O. Box 10
Broken Bow, NE 68822

Comments or Questions:

Tarin Burrows
Executive Assistant

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From the GENERAL MANAGER'S desk

Sometimes I like to take a step back during this time of year to appreciate the strides Public Power has made over the past 80 years. It seems that the 1930's and the 1940's were a very influential time for Public Power. While we celebrate Public Power month at Custer Public Power District, let's take a look at the historical perspective.

There are really two significant events that help shape the Public Power existence at a Federal level. President Lincoln spoke at a Special Session of Congress on July 4, 1861, stating "to elevate the condition of men to lift artificial weights from all shoulders to give everyone a fair chance in the race of life." The Homestead Act signed by President Abraham Lincoln on May 20, 1862, became the first example of the U.S. Government trying to elevate the condition of men.

The second was the Rural Electrification Act signed by President Franklin D Roosevelt on May 20, 1936. U.S. Senator George Norris of Nebraska worked in the 1930's with other senators and congressman who believed electrification would revolutionize rural life and give rural America a "fair chance."

During this same time frame and maybe a little before, the Bureau of Reclamation was formed in 1923. The idea was that irrigation would "reclaim arid lands for human use" since most of the area west of the 98th meridian or a line that extends straight north and south just east of Grand Island Nebraska, was considered not suitable for growing crops. Settlers wanted a way to irrigate the crops on the lands that they settle.

There is more to history here, but the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers came together and formed a plan to help both the navigation of the Missouri river and to help with irrigation and electricity. This plan became

known as the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program which was a part of the Flood Control Act of 1944.

Meanwhile, back in Nebraska, farmers needed irrigation for their crops. The Nebraska Legislature authorized the formation of Public Power Districts and Irrigation Districts in 1933. These districts built a series of reservoirs, dams, and canals to deliver water to farms in Nebraska. The districts also installed hydroelectric generators to provide electric power. Several of these districts merged resulting in the formation of Nebraska Public Power District in 1970. NPPD operated three hydroelectric generators in the state. These hydroelectric generators are the North Platte hydro, Kearney hydro and the Spencer hydro - which is no longer in existence.

These same farmers in rural Nebraska also formulated a plan and with 15 percent of the customers getting together to form Custer Public Power District on September 19, 1944. There are many other things that happened when Custer PPD was formed, but originally it was in the Custer County area. In the years to follow, this power district then stretched out across all or part of 13 counties in central Nebraska to make up our service territory we have today.

Custer Public Power District is proud of our history and also proud to serve rural customers in central Nebraska. This history is what has made Custer Public Power what it is today and will serve our customers well into the future.

Custer Public Power District formed in September of 1944 and is proud to be a part of Nebraska's history. ♦

Board Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Custer Public Power District Board of Directors is on the last Thursday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.(CT) in the main office in Broken Bow at 625 E South E on HWY 2.

An agenda for each regular meeting of the board is available for public inspection during business hours.

In the event of matters of an emergency nature or conflicts with other meeting dates, the Board of Directors will set changes. Any change in the monthly meeting date will be posted in the legal notice at the main headquarters building at Broken Bow and at each of the District's area service centers located in Callaway, Sargent, Stapleton and Theadford, Nebraska.

2023 Nebraska Lineworkers Rodeo



The National Guard 1075th Transport Company waiting to present the Colors.

The 2023 Nebraska Lineworkers Rodeo was held at the Custer County Fairgrounds at Broken Bow, Nebraska, on Friday, July 21, 2023. There were 44 apprentice linemen and eight two-man journeyman teams.

Custer Public Power District had four apprentice linemen participate: Tanner Linn, Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba, Brady Hendricks, and Connor Floyd. The Nebraska National Guard 1075th Transport Company presented the Colors with Custer Public Power District's Thedford Foreman Spencer Burk singing the Star Spangled Banner.



The Colors hoisted and the opening prayer.



Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba (facing the front) and Connor Floyd (behind Tristan) waiting to start the written apprentice test.

Tanner Linn and other linemen waiting to hoist the flags.



Brady Hendricks (the red shirt at the table) taking the timed apprentice test.



Connor Floyd waiting to compete in the hurtman rescue.



NRECA Washington, D.C., Youth Tour & NREA Youth Leadership Camp

This year two area teenagers represented the Custer Public Power District service territory at the June NRECA Washington, D.C., Youth Tour and one at the July NREA Youth Leadership Camp at Camp Comeca.



Haley Franzen and Delaney Rogers

Delaney Rogers served as one of the NREA Ambassadors and Haley Franzen represented Custer Public Power District on the NRECA Washington, D.C., Youth Tour.

The Youth Tour is a week filled with history, education, and of course fun. Approximately 1,700 young people from 41 states participate in this week. The goals of this trip is to educate young people on the role of rural electric systems in the national economy, appreciate a democratic form of government, expose them to our national heritage, and build leadership skills so they can make a difference in their rural communities.

This adventure starts the year before at the NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp. Custer Public Power Districts sponsors young people 9th through 11th grade. Each young person needs to

Custer Public Power District

be associated with a Custer Public Power District account. The 2024 NREA Leadership Camp will be July 22 - 26, at Camp Comeca.

In July, Trinity Hurlburt was sponsored by Custer Public Power District to attend the NREA Leadership Camp at Camp Comeca.

The camp included 36 high school students from Nebraska whose rural homes are served by one of the Nebraska Rural Electric Association's member-systems, such as Custer Public Power District.



Trinity Hurlburt

Participants experienced educational and recreational activities, leadership training, environmental awareness, character building and social interaction. Through workshops and guest speakers, students learned about energy generation, electric safety, and careers in the rural electric program. One of the highlights of the camp is the tour of the Gerald Gentleman Power Station near North Platte and the Kingsley Hydro Electric Power Plant near Ogallala.

The week was intermingled with fun activities,



Washington Monument

including sports tournaments, swimming, dancing, and some free time to socialize and make new friends.

In addition, leadership was stressed. Students compete to win a free trip to Washington D.C., as Ambassadors and/or return to the next year's camp as a junior counselor.

So mark your calendars, 2024 will be here before you know it. For more information contact, Tarin Burrows at 888-749-2453; or check out our website custerpower.com and look for Youth Activities & Scholarships. ♦



Camp Comeca Lodge, Cozad, Nebraska



Washington, D.C., Nebraska Youth Tour Delegates at the Capital.



The view from the top of the east building at the Gerald Gentleman Station.



Above - Youth delegates at the Albert Einstein Memorial at Washington, D.C. Below - Youth Delegates waiting for their meal.



Above - The blue group campers from the NREA Leadership Camp on top of the east building of the Gerald Gentleman Station. Below - Ice breaker at the NREA Leadership Camp with Herb Anderson.



RECIPES

Crock Pot Chicken and Dumplings

Courtesy of Spend with Pennies @ www.spendwithpennies.com

INGREDIENTS:

1 large onion diced
1 can cream of celery soup (10.5 oz)
1 can cream of chicken soup (10.5 oz)
1 tablespoon fresh parsley
1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
black pepper to taste
4 skinless boneless chicken breasts
2 cups low sodium chicken broth
2 cups frozen vegetables or peas and carrots, defrosted
1 can refrigerated biscuits (8 pieces) Buttermilk, Country or Homestyle



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DIRECTIONS:

Add onion to 6 qt crock pot and top with chicken breasts.

In a small bowl, combine cream of celery soup, cream of chicken soup, parsley, poultry seasoning and pepper. Spread over chicken breasts. Top with chicken broth and cook on high 5 hours.

Approximately 1 hour (I allow 60 - 90 minutes) before serving (after 4 hours of cooking time), roll each biscuit thin and flat. Cut into 4 strips. Add vegetables to the slow cooker and stir. Add biscuit strips on top. Replace lid as quickly as possible.

To Serve

Remove chicken breasts and slightly shred. Add back into slow cooker and stir (this will break up the dumplings somewhat which is ok). Let cook an additional 10 minutes and serve.

Note: My biscuits were perfectly cooked after 60 minutes however some slow cookers have required extra time to cook the biscuits.

PUMPKIN PIE CHEESECAKE DIP

Courtesy of A Night Owl @ www.anightowlblog.com

INGREDIENTS:

3/4 cup International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer
1 3.4 oz package pumpkin spice instant pudding
1 8 oz package cream cheese softened
1/4 cup granulated sugar
2 cups frozen whipped topping thawed
Graham cracker crumbs for garnish

happy
Halloween



DIRECTIONS:

In a bowl, whisk together the International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer with pumpkin spice instant pudding. Set aside for about 5 minutes. In a mixing bowl, beat together the softened cream cheese and sugar. Add in pudding to cream cheese mixture and beat. Once well combined, fold in the 2 cups of thawed whipped topping and refrigerate.

When ready to serve, fill bowl with Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake Dip topped with graham cracker crumbs.

If you can't find pumpkin spice instant pudding (it is seasonal), you can use either vanilla or cheesecake instant pudding with a teaspoon of pumpkin pie spice.

September is National Preparedness Month



Are you ready for the unexpected?

Ultimate Emergency Preparedness Checklist

There are 6 basic supplies you should keep stocked in your home and business. Use this checklist to ensure you are prepared for the unexpected.

EMERGENCY WATER

- 1 Gallon per person per day
- 3 Day supply per person
- Portable water filter to treat dirty water

EMERGENCY FOOD

- Non-perishable or canned food. Approximately 1500 calories per day per person, enough for 3 – 7 days.
- Canned juices, milk and soup
- Sugar, salt and pepper
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Crackers
- Granola bars and trail mix
- Food for the elderly and infants if needed
- Dried fruit, cookies, candy, lollipops
- Cereals
- Coffee & tea
- Manual can opener

FIRST AID KIT & MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- Comprehensive first aid kit with variety of bandages, gauze pads and supplies
- Scissors, tweezers, needle, safety pins
- Antiseptic and antibiotic creams/gels
- Thermometer
- Latex Gloves
- Ibuprofen Acetaminophen Aspirin

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

- Sturdy multi-function tool like a Leatherman
- Compass
- Waterproof matches and container
- Aluminum foil
- Plastic storage containers, plastic garbage bags and zip ties
- Emergency whistle
- Pencil and paper
- Toilet paper, towelettes, soap/detergent
- Feminine supplies/personal hygiene items
- Plastic 5 gal. bucket with tight lid

CLOTHING & BEDDING

- Sturdy shoes and work boots
- Rain gear
- Blankets and sleeping bags
- Hats, gloves, thermal underwear
- Sunglasses

SPECIALTY & PERSONAL ITEMS

- Copies of important documents like licenses, passports and credit cards kept in a waterproof container
- Medications
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses/supplies
- Books, games, cards and puzzles



Share your favorite recipe and earn a gift when it is published.

Send recipes to:
Custer Public Power District
Tarin Burrows
P.O. Box 10
Broken Bow, NE 68822



OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT

The office and area service centers
will be closed on September 4, 2023.

For after hour emergencies,
call 1-888-749-2453.



P.O. Box 10
Broken Bow, NE 68822

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October 1-7 is Public Power Week... and we have reason to celebrate!

Like more than 2,000 utilities across the country, we are powered by a community-owned, not-for-profit public power utility. During Public Power Week, we celebrate the benefits of living in a public power community including:

- Low rates
- High reliability
- Customer responsiveness
- Community focus
- Economic development
- Local control