

## SAFETY FIRST

By James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

Despite the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Governor Evers' mask mandate in Wisconsin, JREC must continue to abide by the CDC and OSHA guidelines that govern our business. Therefore, face coverings are required inside the JREC facilities until more Wisconsinites are vaccinated and those guidelines change. JREC is committed to providing a safe work environment for our staff and will continue to be proactive to ensure we can keep the lights on for our members.

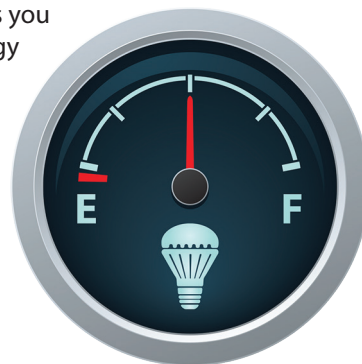
For those of you who attended the 83rd Annual Membership Meeting in person or through Facebook Live, and those of you who voted, we say thank you!

*"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." – Henry Ford*

## The power is in your hands with... Prepaid Metering

By paying for electricity as you go, you can monitor energy use and know when you need to conserve. A few benefits of participating in prepaid metering are:

- You choose how much and when to pay
- There's no additional cost, no late fees
- Helps consumers understand what uses energy in their home
- Provides absolute control over how much money is spent on electricity



Go to [jrec.com](http://jrec.com) or call 715-532-5524 for more information.

## 19 YEARS AND COUNTING!

JREC celebrates its 19th year of hosting the electrical safety poster contest in honor of May being National Electrical Safety Month. Area youth, ages 5 to 12, are encouraged to enter.

### What you need:

- 8½ x 11 or larger sheet of paper or poster board.
- Art supplies: crayons, colored pencils, or markers.
- Depict a way(s) to be safe around electricity either inside or out.
- Complete poster entry ticket below and attach to back of poster.
- Submit poster by June 7, 2021, to the Ladysmith office.



### What you could win:

- A \$50 cash prize for first place and a \$25 cash prize for second place.
- One to be awarded per age category: 5 – 7 and 8 – 12.

Winning posters will be featured in a future issue of this magazine.

### Poster Entry Ticket

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member Acct. \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Return to JREC, P.O. Box 99, Ladysmith WI 54848

### Parent/Teacher Safety Tip:

Esfi.org is a great resource for teaching children about electrical safety. Go on an adventure with Private I. Plug (PIP) at this site.



Visit our Kids Safety Zone at [jrec.com](http://jrec.com) for more tips and links.

Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA) is also sponsoring an electrical safety poster contest, this one for third-grade students! Submit an original poster supporting electrical safety by May 17 to the JREC office for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate and be entered into the statewide contest. State-level prizes include a Chromebook for first place, \$100 gift card for second place, and \$75 gift card for third place. For more information and a contest entry form, visit [jrec.com](http://jrec.com) or [weca.coop](http://weca.coop).

# Member Spotlight

## Mother's Day shopping made easy

It's almost that time of year again, when we celebrate one of the most special people in our lives—Mom. If you're shopping for a meaningful Mother's Day gift, consider Silver Bear, located on Highway 27 just north of Holcombe. This shop offers many reasonably priced, unique gifts for any occasion. Most items at Silver Bear fall in the \$20–50 price range, making it almost impossible to leave this shop empty handed.

A love of both art and lake life led JREC member Rita Schrantz to purchase the Silver Bear 15 years ago. “We

love the relaxed and casual feeling of time well spent at the lake and our products speak as such. Our inventory is always changing, so there is always something new! Whenever possible we source USA products, with a focus on handcrafted and Wisconsin manufacturers,” Rita said.

Solar garden décor, wind chimes, hummingbird feeders, jewelry items, candles, lotions, or maybe one of their many casual Lakegirl apparel items



Rita Schrantz shows off the handcrafted gnome along with the metal gnomes and mushrooms that are perfect for a garden or porch—both have been customer favorites this spring.

would make a great gift for mom...or maybe even for yourself. Everyone—men, women, children, and even your pet—can find something they will love at this gift shop.

Shopping in person or online has been made easy. Shoppers can view products during their live broadcasts or make a private appointment. Rita will even do the shopping for you and offers curbside pickup.

Go to [silverbeardecor.com](http://silverbeardecor.com) or follow them on Facebook for shop hours, contact information, and a list of live broadcast and special events. If you miss a live broadcast, no worries, you can shop online at [silverbear.commentsold.com](http://silverbear.commentsold.com).

Shop local—shop Silver Bear.

—Denise Zimmer



Rita supports the community by buying locally made and Wisconsin made products. A full line of Lakegirl brand clothing, Lazy Ones casual sleepwear, and home décor are all made right here in Holcombe. Silver Bear is also a member of the Lake Holcombe Resort and Business Association and a major sponsor of the Lake Holcombe fourth-grade fishing day held in May.



## YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONGRESS LOOKS DIFFERENT JULY 13 - 14

- IT'S VIRTUAL
- IT'S FREE
- ONLY TWO HALF-DAYS IN JULY
- SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The free two-day event is set for July 13–14 from 8 a.m. until noon both days. Participating students, who are sponsored by their local electric cooperative, will receive a welcome package with a T-shirt and other Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) preparation materials prior to the event.

The YLC helps youth develop their leadership skills while learning the purpose and scope of cooperative businesses. This is a cooperative leadership conference that is planned and developed by teens serving on the current youth board.

Attendees elected to the youth board can attend the annual Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., the following June.

All attendees can participate in contests held during and after the conference for prizes ranging from \$50 to \$1,000.

**WHO SHOULD APPLY:** This year's high school sophomore and junior students.

**HOW TO APPLY:** See your high school guidance counselor. Deadline approaching.



## MEMBER PHOTO CONTEST

Lots of beautiful and unique photos were submitted last year, making it very difficult to pick winners of JREC's first photo contest. We are working on putting together the 2022 calendar and seeking more photos for inclusion in that as well as on our website and social media platforms. Criteria for this contest includes:



- Photos must be taken within the Jump River Electric Cooperative service area.
- Photos should capture life in northern Wisconsin (spring/summer season, wildlife, landscape, people, etc.)
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- All JREC members 18 years and up are eligible to submit a photo. If under the age of 18, a parent/guardian entry form must accompany the photo submission.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- Three (3) photos per member will be accepted.
- Email your digital image to [dzimmer@jrec.com](mailto:dzimmer@jrec.com) by **July 15, 2021**. Include your Jump River Electric (JREC) account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting JREC permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website or Facebook page.

## DO YOU HAVE A BACKUP PLAN?

It's impossible for JREC to guarantee uninterrupted power as outages occur due to a variety of reasons. We all need to have a backup plan, but it is especially important for those who depend on life-support equipment. Your backup plan should include:

- Obtain a backup source of power recommended by the manufacturer of any critical care equipment.
- Keep a full charge on battery-operated devices or have extra batteries on hand and check these batteries periodically.
- Keep your cell phone charged and be sure this number is also listed as your primary contact number with JREC.
- Complete and mail in (or call) the life-support equipment form below so JREC is aware of your needs.
- Have a plan of where you can go in the event of a long-term outage.



### ***Yes, I depend on life-support equipment***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Equipment \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have an emergency standby generator to operate this equipment?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If you're on oxygen, how many hours of back-up do you have?

*Mail this form to Jump River Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 99, Ladysmith, WI 54848*

MY CO-OP

## You can't AVOID what you CAN'T SEE

Starting a job — big or small — without first getting utilities marked could result in serious injury, service disruptions for you and your neighbors, and a hefty fine.

Call 8-1-1 before you dig.



Go to [jrec.com/energy-assistance](http://jrec.com/energy-assistance) for information on how you can get help paying your energy bill from your local agency or through the Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program.



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- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

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## Jump River Board Abbreviated Minutes

*The regular board meeting of Jump River Electric Cooperative, was held in person at the Ladysmith Headquarters on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9 a.m.*

January minutes, financials, member applications, member refund list, outages, board expense and general manager reports were submitted to the board of directors to review prior to the start of the meeting.

**January Minutes** – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to approve the January minutes as amended.

**Safety Report** – Director Jane Reich discussed the need for taking personal responsibility, not taking shortcuts, and keeping workspace clean and clear for safety purposes.

**Operations Update** – Kurt Harris, general foreman, reported on the progress of mowing and brushing, mapping, pole changes, asset management, and new barcode inventory system. Exhibit 2-21-1, Holding the Current Pricing for Aid of Construction, was presented and reviewed. A motion to approve was made, seconded, and unanimously carried. Harris presented on fuses placed on transformers to prevent multi-unit outages during animal interference. Engineer McCabe presented on voltage regulator projects. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the operations report.

**General Manager's Report** – Anderson reported on Current Energy Crisis in Southern States, Strategic Planning Objectives, S.T.E.M. Panel, Community Cents, Dairyland Power, and Annual Meeting.

Executive Session – A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session.

Out of Executive Session – A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session.

Action Resulting from Executive Session – None.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the General Manager's Report.

**Financial Report** – Lori Davis, finance manager, reported on the check register and investments. Davis reported that the independent audit is complete, and a full report is forthcoming. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the financial report.

**Dairyland Power Cooperative Director Report** – Director Jane Reich reported that during the January DPC board meeting, the BOD Cooperative's Board of Directors approved membership dues, Whitehall load management property, power supply work construction plan, and 2020 year end margins. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the Dairyland Director Report.

A thank you note was passed around to the directors from The Foundation for Rural Housing.

**New Business** – Items up for discussion included community room, NRECA Annual Meeting, NRECA Director Conference, for the good of the cooperative, donation request, and March meeting date.

March meeting date was set as Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 9 a.m. at the Ladysmith Headquarters.

Executive Session – A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into Executive Session at 12:30 p.m.

Out of Executive Session – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 1:36 p.m.

Action Resulting from Executive Session – None.

Adjournment – Chairperson Brooks adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

*Please go to [jrec.com/board-meeting-expense-information](http://jrec.com/board-meeting-expense-information) to view the complete minutes and video footage from the February 2021 Board Meeting.*

### James Anderson, General Manager/CEO

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715-532-5524 (Ladysmith); 715-634-4575 (Hayward) • [www.jrec.com](http://www.jrec.com)

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Pay by Phone: 888-255-6489


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JREC will be closed Monday, May 31, for Memorial Day.