



By Mike Wade,  
President & CEO

## YOUR HELP CONTINUES TO BRING JOY TO AREA COMMUNITIES

Deer season in Wisconsin is just around the corner so it's time to sight in your rifles and get your deer

camp ready for the big week. Hunting is a sacred tradition in Wisconsin, but don't forget to practice good hunting safety and stay alert for hidden dangers. Also, never place your tree stand near a power line and do not shoot towards power lines, utility poles, transformers, or substations. Stay safe out there!

At their September meeting, the Board of Directors approved the retirement of capital credits in the amount of \$300,000. Capital credits are the margins distributed to the members of the cooperative based on their energy purchases from the cooperative in previous years. The capital credit retirement this year will be made by applying 70% of the retirement to the oldest year on record and 30% of the retirement to more recent years. This method provides a fair retirement rotation and allows us to clear older years off the books.

See page 16 for more information. As the cooperative is financially able, it is a privilege to return a portion of your investment in the cooperative to you.

When we retire capital credits, a small number of former members cannot be located and their retired capital credit amount is unclaimed. Per Wisconsin statute, we are able to use our unclaimed capital credits for charitable giving and scholarships. We donate our unclaimed dollars to Federated Youth Foundation in accordance with the provisions of our bylaws, and those dollars are available to the cooperative to help our local communities and students achieve their goals. It has been my pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors of the Federated Youth Foundation for several years and to see the tremendous impact this program has on rural Wisconsin.

One of the most beneficial and rewarding community service programs we participate in is the Toys for Tots program. Your generous donation of toys has put smiles on the faces of thousands of children since the program

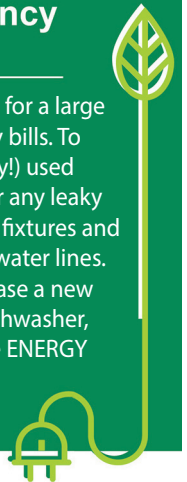
began. With Christmas just around the corner, our Toys for Tots campaign has begun. See page 17 for a list of Toys for Tots donation drop locations in area communities. These toys will find their way into the hands of deserving children in our area. Thank you for continuing to support our local families.

Happy Thanksgiving to each of you, and be safe and stay healthy as you enjoy this holiday season.

### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Water heating accounts for a large portion of home energy bills. To save energy (and money!) used for water heating, repair any leaky faucets, install low-flow fixtures and insulate accessible hot water lines. When it's time to purchase a new washing machine or dishwasher, look for models that are ENERGY STAR®-certified.

Source: Dept. of Energy



## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The August regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative was held in-person on August 25, 2022 at 7:59 a.m. The following is a summary of the meeting activities. The agenda, minutes of the July 28, 2022 meeting, new and terminated memberships, monthly safety and compliance report, and estate capital credit retirements were approved.

### Action Items

- Monthly Financial Statements and Reports were approved. Finance Committee reviewed checks written and the board and CEO expenses.
- The board approved revisions to Board Policy 402-Financial Goals and Capital Credits and Board Policy 202-Director Fees and Expenses as presented by the Governance Committee.
- The Board reviewed Board Policy 408 – Retirements of Capital Credits for Deceased Patrons with Exhibits and Documents and made no modifications.
- Mr. Kevin Kurtzweil and Mr. Dennis Magee gave an informational presentation to the board on the training we provide to area First Responders.
- Ms. Brenda Mazemke gave a presentation to the board on the upcoming 2022 Member Satisfaction Survey.

- The board reviewed a modified work schedule pilot project as presented by the management team.

Operations and Engineering – Mr. Kurtzweil reported crews are working on the Robin Road overhead line project. The Alliant Energy tie was used to back feed Wittenberg feeder 3 a few weeks ago and worked very well.

Accounting and Finance – Ms. Lila Shower gave an update on the corrected amount of the refund we will get from Wisconsin Disaster Fund from the June 16th storm damage in Shawano County.

Member Services – Ms. Mazemke reported we have received 67 entries for the calendar photo contest. Mr. John LaValley completed key account and business account visits in Tigerton. Mr. LaValley and Mr. Bert Lehman recently attended the Member Services Association Annual Meeting and the Electric Communicators Workshop in Wisconsin Dells. Mr. Lehman will be attending Toys-For-Tots training in Virginia next month.

Administrative Services – Ms. Patoka reported the details are finalized for the Badger Power Cooperative Annual Meeting next week Tuesday, August 30, 2022 in Wisconsin Dells. The cooperative attorney is assisting us in updating employee policies.

President and CEO – Mike Wade, CEO, reported on his submitted report.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

# CO-OP RETIRES \$300,000 IN CAPITAL CREDITS

## WHAT ARE CAPITAL CREDITS?

One of the benefits of being a member of Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) is that members are eligible to receive capital credits, which represents your ownership in CWEC.

Unlike investor-owned utilities that maximize profits to pay dividends to shareholders, CWEC, which is a not-for-profit electric cooperative, provides our members with “at cost” electric service. We do not exist to earn a profit.

When each year’s finances are audited and closed out, the remaining profit or margins are allocated to the members based on the amount each member paid for electricity during the year in the form of capital credits. These capital credits are used by the co-op to help build and maintain the CWEC electric system. When the co-op’s finances permit, the Board of Directors approves a portion of the allocated capital credits to be retired, and paid back to you—the members.

## ALLOCATION OF RETIRED CAPITAL CREDITS

This year, the board of directors approved the retirement of \$300,000 in capital credits. That amount was divided as follows: 70% of the \$300,000 went to members who had capital credits from 1993 and prior years; 30% went to members with capital credits from 1994 through 2017. All members who have been on CWEC electric lines for six years or longer received retired capital credits.

Active members whose retired capital credits were less than \$100 received a credit on their September electric bill, which was mailed to members in October. Checks were mailed in October to active members whose retired capital credits amounted to more than \$100. Checks, with a minimum of \$10, were also mailed to all offline members who received retired capital credits.

For more information about capital credits, or to resolve a capital credit account issue, please call our office at 715-677-2211, or send an email to [cwec@cwecoop.com](mailto:cwec@cwecoop.com).

## DID YOU KNOW?

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative has retired a total of more than \$6 million to members – \$300,000 in 2022 alone.

Because co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

**\$6  
Million  
Total**

**\$300,000  
in 2022**



## CALENDAR CONTEST WINNERS REVEALED!

The 2022 Member Photo Contest capturing “Life in Rural Wisconsin” is now complete, and the 22 winning photos have been revealed! The selected photos will be featured in the 2023 Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Calendar, which was first available at our Member Appreciation Breakfast.

With more than 60 entries this year, the judges had their work cut out for them. CWEC thanks all of the members who participated. Information for the 2023 contest will be available in February 2023. You can view all the winning photos at [www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com).

Submitted photos that were chosen include:

Donn Lord, Tigerton – cover  
Cateлин Fischer, Ogdensburg – January  
Fred Fleishauer, Custer – February  
Kortney Belongia, Tigerton – March  
James Delikowski, Wittenberg – April  
Deb McCue, Iola – May  
Lori Rowe, Tigerton – June  
Tanya Tautges, Wittenberg – July  
Cheri Smith, Custer – August  
Trisha Paiser, Bowler – September  
Mary Ellie, Iola – October  
Cheryl Tauferner, Tigerton – November  
Lisa Vele, Bowler – December  
Greg Loesch, Iola – January 2024

### HONORABLE MENTION

Autumn Koback, Stevens Point  
Deb McCue, Iola  
Linda Wise, Stevens Point  
Mary Ellie, Iola  
Shannon Miller, Scandinavia  
Photo taken by Sue Hintz, Tigerton  
Photo taken by Trisha Paiser, Bowler



# AREA KIDS NEED OUR HELP!

Christmas is a time of joy, happiness, and goodwill. It is a time of giving and helping those who are less fortunate than us, especially children. In our effort to accomplish the above, we are happy to once again partner with the U.S Marine Corps to make Christmas a little brighter for area children through the Toys for Tots program. We know that this year will once again be challenging to collect toys for area children.

Last year we were able to provide toys to more than 1,100 area children. All indications are we will need at least the same number of toys again this year, if not more. As you can imagine, it is a pretty daunting task to collect enough toys for

that many children. This is where CWEC members can help. Help us spread a little Christmas joy this holiday season by donating a new unwrapped toy. All of the toys we collect are distributed locally.

To find the collection site nearest you, please see the accompanying list. If you would like us to do the shopping for you, you can make a check payable to Toys for Tots and mail it to us at Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, PO Box 100, Rosholt, WI 54473. If you would like to donate online, go to <http://iola-wi.toysfortots.org>

Best wishes for a joyful Christmas.

## Toy Collection Sites – Final Toy Pick-Up Friday, December 2, 2022

### BIRNAMWOOD

**Banner Bank**  
416 Main St.  
Birnamwood, WI 54414  
715-449-2556

**Dollar General**  
472 US-45  
Birnamwood  
715-449-6705

### BOWLER

**Bowler Schools**  
500 S. Almon St.  
Bowler, WI 54416  
715-793-4101

**1st National Bank**  
102 E. Railroad  
Bowler, WI 54416  
715-793-5200



### CLINTONVILLE

**Mills Fleet Farm**  
500 S Main Street.  
Clintonville, WI 54929  
715-823-6571

### ELDERON

**Community First Bank**  
311 State Hwy 49  
Elderon, WI 54429  
715-454-6264

### IOLA

**Bank First**  
295 E State Street  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-3211

**Iola-Scandinavia Elementary School**  
450 E Division St  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-2411

**Iola-Scandinavia High School**  
540 S Jackson St  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-2211

**Iola-Scandinavia Community Fitness & Aquatic Center**  
445 S Jackson St  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-2411

**Iola Village Library**  
180 S Main  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-4330

**Premier Community Bank**  
505 E State Drive  
Iola, WI 54945  
715-445-4700

### MANAWA

**Manawa Elementary School**  
800 Beech St.  
Manawa, WI 54949  
920-596-2524

**Little Wolf High School**  
515 E 4th Street  
Manawa, WI 54949  
920-596-2525

**Premier Community Bank**  
341 S Bridge St  
Manawa, WI 54949  
920-596-2531

### MARION

**Dollar General**  
213 Industrial Drive  
Marion, WI 54950  
715-793-0110

### ROSHOLT

**Central Wisconsin Electric Co-op**  
10401 Lystul Rd  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-2211

**Community First Bank**  
275 W. Grand Ave.  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-4523

**Dollar General**  
436 W Grand Avenue W  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-4523

**Rosholt Middle School/ High School**  
346 Randolph St W  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-4541

**Rosholt Elementary School**  
346 Randolph St W  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-4543

### SCANDINAVIA

**Silver Lake Lanes**  
N6311 State Road 49  
Scandinavia, WI 54977  
715-467-2700

### TIGERTON

**1st National Bank**  
140 Cedar St.  
Tigerton, WI 54486  
715-535-2291

**Premier Community Bank**  
112 US Highway 45  
Tigerton, WI 54486

**Tigerton Community Center**  
221 Birch Street  
Tigerton, WI 54486  
715-535-2262

### WAUPACA

**Danes Hall of Waupaca**  
Drive-Thru ONLY  
Sat., Dec. 3  
12-4 p.m. toy drop-off  
301 N Main Street  
Waupaca, WI 54981  
715-942-2660

**Mills Fleet Farm**  
2016 Farm Drive  
Waupaca, WI 54981  
715-258-3851

**Premier Community Bank**  
112 US Highway 45  
Tigerton, WI 54486  
715-535-3300

**RE/MAX Lyons Real Estate**  
206 W Fulton St  
Waupaca, WI 54981  
715-258-9565

### WITTENBERG

**Associated Bank**  
501 S. Webb St.  
Wittenberg, WI 54499  
715-253-2127



**Banner Bank**  
202 S. Westgor Ave.  
Wittenberg, WI 54499  
715-253-2999

**Dollar General**  
309 N Genesee Street  
Wittenberg, WI 54499  
715-449-6740

**Wagner's Shell Food Mart**  
504 E. Grand Ave.  
Wittenberg, WI 54499  
715-253-6231

**Wittenberg Shell**  
413 N. Genesee  
Wittenberg, WI 54499  
715-253-2888

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative will be closed Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Regular business will resume on Monday, November 28.

From everyone here at CWEC, we wish you a safe and enjoyable holiday.



## REMINDER:

**Daylight Saving Time ends Nov. 6**

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour.

# MAIL YOUR LETTERS TO SANTA AT OUR OFFICE

Do you want to send a letter to Santa this year? If so, we have great news. Children 10 years of age and under will be able to drop off a letter for Santa at our office in Rosholt.

When children drop off a letter for Santa at our office, they will also receive a free gift and will be entered into a contest with the chance to win one of three prizes. The grand prize will be a large filled stocking. Letters to Santa can also be mailed to our office to be entered into the contest.

Stop by our office to pick up an entry form or download and print one from our website at [www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com). The contest is open to the children of CWEC members only. All you have to do is color or write a message to Santa and completely fill out the entry form with the requested information to be eligible. When completed, drop your entry form and letter to Santa in the mailbox located in our lobby or mail it to us and we'll place it in the mailbox. Entry form and letter must be dropped off in person to receive the free gift.

Letters and entry forms can be mailed to: Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, Attention: Letters to Santa, 10401 Lystul Road, PO Box 100, Rosholt, WI 54473.

As stated, children 10 years of age and younger are eligible to be entered into the drawing to win the grand prize of a large



filled stocking. A second and third place prize of lesser value will also be awarded. Prize winners will be chosen through random drawings. Entries must be received by Friday, Dec. 9, and the drawings for the three winners will be held on Monday, Dec. 12. Winners will be notified by CWEC and prizes must be picked up at the CWEC headquarters in Rosholt.

Winners will be chosen by random drawing only, written content or coloring will not be considered or judged.

## NATURAL GAS PRICE IMPACTS COST OF ELECTRICITY

As you have noticed with your last two monthly electric bills, the cost of electricity is increasing. This is due to an increase in the power cost adjustment (PCA), which is a variable cost that changes each month based on how much it costs to generate power we purchase from Alliant Energy.

Prior to the last three months, CWEC had been successful for 20 straight months in keeping the PCA to a zero or a negative number for our members.

The main driver for the higher energy costs has been the sharp cost increase for natural gas. This is mainly due to lower supply and higher demand.

Another driver for the increase in energy

prices are problems Alliant is having in receiving regular shipments of coal due to railway issues. Railroads are struggling to recover from COVID and are still seeing a shortage of workers. If a coal plant does not have sufficient coal to operate, it goes into coal conservation mode and cannot operate as it normally would. Coal prices have increased slightly, but the bigger driver of higher coal costs is the higher transportation cost.

With the spike in fuel costs, the PCA is now a charge that is much higher than we've seen in recent years. This trend is likely to continue.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 800-377-2932.





**Central Wisconsin  
Electric Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

10401 Lystul Rd., P.O. Box 100,  
Rosholt, WI 54473  
715-677-2211 • 800-377-2932

[www.cwecoop.com](http://www.cwecoop.com)

Follow us on Twitter    
and Facebook

**Mike Wade, President & CEO**  
**Bert Lehman, Editor**

### Board of Directors

#### District 1

Ron Onesti  
715-551-9257

Tom Smith  
Chairman  
715-701-2051

#### District 2

Lee Lehrer  
Secretary-Treasurer  
920-851-4545  
715-677-3850

Lou Oppor  
608-575-8653

Michael Schultz  
Vice Chairman  
715-370-1378

#### District 3

Sue Rombalski  
715-701-2053

Allen Zander  
715-630-8239

### Our Mission

**We are your trusted energy  
partner and provider of  
valued community support.**