



Barron Electric Cooperative
March 2020
Photo by Janelle Larson

News FOR YOU...

Win a *Free Year of Energy at 84th Annual Meeting

Join us at Barron Electric Cooperative's 84th Annual Meeting, which will be held on Saturday, March 28 at the Barron High School. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. with the business meeting beginning at 10 a.m. Members will have the opportunity to win a *free year of energy, excluding fixed charges, and 99 small prizes will also be awarded. Enjoy music by the Stringsmitths during registration and lunch. A kids' program for ages 3-12 will include face painting, games, and a grand prize.

During registration, meet Member Cindy Sesolak who will share her experience of tracking Monarch Butterflies. Brian Rude, Dairyland Power's Vice President of Government and Community Relations, will give an environmental and legislative update. Director elections will be held for Districts 2, 4, and 8. Members will also vote on a resolution to adopt amendments to the cooperative bylaws. Please see page 3 for more information.



Important Information for Annual Meeting

Changes to the Registration Process:

Members attending the annual meeting should bring their March electric bill statement to the meeting. The statement contains a barcode that will register you for the meeting. **Please note registration cards were not mailed.**

Designated Voters

Please contact the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008 to request a form to designate a representative from your organization to vote at the annual meeting.

Annual Meeting Shuttle

A shuttle service will be available to the annual meeting for those members who live in the northern part of Barron Electric's service territory. The shuttle will leave at 8:30 a.m. from Barron Electric's Spooner office located at 1550 Paulson Drive. If you are interested in this service, please contact Member Services at 800-322-1008 or e-mail memberservices@barronelectric.com by **Monday, March 16.**

Monthly Photo Contest Spring Landscape

E-mail your spring photos for our photo contest. Winning photos will be used on the cover of the *News for You*, and winners will receive a \$50 credit on their electric bill. Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape).
- Photos must be high resolution, at least 300 dpi.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to memberservices@barronelectric.com by March 5, 2020. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric Cooperative permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website.



Census 101

The United States census is conducted every 10 years. By March 2020, the public can begin responding to the 2020 census online. Visit www.2020census.gov for more information.

Making an Impact in Madison



Barron Electric's Board President Randy Cook talks with Representative Romaine Quinn about rural broadband during the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's Education and Lobby Days.

Official Notice of the 84th Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 28 at the Barron High School, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To hear reports of officers and directors
- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 2, 4, and 8
- To vote on a resolution to adopt amendments to the cooperative bylaws
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof.

*Dated this 26th day of
February 2020
Scott Warwick, Secretary*

Our \$50 Gift to You

Auto Pay is a convenient way to pay your electric bill, saving you time and money. Members who sign up for Auto Pay will have their name entered into a drawing for a \$50 electric bill credit. Sign up for Auto Pay through SmartHub at barronelectric.com or by contacting the billing department at 800-322-1008. Member Brandy Johnson was the latest winner of the \$50 Auto Pay Drawing. She said "We like the convenience of Auto Pay."



Resolution to Adopt Amendments to the Cooperative Bylaws at 84th Annual Meeting

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Barron Electric Cooperative Board of Directors to review the Bylaws and make suggested changes in the best interest of the cooperative, and its members, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recommends the following amendments to the membership Bylaws:

- Article I, Section 8, "Membership Fees"

~~The membership fee shall be set by the board of directors in any amount, including zero, but not to exceed Five Dollars (\$5.00), the payment of which shall make the member eligible for service.~~ The Board of Directors may from time to time establish a reasonable membership fee, the payment of which shall be one of the conditions of membership to the Cooperative.

- Article III, Section 1, "Annual Meeting"

The annual meeting of the members shall be held not less than two months, nor more than ten months from the close of the calendar year. ~~beginning with the year 1980.~~

- Article III, Section 3, "Notice of Members' Meetings"

Written, electronic, or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting, and in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than seven (7) days nor more than ~~thirty (30)~~ forty (40) days before the date of the meeting, either personally, electronically, by mail, by or at the direction of the secretary, or by the persons calling the meeting, to each member.

- Article III, Section 6, "Order of Business"

The order of business at the annual meeting of the members, and so far as possible at all other meetings of the members, shall be essentially as follows:

- (a) ~~Call of the roll.~~ Business Meeting Called to Order by President.
- (b) Adoption of Rules of Order

- Article IV, Section 3, "Qualifications"

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a board member of the Cooperative who:

- (a) is not a member and bona fide resident ~~in the area served of the district and on premises served~~ by the Cooperative at his or her primary residence, and that residence is within the director district which he or she has been nominated or elected to represent;
- (e) while a director or during the five years preceding election or appointment as a director has pursued any litigation against the Cooperative or any of its employees or directors, or who is in default on any obligation owed to the Cooperative at the time of election or appointment.

- Article IV, Section 4, "Nominations and Electors"

Directors shall be elected so as to provide for one director from each such division on the board of directors. ~~provided that any director elected prior to the effective date of this action for a fixed term may continue to serve until the expiration of such fixed term without reference to the districting provisions contained herein.~~

- Article V, Section 4, "Notice"

Notice of the time, place and purpose of any special meeting of the board of directors shall be given at least three (3) days previous thereto, by written notice, delivered ~~electronically~~, personally or mailed, to each director at their last known address.

- Article VI, Section 2, "Election and Term of Office"

The officers shall be nominated and elected by ballot, annually by and from the board of directors at the meeting of the board of directors held ~~immediately~~ after the annual meeting of the members.

- Article XI, Section 8, "Subscription to Wisconsin ~~REC News~~ Electric Cooperative Association's News Publication"

The Cooperative, through action of its board of directors may in the name and behalf of each member of the Cooperative, subscribe for the ~~REC News Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association's news publication.~~

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Barron Electric Cooperative Board of Directors hereby recommends these amendments to the Cooperative Bylaws to the membership for approval on March 28, 2020 at the 84th Annual Meeting.

I, Scott Warwick, Secretary of Barron Electric Cooperative, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct excerpt from the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Barron Electric Cooperative, held this 30th day of January, 2020, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Full bylaws are available on SmartHub at barronelectric.com.


Scott Warwick, Secretary

Featuring Director Arlyn Helm

Arlyn Helm serves as treasurer on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, representing District 1 which includes the following townships: Brooklyn, Gull Lake, Stinnett, Hayward, Scott, Casey, Trego, Springbrook, Bass Lake, and Rusk. He said, "My main focuses are keeping rates affordable for Barron Electric members and helping control legislation on the state and federal level that would have a positive impact on members." Arlyn feels that his county and town board experience, as well as his work experience, has benefitted Barron Electric members. He served on State Boards including the Solid Waste Siting Board and the Local Roads and Streets Committee with the DOT. He has served as Chief of the Sergeant at Arms at several of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Conventions.

Arlyn's favorite hobby is bowling, and he was a member of five leagues at one time. Arlyn also raced snowmobiles for Polaris. He met his wife, Kathy, at Nick's Family Restaurant, and together they have five children and eight great grandchildren. Arlyn said, "I'm quiet, that's how you learn things."



Barron Electric Directors Tim Kessler and Arlyn Helm (1st and 3rd from left) present a check to the Spooner Veterans Memorial Committee.

News FOR YOU...

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Published for the members of Barron Electric.
If you have any comments regarding the
newsletter, please e-mail
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Barron Electric is an equal
opportunity provider.



*Condensed Board Minutes December 17, 2019

- Director Helm gave the treasurer's report, with comments by Manager Sloan. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #97089 thru #97188 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$209,746 and no capital credit estate checks were issued. Director Helm reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$1,342,340; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$25,981; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$1,396,255; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$89,329 and power bill paid 12/25/19 in the amount of \$2,179,757.
- A membership list of 62 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the past month in the amount of \$299,945.04 was presented for approval, and included new services - \$25,094.56; change jobs - \$15,156.18; miscellaneous - \$259,694.30 and 3 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 432,229 consumer hours off, which is 924.87% above 2018 hours of 42,174. Overtime year-to-date is 5,591.50 hours, which is 75.39% above 2018 hours of 3,372.75.

* View full board minutes on SmartHub.