



**DS&O ELECTRIC  
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

# HEADLINER

## Board

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>James Christopher</b><br>Falun, President   | <b>Dane Clark</b><br>Gypsum, Director   |
| <b>Brian Lang</b><br>Solomon, Vice President   | <b>Sheila Hummel</b><br>Hope, Director  |
| <b>Ken Hedberg</b><br>Marquette, Secretary     | <b>David Mueller</b><br>Tampa, Director |
| <b>Dean Allison</b><br>Delphos, Director       | <b>Bruce Spare</b><br>Assaria, Director |
| <b>David Butler</b><br>Junction City, Director |   |

## Staff

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Timothy J. Power</b><br>CEO              | <b>Judy Barten</b><br>CFO                           |
| <b>Mike Olberding</b><br>Operations Manager | <b>Derrick Rutherford</b><br>Communications Manager |

## Office Hours

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday  
Open over the lunch hour

## Payment Locations

- CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN  
WALMART SUPERCENTER**  
521 E. Chestnut St., Junction City, KS 66441
- FARMERS STATE BANK**  
447 Harrison, Lindsborg, KS 67456

## Outage Information

**IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE, CALL  
800-376-3533.** After-hours calls will be  
answered by dispatch and forwarded to  
standby personnel.

## Find Out More

-  [facebook.com/DS&OElectricCooperative](https://www.facebook.com/DS&OElectricCooperative)
-  [@DS&OElectricCoop](https://twitter.com/DS&OElectricCoop)

## FROM THE MANAGER

### Our COVID-19 Plan BY TIMOTHY J. POWER

As I write this, we are now in week four of the COVID-19 pandemic. Normally at this time of year, I am writing about our recently completed annual meeting. But that meeting, and others like it across the state and country, was canceled due to the pandemic. (It may be rescheduled for a later date, but that will be decided later.) So instead of recapping the annual meeting, I will briefly explain how we are handling the pandemic situation at DS&O.

On March 16, the board of directors and staff met to discuss our COVID-19 plan. The plan included closing our doors to the public (you can still reach us by phone or email) and working with minimal staff. In addition, we instituted social distancing measures like keeping office doors closed and eliminating in-person employee interactions. Our linemen were paired-up to work on meter installations and a variety of maintenance projects. To date, the plan has worked well, and we have been able to maintain our responsiveness to our

members and ensure reliable electricity.

As you know, this whole pandemic situation changes on a daily and even hourly level. As a result, we are extra vigilant of the various local, state and national rules, laws, and orders that affect our business. One such change was Governor Kelly's order to not disconnect meters for non-payment until the Kansas State of Disaster Emergency expires or through May 1, whichever is earlier. Because of the economic impact the pandemic has created, we anticipate we will have more than the usual number of non-payments in May. Please know that we want to help you get your account current and will try to find a payment plan we can both make work. If you need to talk with us about your account, just give us a call.

Finally, we have enclosed the 2019 annual report in this month's newsletter. Please let us know if you have any questions about the report and please stay safe and healthy.

# MEMORIAL DAY

We will be  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**CLOSED**

In observance of the Memorial  
Day holiday on Monday, May 25,  
our office will be closed.

# Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Members of

The 80th Annual Meeting of Members of DS&O Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the Webster Conference Center in Salina, Kansas, on April 2, 2019.

Dinner was served by Ricky's Café (Hanover) to 317 attendees.

Pastor Justin Panzer from Faith Lutheran Church in Abilene opened the meeting with prayer.

Communications Manager Derrick Rutherford gave away door prizes throughout the meeting.

President James Christopher welcomed the members and introduced the board of directors and their spouses to the membership. President Christopher presented Doug Lindahl with a plaque and thanked him for his 15 years of serving as director for the cooperative.

Mr. Christopher introduced other guests in attendance, which included: Suzanne Lane, executive vice president/CEO of Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo); Terry Deutscher, manager of SCADA & Meter Maintenance also of KEPCo; Vicki Estes, director of communications for

Kansas Electric Cooperatives; and Tyler Mason representing Congressman Roger Marshall from the 1st District.

President Christopher called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. and asked for a report of quorum from Secretary Ken Hedberg. Mr. Hedberg reported that a quorum was present and read the official notice of meeting. There were 153 members present and in person. President Christopher declared a quorum was present.

Mr. Christopher then stated that a copy of the minutes of the April 3, 2018, annual meeting was included with the annual report, which was mailed to all members. A motion was passed to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes of the 2018 annual meeting as printed and distributed. Secretary Hedberg reviewed DS&O's 2018 financials, which were printed in the annual report.

For his president's report, Mr. Christopher encouraged the membership to use the DS&O website as a resource for information about their electric cooperative. Mr.

Christopher reviewed the "About Us" tab giving an overview of the cooperative's history, strategic plan, and the seven cooperative principals. Mr. Christopher also talked about the development of the cooperative's core values and how they were developed with the member in mind. He then read the vision and mission statement to the members.

Tim Power, CEO, thanked the members for attending. Mr. Power gave a presentation on the cost to serve and more specifically how power costs make up 57% of the total cost to serve. He stated that DS&O has been able to save on its power costs by operating generators during summer peak hours. Mr. Power encouraged members to reduce peak and save money by enrolling in the residential peak shaving rate, which will be available to all regular residential rate customers in 2019.

Mr. Power introduced Mrs. Lane who discussed power supply and the things KEPCo is doing to try and keep their rates stable. Mrs. Lane thanked Director

## Income Statement

	2018	2019
<b>Electric Revenue</b>	<b>\$20,558,519</b>	<b>\$19,805,287</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Cost of Power	\$10,812,870	\$9,910,725
Operations	\$675,925	\$757,085
Maintenance	\$1,061,453	\$1,101,035
Accounting & Collecting	\$ 419,670	\$424,886
Member Services	\$194,742	\$137,439
Administrative	\$1,352,852	\$1,490,114
Depreciation	\$1,904,753	\$1,973,527
Property Tax	\$861,300	\$918,571
Interest	\$2,016,647	\$1,928,725
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$19,300,212</b>	<b>\$18,642,107</b>
<b>Operating Margin</b>	<b>\$1,497,120</b>	<b>\$1,377,473</b>
Non-Operating Margins	\$21,431	(\$8,747)
G&T Capital Credits	\$179,121	\$181,228
<b>Net Margin</b>	<b>\$1,697,672</b>	<b>\$1,549,953</b>

## kWh Statistics

	2018	2019
<b>Total KWH Sales</b>	<b>130,122,700</b>	<b>126,844,898</b>
Total Operating Revenue	\$20,322,452	\$19,805,287
Number of Services	8,281	8,311
Monthly KWH/Consumers	1,309	1,272
Revenue Per KWH Sold	\$0.15	\$0.16
Property Taxes Paid	\$861,300	\$918,564
Hours Interruption per Consumer	2.28	3.29
<b>During DS&amp;O's years of providing electric service, we have:</b>		
Invested in Plant		\$71,148,911
Refunded Capital Credits to the Membership		\$8,991,290



# DS&O Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Dean Allison and CEO Timothy Power for their work on the KEPCo board of directors. She stated that rates have been adjusted to allow more generation from non KEPCo sources and that a demand response study is now being completed for the purpose of seeing how KEPCo can adjust rates.

Mr. Rutherford introduced Abigail Johnson of Southeast of Saline who was awarded the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C.

Mr. Rutherford announced the 2019 scholarship winners:

- ▶ **CHANCE JACOBSON** – East District
- ▶ **JOSHUA PETERSON** – West District

- ▶ **HAILEY TIERNAN** – Central District
  - ▶ **KAYLEE HANSEN** – At Large District
- There was no unfinished business to come before the membership.

Under new business, Mr. Rutherford announced the director election results. They are for the West District, **JAMES CHRISTOPHER**; for the Central District, **BRIAN LANG**; and for the East District, **SHELIA HUMMEL**.

There being no further business to come before the membership, President Christopher adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**KEN HEDBERG, SECRETARY**

## Balance Sheet For Year Ending on Dec. 31, 2019

### Current Assets

Investments - Long Term	\$7,910,560
Cash & Temporary Investments	\$656,523
Accounts Receivable	\$1,278,382
Materials Inventory	\$23,524
Deferred Assets	\$2,904,550
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$12,733,538</b>

### Fixed Assets

Utility Plant	\$71,148,911
Less Depreciation	\$15,137,036
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$56,011,875</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$68,785,413</b>

### Liabilities and Other Equity

Long Term Debt	\$46,414,851
Short Term Debt	\$0
Deposits	\$203,429
Accounts Payable	\$820,631
Deferred Credits	\$87,421
Property & Other Payable Taxes	\$947,810
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$48,474,143</b>

### Our Net Worth

Memberships	\$61,595
Operating Margins - Prior Years	\$3,200,206
Equity, Capital Credits	\$17,049,469
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>\$20,311,271</b>

<b>Total Liabilities and Equities</b>	<b>\$68,785,413</b>
---------------------------------------	---------------------

# IT CAN WAIT

## AVOID ALL DISTRACTIONS WHILE DRIVING

Our crews often work roadside. Please pay attention when approaching a work zone and respect and obey orange work zone signs. Slow down, move over, and follow any other instructions when approaching and moving through a work zone.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

- ▶ **9%** of fatal crashes in 2017 were reported as distraction-affected crashes.
- ▶ In 2017, there were **3,166 people** killed in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers.
- ▶ **6%** of all drivers involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crashes.
- ▶ Ages **15-19** have the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted at the time of the fatal crashes.
- ▶ In 2017, **599 pedestrians, bicyclists and others** were killed in distraction-affected crashes.

# Electrical Safety: What Your Teen Should Know

Parents of teens can relate: You want to share important information with your teen but he or she braces for the next lecture. Your teen may give you the quintessential eye roll, but sharing the following safety information could help save his or her life.

So when the time is right, relay this information to your teenager to prevent electrical shock.

## At Home

- ▶ Do not use a cell phone near the bathtub or sink or with wet hands while it is plugged in and charging. Do not use an extension cord in the bathroom to extend your phone's reach closer to the tub. Teens have died after a charging phone dropped into bath water.
- ▶ Do not sleep with your charging cell phone under your pillow or in bed with you. The phone can overheat, causing bedding to catch on fire or burns to the skin. Also, a short in the charging cord can cause electrical shock when you are using your phone. This is especially a risk when using generic or incompatible charging equipment. Always replace charging equipment with brand name/matching items. They cost more, but they are less likely to malfunction.
- ▶ Do not charge your cell phone, tablet or other devices on soft surfaces such as a blanket, pillow or bedding.

## On the Road

- ▶ **THIS ADVICE CAN SAVE YOUR TEEN'S LIFE:** If you are in an accident involving a downed power line or damaged pad-mount transformer or other electrical equipment, **DO NOT** get out of your car. Call 911, warn others to stay away and to wait for assistance.
- ▶ Only exit if there is smoke or your car is on fire. If that is

the case, make a solid jump out of the vehicle without touching the car and hop with feet together as far as you can. **DO NOT WALK.** If there is damaged power equipment, the ground and anything else the lines touch could have electrical current running through it.

- ▶ If you approach an accident with a downed power line, **DO NOT** attempt to help the victims and do not go near the scene. Instead, call 911 and warn others not to approach the area.

## Outside

- ▶ Do not use plugged in devices (e.g. a charging cell phone) near water like a pool or hot tub or in damp conditions.
- ▶ Sometimes electrical currents can leak into water and can cause electric shock drowning. If you feel odd sensations in a wading pool, hot tub or swimming pool, get out. If you are swimming in a lake and feel odd sensations in your body, such as tingling or zaps, swim away from the dock or other source of electricity (e.g. lights).

## In the Dorm Room

- ▶ Do not hang decorative light strands with metal tacks or nails.
  - ▶ Do not overload outlets or extension cords.
  - ▶ Do not run extension cords under a rug or use them if they are frayed or cracked.
  - ▶ Use extension cords with care, they are for temporary use only.
  - ▶ Use reputable laboratory-tested cords.
  - ▶ Only use appliances allowed by your dorm/campus.
- Although you can't cover all these tips with your teen in one sitting, they are important to convey and could prevent injuries and save lives.



Retiring Director Ron Seyfert (left) is presented a plaque from Board President Jim Christopher for 10 years of dedicated service to DS&O Electric Cooperative.

# Seyfert Retires from Board

Director **RON SEYFERT** recently retired from the DS&O Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. To commemorate his 10 years of dedicated service, he was presented a plaque by Board President Jim Christopher. Ron, we appreciate your dedication and commitment to the cooperative and wish you all the best in retirement.