



We hope you'll join us for our 87th Annual Meeting

by General Manager Steve Stroshane, above, and Board President Ed Gullickson, below

One of our favorite days is coming up on June 6, when the employees and directors of Polk-Burnett will host our Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Day for you. During the meeting, we'll share a few business updates on topics like system improvements, co-op financials and board election results. But it's also a time to hear from you and have some fun, too! We'll have activities for the kids, a delicious lunch (pulled pork sandwiches and root beer floats) and an appreciation gift (5-gallon pails) for all members who attend. Spending time together and hearing your thoughts are important to us. In fact it's essential, because everything we do is shaped by you, our members. As we plan for the years ahead, we need to hear from you. Your feedback helps us set priorities. As a cooperative, we exist to serve our members, and we are motivated by service to our community. We hope you'll join us Friday, June 6. Our Member Appreciation Open House begins at 11 a.m., followed by the 87th Annual Meeting at 1:30 p.m. All activities take place in the co-op garage and outside. Members are asked to enter on the north side of our Centuria office. Find more details on polkburnett.com or call us at 800-421-0283. We look forward to seeing you!



# ANNUAL MEETING

87<sup>th</sup>

[ Reliable Power with Efficiency & Extraordinary Service ]

*Members, please join us!*

**Friday, June 6, 2025**

**Polk-Burnett Electric Co-op, Centuria**

**MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY**

**11 AM - 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH, GIVEAWAYS, BOUNCE HOUSE**

**DRAWING FOR 10 \$50 BILL CREDITS**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**1:30 - 2:30 PM**

**CO-OP REPORT, ELECTION RESULTS**

**MEMBER Q&A FORUM**

**DRAWING FOR 10 \$50 BILL CREDITS**

Rate increase begins in July, as inflation drives up costs

The cooperative will implement a 3% electric rate increase in July 2025 to cover the rising cost of building and maintaining the electric system. For residential, seasonal and small commercial members, bills will go up about \$3 for every \$100 spent, or \$55 annually for an average bill of 1,000 kWh. Large commercial members will see an increase of 4.7%.

"Rate increases are never easy, but this is necessary to continue our investment in the electric grid and provide you with reliable electricity," said Board President Ed Gullickson.

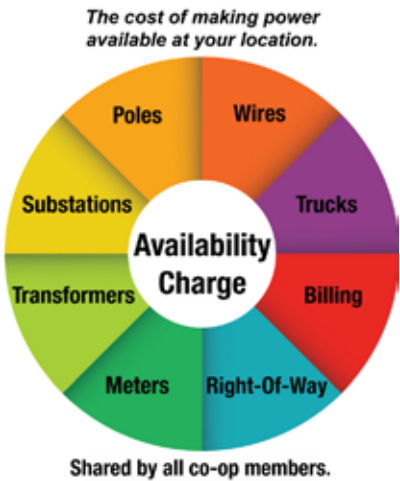
Inflation is driving up the cost of the materials and equipment we use, especially wire, trucks, transformers and things made with metals (copper, aluminum, steel). Since 2020, the price for utility construction materials has risen 51%. Contractor services for right-of-way clearing, underground cable installation and underground utility locating have also escalated.

The last rate increase was in March 2023. Current and new rates, effective July 1, are shown in the table below.

As a cooperative, Polk-Burnett will continue to give money back to members through EnergySense rebates and Capital Credits. We're also here to assist you at local offices with local employees.

Your bill is affected by the new rate, but also by weather and your energy use.

Please call us at 800-421-0283 or visit our office or website if we can help you with payment options, SmartHub enrollment to track your energy use, energy efficiency rebates or ways to lower your energy use and save money.



July 2025 Rate Increase	Current	New
Daily Availability Charge	\$1.219	\$1.282
Summer kWh Energy Charge	12.30¢	12.57¢
Winter kWh Energy Charge	10.71¢	10.98¢

# Co-op awards 101 scholarships to Class of 2025, most ever!



Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative will present its largest number of scholarships to the Class of 2025, with 101 sons and daughters of co-op members each receiving \$1,500 to continue education after high school. A total of \$151,500 will be awarded by the co-op.

"We are pleased to invest in the next generation of co-op members through our high school scholarship program," said General Manager Steve Stroshane.

"Giving back to our local community and youth is part of our mission as a co-op," added Communications Director Joan O'Fallon. "We had an outstanding group of

candidates this year! Thank you for your community service and congratulations to all 2025 graduates."

Polk-Burnett scholarship winners demonstrate a cooperative spirit through community service and make a difference in the lives of others. Winners were notified in February, and many will be recognized in person by co-op employees and board directors during local school award nights this spring.

*Since 1987, Polk-Burnett has given more than \$1 million in scholarships to help students pursue advanced education. Scholarships do not affect electricity rates for members; they are funded with unclaimed Capital Credits that would be forfeited to the state if not used for education, and by the generosity of co-op members who donate their Capital Credits. To donate Capital Credits and see all 101 Polk-Burnett scholarship winners, visit [polkburnett.com](http://polkburnett.com) or call 800-421-0283.*



**May is Electrical Safety Month**  
**Prevent electrical fires. Keep your family and home safe!**  
**Don't overload outlets.**  
**Throw away electronics with damaged cords.**  
**Install smoke detectors and test them regularly.**

## Board election ballots mailed to members in districts 4, 5 and 6



Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative will hold an election this spring for board directors serving co-op districts 4, 5 and 6. Ballots were mailed April 28 to members in those districts with instructions to vote by mail or online.

As a co-op, Polk-Burnett is owned by members and governed by a board of directors elected from its membership. Board directors serve a three-year term and attend monthly meetings to guide policy and budget decisions.

**District 4** includes the towns of Balsam Lake, Apple River, Beaver, Clayton and Almena. Candidates on the ballot in District 4 are incumbent director Joe Metro of Balsam Lake and Adam Majeske of Balsam Lake.

**District 5** includes the towns of McKinley, Maple Plain, Georgetown, Johnstown and Crystal Lake. Incumbent director John Ukura of Luck is running unopposed.

**District 6** includes the towns of LaFollette, Dewey, West Sweden, Lorain, Roosevelt, Luck, Clam Falls and Bone Lake. Incumbent director Wilfred Owens of Frederic is running unopposed.

"Electric cooperatives are unique because we are owned and governed by the members we serve," said General Manager Steve Stroshane. "Co-op directors are local members who live and work here; they understand and listen to our community. Local board governance is one of the greatest advantages of our co-op business model."

*Election results will be announced at Polk-Burnett's 87th annual meeting, Friday, June 6. For a map of co-op districts and more information about the board of directors or annual meeting, visit [polkburnett.com](http://polkburnett.com) or call 800-421-0283.*



## Be a super fan: Follow us and share on Facebook

Does it seem like friends and organizations you follow on Facebook rarely appear in your newsfeed? Whenever you're on Facebook, search for Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative, and like and share co-op posts. Your engagement is important to us! Your likes and shares increase our visibility and help spread the word about the work we do for our members and community. Thank you!

## SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY, AND BOOST COMFORT IN YOUR HOME WITH REBATES FOR CO-OP MEMBERS

- \$350 off home performance test, then up to \$1,000 rebate on home energy upgrades
- Rebates on geothermal and air source heat pumps
- Rebates on renewable energy systems
- Rebates on appliances and lighting
- Special price on Marathon water heaters

**POLK-BURNETT ELECTRIC CO-OP**  
800-421-0283, x318 | [polkburnett.com](http://polkburnett.com)



IF YOU RECEIVE AN EMAIL SURVEY, WE APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK TO HELP US IMPROVE.

All members who submit a survey will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

Polk-Burnett is your local Touchstone Energy Cooperative. Reliable power with efficiency and extraordinary service.

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Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer | Member Owned | Community Focused

