

THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC
 COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

**Caney Valley Electric
 Cooperative Assn., Inc.**

Allen Zadorozny—General Manager

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Dan Hubert
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Carl Johnson Jr
 Trustee

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 Trustee

Jack Newcomb
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 Trustee

Contact Us

401 Lawrence, P.O. Box 308
 Cedar Vale, KS 67024
 620-758-2262, Fax: 620-758-2926
 cve@caneyvalley.com.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Power Cost Adjustment

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) for March is \$0.00127/kilowatt-hour. This amounts to an additional \$1.27 per 1,000 kilowatt-hours.

The PCA was implemented in 2002 to cover only the increase (or decrease) in power costs (over and above 7¢/KWH) charged to us by our wholesale power supplier Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCo) in Topeka. The PCA varies each month depending on the wholesale charges from KEPCo, and is a flow-through.

FROM THE MANAGER

Mark Your Calendar for April 1



Allen Zadorozny

We encourage you to make plans to attend Caney Valley Electric's Annual Meeting on Friday, April 1, at the Cedar Vale School gymnasium. Cooperative

members and their families can enjoy a hamburger supper from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Musical entertainment will be provided during the supper and member registration process.

Attendants will receive registration favors, including an electric bill discount certificate, and a chance to win one of many attendance drawing prizes.

The meeting will include business reports about Caney Valley's operations and financial condition.

A very important part of the meeting is the election of three trust-

ees to the Board. The Board-appointed nominating committee has submitted the following members to be considered for election at the meeting:

▶ **District 1, Position 1**

KENNY BATES, Cedar Vale (incumbent)

▶ **District 2, Position 1**

CARL JOHNSON JR., Atlanta (incumbent)

▶ **District 3, Position 1**

JIM CLARK JR., Havana (incumbent)

GARY L. MARTIN, Sedan

The cooperative's bylaws provide that additional nominations can be made during the meeting.

The nominees for Board of Trustees are to be commended for being willing to offer their time and commitment to the governance of the cooperative's operations.

Mark your calendar today, and we hope to see you at the meeting!

Allen Zadorozny, Manager

Outages for January 2016

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Listed below are the larger outages that occurred in January 2016.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
1/7	Caney Substation	830	30 min	Bad potential transformer in switching station
1/7	Chautauqua Substation	866	1 hr 25 min	Bad potential transformer in switching station
1/20	Sudan Loop Feed	432	45 min	Hawk on line

Notice to Members: Board to Consider Rate Change on City Street Lights

The Board of Trustees of the Caney Valley Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., will meet on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., to discuss a proposed rate change for the city street lights. This meeting will be held at the Caney Valley office located at 401 Lawrence Street, Cedar Vale.

Action on the proposed rate change may be taken at that time and become effective with billings calculated on or after May 1, 2016.

This meeting is open to all members. Members have the right to request that the Kansas Corporation Commission review any rate change by the Cooperative as provided by K.S.A. 66-104d(g).

If you are unable to attend or have any questions, call the office at 620-578-2261, or send written comments to PO Box 308, Cedar Vale, KS 67024-0308.

The electric industry as a whole is moving to the use of efficient LED lighting. As Caney

Proposed City Street Lights Rate Change

Size, Company Owned	Current Monthly Rate	Proposed Monthly Rate
100 W Incandescent	\$ 3.77	Delete this type of light
100 W HPS	\$ 5.58	\$ 5.58
100 W Metal Halide	\$ 7.82	\$ 7.82
150 W HPS – Cobra Head Type	\$ 6.78	\$ 6.78
200 W HPS – Cobra Head type	\$ 9.71	\$ 9.71
175 W MVL	\$ 7.82	\$ 7.82
400 W MVL	\$13.97	\$13.97
Add Proposed:		
48 W LED – Cobra Head Type		\$ 6.82
73 W LED – Cobra Head Type		\$ 7.10

Valley has no rate on file for these type lights, we would like to establish one for the cities that we serve. Listed above are the current rates as outlined in the Street Lighting tariff, with proposed changes as indicated.

Water Heater and Heat Pump Rebate Qualification Changes

Caney Valley Electric offers rebates for the purchase and installation of electric water heaters, air source heat pumps and ground source heat pumps. From time to time, we adjust the rebate efficiency qualifications in order to complement changes in efficiency standards established by the federal government or by Energy Star.

Effective April 16, 2015, the U.S. Department of Energy issued a new rule which increased the efficiency ratings for all types of water heaters: electric, natural gas and propane. The efficiency rating for electric water heaters has been set at such an efficient level that Caney Valley Electric will no longer require a minimum efficiency, or EF rating, to qualify for a rebate.

Therefore, all electric water heaters installed after April 16, 2016, shall not be required to have a minimum EF rating in order to be eligible for a rebate. The rebate amount shall remain the same as follows:

For replacement of a non-electric unit or installation in new construction:

- ▶ \$200 for a lifetime warranty electric water heater
- ▶ \$150 for a standard (non-lifetime) unit

For replacement of an electric water heater:

- ▶ \$150 for a lifetime warranty electric water heater
- ▶ \$100 for a standard (non-lifetime) unit

On-demand (tankless) water heat-

ers will continue to not be eligible for a rebate.

In addition, effective September 15, 2015, Energy Star increased the efficiency standard (SEER) for air source heat pumps. Energy Star is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. To reflect the change in efficiency standards, effective April 16, 2016, Caney Valley Electric will require air source heat pumps to be Energy Star certified. Minimum SEER qualifications will apply, and the rebate depends on the SEER.

Details will be posted on www.caneyvalley.com, or you can contact our office with questions or for more information at 620-758-2262 or 800-310-8911.

Have a Complaint?

Caney Valley Wants to Know About It

Caney Valley Electric seeks to provide you, our members, with the very best electric service possible at the least cost practical. Caney Valley is a non-profit, member-owned corporation established to provide electric and other related services our members.

It is the practice of your cooperative to work closely with you in resolving any disputes or complaints regarding electric service. Your cooperative is required to follow specific rules and regulations and policies that are administered by the Board of Trustees of Caney Valley. A copy of these rules and regulations are on file in the cooperative's office.

In some instances, you may have a complaint against the cooperative which cannot be resolved to your satisfaction. If this occurs, please take the following steps to resolve the issue:

Step 1 – Contact Caney Valley's office staff or office manager to discuss your complaint. The staff member will make every effort to resolve the problem to your satisfaction under the cooperative's rules and regulations, by-laws and general

policies and practices.

Step 2 – If staff is unable to resolve your problem to your satisfaction, you may wish to request a meeting with Caney Valley's general manager who will also make every effort to resolve the problem to your satisfaction.

Step 3 – If the problem remains unresolved to your satisfaction, you may request an audience before Caney Valley's Board of Trustees at any regularly scheduled board meeting, upon the following conditions:

- ▶ Submit a written request to the general manager to attend a board meeting at least 15 days prior to the meeting.
- ▶ State in the request the business to be discussed.
- ▶ State who will be attending and addresses of all persons attending, limited to five members of the cooperative, including counsel.

Decisions of the Board of Trustees of Caney Valley Electric will be final.

Caney Valley will make every effort to resolve your complaint as expeditiously as possible. Our staff, manager and board of trustees are here to serve you.

The Importance of Member Engagement

In 2012, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the premier trade association representing approximately 900 electric cooperatives in 47 states, released a report entitled, "The Electric Cooperative Purpose - A Compass for the 21st Century." The findings of the blue ribbon task force comprised of a dozen co-op leaders from across the country were that an electric cooperative's purpose is to "Power communities and empower members to improve the quality of their lives."

Caney Valley Electric is a member of NRECA and firmly believes that you, our members, need to be at the heart of everything we do. We are proud of the fact that we are different from investor-owned utilities where the primary purpose is to generate profit for their stockholders. Many of those stockholders don't live in the communities served by the utility. While Caney Valley must generate enough revenue to cover our costs, profit is not our primary motive. Serving you and your neighbors is our number one priority.

As "The Electric Cooperative Purpose" report noted, "Our story is about ordinary people that banded together to improve the quality of life by providing electricity to our community when no one else would do it." But that was 68 years ago. As we look to the future, we once again need your active participation in determining the future of our co-op.

Cooperatives enjoy the support of people from all walks of life. We operate in every type of business from agriculture, housing, finance, health care, technology, small business, food and many more. Cooperatives can be found in the most rural to the most urban areas.

Caney Valley welcomes your input on what we can do to ensure we are meeting your needs. Our annual meeting is April 1, 2016.

Join Us on April 1 in Cedar Vale

Caney Valley's Annual Meeting will be held Friday, April 1, 2016, at the Cedar Vale School Gymnasium.

A free meal will be served starting at 5:30 p.m., and the meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m.

Be sure to attend and take part!

April 2016						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	Dec. 2015	Dec. 2014	12 months ending 12/31/2015	12 months ending 12/31/2014
Meters Billed	5,443	5,550	5,490	5,574
kWh's Purchased	5,588,753	6,360,502	68,056,201	74,511,462
Cost per kWh	\$ 0.06702	\$ 0.07276	\$ 0.07628	\$ 0.07276
kWh Sold	4,379,176	5,352,405	63,675,679	70,529,506
Total Revenue	\$ 663,499	\$ 918,991	\$ 9,421,213	\$ 9,721,575
Purchased Power	\$ 375,502	\$ 444,166	\$ 5,190,236	\$ 5,734,554
Operating Expenses	\$ 238,325	\$ 132,116	\$ 2,158,355	\$ 2,096,479
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 63,332	\$ 57,414	\$ 722,298	\$ 656,910
Interest Expenses	\$ 37,903	\$ 24,634	\$ 453,495	\$ 401,556
Other Expenses	\$ 302	\$ 225	\$ 6,511	\$ 4,824
Operating Margins	\$ (51,866)	\$ 260,436	\$ 890,316	\$ 827,252
Non-operating Margins	\$ 110,305	\$ 117,875	\$ 232,271	\$ 194,168
Total Margins	\$ 58,439	\$ 378,311	\$ 1,122,588	\$ 1,021,420
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 1,064,149	\$ 643,109	\$ 1,064,149	\$ 643,109

Statement of Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

Remember to Use Caution When Burning

Each spring, all across Caney Valley Electric's service territory, members prepare to burn pasture for the upcoming spring grass season. When burning, please be cautious around electrical poles and equipment. Burning or even scorching a pole may compromise the integrity of the structure.

Power poles are treated with a protective coating



Before burning, check the property for electrical equipment and power poles to avoid damage and potential outages.

that prevents moisture from entering the core of the pole and causing deterioration. If a pole is scorched or blackened, the protective coating is damaged. Though it may appear as just a discoloration or slight burn, this is, in fact, damage to the pole. This will significantly shorten the life of a power pole. This pole may then become a hazard

and could cause an outage.

Planning before burning can also prevent unwanted costs to the member. It is much cheaper to prevent a pole from catching fire than to pay for a new pole. Members will be held liable for the replacement cost of pole(s) and/or equipment due to fire damage. This cost may vary from \$1,000 to more than \$2,000, depending on the structure of the pole and equipment. It only takes a little extra effort to prevent pole damage and help control costs for you and your cooperative.

Burning of pastures and ditches does not have to result in the burning/scorching of power poles. Before burning, check to see if there are power poles in the area. Clear any vegetation/weeds within four feet of the base of the pole, and wet the base of the pole with water before beginning to burn.

If the fire does get away from you and a pole becomes engulfed in flames, immediately call the fire department and Caney Valley. Do not spray water close to the conductors! Water may cause a short circuit, and you and/or firefighters could be in the path of the current and serious injury or death may result.

Not reporting the damage may cause a serious accident to happen later. A pole that has been burned through is likely to fall over. This can leave the energized lines about a foot off the ground. If a person comes into contact with the line, they most likely will be seriously burned, or even killed. Your careful consideration could save lives.