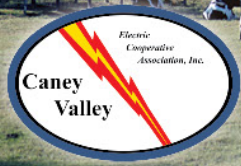




cve@caneyvalley.com

www.caneyvalley.com

For emergency outages please call 800-310-8911



THE CANEY VALLEY ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

TheVoice

Caney Valley Electric Co-op, Inc.

Board of Trustees

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President

Steve Clark
Vice President

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Trustee

Dan Hubert
Trustee

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Dale Steward
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 January is \$.00745 /kilowatt hour. This amounts to an additional \$.745 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 on your electric bill.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Let Your Voice Be Heard

There are occasions we would like to have a feeling of influence, "say," or at least have a chance for our "voices" to be heard in how public service-type companies (including utilities) are operated, how government entities administer their duties, or how large corporations and businesses treat us.

Your electric cooperative provides you with opportunities to let your thoughts, suggestions, criticisms or ideas be heard by your board members, your cooperative's manager, and the cooperative's employees. By contacting any of them, your thoughts and concerns can be voiced, heard, and considered.

Contacting your cooperative is easy compared to what you may have to go through to get the attention of

a responsible person in large utility companies, businesses, or government bureaucracies.

Your geographical area of the electric cooperative has a board trustee with whom you may visit one-on-one. The trustee can then present the information you provide to the whole board for consideration and appropriate action, if necessary. It can be a straight-forward process with the response to your "voice" being acknowledged and responded to.

We encourage you to ask us questions or discuss your concerns about any of the cooperative's practices or activities. There are reasons behind the way things are done, and we will be glad to visit with you about them.

ALLEN A ZADOROZNY, MANAGER

ENERGY EFFICIENCY Tip of the Month

Replace standard power strips with advanced power strips to save energy. Advanced power strips look like ordinary power strips, but they have built-in features designed to reduce the amount of energy used by standby electronics that consume energy even when they're not in use (also known as phantom load). **SOURCE: WWW.NREL.GOV**



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
APPLY BY
FEB. 20, 2021

Caney Valley Electric Cooperative has scholarships available for high school seniors going to college, vocational or technical school. Application deadline for August enrollment is **FEB. 20, 2021.**

Please contact Caney Valley Electric or your high school counselor for further information.

Award recipients will be announced at our annual meeting.

Apply Now for Virtual Youth Leadership Conference

For the past 40 years, co-ops have selected student leaders to participate in the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Colorado.

Despite being canceled in 2020, plans were in place to host nearly 100 students from four states for the Colorado camp. However, due to continued concerns with the pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel camp in 2021. With the cancellation of the camp, Caney Valley Electric Cooperative will now offer the 2021 student winners a virtual youth leadership conference.

"We are sad for the youth who will miss the camp experiences, but we know that the safety of our youth delegates and our chaperones is paramount," said Shana Read, KEC director of education and training, who coordinates the youth programs. "However, we are planning a meaningful and engaging youth leadership experience tailored specifically to these students."

While we know that a virtual conference is not an ideal substitution for the trips, we are proud to offer this leadership development opportunity to our winners.

"While we know that a virtual conference is not an ideal substitution for the trips, we are proud to offer this leadership development opportunity to our winners," said Allen Zadorozny, general manager. "And we look forward to resuming the youth program trips as soon as we can all safely travel."

The virtual leadership conference will take place this summer and will be a combination of top-notch speakers as well as fun virtual activities. Students who participate in the virtual conference will also be eligible to apply for future statewide and national awards designed for the youth program alumni.

For more information or to apply for the youth leadership conference, contact Kitty Sweaney, accounting & HR manager. **DEADLINE TO APPLY IS JAN. 20, 2021.**

Winter Weather Can Bring Power Lines Down

Stay Where You Are

You've just been in an accident involving a downed power line. Your first instinct might be to get out and run, but that could cost you your life. In most cases, the safest place to be is inside your vehicle. Wait until electric utility workers de-energize the power. If your car is on fire or you see smoke, escape as safely as possible by jumping out without touching the vehicle and hopping away with both feet together as far as you can. Warn others not to approach the scene.

You Should Know:

- ▶ Downed power lines are extremely dangerous and even deadly.
- ▶ Electric current can travel through the ground and anything touching the ground.
- ▶ Stray voltage spreads like ripples on a pond.
- ▶ If you step from one "ripple" (voltage) to another, you could be electrocuted.
- ▶ Downed lines could be hiding under standing water, ice or debris?

2021 Annual Meeting Trustee Elections

Caney Valley Electric is required to give a summary of the bylaws section on the election process prior to the nominating committee's meeting selecting individuals for a Board of Trustee position. The following is taken from Article III (Trustees), Section 3 (Nominations) of Caney Valley's current bylaws:

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to appoint, not less than 30 days nor more than 90 days before the date of a meeting at which Trustees are to be elected, a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than 11 members, who shall be selected so as to give equitable representation to the area served or to be served by the cooperative."

No officer or member of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed a member of such committee. Said committee shall nominate at least two members as candidates for each

Trustee Terms Expiring in 2021

District 1

DALE STEWARD, Grenola

District 2

CHRIS KELLY, Grenola

District 3

CHARLES MCMILLAN,
Chautauqua

Trustee position to be elected at any annual meeting. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the cooperative, at least 25 days before the meeting, a list of nominations for Trustees; but any 15 or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, and the secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted... Nothing contained herein shall, however, prevent additional nominations be made from the floor at the meeting of the members."

After a date for the 2021 annual meeting has been selected (due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns) the Caney Valley Board of Trustees will be selecting a nominating committee, tentatively at the April 2021 board meeting. In the past, it has been difficult to find members able to participate on this committee, and to serve on the board if nominated. It would be very helpful to have any member contact a trustee or the cooperative office to let us know you would like to be considered to serve on the committee &/or agree to serve as a board member if nominated.

Outages for November 2020

Occasionally, a part or parts of the delivery system fail and an outage occurs. Following are the larger outages that occurred during November 2020.

Date	Area	Members Affected	Duration	Cause
11/10	B phase to Elgin	51	55 min	Reset OCR
11/13	Niotaze south towards Caney	75	20 min	Blown fuse
11/14	Silverdale meter point	174	2 hrs	Evergry off
11/25	Longton substation south	35	10 3/4 hrs	Tree fell through line
11/29	Oak Valley area	40	1 1/2 hrs	Accident-member cut tree into line

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 by mail to the 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.

Caney Valley's Operating Statistics

For Month Ending	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019
Meters Billed	5,221	5,294
kWh Purchased	4,602,933	4,681,625
Cost Per kWh	0.07391	0.06258
kWh Sold	4,474,273	5,423,120
Total Revenue	\$ 767,380	\$ 904,769
Purchased Power	\$ 341,628	\$ 293,927
Operating Expenses	\$ 207,891	\$ 228,196
Depreciation Expenses	\$ 69,142	\$ 68,060
Interest Expenses	\$ 42,529	\$ 48,380
Other Expenses	\$ 188	\$ 260
Operating Margins	\$ 106,004	\$ 265,945
Non-Operating Margins	\$ 1,940	\$ 2,015
Total Working Margins	\$ 107,943	\$ 267,960
Margins Year-to-Date	\$ 319,467	\$ 487,144

Caney Valley Policy on Power Theft

Due to problems with some cooperative members found tampering with the meter or other electrical devices and the resulting theft of services, the Caney Valley Electric Board of Trustees implemented a policy on power theft as follows:

Members are advised that Caney Valley Electric will hold members responsible both civilly and criminally for any theft of electric energy and/or meter tampering, pursuant to Kansas Statutes, plus any fees that may arise as a result of same.

Kansas Statute 21-3704 Specifies that Theft of Services is:

- ▶ Obtaining services from another by deception, threat, coercion, stealth, tampering or use of false token or device.
- ▶ "Services" within the meaning of this section includes, but is not limited to ... public or municipal utility services ... and rural electric cooperatives shall be considered public utilities.
- ▶ "Tampering" within the meaning of this section includes, but is not limited to:
- ▶ Making a connection of any wire, conduit or device to any service or transmission line owned by a public or municipal utility ... ;
- ▶ Defacing, puncturing, removing, reversing or altering any meter or any connections for the purpose of securing unauthorized or unmeasured electricity ... ;
- ▶ Preventing any such meters from properly measuring or registering;
- ▶ Knowingly taking, receiving, using or converting to such person's own use, or the use of another, any electricity ... which has not been measured; or
- ▶ Causing, procuring, permitting, aiding or abetting any person to do any of the preceding acts.
- ▶ In any prosecution under this section, the existence of any of the connections of meters, alterations or use of unauthorized or unmeasured electricity ... shall be evidence of intent to violate the provisions of this section.



Recent Vandalism on Our System

We have discovered incidents of vandalism recently on our system and would like to ask our members' help in keeping an eye out and reporting anything that seems suspicious.

We recently found three chains thrown into our Caney substation, one of which wrapped around a switch. Although fortunately none of these thrown chains resulted in damage, at the very least they could have caused a widespread outage. They also could have caused several thousand dollars worth of damage if sensitive equipment had been hit.

Also, in the early morning of Dec. 8, several cell tower sites on our system were vandalized, with secondary wire stolen and damage caused to our transformers. Outages to the cell towers lasted several hours, and the cooperative's estimated damages are over \$8,000 at this point.

If you have any knowledge of anyone involved in these incidents, please contact us or the Chautauqua County Sheriff's department. Your information will be kept confidential. Thank you.

Theft of Services of the Value of:

- ▶ Less than \$1,000 is a class A misdemeanor
 - ▶ At least \$1,000 but less than \$25,000 is a level 9 felony.
- Indications of meter tampering or obvious theft witnessed by an employee or member of the public will be immediately investigated. The reporting party's name and other information shall be held confidential.

Members will be charged a \$100 fee if an account is found, for a second time, to have missing or tampered-with sealing devices. For any subsequent occurrence, the members will also be responsible for all time and materials needed to repair and install any additional locking devices.

If a member is found to have willfully diverted power to any account for any reason, that account will be immediately disconnected. Power will not be restored until the account holder has paid a diversion charge of \$250 plus any estimated lost revenue charges. Any damage to cooperative property will be billed on a time and material basis. Willfully diverting power a second time will result in a fee of \$500 plus any other charges. Management may seek prosecution under Kansas Statute #21-3704 of any person found diverting power or tampering with the meter.