



LEWIS COUNTY REC

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Lewistown, Missouri 63452
www.lewiscountyrec.coop

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

October 2023

From the desk of Travis Mathes, Manager of Member Services



Fall is a busy time, and October is a particularly eventful month with school, community and sports activities in full swing. It's also when all cooperatives celebrate National Co-op Month.

When I say Lewis County REC celebrates Co-op Month, it really means we are celebrating YOU! After all, our co-op wouldn't exist without you, our members.

Our core business mission is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable energy to meet the needs of you our member/owners, but the larger mission of the co-op is to help make our corner of Missouri a better place. Similar to how our wires run through our service territory, our concern for community flows through every decision made at Lewis County REC. Being a co-op means being a responsible partner and good neighbor.

The word "cooperative" is close to "cooperation," meaning people working together towards a common goal—mutually benefiting one another and the larger community. That's the essence of the cooperative spirit. Our employees and

member-elected board members are invested in the community in which live and serve.

Above all, as a co-op we put our members' priorities first. As your trusted energy provider, we do everything in our power to keep rates low, while still meeting our mission. This month we take a moment to highlight your Board of Directors. Each year you have the opportunity to vote for Directors to represent you at the Board table. These individuals take their role in the cooperative very seriously and work diligently to uphold their fiduciary responsibilities to you and the cooperative. As you will see from each director's bio each has a different background, which brings with it a wide variety of views and ideas that lead to a well-rounded Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors, Management, and Employees work hand in hand and are continuously examining ways to operate more efficiently while continuing to provide the highest level of friendly, reliable service you expect and deserve. After all, we're your electric cooperative. We were built by the members we serve.

As we head into October, enjoy the hustle and bustle that goes along with it. Fall is one of my favorite times of the year, but it doesn't last nearly long enough. Here's hoping you all have a safe, healthy, and bountiful harvest season.

Don't go retro with home wiring

These days it's trendy to use home furnishings made years ago. They can add character to your home, but keep in mind that retro wiring is not a good thing. Before you use that vintage lamp or 1950s range be sure the wiring is up to modern standards. The same holds true for your classic old house. Have a professional inspect your home wiring and make improvements for safety's sake!



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Winter is almost here. Now is the time to look for leaks and seal them before the cold winds find them first. A drafty house is uncomfortable and can cause you to crank up the thermostat to expensive levels. Add caulk to windows, weatherstrip doors, seal cracks around plumbing and ensure you have enough insulation where it counts.

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on what is going on at Lewis County REC, as well as, learn about safety, and energy efficiency.

MEET THE LEWIS COUNTY REC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Emery (Buster) Geisendorfer has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 1994. Buster and his wife Jan reside north of Monticello where they own and operate a beef production and grass operation. Buster holds an Ag Business Degree from Northeast Missouri State University. Buster currently serves as the President of the Lewis County REC

Board of Directors, Northeast Power Board of Directors in Palmyra, and the Associated Electric Board Directors in Springfield. He is a Credentialed Cooperative Director, having completed all the courses offered by NRECA. Buster is a member of the Monticello Methodist Church, past member of the Monticello Lodge #58, past President of the MO Beef Industry Council, past President of the MO Cattlemen's Foundation, and a lifetime member of the MO Cattleman's Association. Buster believes the most important thing in life is family.



Mike Schantz has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2005. Mike and his wife Lorie reside north of Ashton where they have a cow calf operation, Schantz Restorations LLC. Mike currently serves as the Vice-President of the Lewis County REC Board of Directors and is a Board Member of Northeast Power in Palmyra. He is a Credentialed Cooperative director having completed all of the

courses offered by NRECA and is currently taking classes in the Board Leadership Program offered by NRECA. Mike is very active in organizing the Clark County Mule Festival held annually in Kahoka. Mike is very proud of his son Kellen and wife Alexis, daughter Glenna and fiancée Austin Brandt, and granddaughters Myra and Elana and grandson Lawson.



Larry Clark has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 1992. Larry and his wife Clevea reside on the family farm just south of Edina where they have operated the family livestock and grain farm since 1972. Larry holds a Bachelor of Science Degree majoring in Agronomy from Truman State University. Larry currently serves as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Lewis County REC Board of Directors, is a (20 plus year) Board Member of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives in Jefferson City, is the Past Senior Executive Committee Member of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives representing District II (Northeast Missouri), is the Chairman of the Member and Public Relations Committee for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, and serves on the Member Dues Committee for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. He is a Credentialed Cooperative Director having completed all of the courses offered by NRECA and is currently taking classes in the Board Leadership Program offered by NRECA. Larry is active in his community where he serves as the Vice-President of the Knox County Community Center Board of Directors. Larry and his family are active members in the St Joseph Catholic Church, where

he serves as the President of the St Joseph Church Improvement Foundation.



Sandra Ebeling has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2013. Sandra and her husband, Duane, reside in Scotland just west of Wyaconda on the farm where they have farmed for 40 years and have operated Pine Ridge Blue Bird Trails for 20 years. Sandra is a freelance writer of It's For The Birds, a farm wife, and grandmother. Sandra was the first female elected to the Lewis County REC board, an accomplishment that she is very proud of. She is a Credentialed Cooperative director having completed all of the courses offered by NRECA. She completed the Board Leadership program offered by NRECA and also completed the Director Gold Program in 2021. Sandra is the Secretary and Elder of the Wyaconda Christian Church Board, is the Vice-President of the Scotland County Health Department Board of Directors, is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Wyaconda Cemetery Association Board of Directors and is the Secretary of the Scotland County Republican Central Committee. Sandra enjoys gardening and growing flowers to attract butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds. She also enjoys kayaking, spending time with her family and camping in Texas. Sandra is honored to serve the members of Lewis County REC on the Board of Directors.



Larry Smoot has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2014. Larry and his wife Diane live on the family farm north of Bethel. Larry holds a Specialist Degree in Education from Truman State University and is a retired School Administrator. Larry is currently taking classes to become a Credentialed Cooperative Director through NRECA

and receive his Board Leadership Certificate from NRECA. Larry is a lifelong resident of Shelby County and currently serves on the Heartland Christian College Board of Directors, is the Board Chairman for Historic Bethel German Colony, is the Treasurer of the Shiloh Cemetery Board, the Shelby County Enhanced Enterprise Zone Board, and is an Elder and Treasurer for the Bethel Christian Church. Larry believes it is his responsibility to serve and give back to the community that has been so good to himself and his family throughout his lifetime.



Donna Flood has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2019. Donna and her husband Kevin live south of Wayland in Clark County. Donna holds an Educational Leadership (Secondary Administration) M.S. Ed. From NW Missouri State University, a BA in Political Science and a BS in Agri-Business from Truman State University. Donna is currently a High School Social Studies Instructor for the Clark County R-1 School District in Kahoka. Donna has completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director classes and received her Certificate from NRECA. Donna is very active in her community and currently serves as the Vice

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Chairman of the University of Missouri Extension Council for Clark County, is an active member of the Shrine of St. Patrick, and the Clark County Teachers Association. Donna is proud to serve the membership of Lewis County REC.



Randy James has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2020. Randy lives on a farm east of Edina with his wife Jeanie. Randy holds a B.S. in Industrial Education from Truman State University. Randy is currently taking classes to become a Credentialed Cooperative Director through NRECA and receive his Board Leadership Certificate from

NRECA. Randy has been a cattle farmer for 56 years. Randy served on the Mark Twain Telephone and Internet Board of Directors for 9 years, served on the Knox County Extension County for 3 years, served on the Knox County Fair Board of Directors for 4 years, and served on the Knox County Farm Services Agency Board of Directors for 9 years. Randy enjoys serving the membership of Lewis County REC and strives to make decision that are in the best interest of the members and employees of Lewis County REC.



Jeff Whiston has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2021. Jeff, his wife Cindy and their children reside west of Canton. Jeff holds a B.S. Degree in Industrial Technology from the University of Central Missouri. Jeff currently serves as the Farm Bureau Agent for Lewis County. Jeff is currently taking classes to become a Credentialed

Cooperative Director through NRECA and receive his Board Leadership Certificate from NRECA. Jeff is the Vice Chairman of the Lewis County Extension Council, serves on the Board of Directors for the 353 Tax Abatement in Canton, is a volunteer Coach for a number of Sport Leagues in Lewis County, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus St. Patrick Council. Jeff is honored to serve the membership of Lewis County REC.



Angie Seals has served on the Lewis County REC Board of Directors since 2022. Angie, her husband Troy, and their children reside between Lewistown and Ewing. Angie holds a B.S. in Psychology and a Masters Degree in Elementary Education from Truman State University. Angie is currently an elementary teacher and bus driver for the Lewis County

C-1 (Highland) School District. Angie is the VBS and Children's Church Coordinator for the First Baptist Church of Lewistown. Angie is working to obtain her Credentialed Cooperative Directors Certification and taking any classes that will make her a well-rounded Board Member to serve the members of Lewis County REC.



TO REPORT AN OUTAGE

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(LOCAL) 215-4000 24 HOURS A DAY**

**Before calling, check your breakers or
fuses and check with your neighbors
to see if they have power**

**When calling please give the
following information:
Your name • Meter number and/or
location number (if known)
Cell Phone or Telephone Number affiliated
with the account**

**CALL DURING REGULAR BUSINESS
HOURS (7:30-4:00)
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