

# HI-LINES

A NEWSLETTER FOR JO-CARROLL ENERGY MEMBERS

CONTENTS | Elizabeth, Illinois | 800-858-5522 | www.jocarroll.com



## 20D-20E

### Scholarships

Recipients of 2021 scholarships announced



## 20F

### Electric Vehicles

Home charging options for EVs



## 20G

### Farm Progress Show

Visit Illinois TSE co-ops at the show

## A brighter future

Aug. 3 is the date set for Jo-Carroll Energy's 82nd Annual Meeting. I hope to see many of you in attendance and look forward to your participation. We have a lot to celebrate and be proud of considering our past and recent accomplishments.

For instance, your letters of support and expression of interest were the catalyst for the federal and state grants awarded to Jo-Carroll to accelerate the build-out of high-performance fiber internet service to our unique rural area.

By continuing to work together to improve and advance our region, we all benefit. Jo-Carroll is excited to be a part of building a brighter future, a common theme among our communities. With the co-op's vision to enhance the quality of life for our members, we are constantly considering ways we can leverage our internal and external resources to bring value-added services to our members' homes and businesses.

Great examples include the new telephone, cyber protection and other services that we offer through our Sand Prairie broadband division. These expand on services that we already utilize at Jo-Carroll to provide us more buying power, reduce our overall costs and ultimately bring value to you.

Building a brighter, sustainable



### CEO'S REPORT

by Mike Casper

future is another primary goal. The development of our new community solar projects, working cooperatively with our members to interconnect solar, as well as preparing for the future of electric vehicles, exemplifies our core value of environmental stewardship.

Jo-Carroll has developed three community solar programs, including the recent additions of the ACL and North Mount Carroll Community Solar Arrays. To date, the co-op has assisted more than 400 of our member-consumers in interconnecting solar.

We also work closely with our cooperative-owned wholesale energy suppliers in diversifying our energy mix. In 2020, the board of directors for Jo-Carroll's primary wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, approved a goal of 50 percent reduction in carbon dioxide intensity rate by 2030.

I am proud of what you, our communities and Jo-Carroll continue to accomplish for a brighter future. I look forward to celebrating and responding to questions that you may have on the 3rd.

## For your information

### Your Board of Directors:

**David Senn**  
Chairman  
District 7

**Russell Holesinger**  
Vice Chairman  
District 8

**Marcia Stanger**  
Secretary  
District 3

**Vacant**  
District 1

**Joseph Mattingley**  
District 2

**Dan Tindell**  
District 4

**Patricia Smith**  
District 5

**Thomas Lundy**  
District 6

**Larry Carroll**  
District 9

**Robert Kuhns**  
Treasurer  
District 10

### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday  
JCE lobbies have  
re-opened for regular  
business hours

**Elizabeth**  
793 U.S. Route 20 West  
7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Savanna**  
103 Chicago Ave.  
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
1:30 to 4 p.m.

**Geneseo**  
1004 S. Chicago St.  
7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
1:30 to 4 p.m.

### Services and Billing Questions:

(800) 858-5522  
www.jocarroll.com

### For emergencies and outages call:

(800) 858-5522

# Resume of Minutes

May 26, 2021

*The regular board meeting of Jo-Carroll Energy, Inc. (NFP) was held via video phone conference on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 9 a.m.*

*A Safety Moment was provided by Director Dave Senn.*

**Presentations** – A presentation was provided by Jo-Carroll Energy Director of Marketing and Communications, Peggy Francomb. Francomb provided a presentation on the Young Adult Member Engagement (YAME) program, which focuses on the changing demographics of the cooperative and ways that the co-op can be more engaged with this member demographic. Francomb discussed ways that the cooperative is connecting and delivering on core services through technology by providing more product and service communication options, thus helping with young adult member engagement.

**Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) Report** – Chairman Senn discussed highlights from the AIEC meeting, noting how to safely operate chainsaws while trimming trees. Senn discussed legislative and committee issues taking place in the State of Illinois. Senn also noted that the current President of the National Rural Association of Electric Cooperatives (NRECA) Phil Carson will be retiring in July during the AIEC Annual Meeting.

**Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC)** – Director Mattingley provided a summary on the progress of the DPC strategic planning group, noting that the Financial Forecast for 2022-2036 has been completed. In addition, President and CEO Mike Casper commented on his time holding the position as President of the Dairyland Managers Association (DMA) and noted that the DMA provides input into DPC's strategic plan and serves in an advisory role to the CEO.

**American Public Gas Association (APGA) Report** – Director Carroll provided highlights from the APGA natural gas and marketing virtual conference, which he recently attended. President and CEO Casper also commented on the meeting. He also shared that he met virtually with Commissioners from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to further discuss the natural gas price spike. The APGA, which Jo-Carroll Energy is a member, will continue the discussion with FERC on price indices.

**Prairie Power Incorporated (PPI) Report** – Director Kuhns provided a summary of the most recent generation numbers, noting that Unit 1 had one of its best operating months running at 100%. In addition, Kuhns discussed a proposed mandate to close the generation facility prior to its useful life and that PPI is closely working with AIEC to minimize the risk.

**Board Policy 105A/Director Compensation and Benefits** – A motion was made by the Policy Committee to approve amended board policy 105A, which was seconded, and carried unanimously.

**Financial Operating Report** – Controller Kemp provided a summary of the financial operating report for April. Year to date (YTD) revenue is approximately \$22.6 million vs. a budgeted amount of \$21.1 million. Total operations and maintenance expenses were approximately \$1.1 million over budget, due to the

increased purchased gas expense. YTD margins are approximately \$1.1 million vs. a budgeted amount of approximately \$444,200. By general consent, the board moved to file the financial operating report with the auditor.

### Board Issues and Action Items

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve a 5% participation level with the Cooperative System Integrity Fund going forward with the option to review.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to select President and CEO Mike Casper to serve as the voting delegate for the 2021 CFC Annual Membership Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve rate Policy 750 (Mt. Carroll Solar Array).

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to re-open Jo-Carroll Energy Offices to the public and senior staff to develop a safety plan for the offices and present the plan at a future board meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve a Director and Alternate Director to serve on the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) Board of Directors.

Attendees were selected to attend the Board Leadership Course.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve a voting delegate and alternate voting delegate for the AIEC Annual Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to approve a voting delegate and alternate voting delegate for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Director Election.

### Operations and Regulatory Update

**Operations Update** – President and CEO Mike Casper provided an overview of the May strategic planning, which was focused on enterprise risk management and noted that a summary would be presented during a future board meeting. Casper shared the top 3 risks to the co-op: revenue risks (slow growth and loss of load), cyber security and member engagement.

**Covid Update** – Merri Sevey, V.P. of Human Resources, provided an update on Covid statistics in our region, and provided an update on business travel.

**External Affairs/Legislative Update** – President and CEO Casper discussed proposed regulation that is being discussed on the legislative front that could potentially have an impact on cooperatives and public utilities throughout the United States.

**Action Resulting from Executive Session** – None.

**Other Business** – None.

### Adjournment

Chairman Senn adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.



## Small savings lead to big savings when we all work together.

The goal of the Summer Shift program is to shift non-essential electricity use to before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m., June through August. These are times when electricity use is not at its peak, and not as expensive.

If a member shifts their electricity use, they may not necessarily save energy. They could use the same amount of electricity, but at a different time of the day. That is still beneficial because it means the cooperative's wholesale power provider (Dairyland Power Cooperative) did not have to purchase as much power when electricity costs were more expensive. When the cooperative saves, so do members.

The price of electricity purchased on the grid is always changing, based on the need for electricity balanced with available generation resources. As need – or demand – rises during the day, the price of electricity increases as more generation resources (power plants, solar arrays, etc.) are needed to power homes, businesses and other buildings or devices. When temperatures cool and things quiet down for the night, electricity demand drops as do prices for electricity.

When a member chooses to shift their electricity use, it helps spread out electricity use throughout the day. The less electricity used when prices are at their highest, the more stable we can keep our rates.

Here are a few ideas for smart energy savings:

“Set it and forget it” is the mantra of smart thermostats and appliances. Program the Summer Shift schedule into your smart thermostat. By setting your thermostat to 78 degrees (or a level a few degrees higher than normal), you can save.

A little efficiency goes a long way when you wash clothes in cold water before 11 a.m. or after 7 p.m. Hang laundry to air dry to be a super saver!

Small savings lead to big ones. Use the grill or plan a picnic for dinner. It's a great way to save energy and eliminate unwanted heat from cooking indoors!

You're part of something bigger. When each member conserves electricity, we all win.

## Reader prize

Each month we print the name of a Jo-Carroll Energy member who is eligible to win a monthly \$25 readership prize. If your name is printed in this month's edition, and not a part of any article, contact Jo-Carroll Energy.



# Jo-Carroll awards 2021 scholarships

Jo-Carroll Energy is proud to announce the recipients of its 2021 scholarships.

As part of our commitment to our communities, each year the co-op awards a number of scholarships to students from within our service area. Please join us in congratulating these young men and women who are the recipients of awards from the JCE Scholarship program.



**Hannah Bauch**

Mount Carroll

*High School: West Carroll*

College & planned course of study:

University of Dubuque

Majoring in Digital Art & Design



**Lakin Getz**

Savanna

*High School: West Carroll*

College & planned course of study:

Highland Community College

Majoring in Agribusiness



**Emily Mueller**

Mount Carroll

*High School: West Carroll*

College & planned course of study: Heartland Community College

Elementary Education



**Cali McKibbon**

Annawan

*High School: Annawan*

College & planned course of study:

Iowa State University

Majoring in Design; Minor in Business



## Nicole Johnson

Galena

*High School: Galena*

College & planned course of study:

Stanford University

Majoring in Bioengineering as a pre-med



## Maggie Handfelt

East Dubuque

*High School: Galena*

College & planned course of study:

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

Majoring in Wildlife Ecology & Management;  
Minor in Spanish



## Sydney Benson

Galena

*High School: Galena*

College & planned course of study:

Hawkeye Community College

Majoring in Nursing



## Logan Wheeler

Erie

*High School: Erie*

College & planned course of study

Western Illinois University

Broadcasting and Journalism



## Corwin Moser

Galena

*High School: Scales Mound*

College & planned course of study:

Northwest Iowa Community College

Powerline Technology

# Home charging options for electric vehicles

Electric vehicle (EV) owners have multiple options for charging their vehicle at home. There are three common EV charging levels: Level One, Level Two and DC Fast Charge.

## Level One Charging

Level One is the most basic charging level. If you choose this option, your EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and cheapest charging solution, but it will take much longer to charge your EV.

## Level Two Charging

Level Two is about three to five times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires separate purchases and installation. The EV is plugged into a 240-volt outlet, which is used for larger appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You typically see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and multi-family community spaces.

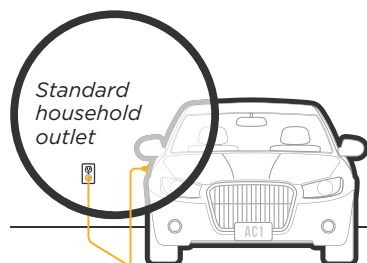
## DC Fast Charging

DC Fast Charge stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, like gas stations, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level, with the ability to charge an EV at 80 percent in under 30 minutes. As EVs continue to become more popular, you can expect to see more DC Fast Charge stations throughout Illinois.

If you're charging an EV at home, please contact Jo-Carroll Energy at 800-858-5522. By letting us know about your EV charging levels, we can help ensure your home is prepared for the additional energy consumption.

# Electric Vehicle Charging Levels

## AC Level One



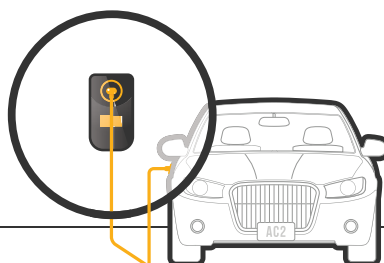
**VOLTAGE:**  
120V 1-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
12-16 Amps

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
1.4 to 1.9 kW

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
3-5 Miles per Hour

## AC Level Two



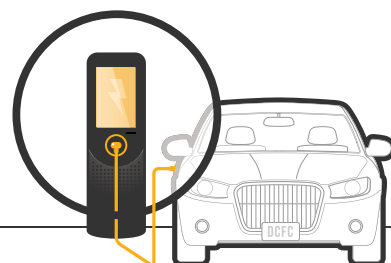
**VOLTAGE:**  
208V or 240V 1-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
12-80 Amps (typ. 32 Amps)

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
2.5 to 19.2 kW (typ. 6.6kW)

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
10-20 Miles per Hour  
*20+ for some EV models*

## DC Fast Charge



**VOLTAGE:**  
208V or 480V 3-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
<100 Amps

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
50-350 kW

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
60-80 Miles in 20 Minutes

Sources: Advanced Energy and EPA



# Visit Illinois TSE co-ops at the Farm Progress Show

The Farm Progress Show is back in Illinois for 2021 and we want to see you there!

The nation's largest outdoor farm event will be held at Progress City in Decatur Aug. 31 thru Sept. 2. Look for the Illinois Touchstone Energy® Cooperative's booth on Lot 217 on Second Street between Central Progress and East Progress Avenue, near Gates 7 and 8.

Representatives from Jo-Carroll Energy and several other Illinois electric cooperatives will be on hand to share information about cooperatives, safety around electricity, energy efficiency and much more.

Stop by the booth to charge your phone at one of our charging stations. While you're there, play a game for a chance to win a prize. Cooperative members who present their Co-op



Connections card or show the Co-op Connections app will receive a special gift. Be sure to catch a Hotline Safety Demonstration, sponsored by Jo-Carroll Energy, to learn about electricity and how to stay safe around electrical equipment. There will also be pole climbing demonstrations.

Weather permitting, the Touchstone Energy Hot Air Balloon will be flying the American Flag each morning of the show. Plans are for the balloon to also fly later afternoon on the first two days of the show.

For 68 years, the Farm Progress show has celebrated

agriculture by bringing tradition and business together. It is where people from all over gather to meet, observe and learn. Major manufacturers roll out their newest offers and ag families take a break from their daily routines to immerse themselves in a wider ag community.

Check out Prairie Farmer Magazine or visit [farmprogressshow.com](http://farmprogressshow.com) to learn more about the 2021 Farm Progress Show.

The show rotates annually between Decatur and a site in Boone, Iowa.

## CRUISING FOR SUMMER SAVINGS



The One Card That Does It All.®  
**Connections.coop**



# Apple Canyon Lake fiber buildout almost complete

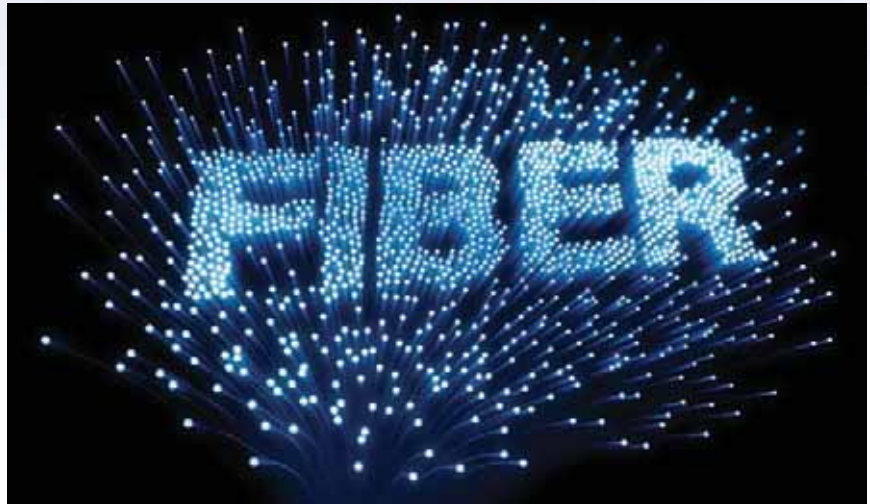
Fiber construction crews for Sand Prairie continue to work in Apple Canyon Lake on the build-out of fiber ready neighborhoods in CYN2, CYN3 and CYN4.

Construction was expected to be completed by the end of July 2021.

Once completed, Sand Prairie will have all seven of the fiber neighborhoods (CYN1-CYN7) that surround the lake with fiber internet service readily available.

"Sand Prairie is proud to bring access to reliable, true-speed fiber internet to all our members in the Apple Canyon Lake community," said Jesse Shekleton, director of broadband operations.

Fiber internet allows individuals and families to do more online at the same time. Unlike traditional internet services, fiber provides better reliability, faster speeds, and lower latency. Sand Prairie's fiber internet packages allow our members to stream on multiple devices, play online games, and browse the internet without disruption.



In addition to world-class fiber-optic internet service, Sand Prairie also provides an in-home phone service with no contract and a low monthly rate.

Sand Prairie Phone works like a traditional phone landline, except the phone service is delivered by Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) via our fiber internet.

For a fraction of the cost and twice the clarity of a traditional landline, you can have peace of mind and a quality phone

line available in your home. The phone service includes unlimited local and long-distance calling. Additional features include voicemail, call waiting, caller ID, three-way calling and more.

You can view Sand Prairie Phone services and pricing at: <https://connectsp.com/phone>.

Track Apple Canyon Lake progress and sign-up for fiber internet or phone service at [connectsp.com/iwantfiber](https://connectsp.com/iwantfiber).

## Sand Prairie fiber neighborhoods

### Recent updates and phase changes

#### New Fiber Neighborhoods

Chestnut area: CHT3

Galena (rural): G24, G25

#### Interest to Sign-Up:

Galena: G6, G14

The Galena Territory: GT1, GT7

Apple Canyon Lake: CYN9

#### Sign-Up to Pre-Construction:

Scales Mound: SM2

#### Pre-Construction to Construction:

Galena: G13, G22, & G23

The Galena Territory: GT13



## Want fiber internet in your neighborhood?

You can tell us you want fiber in your neighborhood by completing the short and simple interest form at [connectSP.com/iwantfiber](https://connectsp.com/iwantfiber).

**AND**, you can encourage your neighbors to submit interest also. This helps us determine where to build fiber next.



**Sand Prairie**  
Connecting our members to the world.

800-858-5522 connectSP.com 793 US 20 West, Elizabeth, IL 61028





# Truth be told, your energy comes from people power.

Thankfully, there's one energy source that you can always depend on – the hard-working dedication and efficiency of your local energy and broadband co-op's employees. Contact Jo-Carroll Energy to learn more about the power of your membership.



**Jo-Carroll Energy**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 