

## 2015 Annual Meeting Highlights

# Building, Solar Projects Among Topics Discussed

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) held its 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on February 28, 2015, at the Cornell High School Auditorium in Cornell. An estimated 250 people were in attendance, with 112 voting members registered at the meeting.

Board Chairman John Petska gave a report highlighting wholesale power issues and generation costs. Office Manager Dean Ortmann gave the financial report and announced that 2014 margins were very good due to increased sales. Dean also reported that no rate increase was budgeted for 2015. President/CEO Todd Howard reported on cooperative operations in 2014 and informed members of current CVEC plans.

The members present were informed of the building project and reasons for the need of a new headquarters building. In addition, the members were notified that Chippewa Valley Electric is looking for members to partake in a community solar project. Please see accompanying article on page 28.

Elections were held for a director representative for District 1 and District 6.

A brief Operation Round Up presentation was given, and members not participating in Operation Round Up were asked to consider enrolling in the program. Attorney Mary Hoel conducted the open forum, and a number of member questions were asked and answered. ■



*Left: President/CEO Todd Howard gives his report as the board of directors looks on. Above: Board Chairman John Petska presents the 42-inch LED TV to early bird prize winners Curtis and Shari Berg. Below: Petska gives his chairman's report.*





*Above: Members gathered in the Cornell High School cafeteria for coffee and conversation before the meeting. Below: Landen Fredrickson was CVEC's little helper, drawing names for prizes.*

## Directors Elected at Annual Meeting

**D**on Frei was re-elected to the board of directors at the February 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Don was unopposed on the ballot and represents members in Holcombe, Ruby, and Colburn Townships.



*Don Frei*

Candis Homme was elected in District 6, defeating incumbent director Ken Schmitt. CVEC welcomes Candis as Chippewa Valley Electric's first female director. She will represent Bloomer, Auburn, Cooks Valley, Woodmohr, Tilden, and Howard townships. ■



*Candis Homme*



## Office Move

### CVEC Moves Into Temporary Headquarters During Building Project

**W**e will be moving to a temporary office (formerly Dr. Lane's dental office) at 208 Main Street, Cornell on or shortly after April 1. The move is necessary because of our new building project. We anticipate working out of the temporary facilities until the end of the year. Thank you in advance for your patience as we may experience some logistic and communication problems during this time. ■



# Community Solar Project

**A**t the annual meeting and in the January issue of the *WEC News* magazine, we announced that Chippewa Valley Electric is pursuing a community solar project. There was very high member interest expressed at the annual meeting, and CVEC has been given the direction to continue working to build the community solar project. Here is the article we ran previously explaining the community solar project and the form for letting us know if you are interested in participating.

Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is pursuing the idea of construction of a solar generation project. This project, based upon member interest, would be a solar community garden located at a site yet to be determined.

Interested members would have the opportunity to purchase single or multiple units, and receive credit equal to their share of the garden's electrical output applied to their electric bill. Any residential or seasonal member, regardless of whether the member is a homeowner or renter, could be a potential share owner in a community solar project. Again, this project is still very early in the planning stages, with more details to follow in the coming months.

We want to hear from you, our members, to see if there is interest in a cooperative-owned source for renewable energy. Please take a few minutes to complete the short survey below and send back to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative with your next bill stub, drop off at our office (317 S. 8th St., Cornell, WI 54732), or send us an email with your thoughts to [cvec@cve.coop](mailto:cvec@cve.coop).

## What is Your Solar Energy Interest?

If Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative were to construct a community solar project, would you be interested in purchasing a share? Credit from the garden's electrical output will be applied to your monthly electric bill.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send back to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative with your next bill stub, drop off at our office, or send an email to [cvec@cve.coop](mailto:cvec@cve.coop).

# HELP! We Can't Find You!

## Please Help Us Out by Updating Your Phone Number

As more and more people switch to a cell phone and discontinue landline phone service, we are finding that contact phone numbers for our members are not current. Please note a message on the lower right side of your billing statement that states: "Is this your main contact phone number?" A phone number will be listed below that message. If the number listed is not current, please be so kind as to contact our office to update your phone number. We appreciate your cooperation. Chippewa Valley Electric does not share your information and will only contact you for business purposes. ■

**SERVICE SUMMARY**

Account Number: [REDACTED]  
 Name: [REDACTED]  
 Location Number: [REDACTED]  
 Billing Date: 02/28/15  
 Due Date: 03/24/15  
 Service Dates: 01/31/15 - 02/28/15  
 Days of Service: 28

**READINGS THIS PERIOD**

Meter #	Prior Reading	Current Reading	Usage
[REDACTED]	31119	33310	2191
[REDACTED]	322	584	262
		Total kWh	2191

Estimated Reading

**ACCOUNT ACTIVITY**

Previous Balance	227.00
Payment 02/20/15	227.00
Previous Balance Total	.00
Facility Charge	35.00
Non-taxable Program Charge	1.33
551 kWh @ .1010	56.05
Facility Chrg-DR mtr	4.25
1240 kWh @ .0630	78.12
Water Heater Credit	3.00
Operation Roundup	.25
Amount Due	173.00

**A message from your Electric Cooperative...**

It's Time to Spring Forward!  
 Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, March 7, 2015.  
 Pay and view your bill online with Bill4U. Go to [www.cvecoop.com](http://www.cvecoop.com) to login!

**Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative**

PO BOX 575  
 CORNELL, WI 54732  
 (715) 239-6800 (800) 300-6800  
 Office Hours Monday-Friday  
 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
[www.cvecoop.com](http://www.cvecoop.com)

**If your power goes out:**

1. Check your fuses or circuit breakers. This is important because if CVEC responds to an outage and the trouble is with your own electric service, you could be charged a service call.
2. If all the lights are off, call your neighbors to determine whether or not they have power.
3. Note sparks, a loud noise, or trees and limbs on the power lines. This will help your cooperative get quickly to the source of the outage.
4. Please reference your Location Number when calling your cooperative.

To report outages after hours, call 800-300-6800

Keep this portion for your records.

**PLEASE PAY ON OR BEFORE 03/24/15 212.00**

**AFTER 03/24/15 215.18**



*Our office will be closed  
Good Friday, April 3.*

*Have a joyous  
Easter!*

**Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative**

Todd Howard, President/CEO  
 Nicole Whipp Sime, Editor

317 S. 8th St. • P.O. Box 575  
 Cornell, WI 54732  
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<http://www.cvecoop.com>

*CVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

## Automated Phone Messaging System

As of April 1, 2015 Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative is going to be testing and eventually using an automated phone messaging system. This will potentially be used to notify members if there

is an important event (such as planned outages or billing issues) that the member needs to be aware of. ■

