



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

P.O. Box B
1564 S. 1000 Rd, Council Grove, KS 66846
620-767-5144
www.flinthillsrec.com



**FLINT HILLS RURAL
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

NEWS

Flint Hills RECA

Board of Trustees

Roger Zimmerman
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Shawn Potts
Vice President

Duane Carlson
Secretary/Treasurer

Dale Andres
Trustee

Korby Effland
Trustee

Tim Miser
Trustee

Terry Olsen
Trustee

James Witt
Trustee

Staff

Chuck Goeckel
General Manager

FROM THE MANAGER

This Holiday Season, Remember Your Co-op Cares



Chuck Goeckel

For many of us, the holidays prompt thoughts of giving back, spreading love, and sharing joy. Perhaps you commit random acts of kindness like sharing your

time, treasure, and talent with local charities or cooking for and serving food to the hungry. Or perhaps you simply try to embrace the season by showing gratitude and kindness to those around you.

However you share your own unique holiday spirit, know that we here at Flint Hills RECA strive to share our spirit with you as well, during the holidays and throughout the year.

When many people are lighting their homes with festive decorations or entertaining and cooking for family and friends, we are working to provide you

with the most affordable and reliable electric service.

We help members keep energy use in check by providing energy efficiency tips and help keep your family safe by providing electrical safety tips published in this magazine throughout the year. We help you save driving time by providing the option to pay your bill online or by using our free mobile app.

Another way Flint Hills RECA cares for its members is by offering the Co-op Connections Card. If you haven't signed up for this program, check out the coupons offered before you start your holiday shopping. You could save on everything from the gifts you place under the tree to your holiday ham.

We are nothing without our members. We understand that we cannot thrive unless you thrive, so we do all we can to strengthen our community.

From your friends and neighbors at Flint Hills RECA, we hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Member Services

- ▶ Viasat Internet Services
- ▶ Online Payment Options
- ▶ Outside Security Lighting
- ▶ Power Surge Protection
- ▶ Rebate Programs

For more information, call us at 620-767-5144 or visit our website at www.flinthillsrec.com

**This institution is an equal
opportunity provider
and employer**

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holidays? Unplug electronics to avoid drawing a phantom energy load. Some gadgets, like TVs, gaming consoles, chargers and DVD players use energy when plugged into an outlet—even when they're not in use.



2019 Flint Hills Trustee Nominating Committee

District 2

Shawn Potts, Trustee
(3-year term)

LEE AYERS

Cottonwood Falls
620-343-5367

WILLIAM LAUER II

Cottonwood Falls
620-794-4453

TYLER PARKER

White City
785-466-6290

District 3

Duane Carlson, Trustee
(3-year term)

MICHAEL CARLSON

Burdick
785-983-4895

BRAD WEDEL

Canton
620-628-4849

DUANE KAISER

Durham
620-732-2771

Flint Hills Hires IT Administrator



Adam Dirks

ADAM DIRKS

joined the staff at Flint Hills RECA on Oct. 22 as IT Administrator. He previously worked at Newman Regional Health in Emporia, Kansas. Adam, his wife

Sara, and two children, Joe (8) and Lexi (4), live in Council Grove. He is originally from the Medicine Lodge area and attended Flint Hills Technical College in Emporia.

2019 Nominating Committees Announced

The members listed in the accompanying chart have been appointed by the Flint Hills RECA Board of Trustees to serve on the 2019 Nominating Committee.

Each of the district Nominating Committees are to propose two candidates for trustee from their respective district. District nominees will be voted on by the membership with a mail-in ballot that will be mailed out the second week of February 2019. Those trustees whose terms will expire at the 2019 Annual Meeting are:

SHAWN POTTS, District 2, and **DUANE CARLSON**, District 3.

The Nominating Committees will receive a list of members in their district, which will be of assistance in seeking nominations. The committee members

are to nominate two candidates for each trustee position of their respective districts and proposed candidates should be contacted prior to the committee meeting to determine their willingness to serve on the board. All Nominating Committee meetings will be held at the Flint Hills RECA office, 1564 S. 1000 Rd, Council Grove, on Thursday, Jan.3, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

Nominations for a qualified candidate may also be made by petition, filed at the Council Grove office on or before the close of business on the fifteenth (15th) day following the nomination committee's selection of trustee nominees. For more information on the cooperative's voting process and bylaws, visit www.flinthillsrec.com.

Board President Awarded Certificates

For cooperatives to thrive in this time of change, it's vital that directors have a solid understanding of the electric cooperative business model, a diverse set of knowledge and skills, up-to-date knowledge of industry changes, and a commitment to learning throughout their service on the board. The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) offers education programs for electric cooperative board members and awards certificates when board members have completed the certificate programs. The Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program includes five courses: Director Duties and Liabilities, Understanding the Electric Business, Board Operations and Process, and Strategic Planning and Financial Decision Making. The Board Leadership (BL) program consists of the following courses: Grassroots, Power Supply, Cooperative Business model, Governance Financial, Communications, and Technology and Risk Management. Completing these certificate programs demonstrates the ongoing commitment by directors to advancing their knowledge and performing their fiduciary duty to the best of their ability.

Board Trustee and President **ROGER**



Board President Roger Zimmerman earned his CCD & BL certificates.

ZIMMERMAN, who has served on the Board since 2008, has earned both his CCD and BLC credentials. He was presented with his certificates at the Oct. 15 Board Meeting.

NRECA's Director Certificate Programs are specifically designed to help electric co-op directors, at every stage of their service, understand their roles and responsibilities, stay up-to-date, and prepare them to meet the challenges facing electric cooperatives now and in the future.



COOPERATIVE
YOUTH LEADERSHIP
CAMP
JULY 12-18, 2019
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO



The 2018 Flint Hills RECA Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp winners—Brandon Nguyen and Morgan Spinden.

Apply to Win a **Free** Trip of a Lifetime

The Flint Hills RECA is sponsoring two all-expense-paid trips to the Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp on July 12-18, 2019.

Rafting, hiking, and building memories—it's not just another trip! At camp, you will join winners from other co-ops in Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and Wyoming at the Glen Eden Resort in the beautiful Rocky Mountains to build valuable leadership skills and friendships of a lifetime. So pack your sunscreen and hiking shoes and get ready to build memories that will last a lifetime.

The contest is open to all current high school sophomores

and juniors in Flint Hills' service area whose parents or guardians are members of Flint Hills RECA. Contest entrants will be interviewed and required to take a brief written test covering material that will be made available to each contestant.

If you are a high school sophomore or junior and are interested in this trip, please complete the application form below and send to Flint Hills RECA, Attn: Bill Wessel, P.O. Box B, Council Grove, KS 66846 by Feb. 4, 2019.

Once we receive this form, material will then be sent to you for the interview process.

Contest Application for Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp—Due Feb. 4, 2019

Complete and return this application to Flint Hills RECA, Attn: Bill Wessel, P.O. Box B, Council Grove, KS 66846, or bwessel@flinthillsrec.com by Feb. 4, 2019.

Name of Applicant _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School _____ Year in School _____

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____ Phone Number _____

I AGREE THAT ALL INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION IS ACCURATE AND TRUE.

Signature of Applicant _____

I HEREBY GRANT PERMISSION FOR _____ TO APPLY FOR THE 2019 COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP SPONSORED BY FLINT HILLS RECA.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____

MERRY *Christmas* & HAPPY NEW YEAR



Chuck Goeckel, Damien Hebert, James Blue, Matt Sigle, Jodi Masteller, Travis Hirt, Corey Annan, Tim Jirak, Sharon Brooks, Hook Zimmerman, Brock Nieman, Lloyd Anderson, Gina Muhlig, John Stohs, Brent Unruh, Bernice Spinden, Bill Wessel, Tracy Ryff, Adam Dirks and Evan McCreath.
Not pictured Rex Johnson, Scott Kelsey and Sheldon Miles.

From our cooperative family to yours, Flint Hills RECA employees and Board of Trustees would like to wish our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!