

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 📢

16755 Finley Butte Road P.O. Box 127 La Pine, OR 97739

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Departments

Member Service Option 3 Engineering Option 4 Marketing Option 5 Operations Option 6

After-Hours Outages and Emergencies: 541-536-2165 or 800-752-5935

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed Fridays and holidays

BOARD OF DIRECTORS President

Vic Russell, Fall River Vice President Dick Luebke, Sunriver Secretary/Treasurer Tanna King, Chemult

Daniel Jansen, Christmas Valley Alan Parks, Fort Rock Bud Kendall, La Pine Ron Cass, La Pine Garry Journey, Crescent Gil Ernst, Gilchrist

The board meets the fourth Monday of each month at the co-op office.

STAFF

General Manager James "Jim" Anderson **Engineering Manager** Tom Weller **Operations Manager** Terry Dunn **CFO/Accounting Manager** Jami Steinhauer Information Services Manager J.D. Powers **HR** and Communications Manager Sina Streeter **Marketing Manager** Joe Hull Attorney Raymond Kindley

OR-23

Gaining Ground in Washington, D.C.

This spring, more than 2,000 electric cooperative leaders came together in Washington, D.C., for the April Legislative Conference to meet with congressional leaders about the challenges rural electric cooperatives face to maintain affordable and reliable electricity.

Twenty Oregon co-op leaders attended. The primary goal was to connect with government leaders and bring attention to the issues important to our cooperatives.



Midstate Electric was represented by me and two of our board

directors, Gil Ernst and Vic Russell. Our group visited six offices of representatives and senators. We also had the opportunity to meet with Sonya Baskerville, Bonneville Power Administration's manager of national relations, to speak about our BPA concerns. Here are some of the other issues we covered with our leaders:

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- Prioritizing reliability. We oppose lower Snake River Dam removal.
- Alleviating supply chain challenges. Constraints impede some co-ops' access to key materials.
- **Infrastructure.** We are interested in projects for wildfire mitigation, electric vehicle charging and more.

• Modernizing the federal permitting process. We request legislation to create a more streamlined permitting process.

• **Oregon electric co-op and broadband.** We request Congress continue to fund rural broadband programs to serve hard-to-reach areas.

We made quite an impact on those we visited due to our strength in numbers. More than 2,000 cooperative voices spoke up about these important issues that affect our membership.

It is crucial that we continue to make our voices heard and hold our elected leaders accountable. One way we can do this is by making sure that you, our members, become part of Voices for Cooperative Power. VCP is a network of electric co-op members working together to influence elected officials who are making energy policy decisions that affect our co-ops. By signing up, you can join the conversation and make legislators hear your voice.

Joining VCP gives you a platform to send messages to elected officials about the needs of our communities and their constituencies. VCP makes it easy to have a say in energy policy decisions that impact your way of life.

Sign up at voicesforcooperativepower.com/oregon.

Annual Meeting

Thank you for attending the 2023 annual meeting last month. We had a great time seeing all of you and look forward to our meeting next year.

CEO/General Manager Jim Anderson