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**OFFICE HOURS**

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Peru, IN 46970

**POWER OUTAGES**

To report a power outage, call 844-473-6668. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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# SUSTAINING A RELIABLE ELECTRIC SYSTEM



You've probably heard the phrase, "Don't put all of your eggs in one basket."

This adage is often used when someone is about to do something

risky. If a person heeds this advice, it means they did not commit to "one basket," and hedged their bets with more than one option.

This strategy is one way to describe Miami-Cass REMC's approach to the current energy transition. We know that consumer interest in renewable energy continues to grow, and we've seen this trend in Indiana.

Nationally, there is increasing reliance on renewable energy sources as fossil fuel plants are taken offline, often ahead of schedule. We are also seeing more pressure on the electric grid due to the increasing frequency and intensity of severe weather events and rising electricity demand.

## COMPETING PRESSURES

So, how do we reconcile the challenges of grid pressure and a changing fuel mix? Solar and wind energy are beneficial for the environment, but they are limited resources because the sun does not always shine and the wind

doesn't always blow. Our primary responsibility is to provide electricity 24/7 to you and our community. To do this, we need reliable sources of power that will meet all the peaks and valleys of on-demand energy.

This is where our familiar adage comes into play. While the utilization of renewables is increasing, we need to incorporate other forms of energy into the mix to ensure reliable service. That's why we spread our eggs into multiple baskets. There is value in maintaining a diverse mix of fuel sources to ensure reliability and to meet the growing demand for electricity.

## THE BOTTOM LINE

Lowering the overall carbon footprint in this country means we're going to electrify more and more of our economy. As our state increasingly depends upon electricity, we are focused on providing our REMC members with reliable, affordable energy — and that's why fuel diversity is essential.

**ROB SCHWARTZ**  
CEO



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## IN THE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT ...

# Paige BEAMER



Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami Cass REMC welcomed Paige Beamer to the team on Jan. 23 as a customer service representative. Beamer will be overseeing the new Delphi office which is planning to open this month. In her role, she will create new accounts, receive and process bills and help with marketing.

Beamer grew up in Delphi and currently resides in Flora with her husband, Aaron. The couple have been married for 10 years and have two boys, aged 6 and 2.

She loves spending time with her family, and in the summer, you can find them enjoying their boat on the lake. Beamer said her happy place is Key West, Florida, where

she and her husband were married and where they try to visit every year. The Beamers are huge Jimmy Buffett fans, and she was recently able to see him in concert in Key West, an item on her bucket list.

Beamer is a 2007 graduate of Delphi Community High School. After graduating, she earned her cosmetology license and did hair for a while. Beamer then went back to school and earned her esthetician license. She owned and operated her own salon for several years.

After closing her salon, she went to work in marketing for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Realty company in Lafayette. In 2020, Beamer decided to stay home with

her boys for a while and remained a stay-at-home mom until joining the Broadway Broadband team.

While she was training for her new position, Beamer worked from the Miami-Cass REMC headquarters. She has enjoyed working with the REMC staff while learning her new position, and she appreciates the opportunity to meet new people and be a part of bringing high-speed internet to the underserved in our communities.

The staff and board of directors are glad to have Beamer as part of the Broadway Broadband family. If you are in Delphi, stop in and say "Hi!" to her.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: [Energy.gov](https://www.energy.gov)

# Save the date

**JOIN US FOR THE  
MIAMI-CASS REMC ANNUAL MEETING!  
JUNE 15 AT PERU HIGH SCHOOL**



Mark your calendar to attend!

More information will be available in the upcoming issues of Indiana Connection.

## THE CHILI COMMUNITY

**LEARNING  
ABOUT OUR  
INDIANA  
CONNECTIVITY  
PROGRAM**



## TALKING INTERNET IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Representatives from Broadway Broadband Powered by Miami-Cass REMC were recently in the community of Chili to talk about high-speed internet and the Indiana Connectivity Program.

Thank you to those who attended as we work toward bringing high-speed internet to underserved communities.





## SPRING INTO SAFETY ON THE FARM

**PLANTING SEASON IS HERE IN THE HOOSIER STATE. INDIANA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES OFFER THE FOLLOWING TIPS TO HELP KEEP FARMERS AND WORKERS SAFE.**

- Make sure farm equipment like planter arms and sprayers safely clear overhead power lines. Some clearances may have changed since the last time you entered the field.
- Keep a safe distance from power poles and guy wires.
- If your farm equipment becomes entangled with power lines, call 911 immediately. Keep others away and remain calm.
- If you are planning a controlled burn, mow and remove vegetation at least 15 feet around any pole prior to burning and apply fire retardant to the area as recommended by the manufacturer prior to burn period.
- Do not allow the fire to cross under power lines in large areas.



## Board meets in FEBRUARY

1. Counted seven board members present. Attorney Jeremy Fetty also attended via teleconference.
2. Jim Savage presented the WVPA monthly report.
3. Todd Smith presented the IEC monthly report.
4. Fetty presented the legal report.
5. Rob Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
6. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
7. Financial report given by Schwartz.
8. January monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
9. Set the next board meeting for Tuesday, April 4, at 6 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.

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