

**CONTACT US**

Office: 765-473-6668 / 800-844-6668

**WEBSITE**

[www.mcremc.coop](http://www.mcremc.coop)

**EMAIL**

[mcremc@mcremc.coop](mailto:mcremc@mcremc.coop)

**OFFICE HOURS**

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**

3086 W. 100 N.  
Peru, IN 46970

**MAILING ADDRESS**

P.O. Box 168  
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.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dennis "Jim" Savage, *President*

Todd Smith, *Vice President*

Cindy Scott, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Tony Caldwell

Mark B. Hahn

Scott Marschand

Donald E. Willson

**STAFF**

Robert Schwartz  
*CEO*

Mike Barron  
*Director of Member Services*

Lora Goodman  
*Human Resources Director*

Matt Mavrick  
*Director of Information Technology*

Liz Vance  
*Office Manager*

Brandon Williams  
*Director of Operations*

Stephanie Ziems  
*Director of Finance and Accounting*

# Beat the *peak*



than ever before.

As demand for electricity rises, Miami-Cass REMC must deliver an uninterrupted 24/7 power supply — regardless of market conditions or other circumstances.

As you might expect based on your own family's habits, electricity use fluctuates throughout the day due to consumer demand. Your REMC must be able to provide enough electricity to meet the energy needs of all members during the times of highest energy use, or "peak hours." These peak times are typically in the morning as people start their day and in the evening as people return to their homes.

What you may not know is that electric utilities, including this co-op, typically pay more for electricity — either from a power plant or from another utility with excess power — during those morning and evening "energy rush hours." In addition, the demand for electricity is even higher when it's especially cold outside and heating systems must run longer to warm our homes.

Here's an easy way to think about the "peak times" concept — it's similar to the demand for concert or theater tickets. Costs go up when there is strong demand for tickets (or electricity), and both are subject to the

Let's face it. Electricity is one of those non-negotiable "must-haves." And you probably have more devices and equipment that require electricity

basic economic laws of supply and demand. When a lot of people want the same thing, it's more expensive. When they don't, it's cheaper — like at a bargain matinee performance, for example.

During peak periods when the cost to produce and purchase power is higher, we encourage you to take some simple steps to save energy, such as turning your thermostat down a few notches, turning off unnecessary lights, and waiting to use large appliances until off-peak times.

You can also save energy by plugging electronics and equipment such as computers, printers and TVs into a power strip and then turning it off at the switch during peak hours. If you have a programmable thermostat, adjust the settings to sync up with off-peak rate periods. When we all work together to reduce energy use during periods of high electricity demand, we can relieve pressure on the grid and save a little money along the way.

Another benefit of this time-of-use approach is that it allows greater control over your bill. Reducing peak use impacts the power-supply cost to every co-op member. Since energy costs have risen across the U.S., collectively conserving energy and making small changes can truly make a difference.

Taking simple steps to save energy throughout the day and shifting energy-intensive chores to off-peak hours is a smart choice for you *and* our community.

**ROB SCHWARTZ**  
CEO



Like us on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/mcremc](https://www.facebook.com/mcremc)



Follow us on Instagram  
[www.instagram.com/miamicassremc](https://www.instagram.com/miamicassremc)



Follow us on LinkedIn  
[www.linkedin.com/search for Miami-Cass REMC](https://www.linkedin.com/company/miami-cass-remc)

## IN THE EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT ...

# MATT MAVRICK



Matt Mavrick, director of information technology and fiber operations superintendent, joined the Miami-Cass REMC team in Nov. 2018, replacing retiring Director of Information Technology Chuck Lewis. As the director of information technology (IT), Mavrick is responsible for handling all of the REMC's and Broadway Broadband's IT assets and ensuring that everything is running smoothly on the fiber side of the business. Prior to joining the REMC, Mavrick worked in cyber security as a civilian at Grissom Air Reserve.

A Miami County native, Mavrick grew up in Denver and graduated from North Miami High School. After high school, Mavrick worked for a couple of years as a civilian at Grissom before joining the Air Force in 2004. He spent eight years on active duty and lived in England, Arizona and Ohio during that time. Mavrick continues to serve our country as a reservist and is eligible to retire in August after 20 years of service. During his years of service, he has been deployed 11 times — with his longest deployment being ten

months — to places including Afghanistan, Kuwait and Qatar.

While he was on active duty, Mavrick obtained his associate degree from Ivy Tech with a major in computer information systems. After leaving active duty, he went on to obtain his bachelor's degree in software development with a minor in cyber security from the University of Maryland and his master's degree in cyber security from Excelsior University.

Mavrick has been married to his wife, Natalie, for 10 years this coming July, and the couple has two girls, aged 5 and 13. In his spare time, Mavrick enjoys spending time with his family, camping, barbecuing and watching sports. He said that he is happiest while watching sports — which is not surprising since he wanted to be a professional athlete while growing up — and making good food. Mavrick said that he would have enjoyed starting a software development/IT consulting business if he were not pursuing his current career.

As director of IT, Mavrick spends much of his time in meetings or

on the phone. The aspect of his job that he says he enjoys the most is dealing with people, and the most difficult part is dealing with local, state and federal agencies. He enjoys being involved in the community and helping to make a positive change for our members by bringing high-speed internet to their homes.

Mavrick is currently working with the U.S. Department of Labor, Indiana Department of Workforce Development and Ivy Tech to develop a Fiber Apprenticeship Program. While not finalized at this time, it will be a 3-year program requiring 145 hours per year of classroom instruction and 2,000 hours of on-the-job training. Upon completion of the program, participants will be just five classes shy of obtaining their associate degree and will receive two Building Industry Consulting Service International (BICSI) certificates: one for outside plant, and one for installer.

We at Miami-Cass are proud to have Mavrick as part of the REMC family. He is an asset to our team, and we are thankful for his years of service.



## PREPARING FOR WINTER STORMS

**THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, DANGEROUS CONDITIONS COULD CONFINE FAMILIES TO THEIR HOMES FOR DAYS AT A TIME. MAKE SURE TO PLAN AND PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR THE WINTER MONTHS.**

Indiana winters include everything from heavy snows, to freezing rain, to ice storms — sometimes all in one day. All of those forms of winter weather can create electrical hazards.

To better prepare for a power outage, your electric co-op recommends members keep a storm preparedness kit fully stocked. The basic supplies in this kit should include:

- Bottled water
- Non-perishable food
- Emergency blankets
- First aid kit/medicine
- Flashlight
- Battery-operated or hand-crank radio
- Extra batteries
- Toiletries



## Board meets in DECEMBER

1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney Jeremy Fetty also attended.
2. CEO Rob Schwartz presented the WVPA report.
3. Fetty presented the legal report.
4. Schwartz presented the monthly CEO report.
5. Minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.
6. Financial report given by Schwartz.
7. November monthly operating, member services and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
8. Set the next board meeting for Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 6 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.

## WANT ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET?

Let your voice be heard via the Indiana Connectivity Program.



Scan the QR code below or call 833-639-8522.







Indiana Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

## UPCOMING YOUTH PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES

### CAMP KILOWATT

**Date: June 7-10**

A fun and unique camp experience for students entering seventh grade. The camp takes place in early June and gives kids a chance to learn about energy while making new friends and enjoying activities and games. This three-day camp includes horseback riding, electric cooperative education, rock climbing, swimming and much more.

*If you know someone that would enjoy these opportunities, encourage them to visit [www.indianayouthtour.org](http://www.indianayouthtour.org) or [www.campkilowatt.org](http://www.campkilowatt.org) for an online application. Both experiences are FREE and available to students whose parent(s) or guardian(s) live in the Miami-Cass REMC service territory.*

### INDIANA YOUTH TOUR

**Date: June 11-18**

During the month of June, Indiana's electric cooperatives sponsor an unforgettable educational adventure to Washington, D.C., for high school seniors-to-be. This seven-day trip includes visits with Indiana's congressional leaders on Capitol Hill and a youth event with student delegates from across the country.

### COOPERATIVE CALENDAR OF STUDENT ART CONTEST

Indiana K-12 public, private or home-schooled students are invited to enter the Cooperative Calendar of Student Art Contest for a chance to illustrate an award-winning wall calendar. Each year, 13 first-place winners and additional honorable mention winners will have their artwork featured in the calendar — and will receive cash prizes. Winners will also have their artwork displayed at the annual Hoosier Salon exhibition. Learn more at [IndianaConnection.org/for-youth/art-contest](http://IndianaConnection.org/for-youth/art-contest).

### YOUTH POWER AND HOPE AWARDS

Each year, Indiana's electric cooperatives, Indiana Connection magazine and Indiana Electric Cooperatives honor students in grades 5-8 who exemplify community service.

If you know a student who gives back to his/her community, encourage them to apply for this prestigious award. Details and application information will be available this summer.

### QUESTIONS?

Call the REMC office at 800-844-6668.