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**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



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Country. These three words describe our nation's veterans, and they also succinctly describe a core co-op ethos.

Service. Mission.

Veterans are innately motivated to serve, and in a similar vein, electric co-ops are guided by foundational principles that put their community first. Electric co-ops were founded to bring electricity to rural areas where there was none. In doing so, they powered local economies and helped them thrive. I believe this connection to an essential mission is why there are so many veterans in the utility industry and why they are generally such a great fit for electric co-ops.

Today's veterans are highly skilled, and many veterans are trained in disciplines such as engineering, electronics or mechanics — which are all beneficial to the utility industry. Miami-Cass REMC is proud to employ six veterans, and we're grateful for their contributions to the co-op and to our community.

#### LEADERSHIP AND TEAMBUILDING SKILLS

Our veteran colleagues joined the coop equipped with training in leadership and teamwork. That's because while on active duty, service members work

### MAY IS MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

closely together because they know their lives depend on each other's actions. This fosters a high level of self-discipline, a sense of personal responsibility and a passion for excellence.

The utility industry is increasingly complex and undergoing a transformation. While there are the traditional engineering and vegetation management aspects of the industry, it now also encompasses technology, cybersecurity and the electrification of the transportation sector and other areas of the economy. Veterans are adept at responding to changing conditions and learning new technologies, which is essential in our evolving industry.

#### MISSION-ORIENTED OUTLOOK

May is Military Appreciation Month and at Miami-Cass we are grateful to have veterans within our ranks. But beyond our gratitude, we demonstrate our deep appreciation through our actions and ongoing commitment to veterans and their families.

I hope you'll join me in recognizing the sacrifices veterans have made to our great country — and the many contributions they continue to make to our community. Veterans, we salute you!

## ROB SCHWARTZ



## JOIN US FOR THE MIAMI-CASS REMC ANNUAL MEETING! june 15 at peru high school



6-8 p.m. — featuring dinner, prizes and information about your cooperative!

More information will be available in next month's issue of Indiana Connection.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION**

The following directors are up for election at the Miami-Cass REMC Annual Meeting on June 15.

More details about voting for your directors will be in the next issue of Indiana Connection magazine.



TONY CALDWELL



TODD SMITH

### Energy efficiency

The location of your thermostat can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. For maximum accuracy, thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that tend to feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home. Do not place furniture in front of the thermostat, which can block air flow and result in inaccurate readings. Source: Energy.gov

# hazards CAN EXIST IN THE OFFICE, TOO

Electrical

JUST BECAUSE YOU WORK IN AN OFFICE DOESN'T MEAN

#### YOU MIGHT NOT BE EXPOSED TO ELECTRICAL HAZARDS.

#### WATCH FOR...

- Electrical cables that are frayed, loose or have exposed wires.
- Outlets that are worn and won't hold plugs snugly.
- Electrical equipment that gives off a strange odor.
- Overheating equipment. Beware of discolored plastic casings on the equipment or discolored outlet covers.
- Overloaded outlets or extension cords.
- Equipment that is not working properly.

Any faulty equipment, wiring, plugs, etc., should be removed from use immediately and reported to your supervisor or whomever is in charge. Outlets should not be overloaded, so either plug equipment elsewhere or tell your supervisor, who should minimize the need for overloading them.

#### **TO MINIMIZE HAZARDS:**

- Switch off and unplug appliances when they are not in use and before cleaning.
- Turn off all appliances at the end of the day.
- Do not force a plug into an outlet if it does not fit.
- Do not run electrical cords through high-traffic areas, under carpets or across doorways.
- Make sure the electrical load is not too much for any circuit, even when using a surge protector.



#### co-op news



Congratulations to Miami-Cass REMC Board President Jim Savage for celebrating 10 years of service to the cooperative!



Thank you to our veterans! We salute the employees of Miami-Cass REMC who have served our country.

Our office will be closed on May 29 for Memorial Day.

# Board meets in **FEBRUARY**

- 1. Counted seven board members attending. Attorney Jeremy Fetty attended via teleconference.
- 2. Jim Savage presented the WVPA monthly report.
- 3. Fetty presented the legal report.
- 4. Rob Schwartz presented monthly CEO report.
- 5. Minutes from previous board meeting were approved.
- 6. Financial report reviewed and approved.
- February monthly operating, member services, human resources and safety reports were reviewed and approved.
- Set next board meeting for Wednesday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the REMC headquarters.

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