

Nominating Committee to be selected

At the regular monthly board meeting to be held on April 25, 2019, in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Directors will appoint the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of nominees identifying each candidate by name, address, and the Director district in which they reside. The Nominating Committee shall make a good faith effort to nominate two (2) candidates for each Director position to be filled at the Annual Meeting, September 5, 2019. In the event the Committee is unable to identify two (2) candidates for each position who consent to be nominated, the Committee may nominate only one (1) candidate for the position.

The written list of nominations by the Nominating Committee shall be posted at the office of the Cooperative not less than thirty (30) days prior to mailing the notice of the Annual Meeting to the members. For ten (10) days after posting the list of nominations, additional nominations of members residing in the district of the vacancy may be made by written petition on forms provided on request by any member and signed by not less than twenty (20) members of the Cooperative. Any member nominated shall give prior consent to such nominations whether by committee or by petition.

A list of nominations as selected by the Nominating Committee will be posted by July 1, 2019, and nominations by petition will be accepted through July 11, 2019.

Pole testing: Part of your REC's commitment to reliability

During the spring and summer months Grundy County REC may receive calls from members who wonder what is going on when they see people on their property tapping their electric poles with hammers. Called "pole testing," it's one of the ways Grundy County REC works to ensure its members will have reliable power.

Steve Ralston, operations manager, provides our contractor with a map of the area where poles needing attention are located. The crews then check all poles older than 10 years in a particular substation area. This year the contractor will be working in the Hicks substation area.

Workers dig down two feet around the pole and scrape away any decay, then apply a preservative. If a pole has underground wire on it, they will first tap the pole with a hammer for a sound test. Next, they drill a hole to see how solid the pole is, then they fill the hole with a plug. Before moving on, they tag each pole with a metal tag indicating whether it was sound or needs to be replaced.

The results help determine the cooperative's work plan as staff arranges to replace poles that did not pass the test. The goal is to have all poles strong enough to withstand the forces of nature.



Tony Sienknecht, line foreman; Eric Freese, first class lineman; Aaron Bird, first class lineman; Karl Nielsen, first class lineman; and Tyler Thomas, apprentice lineman, replace a pole that was found to be bad during the pole testing process.



February was Heart Health Month and our employees decided to GO RED for our monthly safety meeting in February.

The commitment of a lineworker

National studies consistently rank power line installers and repairers among the most dangerous jobs in the country. Laboring high in the air wearing heavy equipment and working directly with high voltage creates the perfect storm of a dangerous and unforgiving profession.

But these brave men and women are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job.

Your electric cooperative's lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones.

Family support system

To perform their jobs successfully, lineworkers depend on their years of training, experience and each other to get the job done safely. Equally impor-

tant is their reliance on a strong support system at home.

A lineworker's family understands and supports their loved one's commitment to the greater community during severe storms and outages.

This means in times of prolonged outages, the family and their lineworker may have minimal communication and not see each other for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be even more difficult.

Community commitment

In your community and across the country, electric co-op lineworkers' mission-focused mentality of helping others often extends beyond their commitment to their work at the co-op.

Lineworkers are often familiar figures in the community. They can be found coaching youth sports teams, volunteering for local charities and serving on local advisory boards.

**Committed to the job.
Committed to safety.
Committed to you,
our members.**

Lineworker Appreciation Day
April 8, 2019



Thank you

Monday, April 8 is Lineworker Appreciation Day. Take a moment and acknowledge the many contributions they make to our local community. And thank their family members, as well.

Stay safe during planting season

Long hours and fatigue are a constant battle for farmers during planting season. If you farm, take care of yourself by getting as much rest as possible and allowing yourself breaks to clear your head. Be especially aware of electrical hazards around the farm.



- If your machinery or vehicle comes in contact with a power line, do not get out. Stay where you are and call 9-1-1 so the appropriate utility can de-energize the power.
- If you come across an accident or incident near a downed power line, alert individuals (from a distance) to stay in the tractor or vehicle as long as there is no imminent danger.
- When using machinery with long extensions or tall antennas and when using ladders, look up to avoid contact with overhead power lines.

Contact us for additional electrical safety information.

In response to actions by the Iowa General Assembly, your REC has established RECare, a program of members helping members.

RECare will provide funds to be distributed by local community action agencies to help pay winter heating bills and to assist in weatherization of homes of low-income consumers. You may make a one-time contribution or a monthly pledge that will be automatically added onto your monthly electric bill. Even a dollar a month pledge will help others.

RECare MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

RECare Authorization Form

- I will contribute \$_____ per month. I understand this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.
- I will make a one-time contribution of \$_____ to RECare. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Account Number _____



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives

Return to your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Grain bin requirements

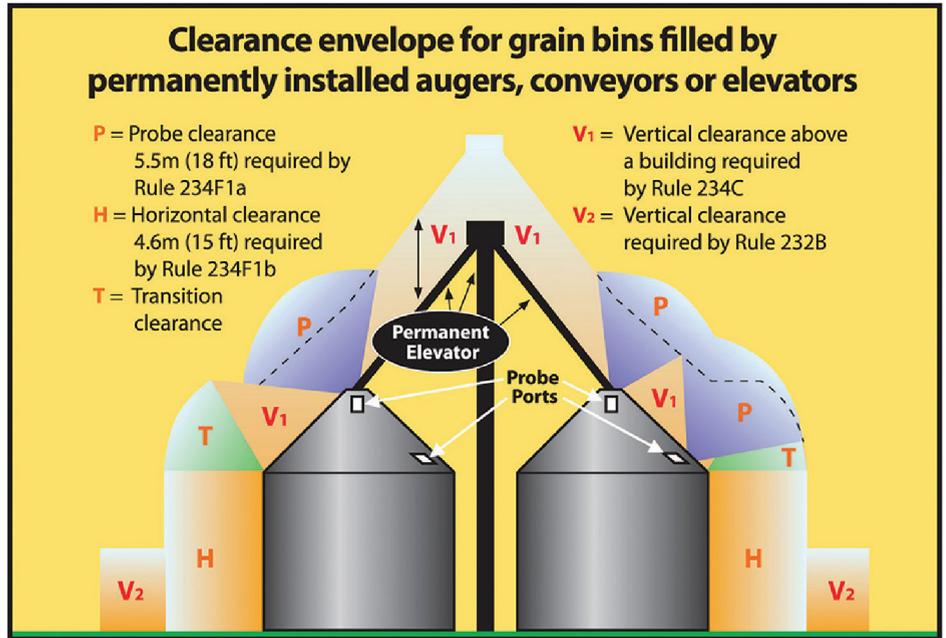
When you start to plan for a new grain bin, please contact your electric cooperative. We will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins. The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators.

The drawings at the right show the specific clearances required for both scenarios. If you have any questions concerning the drawings, please contact your cooperative listed here.

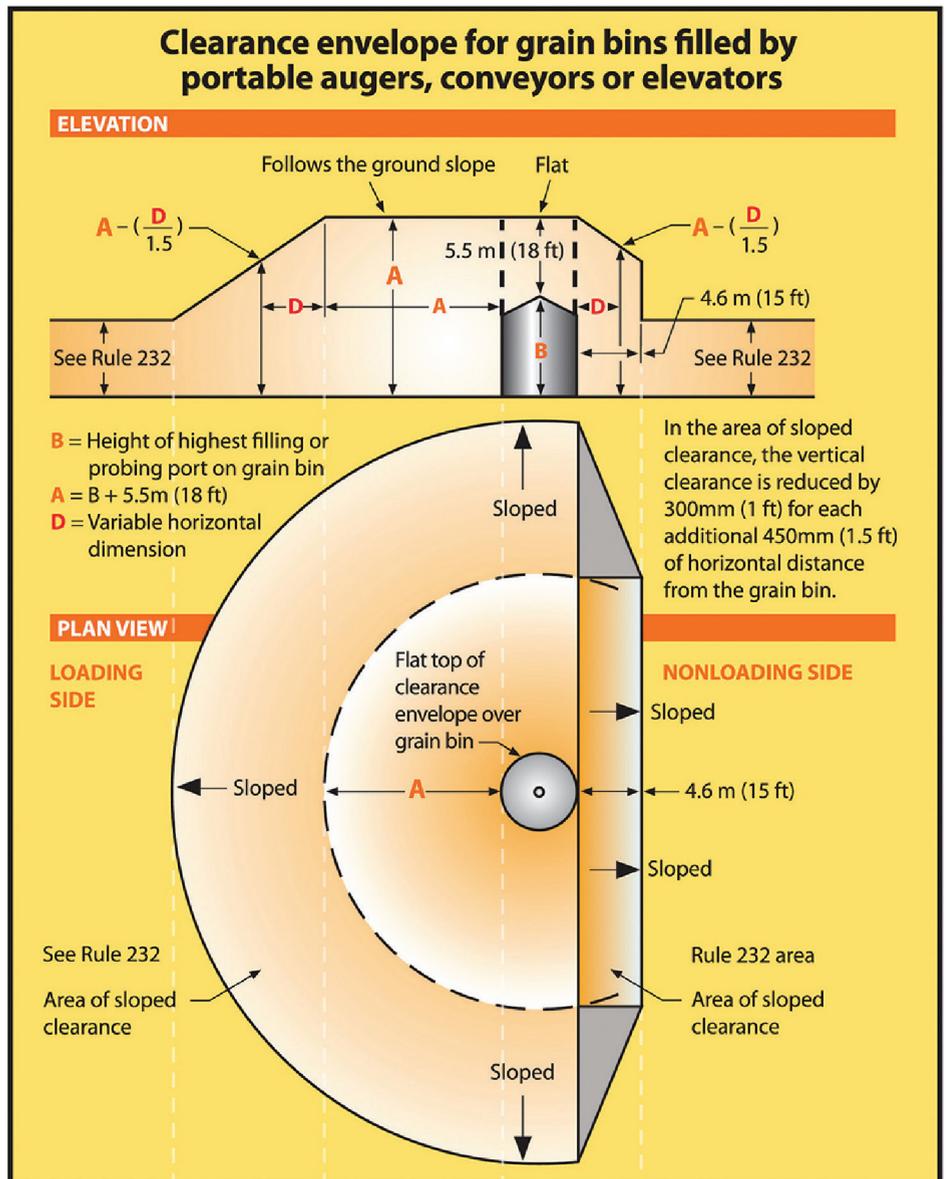
Butler County REC.....	319-267-2726
Corn Belt Power.....	515-332-2571
Franklin REC.....	641-456-2557
Grundy County REC.....	319-824-5251
Prairie Energy Cooperative.....	515-532-2805

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 -- 25.2(3) b. An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (The Iowa Utilities Board has adopted this language.)

Disclaimer: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents of these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or for damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.



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Greet spring safely

Warmer days are coming and you can enjoy being outside. Keep these safety tips in mind when working outdoors this spring:

Call before you dig

Power lines are often put underground. If you plan on digging in your yard, call Iowa One Call at 811 or 1-800-292-8989 at least 48 hours before digging. It's a free call that will keep you, your family and your farm safe. Online locate requests can be made at iowaonecall.com.



Look up

Always take note of overhead power line locations working outside. This is especially true when transporting large equipment. Assume that all overhead power lines are "live" and that contact with them can be deadly.



Stay away

Always consider a downed power line to be energized, and stay away. Call 911 or the utility immediately.



Don't burn utility poles

If you burn off weeds and grass in ditches and fields, keep the fire away from power lines, poles and other utility-owned property. Never leave a fire unattended. Careless burning can destroy and weaken poles and equipment, creating serious safety hazards that are costly to repair.



Director Larry Rohach, (r), has complied with NRECA training requirement and received his Director Gold Certificate from Board President Kevin Pruisner.

Co-op Connections card

Featured Business of the Month

The Traer Theater, located in downtown Traer, offers a seating capacity of 144. They are fully equipped to serve individuals with disabilities. The theater also features a Dolby Digital Sound System for premium enjoyment for you to take in your next movie. For their full movie listing, visit their website at thetraertheater.com or visit their Facebook page.

Additional area businesses offering discounts:

- 319 Décor & Design - Grundy Center
- Crazy Daisies - Grundy Center

- Natural Grind - Grundy Center
- Stylish Living - Grundy Center
- Tasty House - Grundy Center
- The Landmark Bistro - Grundy Center
- Retro Rooster - Traer
- Sweets on Main - Traer



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303 N Park Avenue • P.O. Box 39 • Grundy Center, IA 50638-0039
PHONES: 319.824.5251 or 800.390.7605 • FAX: 319.824.3118
OFFICE HOURS: Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
GENERAL MANAGER: Vicki Daily

smart choices



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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Iowa Choice Renewables can provide you with local, trusted solar energy options. For more information about installing a new system, contact Mike Geerdes, member services manager, at 319.824.5251 or 800.390.7605.



We will be closed on Friday, April 19, for Good Friday.