
ASSOCIATION OF
MISSOURI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

**87TH
ANNUAL
MEETING**

October 1-2, 2024
Branson Convention Center
Branson, Missouri



Welcome

87th ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OCTOBER 1-2, 2024

General Information

REGISTRATION

Concourse North

October 1 - 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

AMEC/CFC WELCOME RECEPTION

Taneycomo A

MEETING ROOMS

General Session - *Taneycomo B*

Missouri Rural Electric Auxiliary - *Short Creek 2-4*

AMEC/AECI Leadership Lunch - *Taneycomo A*

Dinner/Reception - *Taneycomo A*

ATTENDANCE PRIZES

Attendance prizes will be awarded during the general session and the auxiliary program. You must be registered and present at the time of the drawing.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

5:00 p.m.- **AMEC/CFC Welcome Reception**
6:30 p.m. **Entertainment provided by Lindley Creek**
 Taneycomo A

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

6:30 a.m.- **Buffet Breakfast**
7:45 a.m. *Taneycomo A*

7:00 a.m.- **Registration**
9:30 a.m. *Concourse North*

8:15 a.m.- **Missouri Rural Electric**
11:30 a.m. **Auxiliary Program**
 Short Creek 2-4

GENERAL SESSION

8:00 a.m.- **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
8:45 a.m. Caleb Jones, Executive Vice President/CEO
 and Tom Brand, Emcee

Invocation
Staci Mesmer
Lewis County Rural Electric Cooperative

Presentation of Colors
Hollister High School Army JROTC

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem
Kiley Stringer, Barry Electric Cooperative

BUSINESS SESSION

	Call to Order Loren Haines, President
	Roll Call Mike Scheib, Secretary-Treasurer
	Reading of Notice of Meeting Mike Scheib, Secretary-Treasurer
	Minutes of 2023 Meeting Mike Scheib, Secretary-Treasurer
	Secretary-Treasurer Report Mike Scheib, Secretary-Treasurer
	Reports Loren Haines, President Caleb Jones, Executive Vice President/CEO
8:45 a.m.– 9:00 a.m.	Federated Presentation Phil Irwin, CEO
9:00 a.m.– 9:20 a.m.	CFC Presentation Bryan Bacon & Bobbi Jeffries, VP, Relationship Management
9:20 a.m.– 9:50 a.m.	Cooperative Champion Award Gov. Mike Parson
9:50 a.m.– 10:00 a.m.	Break
10:00 a.m.– 11:00 a.m.	Values Based Leadership/NRECA Update Tony Anderson, President, NRECA
11:00 a.m.– 11:20 a.m.	CoBank Presentation Marcy Katz, VP, Relationship Manager
11:20 a.m.– 11:30 a.m.	Honoring a Co-op Leader Chuck Soderberg, Executive VP/General Manager (Retired), Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives
11:30 a.m.– 11:45 a.m.	AECI Update David Tudor, CEO/General Manager

11:45 a.m.-

1:00 p.m.

AMEC/AECI Leadership Lunch

Taneycomo A

Invocation

Buster Geisendorfer, AECI Board President

Welcome

State Auditor Scott Fitzpatrick

A.C. Burrows Awards

Safety Awards

Lifesaving Awards

1:00 p.m.-

1:15 p.m.

Youth Leadership Presentation

Saul Logan, Youth Tour Delegate,
West Central Electric Cooperative

1:15 p.m.-

2:30 p.m.

Fussin' and Discussin' Missouri Politics – Round 2

Michael Kelley & John Hancock

2:30 p.m.-

2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 p.m.-

2:55 p.m.

Video Message from Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe

2:55 p.m.-

3:15 p.m.

Western Governors University Presentation

John Hardin, Lead Strategic Partnerships Mgr.

3:15 p.m.-

3:45 p.m.

Reflections on REA History in Missouri

Jim McCarty, Editor Emeritus, AMEC

3:45 p.m.-

4:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Reorganization Meeting

6:15 p.m.

Reception and Banquet

Taneycomo A

6:15 p.m. **Doors Open**

6:45 p.m. **Invocation**

Don Smith, Farmers' Electric Cooperative

Dinner Served

Distinguished Service Awards

Cooperative Neighbor Award

MISSOURI RURAL ELECTRIC AUXILIARY ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 2, 2024

Short Creek 2-4

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 8:15 a.m. | Welcome
Angie Jones-Wheeler & Mandi Evans, AMEC |
| 8:30 a.m. | Big Doins: How REA Came to Rural Missouri
Jim McCarty, AMEC |
| 9:00 a.m. | Missouri on a Mission: An Update on the International Program in Guatemala
Craig Moeller, AMEC |
| 9:30 a.m. | ReHope Presentation
Naomi Hope |
| 10:30 a.m. | Break
Complimentary refreshments |
| 10:45 a.m. | AMEC Update and Video
AMEC Legislative Department |
| 11:00 a.m. | Attendance Prize Drawings/Closing Remarks
Must be present to win |
| 11:30 a.m. | Adjourn |

ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES



Loren Haines
President



Kim Ponder
Vice President



Mike Scheib
Secretary-Treasurer



Caleb Jones
Exec. Vice-Pres. & CEO

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aaron Bradshaw

Joe Cason

Steve Elsea

Ross Frankenbach

Carmen Hartwell

Keith Haynes

Stan Irsik

Phil Jensen

Duane Klute

Patrick Oehlschlager

Kim Ponder

Mike Scheib

STAFF

Paulette Allison

John Arnold

Megan Backes

Kelly Bax

Pat Bax

Kate Boatright

Mary Davis

Rebecca Eichelberger

Mandi Evans

Alayna Forck

Rob Gerling

Johnie Hendrix

Kim Hoelscher

Mike Jeffries

Steve Johnson

Angie Jones-Wheeler

Mark Kliethermes

Adam Koetting

Chris Massman

Taylor Mattern

Jim McCarty

Craig Moeller

Paul Newton

Tim Pirtle

Brian Prenger

Nikki Roach

Sara Schafer

Ricki Spargo

Brooke Struempf

Bruce Stumpe

Mike Sutherland

Dan Ulhorn

Linda Welch



Tom Brand

Tom Brand is the director of the St. Joseph Community Alliance, a collaborative group in St. Joseph, MO, focused on addressing community challenges and promoting economic growth and quality of life.

Tom grew up on a diversified family farm near Hopkins, MO, and has been immersed in agriculture his entire life. Tom began his career in farm broadcasting at the Brownfield Network, then moved to KMA radio in Shenandoah, Iowa, and KFEQ radio in St. Joseph, Missouri. After a 19-year career in farm broadcasting, he became the executive director for the National Association of Farm Broadcasting in 2011. Tom and his wife, Beth, have four children, a son-in-law, two grandsons, a granddaughter and three dogs.



Phil Irwin

Phil Irwin is president and CEO of Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange. Phil has been Federated's president and CEO since July 2006 and prior to that promotion was CFO and senior vice president of finance. He graduated from Kansas State University with a B.S. degree in accounting and is a CPA.



Bryan Bacon

Bryan Bacon was born and raised in St. Louis, MO. Bryan attended Truman State University and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. Bryan then attended law school at the University of Missouri-Columbia where he received his Juris Doctorate. After law school, Bryan served as the judicial law clerk for the Honorable David P. McDonald, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri and the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the Eighth Circuit. Bryan began his cooperative career with the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) in September 2014 as the Missouri General Field Representative (GFR). Bryan was then appointed by the RUS Administrator as the Financial Analysis Branch Chief for the newly created Grid Security Division in June 2021. Bryan joined CFC as Regional Vice President in May 2023.



Bobbi Jeffries

Bobbi Anne Jeffries is vice president, Relationship Management (West) for CFC. She leads the Distribution West team of nine CFC regional vice presidents serving 18 states. She has been serving electric cooperatives for more than 32 years. Prior to joining

CFC, she was the CEO at Barton County Electric in Lamar. She graduated from Oklahoma Wesleyan University and earned a master's in business administration with a finance concentration. In addition, she completed the Robert I Kabat Management Internship Program and the NUTSEA/NRECA Loss Control Internship and is a Certified Loss Control Professional. She resides in southwest Missouri.



Gov. Mike Parson

Gov. Michael L. Parson was sworn in as Missouri's 57th governor on June 1, 2018. He was reelected in November 2020 and was sworn into a full term at the 2021 Bicentennial Inauguration. Gov. Parson has more than 30 years of experience in public service.

He served as lieutenant governor of Missouri from 2017-2018. He also served six years in the U.S. Army and as the sheriff of Polk County. He served in the Missouri House of Representatives from 2005-2011 and in the Missouri Senate from 2011-2017. He was raised on a farm in Hickory County and graduated from Wheatland High School. He is a small business owner and a third-generation farmer who currently owns and operates a cow and calf operation near Bolivar. Gov. Parson and First Lady Teresa Parson live in Bolivar where they are members of Southwest Electric Cooperative. They have two grown children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Tony Anderson

Tony Anderson is president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He became general manager of Cherryland Electric Cooperative in March 2003 and retired in June 2023. Anderson has been in the electric cooperative business for 40 years and

previously managed cooperatives in Wisconsin and Wyoming. Tony's hobbies include watching Green Bay Packers football, writing and running. He has completed 51 marathons in 50 states plus D.C., while raising over \$900,000 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of northwest Michigan. Tony has been married to his last prom date, Mary, for over 40 years. They have three children and six grandchildren



Marcy Katz

Marcy Katz brings over 29 years of combined banking and Farm Credit experience to CoBank's Electric Distribution Division. Prior to her role as Missouri's dedicated Relationship Manager, Marcy was a cash management consultant for the bank, where

she supported both electric cooperatives throughout Missouri and the Southwest, and Farm Credit agribusiness producers throughout California and the Midwest.



Chuck Soderberg

Chuck Soderberg joined Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) in 2015 as the association's fifth executive vice president. He retired from this role in August 2024 after a 45-year career in the electric cooperative industry. Prior to IAEC, Chuck was em-

ployed by Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative for 36 years, where he served as the vice president of planning and legislative services. He brought a vast array of skills and experience in leadership, management, member service, program development and communications to the association. Chuck also served in the Iowa House where he represented the 5th district from 2005- 2015. He sat on several committees in the Iowa House including the Commerce and Environmental Protections Committees, and he also served as the Chair of the Appropriations Committee.



David Tudor

David Tudor joined Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. in May 2016, bringing more than 30 years of experience in the energy industry, including electric generation, gas pipeline assets and wholesale energy trading. At Associated, one of the top rated G&Ts in

the nation, he has led the organization through a longterm strategic planning process, resulting in strategies and fundamental objectives that will continue to enhance the success of Associated in serving its member systems. Prior to joining Associated, he was president and CEO of Champion Energy Services, president and CEO of ACES Power Marketing and he served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of PG&E Energy Trading.



Saul Logan

Saul Logan is a 17-year-old senior from Warrensburg High School. In school he is active in band, track and field, cross country, speech and debate, science olympiad, scholar bowl, readers theatre, National Honor Society and the debate club. Saul was a 2024

Youth Tour delegate from West Central Electric Cooperative and was named the 2024 Youth Leadership Council (YLC) representative for Missouri. He is dedicated to representing his local co-op and state well in his role as YLC. In his free time, Saul enjoys playing chess, learning random facts and hanging out with friends.



Michael Kelley

Michael Kelley founded The Kelley Group, a public affairs and advocacy consulting firm, in 2004. His clients operate in a variety of industries including manufacturing, defense, retail, health care, broadcast, professional sports and financial institutions.

His extensive background in politics at the local, regional, state and federal levels created connections and developed his abilities to assist companies with public communications and government opportunities. He is a regular host of a political issues program on KMOX Radio in the Midwest and a weekly Sunday political program on Fox 2 in St. Louis. He earned a degree in Political Science from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.



John Hancock

John Hancock's political experience spans three decades in grassroots and electoral politics. He is a former state legislator, was the GOP nominee for Missouri Secretary of State in 1992 and 1996, served as executive director for the Missouri Republican

Party from 1997 to 2003, and operated a public affairs and political and corporate consulting business for 12 years. In 2015, he was elected to a two-year term as chairman of the Missouri Republican Party. He co-hosts the weekly "Hancock and Kelley" television program on Fox 2 in St. Louis with Democrat Michael Kelley. Hancock and Kelley are also frequent radio hosts on KMOX-AM 1120 in St. Louis. John and his wife, Georgann, have two children — John, Jr., and Mary Kathryn. He is a nationally renowned ragtime pianist and composer. In 2013, John was elected to the National Collegiate Debate Hall of Fame.



John Hardin

John Hardin has more than 25 years of professional sales and management experience. He began working with WGU in 2015 and enjoys creating pathways to education for the many clients and communities he serves. This takes many forms, but principally

through corporate partnerships with major companies throughout the Midwest. John graduated from Missouri State University (SMSU) and he lives in St. Louis with his family.



Jim McCarty

Jim McCarty is editor emeritus of Rural Missouri magazine and special projects manager for the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. He came to Rural Missouri in 1985 and served longer as editor (37 years) than anyone in the history of the publica-

tion. Jim is a 1982 graduate of East Central College and a 1984 honors graduate of the University of Missouri's School of Journalism where he earned a degree in photojournalism. In 2017 he was inducted into the Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame. Jim lives in Union, MO. with his wife, Gretchen, and two cats, Joe and Mary Cate.

Scan for photos from this year's Annual Meeting



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See you next year:
September 30 - October 1, 2025
Branson, Missouri



Association of Missouri
Electric Cooperatives