

Cuming County Public Power District

August 2026



A Message from our General Manager *Chet McWhorter*

One of the reasons that I love working in public power is that we are part of the community. In the last year, CCPPD has been to many schools and had meetings with fire departments to discuss the potential hazards of electricity. We utilize a high voltage demonstration trailer and a smaller demonstration board that operates at 7200 Volts, the same voltage as our distribution system. We have had the opportunity to reach young children and teach them early about the hazards of electricity and how truly dangerous it can be.

We also have been present at the fair and several other events to educate and try to prevent tragedy. As a lineman, one

of my favorite tasks was to participate in these demonstrations, especially for the kids. I know the linemen at CCPPD have a lot of fun offering this training as well. Unfortunately, no matter how hard we try to avoid incidents involving the public and our lines, they still occur.

The most troubling thing that I have encountered is the number of incidents that occur involving CCPPD poles, power lines and the public. It's troubling because of the massive potential for serious or fatal injury

surrounding these incidents. With the ever-increasing size of farm equipment, larger drones, height of augers, and speed of vehicles it is understandable that more incidents might occur, but just because it is understandable does not mean we should accept it.

The first thing to do should you come upon an accident scene or make contact with poles, wires, or enclosures yourself while driving any equipment or vehicle is to call 911 and/



or CCPPD. We want to know even if the pole is still standing as it may be damaged and fall later and

hurt someone else. Stay in the equipment or vehicle unless there is a fire. Electric voltage will disperse in ripples away from the point where electricity is going to ground, and anyone crossing the area or touching the wires, could be severely or fatally injured. People inside the vehicle in these particular accidents are safe, because they are not the path to ground. So, if there is a fire, hop away with your feet as close together as possible to reduce the exposure to the ripples of voltage that could be pulsing through the soil. Never assume that

because a wire is laying on the ground that it is de-energized.

It's important to remember that our linemen who have years of training to work on electrical lines will not touch wires with their bare hands or any part of their body without testing them as de-energized and effectively grounding them. If you see the linemen out working on the lines, most of the time they are in an insulated bucket truck and are wearing insulated rubber gloves and sleeves that are tested monthly and inspected before each use to ensure their safety. If they come to the scene of your accident, they are likely to tell you to stay put while they go and make sure the line is de-ener-

gized and place grounds on the line so that the rescuers can safely enter the scene to help you.

Safety is a core value of all of us at CCPPD. This value is not limited

to the employees of CCPPD. Anyone travelling through or living in our service territory deserves to be safe. It is my hope that someone reading this will one day be saved from a tragedy or will save another from a tragedy by following the advice laid out. As it has been said, "Electricity is an ever-patient force waiting to remind the unwary." Please be aware of your surroundings and be cautious when you're near power poles, lines, or any other related equipment. Thank you for reading and stay safe!

Cuming County Public Power District ~ 500 S Main Street ~ West Point NE 68788

Website: www.ccppd.com

X (Twitter): [@CumingCountyPPD](https://twitter.com/CumingCountyPPD)

Facebook: facebook.com/CCPPD

Instagram: [cumingccppd](https://instagram.com/cumingccppd)

School Additions and Upgrades

Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools

The project planning for Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools started four years ago, with a school and community strategic planning process to determine where the district stood and what its needs would be in the coming years. During the strategic planning phase the biggest needs to address were space for added programming since the last building project was completed. Since that time, additional early childhood education programs, expanded after school programming, the Agriculture Education program, JAG (Jobs for Americas Graduates) and other CTE (Career and Technical Education) programs have been added. In the early planning phases, a Community Building Committee was formed to guide decision making, CWP Architects was selected to design the new space and Hausmann Construction was selected as the Construction Management company.

The team from CWP met with school staff and district administration to assess the needs for each new space to help guide the design process. In October 2024 Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools held a ground-breaking ceremony to kickstart the building project. The project included renovations to the 1968 portion which is home to the majority of elementary classrooms, including expanded restrooms and new HVAC. Renovations also included converting space for the Agriculture Education program, expanding Skills and Technical Sciences to separate metals from the woods area and moving the STS classroom into the former 6th grade classroom. The old stage and junior high locker rooms that were part of the 1939 gym were converted into a life skills room and dedicated concession stand area. Majority of the renovations were completed by the fall of 2025 to allow school to resume.

The new space includes 5 new classrooms - two early child classrooms, 6th grade classroom, music room, and elementary computer lab; a new activity and competition gym, locker rooms, training room, referee room and AD office; a competition stage; a flex learning space adjacent to the gym; and the Community Fitness Center. The project also addressed safety and security concerns by adding a secure front vestibule and relocating office reception near the main entrance by carving out a portion of the school library/media center.



The Class of 2026 Graduation Ceremony was held in the new gym and they have been benefiting from the renovated spaces for over a year now. They are extremely excited to fully utilize the added space in the next school year. The Community Fitness Center was able to officially open on June 10, 2026 after waiting on the security camera and door access control installation and activation. For a small fee, members of the community have a dedicated space to workout 24/7 with the exception of times designated for strength and conditioning classes offered for school athletes. This project is meeting the needs of the school district for years to come and it

is a huge source of pride for students, staff, and community members.



All photos courtesy of Bancroft Rosalie Comm Schools

www.ccpd.com

Employee Spotlights

Each month we will spotlight two employees at Cuming County Public Power District. Please help us thank them for their dedication.

Tyson Steskal



Tyson Steskal joined Cuming County Public Power District in 2019 as a journeyman lineman. He is a 2011 graduate of the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College in Norfolk. Before coming to West Point, Tyson worked as a lineman in South Dakota for the City of Winner and Union

County Electric Cooperative.

Tyson and his wife, Rachael, live in West Point with their three sons—Bowden, Rhett, and Otto.

When he's not on the job, Tyson enjoys spending time with his family and keeping up with his boys' activities. In his spare time, he also enjoys working on projects, riding motorcycles, fishing, hunting, and audio books.

Growing up on a farm near Clearwater, Tyson developed an appreciation for the outdoors. One of the things he enjoys most about being a lineman is the opportunity to work outside while serving the communities of Cuming County.

Please help us thank Tyson for his dedicated service to Cuming County Public Power District.

Trevor Schumacher



Trevor Schumacher officially joined Cuming County Public Power District on May 23, 2022, after first working with us as an intern in 2020 and continuing to work while completing his education. He graduated from the Line Program at Northeast Community College and began his career as an apprentice. Through hard work and required

on the job training hours, Trevor earned his Journeyman Lineman status.

Originally from Howells, Nebraska, Trevor now calls Dodge home. He comes from a large family with two older brothers and four older sisters. When he's not on the job, Trevor enjoys spending time with family and friends, riding horses, and taking his motorcycle out.

Trevor appreciates living and working in a small-town community, where he can stay close to the area he grew up in while serving the people who live there.

Now with five years in the electrical industry, Trevor says one of the best parts of his career is working outdoors and knowing that his work makes a difference.

Please help us thank Trevor for his dedicated service to Cuming County Public Power District.



STEP POTENTIAL *know what to do*

If the car/vehicle you are in hits a utility pole, your vehicle and the surrounding area can become energized. Even if you do not touch lines or equipment, you can still be **KILLED** or **SERIOUSLY INJURED!**

- Stay in the car/vehicle and call 911.
- Fire is the only reason to leave the vehicle before the CCPPD lineman arrives.
- Open the vehicle door & jump clear of the vehicle with your feet together.
- DO NOT touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time.
- Continue to hop or shuffle away with your feet together as far as you can.

Call the CCPPD office for any outages 402-372-2463 or toll free at 877-572-2463.



**KEEP OUR
CREWS SAFE**
PLEASE MOVE OVER



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- Commercial HVAC
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Find more info visit: <https://ccppd.energywisenebraska.com/>

(In partnership with our supplier, Nebraska Public Power District)

CCPPD Board of Directors

CCPPD Board Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month at the CCPPD Office at 500 S Main Street West Point NE 68788



Greg Strehle
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402-380-3659



Leroy Mostek
Vice President
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