

Manager's Report

By Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM



Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM

By now, it is common knowledge that there will not be a merger between Cuming and Burt County PPDs. The Boards of each power district took their time and studied all the data needed to make a good decision and at the end of the day determined not to proceed with the merger. Some folks were shocked by the decision, others relieved, and some others were disappointed. At the end of the day, I personally am just impressed by the due diligence exercised by both boards and their willingness to see the process through even though it took much longer than any of us wanted it to.

With the merger discussion put to bed, it is time for both of us to move on. CCPPD has done that and the CCPPD Board approved our capital projects and expense budgets for 2019 at their December 12, 2018 meeting. We start the

budget process in September and it is normally approved in December. It may seem tedious, but when done properly a budget serves as a great roadmap for the year. Budgeting is a very important part of managing the District's resources.

We're entrusted with the investment that each customer-owner has made in CCPPD, so it's well worth the time to ensure that we have carefully considered each and every expenditure planned for the coming year. It is also imperative that we provide the level of service that is expected so maintenance activities and continual system improvements are a must. Projects of interest for 2019 include a full rebuild of the Substation at Bancroft.

Replacement of some vehicles. Some tie lines to install and other lines to rebuild. We will also continue to remove trees and brush from the rights of ways and to test poles for rot. This year we will also utilize a contractor who will provide CCPPD with an entire inventory of our plant. Along with

the inventory they will provide GPS way-points for every structure, transformer, and underground cable. This will greatly improve our mapping system and allow us to better account for our plant and determine outage causes and needed maintenance more rapidly and pro-actively.

Time spent in necessary and important pursuits is never wasted. The time spent to create the budget that we follow is necessary and important as was the time spent to consider the consolidation. Both were well worth the effort and work. Looking forward, we have much to do in the coming year, but we are up to the task and will gladly put in the time to provide you with the excellent service that you have come to expect. Thanks for reading, and have a great new year!

Happy New Year

**Please join us for Gene Cihacek's
retirement from Cuming County
Public Power District**

**Gene's
Retirement Party
is Friday,
January 4, 2019
from 2-4 pm
at the CCPPD
Office**



Retirement Announcement

Gene Cihacek



Long-time Cumming County Public Power District employee, Gene Cihacek, has decided to retire. Gene has been with CCPPD since December of 1994. He came to us after he was with Omaha Public Power District for 20 years. His last day with CCPPD will be January 4, 2019.

Many customers may have seen Gene working in all areas of the District. He worked on substations, power lines, meters, and was the one who did most of our safety demonstrations. Gene has restored power in many weather conditions; such as ice storms, blizzards, floods and the Omaha tornado of 1975.

Gene and his wife Linda live just outside of West Point on an acreage. They have four children; Angela and her husband Shawn Roeber and daughter Josie live in Omaha, Nebraska. Jenn and her husband Troy Olson and their twin daughters Tinley and Rawley and son Huxley live in Lincoln, Nebraska. Their son Aaron and wife Ashley live in Omaha, Nebraska. And their daughter Jessica and husband Cody Gill and twins Cecilia and Sullivan live in Omaha, Nebraska as well.

Gene will enjoy time with his family and keep busy with the grandkids in his retirement. He enjoys spending time fishing, yard work, gardening and dabbling in woodworking. He also enjoys volunteering for many community events and in church activities.



We will miss Gene around the District. He was always willing to help out and took great pictures or video while working in the field. He really cared for the job he did and took pride in where he worked.

We will have a get-together at CCPPD on January 4, 2019 from 2-4pm for his retirement, but if you are unable to make it, you can send Gene a card to congratulate him. We wish him much happiness in his retirement!

**Come celebrate with us at the CCPPD office:
500 S Main Street, West Point, Nebraska 68788**
Gene's Retirement Party
Friday, January 4, 2019
2-4pm

Helping our Communities



Gene Cihacek, Jess Hunke, Brian Throener, Austin Koehlmoos and Tristan Bettenhausen helped with the tree and the city ornaments in Dodge.



Brian Throener and Tristan Bettenhausen helped with the city ornaments in Bancroft.



CCPPD Employees also enjoyed finding gifts for a couple of names on the Giving Tree at Franciscan Care Services. Giving back to the community means a great deal to each and every one of us.

10 Simple Ways to Stay Warm & Save Energy

1. **Open the drapes.** The sun's rays will help heat your home for free. Let them shine in through south-facing windows all day. Then, cover the windows once the sun goes down.
2. **Dress in layers.** It costs a lot less to pull on a sweater or wrap a blanket around you while you watch TV than it does to move the thermostat up even a couple of degrees. Add a couple throw rugs to tile and wood floors, and keep blankets on the sofa. Wear socks and fuzzy slippers indoors.
3. **Humidify.** An electric humidifier will add moisture to the air, which makes it feel warmer and helps retain the heat. Your whole house will feel more comfortable if the air isn't too dry.
4. **Open heating vents.** And move furniture and other items away from them so they're not blocked and can do a good job of evenly distributing warm air through the house.
5. **Turn on the fans.** Flip the switch that makes the blades spin clockwise so they push heated air, which naturally rises, back down into the room.
6. **Turn off exhaust fans.** Kitchen and bathroom fans serve an important purpose, they clear the air of humidity and odors. But once the air clears, turn them off. The longer a fan runs, the more heated air it send into the great outdoors.
7. **Add insulation.** Especially if your home is older, the attic insulation might have fallen out of place and even diminished over the years. That could mean heat is escaping through the roof.
8. **Tune up your furnace.** Call a professional HVAC technician to inspect and repair your system and change its filters.
9. **Lower the temperature at bedtime.** Throw an extra blanket on your bed and turn the thermostat down 10 degrees before you turn in. You could save up to 10 percent on your heating bill if you let your house cool off a bit for eight hours.
10. **Close the fireplace damper once the fire dies down.** An open damper when the fireplace is not in use lets warm air escape through the chimney.



Featured CCPPD Employee

Monte Draper



Monte Draper started his career at Cuming County Public Power District in 2008. He is celebrating 10 years this year. He is our Technology

Supervisor. Computer issues and anything security related is what Monte works on here at CCPPD.

He and his wife, Maggie, live in Dodge, Nebraska. They have three children: Jenna, Josh and Julia.



Outside of work, Monte enjoys video games, movies with the kids, traveling, photography, but most of all he enjoys spending time with his family.

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



WHEN THE LIGHTS
GO OUT
SO DO THEY



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Twitter: @CumingCountyPPD

Blog: ccppd.blogspot.com

Online billpay, tips to save on your electric bill, newsletters, and so much more on our website

Regular meetings of the CCPPD Board are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the CCPPD office



Greg Strehle, President
402-380-3659



Leroy Mostek, Vice President
402-528-3872



Ed Kaup, Treasurer
402-372-2966



Dennis Weiler, Secretary
402-372-2713



Fred Schneider
402-528-3683



Danny Kluthe
402-693-2833

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