

A Message from our GM, Chet McWhorter

With the new year we all get a fresh start. This is often in the form of some resolutions or great intentions and sometimes in redirection. The new year is also a time to reflect on what's gone on before and what we'd like to see go on in the future. At CCPPD, we operate on the foundation of some deeply held core values. The first core value is Safety. We maintain that we are to keep safety first in mind, heart, and action. With safety as a core value and principle, what else would I write about to start the new year?

We've had many conversations with farmers who are thinking about changing or adding to their on-farm grain storage systems. When contemplating these additions, electric power is a very important detail to remember, for more than one reason. Not only will electricity be needed to run fans, grain leg motors, augers and spreaders, power lines may present a hazard to workers and machinery around the grain bins. Large machinery, dump trucks and portable augers can snag overhead wires on the farm, becoming lethal hazards to workers who are in contact with them. The best way to avoid problems is to put bins a

safe distance away from any overhead power lines. The National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) includes regulations concerning electric lines near grain bins. The NESC sets minimum vertical clearances, depending on the height of the bin and the distance from the side of the bin. Any high-voltage lines above the bin must be at least 18 feet over the highest filling or probing port. Horizontal clearances are also based on the height of the bin. An area where portable augers will not be present can be considered a non-loading side and may require less clearance distance. CCPPD cannot provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing line that does not meet the clearance requirements. To avoid extra costs to you and the District call the operations department at CCPPD before you start any construction to have the safety clearances approved.

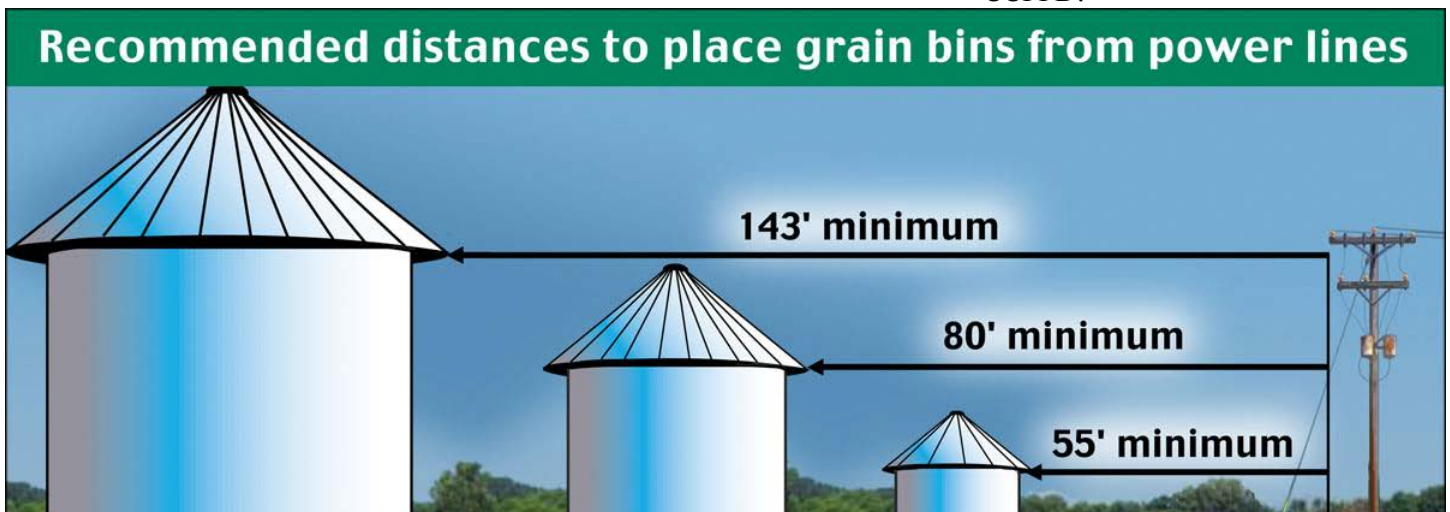
Please remember, the distances specified in the NESC are minimums. You should also consider the routes of trucks and other farm equipment to be used around your grain bins. What is the highest implement or truck that may be moved under the overhead lines? Are your own 240-



volt wires at a safe distance as well?

If the arguments for contacting CCPPD prior to construction that I've already made haven't reached you, perhaps an additional detail will. Cuming County is in the process of updating their Zoning Regulations. In the section governing Grain Bin Placement, there is useful information and graphics regarding NESC clearance requirements. There is an additional requirement that CCPPD signs off on the placement of grain bins to ensure that these clearances are met. So, in order to get permitted, grain bins will need to meet the NESC minimum requirements.

It is the mission of the employees of CCPPD to provide highly reliable, cost-based electricity in a safe, professional manner. We take this mission seriously and your safety is extremely important to us. Let's make 2020 a safe year full of great times, wonderful memories, and the best year ever. We're here to help, please call on us. Happy New Year from all of us at CCPPD!



Board Member Spotlight

Danny Kluthe



Danny Kluthe, Board Member,
Subdivision II, 2003-2020

Each month, we will feature a Cuming County Public Power District board member. The first person we will feature is Danny Kluthe. Danny has a long history with the electric industry. Seventeen years ago he installed an anaerobic digester that collects methane gas that is converted into electricity. Half a year later, in 2003, he became a board member of CCPPD.

He has enjoyed his time on the board and his position will come up for election in 2020. Danny said, "I enjoy having the opportunity to see all of the progress and changes with the electrical grid over the years." Other parts of the board responsibilities that he takes pride in is taking on the challenge of keeping our power bill as low as possible and helping CCPPD customers with questions or concerns.

Your
CCPPD
Board
Members

Responsibilities on the board are many. CCPPD board members partake in monthly meetings, manage issues affecting CCPPD and the electrical industry, and attend seminars and workshops to continue their education.

In his spare time, Danny enjoys spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. He also reads and enjoys many different card games. In the summer, his large garden full of fresh vegetables is his labor of love. Danny also keeps busy with farming. They farm row crop corn and soybeans as well as operate a hog enterprise system. If that doesn't keep him busy, he is also on call as a substitute bus driver for the How-

ells-Dodge consolidated school district.

Danny and his wife Josie live on a farm across the road from Sacred Heart Olean Church near Dodge. They have four daughters who are all married and have been blessed with 12 grandchildren.

I asked Danny what he would like CCPPD customers to know about him and he said, "I want to continue working for our CCPPD customers to help keep rates low, and to help our District move forward into the future."

We want to thank our dedicated board members, like Danny, for looking out for our most important part of CCPPD, our customers.



Good Neighbor Award

Tyson Steskal

We are happy to announce that CCPPD Journeyman Lineman, Tyson Steskal, has received the Good Neighbor Award from Nebraska Rural Electric Association. He was presented the award at the NREA Annual Meeting in Kearney on December 5, 2019. The picture below shows Tyson receiving his award from Larry Oetken, Job Training and Safety Coordinator at Nebraska Rural Electric Association.

On a calm day in September, shortly after the workday was done, Tyson was working near his garage at home when he heard a loud noise. It was an awful sound. There were horns beeping and screeching tires and then a loud, ear wrenching sound of two vehicles colliding. He rushed to see what happened. Living so close to a busy highway can cause lots of noise on any given day, but this was different. As he got to the scene, he noticed an accident happened in the middle of the highway as someone was stopped to make a turn.

A car behind the turning vehicle didn't see that two cars had stopped in front of them. This vehicle was traveling too quickly to stop so it passed them on the right. The driver then over-corrected when getting back onto the highway and crossed the middle line and crashed into an oncoming vehicle head-on.

As Tyson was running to the scene he took a quick moment and called 911. After he hung up and continued on his way, someone yelled that the car was on fire. He ran back to his house to grab his two fire extinguishers. He swiftly got back to the car and helped put the fire out. He didn't realize at the

time, but the person who yelled about the car being on fire was someone that was in the accident and he got out to help with his fire extinguisher as well.

When the fire was put out, Tyson worked with a few others to get the crushed car door open. The person was unconscious in the car, but they desperately tried to get them out. Luckily EMT's and fire and rescue crews had then arrived.

Many times these acts of kindness and bravery go unnoticed. Linemen sometimes do not want to be recognized. These brave linemen put their lives on the line every day with the dangerous work they do, but so many times

they put their lives on the line to help other people in need too.

We want to recognize Tyson Steskal for his quick thinking and taking the risk to help someone in need. We are proud to work at Cuming County Public Power District with such a hero.



Our CCPPD Linemen



Brian Throener, Eric Brabec and Tristan Bettenhausen hanging power lines that connect to the substation for the new wind tower.



Willy Anderson was working on installing an antenna for communications.



Bluestem's wind tower has been installed.

Incentives for 2020

Prescriptive Irrigation
High Efficiency Heat Pump
Heat Pump Water Heater
Commercial HVAC
Cooling System Tune-Up
Attic Insulation
Lighting
Smart Thermostat
Electric Vehicle Charging Station
VFD's
Hog Heat Mat

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

Cuming County
Public Power
District

Find more information at:
ccppd.com/energywise-rebates

GMS Continues Work

GMS (Global Mapping Solutions) is still contracted by CCPPD to capture GPS (Global Positioning System) information for all CCPPD electrical structures including poles, meters and transformers. They will be working in the middle area of the CCPPD service territory.

They will have signs on their vehicles stating they are contracted by CCPPD. We will notify customers by social media, the CCPPD website, press releases, public postings, newspapers and radio on what sections they will work on next. The map shows where they are currently working.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at 402-372-2463.



These are two of the GMS employees that are working in CCPPD's service territory. Their names are Vino & Terrill and are from Arizona. They are away from their families for long periods of time when they are working. We appreciate all the work they are doing.