



SOUTH DAKOTA ACTION COMMITTEE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION®

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PRESS RELEASE

For release Jan. 11 and after

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South Dakota ACRE® Elects Officers

PIERRE – The South Dakota Action Committee for Rural Electrification® (ACRE®) elected officers during its annual meeting Jan. 11. Approximately 200 ACRE members present at the meeting re-elected Jerry Hammerquist of Caputa chairman. Hammerquist is a director for West River Electric Association of Wall where he serves as board president.

Also re-elected were Oahe Electric Cooperative’s board president Ken Gillaspie, Pierre, as vice chairman and Melissa Maher, manager of Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative in Timber Lake, was elected the group’s treasurer. East River Electric Chief Financial Officer Dustin Zubke of Madison was elected ACRE secretary.

ACRE was organized to support candidates who will speak for and protect the interests of electric cooperatives and their consumers. ACRE is bipartisan and its contributions are based on a candidate’s record of support for rural electrification, not on his/her political affiliation. ACRE is truly a grassroots PAC backed by over 35,000 individuals making an average contribution of \$59. Nearly 6,000 of our members are electric co-op consumer-owners who have joined the ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action Committee®.

Hammerquist said having a strong ACRE organization is increasingly important for rural electric consumers.

“With the uncertainty and gridlock in politics nationwide, we need ACRE now more than ever before,” said Hammerquist.

Cooperatives were recognized for reaching membership goals for the 2018 recruitment year, which concluded Dec. 31. Co-ops receiving Century Club, Vice Presidential, Presidential and Leadership Level designation made higher contributions to ACRE. Honored were:

2018 ACRE® Honor Roll Systems – South Dakota

100% Board and Management

- Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Custer, *100% CENTURY CLUB*
- Bon Homme Yankton Electric Association, Tabor, *100% CENTURY CLUB, 100% Employee Participation*
- Butte Electric Cooperative, Newell
- Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, Selby
- Central Electric Cooperative, Mitchell, *100% CENTURY CLUB*
- Charles Mix Electric Association, Lake Andes, *100% Employee Participation, all at CENTURY CLUB*
- Clay-Union Electric Corporation, Vermillion, *100% Board CENTURY CLUB*
- Codington-Clark Electric Cooperative, Watertown
- Dakota Energy Cooperative, Huron, *100% CENTURY CLUB, 100% Employee Participation*
- Douglas Electric Cooperative, Armour
- East River Electric Power Cooperative, Madison, *100% Board CENTURY CLUB, 100% Management PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL*
- FEM Electric Association, Ipswich, *100% Board PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL, 100% Management CENTURY CLUB, 100% Employee Participation*
- Grand Electric Cooperative, Bison
- H-D Electric Cooperative, Clear Lake, *100% CENTURY CLUB*
- Lake Region Electric Association, Webster
- Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative, Timber Lake, *100% Employee Participation*
- Oahe Electric Cooperative, Blunt
- Sioux Valley Energy, Colman, *100% Management CENTURY CLUB*
- Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Marion, *100% Employee Participation*
- South Dakota Rural Electric Association, Pierre, *100% CENTURY CLUB, 100% Employee Participation*
- Union County Electric Cooperative, Elk Point
- West Central Electric Cooperative, Murdo, *100% Management CENTURY CLUB, 100% Employee Participation*
- West River Electric Association, Wall, *100% CENTURY CLUB*
- Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Milbank, *100% CENTURY CLUB*

100% Board

- Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, De Smet
- Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative, Rapid City

100% Management

- Northern Electric Cooperative, Bath