

P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124  
620-672-5538 • 800-828-5538  
www.ninnescah.com



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Watts Ahead

## NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OP, INC.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Michael Christie**  
President

**Glen M. Honeman**  
Vice President

**Paul W. Unruh**  
Secretary

**Edwin D. Lenkner**  
Treasurer

**Lori R. Jones**  
Trustee

**Ryan M. Lunt**  
Trustee

**Marc T. Rundell**  
Trustee

**Ruth Teichman**  
Trustee

**Kenneth E. Unruh**  
Trustee

### STAFF

**Teresa Miller**  
General Manager

**Robert Lamatsch**  
Manager of Operations

**Sarah Ezell**  
Manager of HR/Accounting

### IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 620-672-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

SAVE THE DATE

# ANNUAL MEETING

87<sup>th</sup>  
ANNUAL

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025**  
**PRATT MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

- ▶ Registration at 5 p.m.
- ▶ Dinner at 6 p.m.
- ▶ Meeting to follow.

### DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S EVENTS!

- ▶ Announcement of trustees and scholarship winners.
- ▶ Co-op reports.
- ▶ Door prizes.

### BALLOT MAILING

If required, your ballot will be mailed with your annual meeting information. Please mail it back or drop it by our office.



**JOIN US  
FOR A FREE  
DINNER!**

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Meeting of the Nominating Committee of the Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., was held on Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the offices of the Cooperative on N.E. 20th Street, Pratt, Kansas.

The following members of the Nominating Committee were present: Dean Fitzsimmons, David Johnson, Ken W. Lewton, Brandon Riffey and Morgan Trinkle. Nominating Committee members Jay Derley, Marvin Jantz, Jon M. McClure and Steve Moore were unable to attend.

Trinkle was selected as chairman of the Nominating Committee, Riffey was selected as secretary and Fitzsimmons was selected as inspector of elections.

Danny Lynch of Johnston, Eisenhower, Eisenhower & Lynch, general counsel for the cooperative, reviewed with the Nominating Committee the qualifications and eligibility requirements for election as a trustee as set forth in the bylaws of the cooperative. Based upon the information available and the bylaws of the cooperative, the Nominating Committee determined if each potential nominee was eligible for election.

The following individuals were nominated to serve a three-year term on the Ninnescah Board of Trustees: **CLAYTON KESSLER**, Sawyer; **JEFF SCHWERTFEGER**, Turon; and **RUTH TEICHMAN**, Stafford.

## McGuire Retires

Gary McGuire, warehouse manager, retired after 33 years at Ninnescah Electric. Congratulations Gary!



## Property Taxes for 2024

The Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Inc., Pratt, paid a total of \$603,975.94 in ad valorem property taxes in 2024. Through payment of property taxes, rural electric cooperatives share the cost of the state's educational system, highways and city and county facilities such as roads, libraries, parks and hospitals. Paying our share of taxes is one of the many ways Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative and over 900 other rural electric cooperatives — now serving more than 42 million people throughout the United States — help build a stronger, more prosperous America. In addition to the ad valorem property taxes, we pay approximately the same amount in other taxes. Ninnescah Rural Electric provides electricity to 4,285 services.

COUNTY	TAXES PAID
Barber	\$42,587.92
Comanche	\$920.60
Edwards	\$70,249.20
Harper	\$19,523.56
Kingman	\$32,385.58
Kiowa	\$80,849.58
Pawnee	\$1,501.88
Pratt	\$274,543.64
Reno	\$11,820.12
Stafford	\$69,593.86

## STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html) or at any USDA office or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

March is the perfect time to service your home cooling system. Routine maintenance, such as cleaning filters, checking refrigerant levels, and inspecting parts, improves energy efficiency and lowers bills. Early maintenance prevents costly repairs and extends your unit's lifespan. Spring servicing helps you avoid the peak-season rush and ensures your home stays comfortable all summer.

SOURCE: NRECA



# Be Ready for Storm Season

## Preparedness is the best defense

Spring is on our doorstep and like many of you, we are looking forward to more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy warmer weather. Springtime brings many activities like cooking out with family and friends, time spent working in the garden and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

Unfortunately, spring and summer can also create the perfect conditions for severe storms.

Ninnescah Electric crews are always prepared and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area. When severe storms cause power disruptions, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines.

We encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the items below as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness, but you can visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for additional resources.

- ▶ Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, including canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- ▶ Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- ▶ Ensure your first-aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- ▶ Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- ▶ Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from potential power surges and will also help prevent overloading circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.

If you plan to use a portable generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

Listen to local news or an NOAA weather radio for storm and emergency information.

Severe storms can occasionally bring down power lines. If you see a downed line, always assume it's energized and never approach it. If flooding occurs, never walk through areas where power lines could be submerged.

Planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and lessen the impact of the storm's effects.

Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings. If you experience an outage, please don't report it on Facebook. Call our outage reporting number at 620-672-5538 — this is the fastest way to let us know if your power is out.

We hope we don't experience severe storms over the spring and summer months, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At Ninnescah Rural Electric, we recommend that you make a plan today — because storm preparedness is always our best defense.

## TORNADO SAFETY & Electrical Hazards

### BEFORE THE TORNADO:

- ▶ Prepare an emergency kit and keep your devices charged.
- ▶ Know your utility company's contact information.

### DURING THE TORNADO:

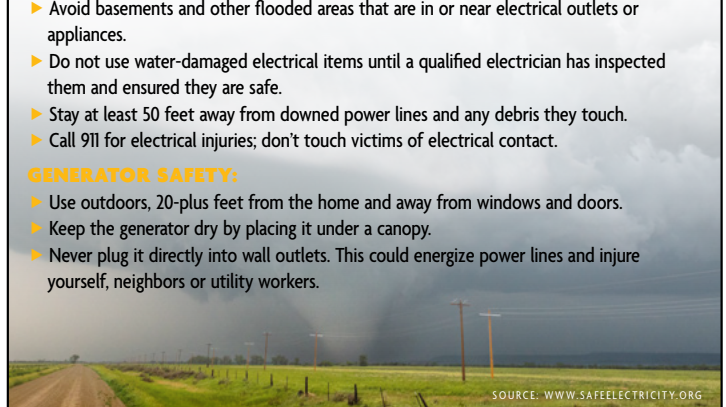
- ▶ Take shelter in a basement or windowless room.
- ▶ Unplug appliances to avoid power surges and leave one light on to signal power return.
- ▶ Avoid power lines if outside or driving; seek shelter immediately.

### AFTER THE TORNADO:

- ▶ Avoid basements and other flooded areas that are in or near electrical outlets or appliances.
- ▶ Do not use water-damaged electrical items until a qualified electrician has inspected them and ensured they are safe.
- ▶ Stay at least 50 feet away from downed power lines and any debris they touch.
- ▶ Call 911 for electrical injuries; don't touch victims of electrical contact.

### GENERATOR SAFETY:

- ▶ Use outdoors, 20-plus feet from the home and away from windows and doors.
- ▶ Keep the generator dry by placing it under a canopy.
- ▶ Never plug it directly into wall outlets. This could energize power lines and injure yourself, neighbors or utility workers.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brook &/or Austin  
Ackerman – Haviland

Carol Barlow – Harper

Samuel Brant – Sawyer

Tanner &/or Halee  
Mesman – Kinsley

Matthew &/or Jessica  
Robinson – St. John

# Navigating Your New Electric Bill

Follow the numbers below as a guide to reading your new billing format.

- 1** Amount due on account.
- 2** Your account number. Please refer to this number when calling in or making payments.
- 3** Billing summary shows activity since last billing.
- 4** Message center for important messages from NREC.
- 5** Meter location and meter reading information.
- 6** By following the graph key, you can see monthly usage. You can compare your usage with the previous year.
- 7** Current detail of charges for electric use.
- 8** Account number and amount due. Return stub with your check or cash payment.
- 9** Pay online via SmartHub or on our SmartHub app.

**1** Total Due: **\$136.21**  
Due Date: 06/01/22

**2** Member Name: JOHN DOE  
Account #: 99999999

**3** Billing Date: 05/10/2022  
Current Bill Due Date: 06/01/2022

**4** Important Messages: NINNESCAH RECA offices will be closed on Monday, May 30th, in observance of Memorial Day.

**5** Account: 999999999  
Service Address: 123 ANY ST.

Rate	Meter No.	Reading Dates		Readings		Mult	kWh Usage	Demand Reading	Demand Usage
		From	To	Previous	Present				
41	12345678	04/10/22	05/10/22	24945	26292	1	1,347	1,235	1,235

**6** **kWh Usage History**  
Previous Year (grey), Current Year (green)

Month	Previous Year (kWh)	Current Year (kWh)
May	1000	800
Jun	1200	900
Jul	1400	1100
Aug	1600	1300
Sep	1800	1500
Oct	1600	1300
Nov	1400	1100
Dec	1200	900
Jan	1000	800
Feb	1000	800
Mar	1000	800
Apr	1000	800

**7** **Current Service Detail**

Customer Charge		\$15.00
Energy Charge	500 kWh @ 0.07600	\$38.00
Energy Charge	500 kWh @ 0.08640	\$43.20
Energy Charge	347 kWh @ 0.09710	\$33.69
Power Cost Adjustment	1,347 kWh @ 0.00630	\$8.49
Gross Receipts Tax		\$3.55
<b>Total Current Charges</b>		<b>\$141.93</b>

**8** Account Number: 999999999  
Total Due 06/01/2022: \$136.21  
Amount Due After 06/01/2022: \$143.02

**9** PAY YOUR BILL 24/7  
ONLINE: www.ninnescah.com via SmartHub or download the SmartHub app.

NINNESCAH RECA  
PO BOX 967  
PRATT KS 67124-0967

JOHN DOE  
123 ANY ST  
ANYWHERE, USA 99999

Please remember to visit us at [www.ninnescah.com](http://www.ninnescah.com) and sign up for SmartHub. SmartHub is a fast and convenient way to view usage history, report an outage, and manage your account.