



JULY

2024

PLUGGED IN WITH ...

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

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Have a happy & safe Independence Day!

Our office will be closed Thursday, July 4th & Friday, July 5th in recognition of the holiday.



308-762-1311 or 800-585-4837
FAX 308-762-5750



www.prema.coop

## PREMA's 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) held its 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 29th in Alliance.

RD Sutphen, President of the Board for PREMA, called the meeting to order and reported on the results of the director election. RD Sutphen from District #1, Phil Zochol from District #2 and Chris Cullan At-Large, were elected to three-year terms.

President Sutphen reported that 2023 was a good year both financially and operationally. Sutphen thanked the employees for their work over the past year, noting their contribution to a successful year.

General Manager, Zac Bryant, reviewed the 2023 Report to Members with a series of slides highlighting the previous year's operational activities and financial condition.

Bryant reported that 2023 was a successful year in terms of safety. There were no lost-time accidents in 2023 and there have been none since 2011. PREMA also kept its very favorable Workers Compensation Experience Rating which was well below the state average for the eleventh straight year.

Bryant informed the attendees that PREMA invested nearly \$1,037,249 in upgrades and replacements of infrastructure which included 363 new poles, 170 crossarms, 65-meter loops, 59,500 feet of overhead wire and 1,126 feet of underground cable. Net margins for 2023 were \$1,183,520 with operating margins at 987,019. **PREMA returned \$574,108 of capital credits to its members with over \$12,800,000 being returned to members since inception.**

Nick Paradeis was honored in 2023 for fifteen years with PREMA, as well as Kayla Bishop and Lorelee Young for ten years and Myles Mills for five. We also congratulated Dale Berndt on his twenty-one years on the board with PREMA and wish him well in his retirement. Thank you all for your service!

Bryant gave several examples of how PREMA gives back to the membership and the area communities which included: the Grant County Pool, Rackett Fire Department, United Way of Western Nebraska, WNCC Powerline Construction and Maintenance Program, economic development loans, energy efficiency rebates and college scholarships.

Bryant also touched on some of the technology PREMA is using which allows members to save money and brings more efficiency to PREMA. PREMA offers Smart Hub, which permits the members to view their account information, weather history and billing data. PREMA currently has 780 accounts using Autopay. As of the end of the year a 1-800# that the consumers can access 24/7 at their convenience to make payments as well. That information is printed on the monthly statements, 1-800-965-3667. PREMA is using Facebook and the website [www.prema.coop](http://www.prema.coop) to inform and communicate with members. This year's annual meeting Zoom link was available on Facebook and the website.

## Director Election Results

### District 1

RD Sutphen .....**43 votes**

### District 2

Phil Zochol.....**41 votes**

### At-Large

Chris Cullan.....**42 votes**

Mr. Sutphen, Mr. Zochol and Mr. Cullan were elected to a three-year term by the membership. Thank you to all who ran and those who took the time to fill out and submit your ballots.

# ***MAKING A DIFFERENCE***

YOUR NEBRASKA ELECTRIC PROVIDERS, ALONG WITH TRI-STATE & BASIN ELECTRIC JOINED FORCES TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE MISSION OF FUNDING CANCER RESEARCH TO FIND A CURE.





# Safety Tip

All thunderstorms contain lightning. If a thunderstorm approaches when you are swimming or near water, get out of the water and stay away from the beach. If you are golfing, put down your clubs, get away from metal golf carts, take off your golf shoes and get inside as quickly as possible.



Safe  
Electricity.org®

## Notes From Load Management

**Load Management customers please consider the following:**

PREMA recommends pivots on Load Management should have auto restarts installed. Make sure the auto restart function is working properly and pivots start when load control is inactive.

Off peak hours (no control) are 9:00 PM to 12:35 PM and there is no load control occurring on Sundays or holidays.

Customers can view which control groups are being curtailed by going to PREMA's web site at [www.prema.coop](http://www.prema.coop). Status can also be checked by calling the office 24 hours per day.



**Serving Arthur, Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Garden, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Morrill, Sheridan and Sioux Counties**

### **PREMA**

**251 BRAYTON ROAD  
P.O. BOX 677  
ALLIANCE, NE 69301-0677**

### **MANAGEMENT STAFF**

**Zac Bryant—General Manager  
Boone Manion—Operations Manager  
Dale Knapp—Staking Engineer**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Chris Cullan— Hemingford  
Michael Collins — Alliance  
Wayne Crawford — Alliance  
Marty Larsen — Whitman  
Bryan Monahan — Hyannis  
RD Sutphen — Lakeside  
Phil Zochol — Alliance**

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