



July 2022

PREMA

PREMA's 77th Annual Meeting

No Rate Increase For 2022

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) held its 77th Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 24 in Alliance.

RD Sutphen, President of the Board for PREMA, called the meeting to order and reported on the results of the director election. Bryan Monahan and Marty Larsen were elected to three-year terms both from District #1.

President Sutphen reported that 2021 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, Ryan Reiber, reviewed the 2021 Report to Members with a series of slides highlighting the previous year's operational activities and financial condition.

Reiber reported that 2021 was a successful year in terms of safety. There were no lost-time accidents in 2021 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 tenth straight year.

Reiber informed the attendees, PREMA invested nearly \$970,000 in upgrades and replacements of infrastructure which included 806 new poles, 282 crossarms, 60-meter loops, 109,354 feet of new conductor wire, 935 feet of overhead secondary wire and 5, 019 feet of underground wire. Net margins for 2021 were \$1,631,067 with operating margins at \$799,144. The higher-than-normal amounts came because of greater-than-average irrigation pumping in 2021 and receipt of a Covid 19 Payroll Protection Program grant from the federal government. **PREMA returned \$444,502 of capital credits to its members with over \$11,800,000 being returned to members since inception.**

Guy Swartz was honored in 2021 for his thirty years with PREMA. We also congratulated Paul Grosz on his forty-three years with PREMA and wish him well in his retirement. Thank you both for your service!

Reiber gave several examples of how PREMA gives back to the membership and the area communities which included: the Grant County Rescue, WNCC Powerline Construction and Maintenance Program, economic development loans, energy efficiency rebates and college scholarships.

Reiber 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 652 accounts using Autopay. PREMA is using Facebook and the website to inform and communicate with members. This year's annual meeting Zoom link was available on Facebook and the website.

PLUGGED IN WITH . . .

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

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Director Election Results

District 1

Bryan Monahan79 votes

Marty Larsen78 votes

Mr. Monahan and Mr. Larsen 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.

THE WINNER OF THE EGO 18" ELECTRIC CHAIN SAW

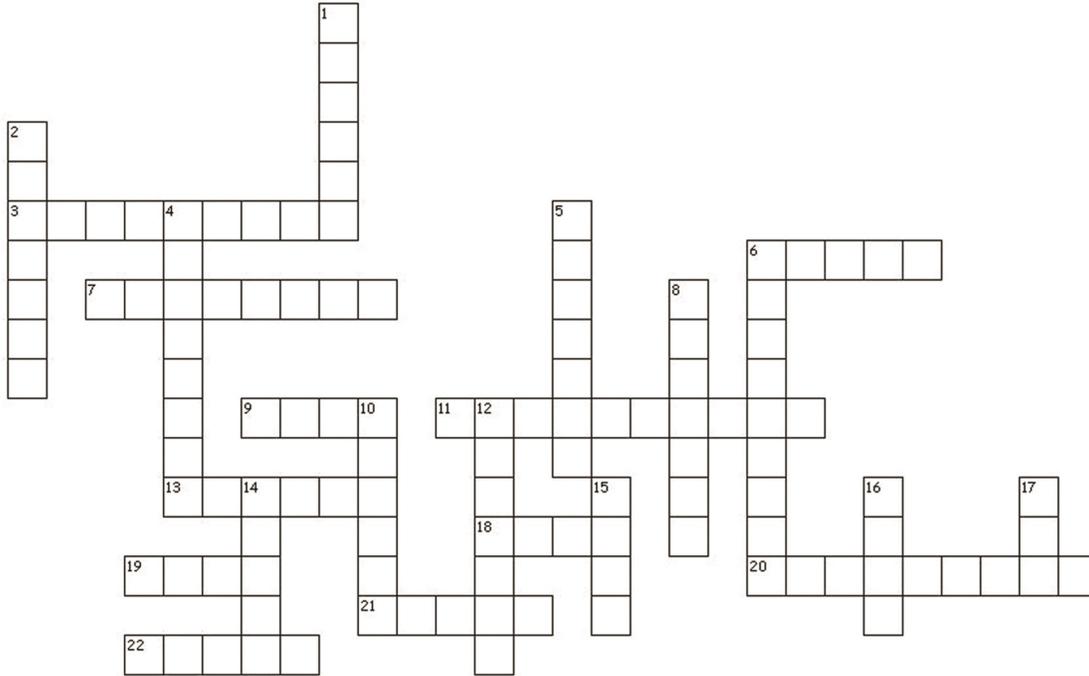
*Congratulations
Jared Dusatka!*



THANK YOU FOR JOINING IN
ON THE ANNUAL MEETING

Be Safe with Electricity!

Read the Safety Tips to Find the Missing Words



Across

- 3. Use extension cords on a _____ basis - not as permanent household wiring.
- 6. Run lamp _____ along walls and behind furniture so they're safely out of the way.
- 7. Screw light bulbs in securely. Loose bulbs may _____ and cause a fire.
- 9. Before you dig, _____ your local underground utility locator service to avoid damage and injuries.
- 11. Prevent electrical shocks and fires by using safety-tested _____.
- 13. If you see a _____ or sagging power line, stay far away, warn others to stay away and call the utility company.
- 18. Make sure outlets in the kitchen, bathroom, laundry, workshop, basement and garage have _____s.
- 19. Unplug _____-producing appliances like irons and toasters when not in use.
- 20. Don't remove the _____ pin to make a three-prong fit a two prong outlet.
- 21. Make certain extension cords are _____ to handle the lamp, tool or appliance you are using.
- 22. Have your home's wiring checked regularly, at least every 10 _____.

Down

- 1. Use _____ covers or special outlets if you have young children in the home.
- 2. All _____ sockets should have ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Use a portable GFCI if those outlets don't have them.
- 4. Flickering, blinking and dimming lights can be a sign of home electrical _____.
- 5. Test ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) _____.
- 6. Keep cords out of walkways. Don't cover cords with _____ or rugs. The cords could overheat.
- 8. Go indoors when _____ roars.
- 10. Never place tall items like a _____ or antenna near a power line.
- 12. Never reach into water for a _____-in appliance. Unplug it first.
- 14. Keep appliances away from _____.
- 15. Overloaded outlets and extension cords can overheat, increasing the risk for _____. Limit the number of appliances plugged into each outlet.
- 16. Pull by the _____, not the cord when unplugging appliances.
- 17. Keep all objects at least _____ feet away from overhead lines.

Across: 3. temporary 6. cords 7. overheat 9. call 11. appliances
 13. downed 18. GFCI 19. heat 20. grounding 21. rated 22. years
 Down: 1. safety 2. outdoor 4. overhead 5. monthly 6. carpeting
 8. thunder 10. ladder 12. plugged 14. water 15. fire 16. plug 17. ten



Have a happy and safe Independence Day!

Our office will be closed Monday, July 4th in recognition of the holiday.

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 10:00 PM to 11:35 AM 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. 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

**Ryan Reiber—General Manager
Boone Manion—Operations Manager
Dale Knapp—Staking Engineer**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Dale Berndt — Lakeside
Michael Collins — Alliance
Wayne Crawford — Alliance
Marty Larsen — Whitman
Bryan Monahan — Hyannis
RD Sutphen — Lakeside
Phil Zochol — Alliance
(308) 762-1311 or 800-585-4837
FAX—(308) 762-5750**

