

FALL RIVER FLASHES

FEBRUARY 2021

Committed to safely and economically provide reliable energy and other services which bring value to its membership.

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FALL RIVER CARES

Fall River Electric staff and management continues to support "Go Green" efforts, not only at the Co-op itself, but within the communities we serve. Teton Valley Community Recycling thanked Fall River for again maintaining its designation as an RRR Business Leader (Reduce-Reuse-Recycle). Fall River was one of the first local businesses in Idaho to achieve this sustainable business status. The distinction is part of the region's Green Business Recognition Program a membership-based association managed by Teton County Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling.

How much of the \$1M did you receive?

SEE YOUR FEBRUARY STATEMENT!

Fall River Electric is infusing \$1 million into the communities it serves by providing a one-time instant owner-member rebate to every member that paid a power bill in 2020. This bill credit will provide valuable financial help to members impacted by the pandemic, as well as businesses in our communities. Fall River Electric's board made the decision because power sales in 2020 exceeded projected revenues and because your Co-op has the financial strength to make this happen. Low cost, reliable, renewable power from Your Trusted Energy Partner... Fall River Electric Cooperative.

Candidates Sought For Fall River Electric's Board

Because Fall River Electric is a cooperative, owned by the customers in which it serves, you have a vital role in determining how the Co-op is governed. Your ability to provide direction comes through the Co-op's elected Board of Directors. One of the seven guiding principles of Fall River Electric Cooperative is democratic member control, meaning the board members you elect actively participate in setting policies and strategic direction for the long-term benefit of all members.



Brent "Husk"
Crowther

Dede Draper

Brent Robson

The elected representatives of Fall River's board are accountable to the membership. This year, three of those nine seats are set for election. The seats up for election this year are District 1, Madison/Jefferson counties, where Brent "Husk" Crowther currently serves; District 5, the West Driggs/Tetonia area, currently represented by Brent Robson; and District 6, the Ashton area, where Dede Draper currently serves.

Next month, March, the nominating committee will meet and select a slate of qualified candidates for each of the three districts. A notice regarding the eligible candidates for each district will be posted on April 30 at each of the Co-op's offices. This information will also be included in the Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members that will be mailed to all active owner-members in May and will include a ballot to allow members to vote by mail or vote online. Final voting and the announcement of the winning candidates will take place on Saturday, June 19, 2021, during the Co-op's annual meeting in Ashton, ID.

If you are interested in being considered as a board candidate, please contact Bryan Case by Friday, April 16, 2021 at bryan.case@fallriverelectric.com or call 800.632.5726 and ask to speak with him. Qualifications and expectations for board members can be found in our Bylaws, which are located on our website, www.fallriverelectric.com. Click on the "MYCOOPERATIVE" tab and then the dropdown menu, "Bylaws"



www.fallriverelectric.com



Fall River Delivers 2 ½ Tons Of Food: A Record Amount

During the past holiday season, Fall River Electric's staff conducted four food drives at area grocery stores in support of local food banks and pantries. A total of 5,310 pounds of food was delivered to four regional food pantries, including Teton Valley Food Pantry in Driggs, North Fremont Food Pantry in Ashton, the social services office in West Yellowstone, and to the food pantry in Rexburg operated by Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership for the benefit of those in need in Madison County and southern Fremont County.

"This is the third consecutive year we

have conducted these food drives for the benefit of local families and express our gratitude to the individual Co-op members and general public that participate," says Fall River Electric's CEO/General Manager Bryan Case. "One of our guiding principles is Concern for Community, which is demonstrated annually with these food drives."

In addition to the nonperishable food that was donated, the food pantries received \$1,907 in cash donations from individuals and local businesses, which set another record.



David McKinnon

McKinnon Chosen To Lead Fall River Propane

After conducting a nationwide search to find a replacement for retiring General Manager JT Hill, Fall River Propane's Board of Directors has announced the selection of eastern Idaho native David McKinnon to head the twenty-year-old propane business.

McKinnon grew up west of Blackfoot, farming and ranching with his family. He most recently spent twenty-five years in the propane business and has been the Idaho Director for the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA).

"As we interviewed a field of over two dozen exceptional candidates, we found David's years of experience, his skill in purchasing wholesale propane, and creative

ideas on providing even greater customer service to stand out from the others," says Fall River Propane Board President Bryan Case. "Fall River Propane's principles of low price, customer safety, and service were also David's highest priorities, which aided the board to their unanimous decision to have him lead our business into the future."

McKinnon is married to Joy Bolander, originally of Firth, Idaho, and together they have eight children and fifteen grandchildren. He enjoys a wide variety of outdoor activities, including camping, fishing, and backpacking. When time allows, McKinnon is an active gardener, Dutch oven cooker, and sourdough bread maker. He also enjoys playing basketball and baseball.



RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Where Service Matters.

800-632-5726
208-652-7431

ASHTON

1150 North 3400 East
Ashton, ID 83420

DRIGGS

1605 N Highway 33
Driggs, ID 83422

WEST YELLOWSTONE

436 Madison Ave
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

All Our Offices Are Open
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 4:30pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Husk Crowther
District 1
Rexburg/Rigby
Secretary/Treasurer



Jay Hanson
District 2
West Victor



Georg Behrens
District 3
East Victor
Vice President



Anna Lindstedt
District 4
East Driggs



Brent Robson
District 5
West Driggs/Tetonia



Dede Draper
District 6
Ashton
Board President



Jodi Stiehl
District 7
South Island Park



Jeff Keay
District 8
North Island Park



Doug Schmier
District 9
West Yellowstone



Bryan Case
Fall River Electric
CEO/General
Manager



Hydro Improvements Result In Higher Production

Hydropower produced on the Columbia River System and purchased from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), as well as the hydropower produced at Fall River Electric's four Co-op owned facilities, aid in delivering power that is 95 percent carbon free to your home or business. In addition to achieving this high level of carbon free energy, power from Fall River is some of the most inexpensive in the nation! In fact, only Washington State and Louisiana have lower average kilowatt hour rates.

Last August, we shared recent improvements made at our Island Park hydro facility. Those improvements included upgrades to the 500-horsepower blower and two smaller blowers used to ensure adequate dissolved oxygen levels are maintained in the Henry's Fork River below the Island Park dam. A dissolved oxygen level, or DO as it is often called, that is too high or too low can harm fish and other aquatic life and affect water quality. DO can be very low when the Island Park Reservoir's water is very warm or when the reservoir is frozen over during winter.

Fall River Electric's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FREC) license to operate the Island Park hydro facility requires the Cooperative to inject oxygen into the river during these times of low DO. The ability to use these new different size horsepower blowers is saving nearly \$100,000 in operating expenses annually, while protecting the fishery.

Late last year Fall River also installed a new "rake" at the Chester hydro facility. This rake is larger and more robust and will enable the Chester hydro facility to increase power production during wintertime when ice forms on the river. The rake is used to clear debris from the turbine intakes that collects against the turbine screens. Additionally, the new rake can function either with an operator or automatically. The result is an expected 30 percent increase in power production combined with a decrease in operational expense.

Fall River is committed to providing hydropower and clean, green renewable energy for the 21st century and beyond.



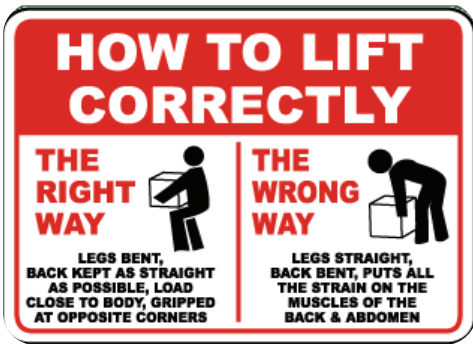
www.fallriverelectric.com



Scholarship Application Deadline Fast Approaching

Parents and students, this year more than \$70,000 in scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who are planning to attend college or advance their education this fall. Each scholarship is worth \$2,400 during a four-year period, but the deadline to apply is coming soon! All applicants (students) must have parents or guardians who are owner-members (customers) of Fall River Electric, have a high school GPA of 2.0 or greater, and submit the required essays to be eligible.

Scholarship applications are available at Fall River's website, www.fallriverelectric.com. Click on the tab titled "MY COMMUNITY," and then "Scholarships." Deadline to apply is March 26, so hurry. Scholarships are funded by unclaimed Patronage Capital.



Take Safety Home

As we introduced last month, throughout 2021 the staff at Fall River Electric will share their safety trainings and tips so you can implement them at home. This month's safety topic is about preventing back injuries due to improper lifting and/or lifting a load that should have required you to seek assistance.

The below are easy-to-follow suggestions to keep in mind:

- Warm up or stretch prior to lifting a heavy object;
- Wear gloves and proper shoes;
- Keep your feet apart, back straight, and lift by extending your legs;
- Keep the object close to your body; and
- Use the same principles when setting the load down.

According to the National Safety Council, "Once a back injury occurs, you are five times more likely to experience subsequent injuries." Safety is one of the highest priorities for the staff at Fall River Electric. For more on proper lifting and back safety, visit <https://er-go-plus.com/wp-content/uploads/WA-Handout-Proper-Lifting-Techniques.pdf>.

Need Help Paying Your Energy Bill?

If you are struggling to pay higher winter energy bills, help is available. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program (LIHEAP) is available to qualifying Fall River Electric members, however, time is running out to apply. To inquire, call the office in the state you reside in:

IDAHO 208.522.5391 (applications CLOSE March 31, 2021)

MONTANA 800.332.2796 (deadline to apply is April 30, 2021)

WYOMING 800.246.4221 (deadline to apply is February 28, 2021)



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