



NINNESCAH RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# Watts Ahead

## Ninnescah Rural Electric Co-op, Inc.

### Board of Trustees

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Trustee

### Staff

**Teresa Miller**  
General Manager

**Robert Lamatsch**  
Manager of Operations

### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, please call 800-828-5538. The office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday. After hours, calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to our on-call personnel.

## Ninnescah Rate Study Complete

At the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, the Board of Trustees of Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. will discuss and vote upon a recommendation to change the rate schedules affecting Single Phase, Three Phase, Irrigation, General Service Large, Time-of-Use and Idle Service rates.

Ninnescah Electric hired a consultant to study the cooperative's cost of providing electric service to the members. The purposes of the study were to determine the revenue needed to cover the cooperative's operating expenses and debt, plus ensure rate class equality and fairness.

The study shows that overall electric rates need to be increased by 3.08 percent, or \$379,813 annually. This increase

is needed to cover increased expenses for wholesale power, rebuilding and repair of existing lines, wages, benefits and the overall costs of doing business. The last general rate increase was in 2012.

As part of the proposed change in rates, the monthly Customer Service Charge will increase to more accurately reflect the true cost of serving individual members. This fee is designed to recover those costs that do not vary with the amount of electricity used. Also, an additional minimum will apply for accounts that do not use \$5.00 of energy during the month. A portion of the cooperative's costs are the same for all customers regardless of the amount of electricity they use.

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### NOTICE TO MEMBERS

## Board to Consider Rate Change

The Board of Trustees of Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, at 10 a.m. to discuss the proposed rate change. The meeting will be held at the cooperative office at 275 NE 20th St in Pratt.

Action on the rates may be taken at that time and become effective with the billings calculated on or after April 1, 2019.

This meeting is open to any member who wishes to attend. Members unable to attend may call the office at 620-672-5538 or send written comments to Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124. Members have the right to request review by the Kansas Corporation Commission of any rate change approved by the cooperative as provided by K.S.A. 66-104d(g).

# Ninnescah Rate Study Complete

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The cooperative has made investments in infrastructure, such as poles, wire, transformers and meters for all members. Similar costs are incurred for billing and consumer accounting. Increasing the Customer Service Charge to an amount closer to actual cost helps to minimize the increase on energy charges. This change in the rate structure more accurately reflects the costs of providing electric service.

The Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA) is an additional charge or credit that is applied to the monthly energy use based on the difference between the cooperative's actual cost of power and the established base cost of power. The new base cost of wholesale power embedded in the rate will be \$0.078006 or 7.80 cents per kilowatt-hour. The cooperative's ECA varies month-to-month depending on the seasonal demand charges and fuel cost from our power supplier. When the monthly wholesale power cost is greater than the base, the ECA will show as an additional charge on your bill. When the monthly wholesale power cost is lower than the base, the ECA will show as a credit on your bill.

The actual change in rates depend on the class you are in and your energy consumption. The accompanying table shows the change to individual rate classes.

## WELCOME New Members

**Dale R. Schoonover** – Springfield, OR  
**Christopher A. Murphy** – Pratt  
**Betty Olinger &/or Valonda A. Little**  
**Revocable Trust** – Greensburg  
**C & K Operating LLC** – Pratt  
**Philip Lutz** – Haviland

Rate Category	Existing	Proposed	Difference
Power Cost, per kWh Purchased	\$0.078006	\$0.078006	\$0.000000
ECA Base Cost, per kWh Purchased	\$0.068000	\$0.078006	\$0.010006
<b>Single Phase</b>			
Customer Charge	\$17.50	\$22.50	\$5.00
Energy Charge, per kWh (June - Sept)	\$0.1265	\$0.1406	\$0.0141
Energy Charge, per kWh (Oct - May)	\$0.1190	\$0.1331	\$0.0141
Additional Minimum	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Single Phase - Heat</b>			
Customer Charge	\$17.50	\$22.50	\$5.00
Energy Charge, per kWh (June - Sept)	\$0.1265	\$0.1406	\$0.0141
Energy Charge, per kWh (Oct - May)			
First 750 kWh per month	\$0.1190	\$0.1331	\$0.0141
Over 750 kWh per month	\$0.1090	\$0.1231	\$0.0141
Additional Minimum	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Three Phase</b>			
Customer Charge	\$25.00	\$32.00	\$7.00
Energy Charge, per kWh (June - Sept)	\$0.1265	\$0.1406	\$0.0141
Energy Charge, per kWh (Oct - May)	\$0.1190	\$0.1331	\$0.0141
Additional Minimum	\$0.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
<b>Irrigation</b>			
<b>Load Control</b>			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$10.00
HP Charge, Billed 5-Months (April - August)	\$6.00	\$7.50	\$1.50
Energy Charge, per kWh (June - Sept)	\$0.0935	\$0.0881	-\$0.0054
Energy Charge, per kWh (Oct - May)	\$0.0760	\$0.0706	-\$0.0054
<b>No Load Control</b>			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$10.00
HP Charge, Billed 5-Months (April - August)	\$6.00	\$8.50	\$2.50
Energy Charge, per kWh (June - Sept)	\$0.1235	\$0.1231	-\$0.0004
Energy Charge, per kWh (Oct - May)	\$0.1160	\$0.1156	-\$0.0004
<b>General Service - Large</b>			
Customer Charge	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$32.00
Demand Charge, per Billing kW (June - Sept)	\$13.00	\$13.25	\$0.25
Demand Charge, per Billing kW (Oct - May)	\$9.00	\$9.25	\$0.25
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.0780	\$0.0883	\$0.0103
Primary Discount	5.00%	3.00%	-2.00%
<b>Time-of-Use</b>			
Customer Charge	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$32.00
NCP Demand Charge	\$6.50	\$6.85	\$0.35
Demand Charge, per Billing kW (June - Sept)	\$12.50	\$12.75	\$0.25
Demand Charge, per Billing kW (Oct - May)	\$8.50	\$8.75	\$0.25
Energy Charge, per kWh	\$0.0575	\$0.0719	\$0.0144
<b>Idle Service</b>			
Customer Charge	\$15.00	\$27.50	\$12.50

## Nomination Committee Selected

At the regularly scheduled Board Meeting held on Nov. 27, 2018, Ninnescah Rural Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees selected a Nominating Committee.

### Those appointed were:

- ▶ **BRUCE E. WARREN**, Attica
- ▶ **WILBUR K. WOOD**, Haviland
- ▶ **GILBERT M. LARKIN**, Greensburg
- ▶ **KEN W. LEWTON**, Coats
- ▶ **STEVE MOORE**, Stafford
- ▶ **MORGAN J. TRINKLE**, Preston
- ▶ **JAY A. DERLEY**, Lewis
- ▶ **JON M. MCCLURE**, Stafford
- ▶ **TERAH LAMBERT**, Sun City

The Nominating Committee will meet at Ninnescah's office on Friday, Feb. 1, 2019, at 1:30 pm to select members of the cooperative to run for office. These nominees will be voted on

at the Annual Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

If anyone wishes to place a member's name into nomination (husband or wife if signed jointly), please contact any Nominating Committee member before the Nominating Committee meeting in February. The committee shall prepare and post at the office of the cooperative at least 25 days prior to the Annual Meeting a list of nominations for Trustee. Any 15 or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signature not less than 20 days prior to the Annual Meeting and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the committee is posted. Nominations may also be made from the floor the night of the meeting.

## Join Us for YOUR Annual Meeting

### Mark Your Calendars for March 19

The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 6 p.m. at the Pratt Municipal Building. More details to follow in next month's issue of *Kansas Country Living*.

March 2019						
S	M	T	W	U	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

## When Winter Winds Howl, Power Lines Can Gallop

Severe weather with strong winds can cause damage to trees, buildings, and electrical equipment. While power lines can sway in high winds, add freezing rain or icy conditions and the result can be galloping power lines.

Galloping is the bouncing or bucking movement of overhead lines and can cause several problems, from temporary power interruptions to equipment damage, the collapse of power poles and downed lines.

Galloping lines often result from ice buildup on one side of the power line due to strong winds. The buildup of ice creates an airfoil, which changes the flow of air around the line, causing bouncing wires, or galloping power lines.

There isn't much utility workers can do until the wind dies down. That's why many power lines have objects, like twisted wire or round or angular pieces of metal attached to the line. These help reduce galloping of lines and prevent potential danger.

### If you see galloping power lines:

- ▶ **Keep your distance**—ice can break off or power lines can break loose.
- ▶ **Contact Ninnescah Electric at 800-828-5538** to let us know of the potential damage as soon as possible.

### If you see a downed line:

- ▶ **Stay far away and warn others** to stay away too.
- ▶ **Remember, a downed line can remain energized** even if it is not sparking or arcing.
- ▶ **Always report the location** of a downed power line and damaged electrical equipment.

In the event of an outage, be sure to have a storm preparedness kit ready before a storm strikes to help get you and your family through a power outage. This kit should include bottled water, non-perishable food, blankets, warm clothing, first-aid kit/medicine, flashlight, radio, extra batteries and toiletries.



# Recipes

from Our  
Members' Kitchens

## Spaghetti Chicken

- ▶ 3 cups cooked chicken, diced
- ▶ 10 oz. cooked spaghetti
- ▶ 1 – 12 oz. can evaporated milk
- ▶ ½ cup margarine
- ▶ ¾ cup onion, chopped
- ▶ ¾ cup celery, chopped
- ▶ ½ cup chicken broth
- ▶ 1 lb. Velveeta cheese
- ▶ Shredded cheese – for top of casserole

Preheat oven to 400 F. Cook chicken. Cook spaghetti. Sauté onions and celery. Combine all ingredients, except shredded cheese and mix. Pour into a 9 x 13 pan and bake for 30 minutes. Sprinkle shredded cheese on top.

*Carol Jean Welsch, Haviland*

## Lemony Crisps

- ▶ 1 box lemon cake mix
  - ▶ ½ cup oil
  - ▶ 2 eggs
  - ▶ ¼ cup sugar
- Frosting**
- ▶ 1 cup powdered sugar
  - ▶ 2 – 3 Tbs. lemon juice
  - ▶ Yellow food coloring

Preheat oven to 375 F. In large bowl combine cake mix, oil and eggs. Stir until well moistened. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Put sugar in small dish. Dip bottom of glass into sugar and flatten balls to ¼-inch thick. Bake 5 – 7 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool 1 minute then remove from cookie sheet.

In small bowl combine powdered sugar and lemon juice. Add food coloring; stir until blended. Drizzle over cooled cookies..

*Carolyn Keller, Medicine Lodge*

## Banana Split Dessert

- ▶ 1 ½ cups graham cracker crumbs
- ▶ 6 tsp. melted butter
- ▶ 2 cups powdered sugar
- ▶ 2 eggs
- ▶ 1 stick butter
- ▶ 1 tsp. vanilla
- ▶ 4 – 5 bananas
- ▶ 1 - #2 can crushed pineapple, drained
- ▶ 1 container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- ▶ 1 can cherry pie filling
- ▶ Pecans for garnish

Mix graham cracker crumbs and melted butter. Press into 9 x 13 pan. Beat powdered sugar, eggs, stick of butter and vanilla for 10 minutes. Spread over crumbs. Spread pineapple over top. Cover with whipped topping. Put pie filling on top of whipped topping. Sprinkle with pecans. Refrigerate...enjoy!

*Bonnie Seidel, Pratt*  
(recipe given to her by Marilyn Seidel)

## Reuben's Marinade

- ▶ 2 cups apple cider vinegar
- ▶ 1 cup cooking oil
- ▶ 1 Tbs. poultry seasoning
- ▶ ½ cup (Kosher) salt
- ▶ ¼ Tbs. black pepper
- ▶ 2 medium eggs, beaten
- ▶ 1 tsp. onion powder

Beat well. Marinate meat 12-24 hours in refrigerator. Grill. Works well with chicken but is exceptional with venison.

*Joy Tweedy, Haviland*

## Want to share your recipe?

In your submission, include the following:

- ▶ Your name and contact information;
- ▶ Ninnescah account number; and
- ▶ the recipe (clearly printed or typed).

Email your entry to: [naschenbrenner@ninnescan.com](mailto:naschenbrenner@ninnescan.com) OR Mail your entry to: Ninnescah Rural Electric, Attn: Recipes, P.O. Box 967, Pratt, KS 67124