

WREN

WYOMING RURAL ELECTRIC NEWS

MAY

2025



OFFICIAL NOTICE of the

84th
Annual Meeting of the membership
for CARBON POWER & LIGHT

**Most
Important
Issue**

THIS ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS CARBON POWER & LIGHT'S
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP:
REPORTS, FINANCIAL STATS, AND
INCUMBENT INFORMATION ~
MAKING THIS THE MOST **IMPORTANT ISSUE**.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025

CARBON POWER & LIGHT'S

*84th Annual Meeting
of the Membership*

*Platte Valley Community Center
210 W. Elm St.
Saratoga, WY
10:30 a.m.*

*Complimentary BBQ
Bingo*

*Energy Efficiency Information
Capital Credit Checks
Door Prizes
Cash Give-a-Way*

SEE YOU THERE!
details inside



RUSSELL WALDNER

RETIRES AFTER 34 YEARS OF SERVICE

Carbon Power & Light has been under the management of Russell “More Data” Waldner for the past 10 years, which makes him one of the more experienced managers. Many managers from around the industry have looked to Russell for his insight and experience over the years. Carbon’s staff and employees have worked alongside Russell to help keep Carbon at the forefront in our industry for many years. With direction from the Board of Directors, and Russell’s leadership, Carbon has long been considered a “progressive cooperative” by our peers.

With Russell’s retirement in July, we will be ushering in a new manager, that hasn’t been selected yet.

Russell has been at Carbon since 1991 when he was hired as a Staking Engineer. He became the Superintendent of Engineering in 1994 and later the Director of Engineering in 1996. Russell took “over the reins” on May 15, 2015. He will be staying on until mid July to help provide a smooth transition.

Congratulations to Russell on his retirement, which we hope will be both rewarding and exciting.

A sense of humor was never short on display





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May 2025

Official Report

INSIDE

President and Manager's Report
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This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

PRESIDENT AND MANAGER



Jim Rogers
President

When you know your days are numbered you start to reminisce. I refuse to slide into my final day like it is home plate and the throw will be close. I'm going in full speed and "look out" to anyone in my way.

I looked at the statistics for Carbon when I started and thought it would be a good comparison for my impact as an employee at Carbon. In July of 1991 we had \$16,600,964 in total utility plant, power cost \$252,378, expenses less power cost \$103,734, tax & interest paid \$51,159, interest on investments \$12,903, total meters 4,540 and residential meters 3,808, miles of line 1,672 and meters per mile 2.72, total kWh 5,969,720 and residential usage 2,063,479, the average residential usage 534 kWh and the average bill \$43.65 and we had an average investment per meter of \$3,656.59. The current stats for July 2024 are \$60,533,516 total utility plant, power cost of \$687,377, expenses less power cost \$598,435, taxes and interest paid \$75,249,

interest on investments \$25,525, total meters 6719, residential meters 5,542, miles of line 2,018 and meters per mile 3.3, total kWh 9,137,120 and residential usage 2,891,079, the average residential usage 522 kWh and the average bill \$94 and we had an average investment per meter of \$9,009.30.

When we talk with other cooperative employees we use these numbers to explain the size and makeup of our cooperative. This is the icebreaker conversation at cooperative events. "We have 6,719 meters and are mostly residential. Over 80 percent of our meters are only 32 percent of our load and our meter density is 3.3." A response may be, "Wow, that is a pretty low average residential monthly usage." And I always tell them we are a very conservative bunch. If the rest of the nation would follow our example we would have no need for a "green new deal."

I have been giving Joe Parrie a hard time about not increasing the average residential kWh usage, so he told me he was retiring first.

The Carbon Team stats while I was fortunate to be a member of the team. Increased total utility plant 2.65 times, increased power costs 1.72 times, increased expenses less power cost 4.77 times, 48 percent more total meters and 45.5 percent more residential meters, 21 percent more miles of line and the same increase in density, a 53 percent increase in total kWh and a 40 percent increase in residential kWh. The average residential usage is a negative 2 percent, while the bills

went up 1.15 times. Our investment in each service is a whopping 2.47 times more than when I started with the team.

After review and evaluation of the stats for 34 years I think Carbon was great when I started and Carbon is great as I depart. The things that make me proud are the human interactions that I have had with members. It is the people of Carbon that make it the best cooperative to be a team member of!

This is a joint report with the President but I took all the space so he will have to give his report verbally at the meeting.

Mark your calendar now to be at the meeting! I always tell everyone it is easy to remember the 4th Saturday in June, the best Saturday in June, Carbon Power & Light, Inc. Annual Meeting.



Russell Waldner
General Manager

DIRECTOR CANDIDATE PROFILES

Nominating Committees Report

The 2025 Nominating Committee, in accordance with the Cooperative bylaws under Article IV, Section 3, were appointed by the Board of Directors. Appointees were:

District 1

Joe Glode
Mark Shirley
Jon Nelson

District 2

Bobby Heward
Rodney Thornburg
Joe Jones

District 3

Juanita Engen
Aimee Binning
Raymond Leach

The following is a report from the Nominating Committee Members who met in April 2023.

The Nominating Committees by majority vote, selected the following Member-Owners of the Cooperative as qualified candidates to serve on the Board of Directors for Carbon Power & Light.

District 1 - 3 year term
Debbie Reichert

District 2 - 3 year term
Shae Johnson

District 3 - 3 year term
Joe Devine

District 1 **Debbie Reichert**

District 1 Incumbent



I was born and raised in the Platte Valley, so my ties to the community run deep.

The Board of Directors plays a vital role in shaping the future and stability of our energy infrastructure. As an incumbent seeking reelection, I would like to reaffirm a commitment to serving the cooperative's member/owners with dedication and integrity.

The past three years of service have been very rewarding to me. I have completed the CCD certification requirement for all Carbon Board

Members. Participation in a Board/Staff retreat to plan for the future of Carbon was a very rewarding experience, with our member/owners and employees our top priority.

I am committed to serving the well-being of our cooperative, member/owners and employees. I would greatly appreciate your vote for District 1 Board of Director.

District 2 **Jonathan “Shae” Johnson**

District 2 Incumbent



My current three-year term as your representative is drawing to an end, and it has truly been my honor and privilege to represent the members of your district. I would like to ask you at this time to be considered as a

candidate for election for an additional three-year term. The last three years as your representative has provided me great opportunities in learning what it means to be a board member of a rural electric cooperative. It has been a rich and rewarding experience for me personally to represent the member-owners of Carbon Power & Light.

One of the most important lessons I have learned in the last three years is how rapidly things can change and evolve

within the industry, and with that in mind how important it is to move forward with the values and principals of the cooperative business model. I feel that I am up to that challenge and I would like to be your voice in those future endeavors. I am thankful for the rewarding experience being your representative has given me, and I would like to ask you to consider me for an additional three year term to represent you again.

DIRECTOR CANDIDATE PROFILES

District 3

Joe Devine

District 3 Incumbent



My permanent residence in Centennial Wyoming and being a member of Carbon Power and Light

has provided me insight into the quality of service provided by our coop. I have been involved in the power business for more than 40 years from working on the construction of plants like: Jim Bridger in Rock Springs and the Wheatland power station. I also worked as a plant engineer in several power plants before starting my own business in 2004. My business was focused on software to optimize operation of power generation, transmission and distributions systems for

many large utilities. I would like to bring my knowledge to the cooperative while understanding the difference between a cooperative and a large utility but still taking advantage of the technologies. With my first term as a director nearing an end, the work with the rest of the board and the employees has been rewarding. With another term we will strive to insure reliability and value for all members.

NEW INDUCTEES TO CARBON'S WALL OF FAME



Gary Jacobsen District 1 Director
21 years



Perry Davidson Journeyman Lineman
28 years



Cindy Hamilton IT Specialist
18 years

JOE PARRIE

RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Carbon Power & Light has been the second home to Joe for the last 25 years. Joe started working for Carbon on November 16, 2000 as a Member Services Representative. In February of 2003, Joe took over as the Director of Member Services and Marketing. During his time at Carbon Power & Light, Inc. he has been responsible for DIRECTV, Wildblue, Excede and Viasat Internet, along with the Storage Heater and Water Heater programs. He worked closely with Tri-State on an Energy Rebate Service and all other duties as assigned. Every year he took high school kids down to Colorado for Energy Camp. He also took our pictures and helped maintain our headquarters building.

With Joe's retirement in June, he will be enjoying some well deserved time to do what he wants. We wish Joe a very exciting retirement.



2024 MINUTES OF THE 83RD!!



2024

Unofficial minutes of the 83RD ANNUAL MEETING

Call to order:

Director Shae Johnson called the 83rd annual meeting of the membership to order at 12:35 p.m. on June 22, 2024 at the Platte Valley Community Center located in Saratoga, WY. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance and then Director Jim Rogers gave the invocation. A moment of silence for Dan Hodgkiss and Pat Eastman was taken.

Reading of the Official Notice:

Attorney Hank Bailey read the Official Notice of the 83rd Annual Meeting printed in the May edition of the cooperative's newsletter in the WREN magazine.

Official Notice of Quorum:

Attorney Hank Bailey reported that a quorum was present with registered Member-Owners.

2023 Minutes:

Attorney Hank Bailey asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Membership. A Member-Owner from the floor motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved without dissent.

Joint Report by President Jim Rogers and General Manager Russell Waldner:

President Rogers reported Carbon has the best employees and shared his appreciation for them. Mr. Waldner reported their written report was in the WREN and encouraged the membership to read it. Mr. Waldner reported that carbon is currently completing a cost of

service study and he is certain there will be a rate increase at the beginning of 2025.

Treasurers Report:

Treasurer Debbie Reichert reported on the taxes paid by Carbon in 2023. Mrs. Reichert reported the annual audit would be taking place in July by Blodgett, Mickelsen & Adamson P.S. and that last year's audit results concluded no issues.

Student Scholarships:

Scholarship certificates were presented to the 2024 scholarship recipients. Carbon's recipients were Marilee Williams and Mackenzie Priest were present. Makenna King, Ryon Miller, Addison K Forry, Mikayla Alexander were not present. Tri-State recipient Logan Robinson was present and Anna Peterson not present. Basin recipient was Fischer Williams. He attended and helped serve lunch but was called back to work.

Service Awards:

President Jim Rogers and Mr. Waldner presented certificate of service and jacket to employee Mr. Matt Drake for 10 years and Mr. Tom Westring for 20 years. Mr. Waldner presented the certificate of service on the Board of Director Kenny Curry for 15 years. Director Gary Jacobsen served 21 years on Carbon's Board and was given a nice parting gift.

Tri-State Report:

Carbon's Board representative for Tri-State,

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Director Clay Thompson, reviewed Tri-State's operations over that year. Director Thompson introduced the Senior VP and CFO for Tri-State; Mr. Todd Telesz stated he would do his best to keep reliable and affordable energy for Carbon's members. He reviewed the FERC filing and reviewed the Bring Your Own Resources (BYOR). He reported to the members on the information about the New ERA (Empowering Rural America) grant that Tri-State was in hope of receiving.

WREA Report:

Director Shae Johnson introduced Director Kenny Curry as Carbon's WREA representative. He then introduced the Executive Director for WREA and new member Shawn Taylor. He reported on Wildfire Management Plan and presented a slide he called the train wreck.

Election Results:

Attorney Hank Bailey reported that the Nominating Committees met in April to review the bylaws as they pertained to the process of nominating and electing Board Members. The Directors in District 1, 2 and 3 are running unopposed for their respective District seats. They will stand as elected to represent District 1, 2 and 3.

District #1 - Candidate Shawn Brown from Encampment for a 3-year term.
District #2 - Incumbent Kenny Curry from Rock River for a 3-year term.
District #3 - Incumbent Jim Rogers from Laramie for a 3 year term.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

A customer from the floor asked if Carbon would explain the acronyms they were using. Director Johnson explained the two that had just been used RTO (Regional Transmission Organization) and SPP (Southwest Power Pool). Many great door prizes were given away to several lucky winners! Member-Owners who were present at the business meeting were entered in the drawings. One lucky winner walked away with \$500 CASH! Sadly, there were also a few missed opportunities at the annual meeting. Had Jessica McComb been at the business meeting, she would have won \$1,500 cash; W & E Company would have won \$1,000 and Levi Ricci would have won \$750. It was Phil Kautz, who was present at the business meeting and he won the \$500 cash drawing!

Adjournment:

There being no further business on the agenda, the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Membership was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Matt Drake and Peter Bennett
photo credit Joe Parrie





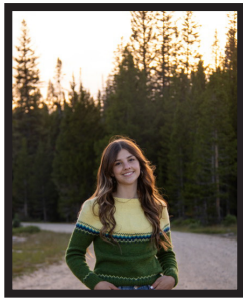
{SCHOLARSHIPS}

CONGRATULATIONS

Announcing the 2025 Carbon Power & Light,
Tri-State G & T and Basin Electric scholarship winners.
Carbon Power & Light awards \$18,000 in scholarships to high school students from
Albany and Carbon Counties as part of its Commitment to Community Program.

*The Board of Directors congratulate our member students and their families
and wish them the very best in continuing their education.*

Carbon Power & Light \$3,000 Scholarships



Allie Condict
Saratoga H.S.



Walker Buchanan
Harding County H.S.



William Priest
Hanna Elk Mountain H.S.



Kamrie Bingham
Laramie HS

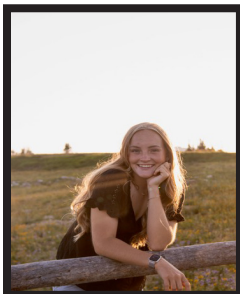


Glade Parker
Laramie H.S.

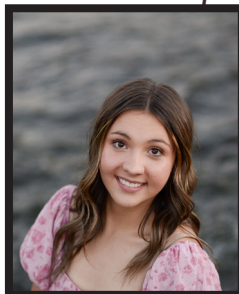


Jaide Jennings
Saratoga H.S.

Tri-State G&T \$500 Scholarships

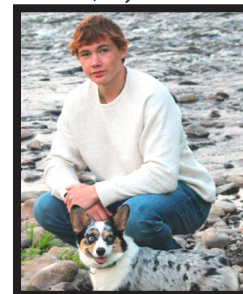


Eckerley Pickett
Encampment H.S.



Sophia Grubb
Saratoga H.S.

Basin Electric \$1,000 Scholarship



Skyler Wood
Saratoga H.S.

the
S CARBON POWER & LIGHT
Annual Meeting of the membership



BIG prizes!

Member-Owners who register at the annual meeting and attend the business meeting portion of the meeting in person will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win wonderful prizes!

Prizes valued at almost \$15,000

including Cash, a Flat Screen TV, 1/4 Beef,

Billing Credits, Registration Gifts, and MORE!

*Journeyman Lineman Nick Cary
Photo by Joe Parrie*



Official Notice

of the 84th Annual Meeting of
the Membership

June 28, 2025 • 10:30 a.m.
Platte Valley Community Center
210 W. Elm St., Saratoga, WY.



OFFICIAL NOTICE

FOR CARBON POWER & LIGHT, INC.'S
84TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Carbon Power & Light, Inc. invites you to the 84th Annual Meeting of the Membership that will be held at the Platte Valley Community Center, 210 W. Elm St. in Saratoga, Wyoming.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., complimentary lunch at 11:00 a.m., bingo at 11:30 a.m. and the business meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, 2025.

The purpose of the meeting is for the election of one (1) Director from each district for a term of three (3) years and for the transaction of such other business that may come before the Membership.

Plan now to attend and make this the best Annual Meeting we have ever had.

Kenny Curry, Secretary



AGENDA

FOR CARBON POWER & LIGHT, INC.'S
84TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
- Welcome and Introduction of Guests
- Establish a Quorum
- Approval of the minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Membership
- President and Manager's Report
- Treasurer's Report by Debbie Reichert
- Recognition of Scholarship Recipients
- Employee Service Awards
- Tri-State Report by Director Clay Thompson and Senior Vice President of Energy Management Lisa Tiffin
- WREA Report by Exec. Director Shawn Taylor
- Report of Board Elections
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

**Door Prizes will be given throughout the course of the meeting.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Carbon Power & Light, Inc.
Saratoga WY.

Jim Rogers Board President

Clay Thompson Board Vice President

Kenny Curry Board Secretary

Debbie Reichert Board Treasurer

Shae Johnson Director

Everett Summers Director

Roger Cox Director

Joe Devine Director

Shawn Brown Director

Carbon Power & Light is a non-profit, member-owned, member served electric utility cooperative serving approximately 4,300 Member-Owners with 25 full time employees. Approximately 6,700 meters cover a span of 4,500 square miles with an average of 3.3 Member-Owners per mile of power line in Albany and Carbon Counties.