

**LYON-COFFEY
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

EVENTS



Lyon-Coffey Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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FROM THE MANAGER

We Need Your Input

The Lyon-Coffey Electric Board of Trustees and staff has conducted several strategic planning sessions in recent years. These brainstorming exercises were done in order to determine where the organization is headed, how we are going to get there and how to measure if we were successful.

The strategic goals of cooperatives are mutually interactive--they all involve competition, organizational capabilities, technology, cost competitiveness, and the need to satisfy members.

In early planning meetings many key topics as well as the cooperative's strengths and future opportunities were identified. The Board and staff worked through an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. One of the weaknesses identified was that the cooperative operated two offices in separate cities, which has led to communication concerns and over-staffing.

In 2008, the Board and management met and focused their strategic discussions on three main areas, Capital Credits, subsidiary issues and keeping and retaining a qualified workforce.

During the 2009 strategic planning session, seven questions relating to current strategic concerns facing the cooperative were addressed. One of

those questions asked, "How do we ensure that our employees continue to have the skills and motivation necessary in a changing utility environment?"

One suggestion made during the discussion reverted back to an idea presented years earlier and that was to move the cooperative to a central location. Such a move would enable better communication among staff, fewer employees and lower operating costs. Another positive element of building a new "green" facility was that it would create an educational opportunity for the cooperative to teach area students the attributes of environmentally friendly structures, and as a bonus, have a more energy efficient building to operate.

Subsequent to these discussions, the Board asked management to investigate the pros and cons of a central location, as well as, the costs associated with implementing this strategy.

The staff contacted two Kansas cooperatives that have built new facilities, Sedgwick County and Radiant. Sedgwick built a total of 22,795 sq. feet of office and warehouse space in 2003 and Radiant built a new 23,478 sq. foot facility including 15 acres in 2008. Both cooperatives stated numerous benefits from operational cost saving standpoints.



Scott Whittington

We would like to hear your ideas at our upcoming district meetings.

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We Need Your Input

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After analyzing the current construction costs and land acquisition in our territory and comparing those costs to the saving associated with operating the cooperative at a single central location, the staff estimated the cooperative would realize a savings of approximately \$1.6 million over the first 10 years.

As with all projects of this stature, there are definite pros and cons associated with its implementation.

We have come up with a several items to put on the list, but we would like to hear your ideas as well. We will be conducting district meetings over the next few months and hope that you will stop by and share your thoughts.

If you are unable to attend in person and would like your voice heard, please give us a call 620-364-2116 or e-mail us at info@lyon-coffee.coop. Thanks for helping us serve you better!

Small Changes Add up to Big Savings

Sometimes the little things in life mean a lot. Simple steps such as turning off lights when you leave a room, unplugging appliances when you're not using them, and raising the temperature on your thermostat as our weather warms up, when done together, can help your family rack up big energy savings.

At Lyon-Coffey Electric Co-op, we're always looking for ways to help you, our members. With energy costs rising due to a growing demand for electricity, higher power plant costs, and federal regulations, energy efficiency remains a key part of our efforts to keep rates affordable. Best of all, energy efficiency—simply making the electricity you use do more—saves you money.

Because we're part of the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives network, you have access to a valuable resource that not only identifies simple energy-saving tasks but also illustrates the real-dollar savings they produce, specific to your home. TogetherWeSave.com uses real savings calculations—based on our co-op's rates and climate zone—to motivate and inspire small changes in behavior.

Intrigued? Check it out at www.TogetherWeSave.com.



See how making little changes can add up on your electricity bill by visiting www.TogetherWeSave.com.

TogetherWeSave.com. You'll be asked for your ZIP code; this helps provide accurate electricity rates for your home. You can also access Together We Save through our Web site, www.lyon-coffee.coop, select "links," then Together We Save.

The Virtual Home Tour provides a good starting point. As you move through each of the six rooms, clicking on areas highlighted in yellow prompts you to take various interactive energy-saving measures and shows how these changes translate into savings on your electric bill from adding insulation in the attic to lowering your thermostat one degree in the winter.

Finding ways to help you save energy dollars during tough times is important to us. Valuable tools like TogetherWeSave.com are just one more way Lyon-Coffey Electric is looking out for you.

WildBlue Barbeque

July 16-17, 2010

Kelly Park in Burlington



In 2009, 10 scholarships were awarded to Coffey County high school seniors from our sponsors and 34 competing teams of barbecue cook-off contestants.

This contest is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society and will be held at Kelly Park in Burlington.

This year we are hoping for an even bigger and better contest that will allow us to award more and larger scholarships.

For more information call Lyon-Coffey Electric at 800-748-7395. If you are interested in seeing last years' scholarship winners, sponsors, photos taken during the contest or the event listing check it out at www.wildbluebbq.org. We hope you can join us for this fun event.

Don't Miss the Fun!

For more information visit www.wildbluebbq.org

