



## Sac Osage Electric Cooperative

News

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**April 2022** 

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTEND STATE LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Around 150 electric cooperative directors, staff and grassroots advocates descended on the Missouri Capitol Jan. 30-31 for the annual State Legislative Conference hosted by the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives. The event gives Missouri's electric cooperatives an opportunity to meet one on one with elected officials to help them understand the issues that affect our goal of supplying reliable and affordable electricity to members.

Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe, himself a member of Gascosage Electric Cooperative, was one of the elected officials to address the group. "I just want to tell you that anytime you can meet with the electric cooperatives, it's like meeting with the heart of Missouri, no matter which corner of the state you're in," he said. "I can say you have the utmost respect from lawmakers and that's not a rural, urban, Democrat or Republican thing. I'm just telling you we know that you changed people's lives a century ago, and you're doing it again now, as some of you deploy fiber across the state."

During the conference those gathered also heard from Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey, who praised the electric cooperatives for their work and outlined his goals as attorney general. "I know how important this organization is and what it does for the people of the state of Missouri.I don't know what I would do without good energy at an affordable price in rural Missouri.

That is critical to the people that I know and love. This organization is absolutely essential and a critical piece of our infrastructure in Missouri," he said.

They also heard from BJ Tanksley, who heads the Missouri Office of Broadband Development. He reported that \$260 million in grants to extend broadband to unserved Missourians was awarded, with \$91 million of that earmarked for electric co-op projects in rural areas.

He encouraged the cooperatives to apply for the next round of funding, with a goal of extending high-speed internet service to all Missourians. "The true goal of this next opportunity is connecting all Missourians and we want to work with you all to do just that," he said.

Before heading to the Capitol, State Rep. Jeff Knight and AMEC Director of Government Relations Rebecca Eichelberger teamed up for a mock legislative visit that helped those attending make the most of their visits. The cooperative leaders found a welcome reception from all they called upon.

The issues they shared with the legislators included grid reliability, rural broadband deployment, sales tax exemptions for some electric distribution and transmission costs and electric cooperative governance.



Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey and Board Member Maranda Spangler

# REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM

Sac Osage Electric Cooperative has a revolving loan fund to provide economic assistance to projects in our communities that stimulate the economy or provide a necessary community service.

The fund was started through the Federal REDL&G program.

Funds may be used for community development, facilities and equipment for medical care to rural residents, business expansion and much more. Terms and conditions do apply.

If you are interested in this program, please call (800) 876-2701.

You can find the application on our website sacosage.com.







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#### WAYS TO PAY!

We have recently been receiving a lot of late or missed payments by third party payment companies. Payment options such as doxo.com or even bill pay through local banks have not been given enough time by the member for the payment to process by the due date of each month. These payment options will mail Sac Osage a check once the payment has been processed through their system.

We do not recommend using third party payment companies not associated with Sac Osage. If you chose to do so, such as through your local bank, please allow extra time for these companies to process the payment and provide it on time.

We do recommend using the following FREE options through Sac Osage to ensure your payment will be processed on time:

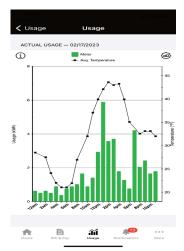
- SmartHub App
- · Online at sacosage.com
- By telephone using our automated system with a Visa, MasterCard or American Express or a checking account by calling 866-999-4573
- Monthly automatic withdrawal from a bank account

You can also pay your bill in person at our local office using cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express.

You can mail a check or money order through the mail. Please mail your payment in advance to allow our postal service time to deliver it before the due date of each month.

After hour payments may be dropped in the depository located near the drive-up window located on the west side of the headquarters.

### **SMARTHUB APP**



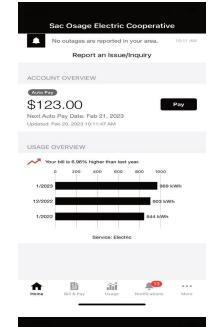
SmartHub is Sac Osage Electric Cooperative's online account portal and smartphone app. Many members are familiar with it as a way to pay their electric bill or to track their daily usage and hourly demand.

But signing up for SmartHub also gives the cooperative and members another way to communicate other issues.

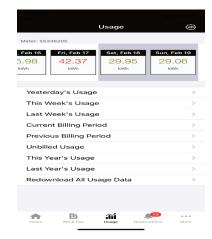
Members can change SmartHub settings and manage notifications. They can receive notifications through email and text messages. These notifications can now include outage updates.

At times, line sections will have to be temporarily disconnected to do service upgrades or to safely remove a hazard from the right-of-way. Rolling blackouts or other planned outages may occur at times as well. Through Smarthub, members can receive some advanced warning that these outages are about to take place and how long they can be expected to last.

Members can receive all the benefits of SmartHub by downloading the SmartHub app through their phones' app store. Members currently signed up should check their settings under "Manage Notifications" to confirm they are receiving messages through e-mail and/or text notifications.



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Nov 2, 2022	0			\$99.00
Oct 3, 2022	0			\$103.00
Sep 1, 2022	0			\$156.00
Aug 1, 2022	0			\$167.00
Jul 1, 2022	0			\$127.00
Jun 1, 2022	0			\$117.00
May 2, 2022	0			\$94.00
Apr 1, 2022	0			\$103.00
Mar 1, 2022	0			\$102.00
Feb 1, 2022	0			\$115.00
Jan 3, 2022	0			\$107.00
Dec 1, 2021	0			\$113.00
Nov 1, 2021	0			\$116.00
Oct 1, 2021	0			\$108.00
Sep 1, 2021	0			\$156.00
Aug 2, 2021	0			\$153.00
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Home Bill	& Pay	Usage	Notifications	More













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## **EMPLOYEES RECEIVE CPR TRAINING**

On February 23rd, 2023, over half of the employees at Sac Osage Cooperative participated in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Certification Class, instructed by Roger Floyd and Valerie Hardy of the Vernon County Ambulance District.

By participating in this class, employees receive basic lifesaving skills, along with instruction on the use of the Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) and how to render first aid in several different scenarios. After completion, employees are CPR certified for two years.

The remaining employees will complete CPR class on April 2nd.

A special thank you to Roger, Valerie, and the Vernon County Ambulance District for taking time to provide this training for our employees.













## OPERATION ROUND-UP CONTEST

Members who have signed up for the Operation Round-up Program prior to April 4th, 2023 are eligible to be entered into a drawing for a cornhole board set.

Operation Round-up allows members to round their bill up to the nearest dollar amount each month. The amount difference is placed in a fund to support local charities.

The winner will be picked April 4th, 2023. We will announce the winner on our Facebook page and contact them by telephone.

You can sign up for Operation Roundup through the SmartHub App or find the form on our cooperative website sacosage.com











# A Connected Community Becomes a Growing Community.

Fiber internet from Connect, powered by Sac Osage Electric Cooperative, brings new possibilities to residents and businesses.

### Connect's services will allow your community to...

- Increase productivity in both homes and businesses.
- Retain and grow personal and professional connections.
  - Improve health care with access to telemedicine.
  - Advance education with access to online courses.
    - And more!



Check availability at ConexonConnect.com, call 1-844-542-6663, or scan our QR code!







