



## Head of Co-op Boards Converse about Potential Consolidation

Talks of a potential consolidation between Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative and Central Rural Electric Cooperative continue between the two boards and management as the Cooperative Finance Corporation completes a feasibility study. Recently, the board of trustees CVEC president and CREC chairman sat down to answer questions about the consolidation.

"At first, there is the unknown and the uncertainty of the different individuals, and you have to develop a trust and a closeness," said Yates Adcock, CVEC board of trustees president. "By gaining life insight into each other, you realize each other's strengths and start developing a trust, and communications start opening up."

Members of both cooperatives were notified in September 2013 that the two boards had entered into discussions about the potential consolidation. Since, third-party studies have commenced that include an in-depth analysis of the two cooperatives'



Watch the entire interview by visiting the **Videos** page on [www.BuildingOurEnergyFutureTogether.com](http://www.BuildingOurEnergyFutureTogether.com). We will continue to include up-to-date information on the potential consolidation in future issues of *Electralite*.

rates and financials. The similarities between the two cooperatives are a benefit to the consolidation, said Gary McCune, CREC board of trustees chairman.

"It has been an enjoyable process because of our similarities," McCune said. "It has been a challenge at

times to get the different personalities [of the two boards] together, but it has been about a year and a half that we've been through the process to consider all the ramifications it [the consolidation] has to our members, our board and really to a statewide and national level."

*Continued on page 3.*

### By George

So far we have had four months of winter this season, December, January, February and March, and still may be counting even though we have made the switch to Daylight Saving Time. We have learned a new weather term, at least new to me – the Polar Vortex. Fortunately in our area of the nation we have had a few nice warm days scattered in this very cold season, but not so every-

where. I was visiting with a counterpart in Minnesota recently. I asked him how much snow they had gotten this year. He replied, "214 inches." I asked him how much snow was still on the ground there to which he replied, "220 inches." It has been cold here, but I plan on limiting my complaining.

Not complaining but we have had a significant amount of very cold weather. Canadian Valley customers exceeded the historical previous peak amount of electric usage this winter even surpassing summer time levels. Available

generating reserve margins throughout the region became very thin. It is a little amusing, especially since nothing really bad happened other than some very high prices, that during this very cold period, the "out of favor" coal-fired generating plants with their piles of coal nearby were the lowest cost and most reliable in meeting those peak electrical demands while the temperatures were in the single digits. While the wind was still blowing, most of the wind generators had to be

*Continued on page 2.*



CANADIAN VALLEY  
**ELECTRALITE**

P.O. Box 751 Seminole, Okla.  
Serving Hughes, Lincoln, McIntosh,  
Okfuskee, Pottawatomie, Seminole  
and portions of Oklahoma,  
Cleveland and Creek counties

**Main Office and Headquarters**

Interstate 40 at the Prague/Seminole Exit

**Area Office**

35 W. JC Watts Street, Eufaula

Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday

**Board of Trustees**

President - Yates Adcock, Dustin .....District 8  
Vice President - Joe Semtner, Konawa .....District 6  
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**Telephone Numbers**

Seminole (405) 382-3680  
Shawnee, Tecumseh Earlsboro (405) 273-4680  
Eufaula (918) 689-3232  
Toll-free (877) 382-3680

**In Case of Trouble**

1. Check for blown fuse or tripped circuit breakers.
2. Check with your neighbors. Ask if their electricity is off and if they have reported it.
3. If not call the office and report the trouble.

	<u>Read</u>	<u>Billing date</u>	
Cycle 1	26th-31st	5th	1-1/2% penalty is
Cycle 2	6th-11th	15th	applied 20 days
Cycle 3	16th-21st	25th	after billing date

**Operating Statistics for January**

	2013	2014
Operating Revenues	\$5,697,013	\$6,338,695
Wholesale Cost of Power	\$3,817,129	\$4,467,757
Percentage WPC is of Revenue	67.00	70.48
Revenue per Mile of Line	\$1,097.48	\$1,218.04
Consumers per Mile of Line	4.59	4.61
KW Peak Demand - This month	146,172	176,130
Billing kW demand	109,236	109,675
KW Peak Demand - YTD	146,172	176,130
KWh Purchased - This month	73,501,920	80,786,210
Taxes Paid	\$109,428	\$115,652
Interest on Long Term Debt	\$180,517	\$181,305
System Load Factor	67.6	61.6

**New Services Staked in February**

During the month of February 28 new services were staked. The total new services staked in 2014 is 62. This compares to 48 for the same period in 2013.

**By George** *Continued from page 1.*

shut down due to the problems with a thin layer of ice on the blades. Even natural gas generators had their concerns during these peak periods. Not due to supply, but due to deliverability, the price of natural gas went up almost by a factor of 10 for a period of time. Natural gas will likely remain in the \$6.00 range for some time as so much has been withdrawn from storage this winter.

My electric bill was the highest it has been. Not due to rates but due to the amount of electricity required to heat my home. I have heard about the "highest bill ever" from several I know all related to the cold weather. The higher prices for natural gas will be reflected in our electric bills for the next few months. Not wishing anything bad on our oil and gas producers in Oklahoma, but cheaper natural gas makes cheaper electricity. A happy medium price is best for all. People who heat their homes with propane also took a significant hit if they had to refill during the cold weather. I hope for lower propane bills as well. We don't want our members to have to choose between paying their propane bill or their electric bill.

Like me, many of you who heat your homes with electricity received the highest electric bill we have had. No matter what fuel you may have used to heat your home, the cost was likely more than you were planning for this heating season. My mother uses wood, but she used a lot more of it. Higher bills were not caused by Canadian Valley Electric raising our part of the rate. That has not happened since 2009 and the increase then was less than 3%. That change, five years ago was based on our expenses during 2007 and 2008. Since then with the good fortune of growth in sales we have been able to meet our increased expense levels without increasing our part of the rate. Most good things don't go on forever.

*Continued on page 3.*



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

BEGINNING BALANCE 1/31/14....	\$192,081.42
DEPOSITS.....	8,084.36
INTEREST INCOME .....	9.63
CHECKS ISSUED .....	-137.74
APPROVED, NOT YET PAID .....	-27,676.39
BALANCE 2/28/14.....	\$172,361.28

CVEC Foundation administers and disburses funds collected through CVEC's Operation Round-Up Program.



# Guard Electronics with Surge Protectors

When severe weather occurs this time of year, it can ruin your TV, computer, stereo equipment and anything that's plugged into the wall.

That's because it can create a power surge — wa phenomenon that's responsible for millions of dollars of property damage every year.

Power surges most commonly occur when lightning strikes, but also can occur when a refrigerator, air conditioner or other large appliance motor turns on and off, or when an electric utility does something called power grid switching.

The surge usually enters the home through the path of the cable TV or satellite dish cable, or through telephone or electrical lines that come into the house.

They don't always destroy your electronic equipment and appliances, but over time, they can damage them and shorten their life.

## By George

*Continued from page 2.*

At our Annual Meeting last September, we reported a rate increase would likely happen during 2014. That expectation has not changed. I am often told, "George, all you talk about is increasing rates." My response is that we talk about it a lot more than we do it. We discussed this with our members last year and at several other opportunities, but we have not yet made the decision to increase rates. I do believe a small increase (less than 3-percent overall) will be necessary this year. Acting on management's recommendation, the trustees voted at the last meeting to engage C. H. Guernsey Engineering firm to independently prepare a cost of service study, evaluate our existing 2009 electric rates, and prepare recommendations based on this cost of service study.

We will rely heavily on their expert opinion. My estimate is that this study will recommend a small increase, likely it will be less than three percent overall. At that point the process of filing an expedited rate case with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission would begin. My best guess is that a small increase will be implemented later this year.

To protect your valuable electronics, you can plug them into surge protectors, which simply plug into an electrical outlet. Although surge protectors often look like power strips because they have several spots for plugging in multiple devices, not all power strips offer surge protection. Check the one you buy to make sure it does.

For more protection, you can install special electrical outlets with surge protection. They are common in spots where there's no room for a plug-in surge protector, like near a countertop microwave oven.

Whole-house surge protectors can cover all outlets in your house. Ask an electrician

about whether that's a good option for your home.

That said, a lightning strike that's powerful enough can zap even your surge protector. For the ultimate surge protection, unplug your equipment from the wall when you know a storm is coming



## Converation on Consolidation

*Continued from page 1.*

Yates added the best interests of the membership is always kept in the forefront.

"As you evaluate this whole process and look at this, it is all based upon the benefit to the members and positioning this organization to where it can be a stronger, more unified organization that is better able to take advantages of the challenges we are all going to face in the future in the energy industry," Yates said.

McCune and Adcock are cognizant of the fact the members own the cooperative.

"All the decisions we have made through this transition period to make the consolidation work has been with the members' interest in mind and the main focus of the whole process," McCune said.

Adcock and McCune also addressed the members' concern of continued local representation in a larger service area.

"The cooperative concept is one member, one vote, just like it is in the democratic process," McCune said. "So whether we have the whole central United States or a smaller area, those are all proportional to the point to where each member is equally represented by a board member from that particular district so no member is left out or behind."

Adcock added service response time to members would not be affected.

"We want to have that dependability to where the lights stay on, outages are minimal and that response time in getting somebody out there to help you when you're in need is a short time like we have provided in the past, or make it better," Adcock said. "Maintaining dependability and serviceability is a high priority."

Members are the ultimate decision makers on the consolidation, and there will be several opportunities for members to ask questions about the consolidation. McCune said both boards 917381101 will come together to decide whether or not to move forward to a member vote, which could be as early as September 2014.

## Find Your Hidden Account Number and Win \$25

If you find your account number hidden in this issue of The Electralite, you could win \$25.

In order to win, the account number must be your own.

You need to report finding the number to us by the 15th of the month.

And you need to report finding it by phone, mail or in person. Good luck!



## Trading Center Classifieds

Each CVEC member family is limited to ONE free classified ad per month. The form below must be used. The length of the ad cannot exceed three lines on the form. Ads run only one time. Area codes are not used unless outside the 405 area.

### All INFORMATION BELOW MUST BE COMPLETED

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Classified must be received by the 5th of the month to appear in the following edition of The Electra-Lite.

### Automobiles

2000 Lincoln Continental, 162K miles, good condition, \$3,250, 760-6940, 382-7773.

2006 PT Cruiser Touring, blue, 65K miles, \$6,500, 598-3692.

1996 Cadillac, Northstar, 4 dr., black, excellent ride, \$1,500, 795-0166.

1997 Chevy Silverado pickup, \$1,500, 941-3976.

2003 F150 XLT, tan, 68K, \$21,000 firm, 432-8064, 481-5147.

### Farm

300-gal. fuel tank on overhead stand, \$150; 115-volt transfer pump, \$50, 598-2330.

GEHL 135 grinder, mixer, shedded, \$1,500, 380-6655.

1980s John Deere tractor, 4 attachments, no front-end loader, very good condition, \$4,000, 964-2959.

16' heavy duty tandem-axle trailer, \$700 firm, cash, 388-9008.

Two bottom drag plow, drag manure spreader, bale spike for pickup, 3-pt. 8' spring tooth, 567-3685.

### Miscellaneous

Kimball Artist console piano, good condition, \$500, 623-8799.

Glass top cook stove, \$250; Whirlpool washer & dryer,

\$200, 275-3419.

Five plots in Fairview Cemetery, cheap, 395-4071.

Entry and dead-bolt locks, \$10 ea., new motion-detection lights, \$10 ea., 598-5286.

Side-by-side refrigerator, washer & dryer, 964-7011.

Entertainment center, 58" W x 48" H x 16.5" D, wood, w/ glass & wood doors, & 36" TV, \$75, 833-0497.

Omni 85 kerosene heater, 13K BTUs, \$25, 454-315.

Mixed prairie hay, Bermuda, bluestem, \$45, or buy 10 bales or more \$40, l. rnd. bales, 567-9008.

Onyno Pro Cam bicycle, Hano Pecan pitcher, upper, automatic water, 3/4", duck decoys, 207-8405.

Lawson reel #46, \$20; old metal trunk, \$40; shoe trees, \$40 ea.; hames sets, \$40 ea.; sledge hammers, \$15 ea., 659-5047.

Queen bedroom set - headboard, chest, lg. w/mirror at top, Victorian antique style, 598-1202.

Buy, sell and repair clocks, 513-2986.

Dorm-size refrigerator & microwave, 388-9008.

2-piece auto ramp set, \$25, 454-3157.

White Kenmore upright freezer, frost-free, \$125; 2-tier, glass curio cabinet, \$40, 863-3419.

Prairie hay - sm. sq. bales, \$5 ea., 598-5860.

Bass amp and guitar, like new, \$300 ea., 258-3163.

100 crochet patterns w/12 hoops, make offer, 543-9652.

Bass amp & guitar, like new, 258-0661.

4'x6' rnd. bales good quality hay, net-wrapped, \$40, 382-5045.

### Pets/Livestock

Ancona pullet chicks, \$4 ea., 273-7366.

Pomeranians - 6-yr.-old spayed female, \$100, 2-yr.-old male, shots, neutered & wormed, \$100, 432-0656.

Red baby chicks, straight run, \$2 ea., 250-0309.

28 Black Angus heifers, 12- to 15-mos. old, sell as lot, 919-3630, 275-4432.

Guineas, 640-9976.

### Real Estate

'02 Southern mobile home, 3 BDR, 2 BA, new 30-yr. roof, all appliances, to be moved, \$20,000, 584-0441.

Nice older 3 BDR, 2 BA home, CH/A, lots of storage, 30 acres, pretty setting, hay barn, 2-car garage/workshop/shed, pond, Bethel School, easy access to OKC, Shawnee, \$190,000, 830-4816.

3 BDR house on 9 acres on Hwy. 9A in Earlsboro, \$125,000, 202-7216.

1998 Patriot 24'x45' mobile home, 3 BDR, 2 BA, stove, DW, fridge, washer & dryer stay, good condition, as is, you move, available mid-May, \$15,000, no payments, 596-6444.

80 acres, house & barn on EW 119 between NS 350 & 351, south side, 273-1856.

2 BDR, 2 BA mobile home on 5 acres, cellar, barn, 3-stall carport, orchard, 2 septic systems, 1 owner, very clean, near school, NRC Shawnee, 273-5877.

About 25 acres, 2 mi. west of Konawa, 580-925-2640.

### RV/Marine

2002 5th wheel, microwave, ceiling fan, pulled less than 300 miles, \$8,000, 598-5286.

1971 Coast Guard 23' Uni-Flight cabin boat, w/Cruiser 120 hp motor, will sell for \$500 or trade for pontoon boat, 640-9976.

Fishing rig, reasonable price, 258-0661.

10' aluminum canoe w/ paddles, aluminum 12' U-bottom boat, 207-8405.

1968 14' Newman boat, 40 hp Johnson motor & trailer, \$350, 279-3638.

'02 Southern mobile home to be moved, 3 BDR, 2 BA, new 30 yr. roof, all appliances, \$20,000, 584-0441.

1954 14' Newman trailer & 40 hp Johnson motor, \$350, 279-3638.

1984 Ford Class 'C' motor home, Onan generator, shower & stool, electric & propane, refrigerator, cook stove, \$2,000, 567-4334.

2000 35' Winnebago, center slide, hydraulic leveling, fully-equipped, 33,666 miles, \$29,500, 598-3594, 760-3703.

Sailboat w/mast & sails, Coleman pop-up, make offer, 964-7011.

### Services

FREE - Haul away unwanted major appliances, scrap metal, car batteries, w/ 15 mile radius of Shawnee, 609-4365.

On-site welding, 777-9680.

FREE - Haul away scrap metal, farm equipment, trailer, house frames, AC units, car batteries, etc. 567-5163.

### Wanted

One bottom plow to fit a 2840 Montana, 615-0840.

Fill dirt & rock for gully, Jacktown area, 388-9008.

## Pay Your Bill Using Free Secure Pay Service

You can now pay your electric bill over the phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week, using Secure Pay.

This service is free, and payment can be made using your bank account or credit card.

Secure Pay is toll-free and allows you to make payments, check your account status, get your account balance, and update your phone number any time, any day of the week.

To use the Secure Pay service call

**855-875-7166**

