



Big Horn Rural  
Electric Company

# HIGHLIGHTS

LOOK FOR US ONLINE AT [WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM](http://WWW.BIGHORNREA.COM)



## ANNUAL ELECTION VOTING 2024 >>>

At Big Horn REA, your voice matters. For decades we have been owned and governed by members like you. Your vote in our annual Board of Directors election is your voice in your cooperative, a chance to weigh in on leaders who will represent you and your interests.

We will be holding a director election using mail-in ballots again this year. There is one board candidate for District #5 (Lovell, Cowley, Deaver and Frannie area) that was nominated by the Nominating Committee on March 20, 2024.

The Bylaws of Big Horn Rural Electric Company provide for the election of directors by members using mailed ballots. You will receive your ballot and Annual Report in the mail in a specially marked envelope. No member may submit more than one ballot.

**CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27  
IN OBSERVANCE OF  
MEMORIAL DAY**



## INSIDE

- April storm
- Irrigation members
- Energy efficiency tip
- Equipment in line
- John Joyce and Willie Bridges
- 5 ways to save this summer



### DO:

- Use GFCI Outlets in rooms with water sources.
- Test smoke & carbon monoxide alarms every month.
- Check electrical cords for damage before use.

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY DO'S AND DON'TS



### DON'T:

- Overload outlets with too many devices.
- Disable smoke & carbon monoxide alarms.
- Use extension cords as permanent solutions.

CONTINUED...

## ANNUAL ELECTION VOTING 2024

Please be sure to use the postage paid return envelope that was included with your ballot to return it. This envelope ensures your ballot will be mailed to an independent auditor for the vote tally. Any ballots returned directly to Big Horn REA **WILL NOT** be counted. Ballots must be received no later than Thursday June 27th, 2024, in order to be counted and to receive a \$25.00 credit on your next electric bill. The \$25.00 credit is one per membership – not one on each electric account you have with Big Horn REA.

Thank you for your participation in the election of directors for YOUR cooperative – we need your vote!

Big Horn Rural  
Electric Company  
P.O. Box 270  
Bain, WY 82410  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Your Tridashone Energy Cooperative

**IMPORTANT  
OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
Vote by 11:00 PM  
Mail by 11:00 PM  
Mail must be in to be counted  
\$25.00 credit

(Please detach here and return this portion in the envelope provided)

**OFFICIAL BALLOT – MARK THE SQUARE IMMEDIATELY  
ADJACENT TO THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE WHOM YOU DESIRE TO VOTE FOR.**

Director District 5:

☐ William E. "Willie" Bridges

X  
Member's Signature (this must be signed to be valid)  
By signing this ballot form, I hereby swear and affirm that I am a current  
member of Big Horn REA and that I am authorized to sign this ballot form.

Membership No.

## APRIL SHOWER'S BRING MAY FLOWERS

Below are photos that came in during the April storm showing a brief glimpse of the damage throughout our impacted areas. Big Horn's crews were tasked with making emergency repairs during that weekend and long term clean up afterwards!



Above and to the right are photos that came in after the April storm clean up. Big Horn had a total of 9 poles that went down during the storm.



## »»» ENERGY EFFICIENCY: TIP OF THE MONTH

Looking for an easy way to manage home energy use? Smart plugs are inexpensive and offer convenient solutions for scheduling and controlling your favorite electronic devices.

With smart plugs, you can easily manage your coffee maker, lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. Smart plugs can help you manage devices through a smart phone app, your home assistant or voice control. By conveniently powering off or scheduling devices, you can save energy and money!

Source: [energystar.gov](https://energystar.gov)

### Irrigation Members only:

By now you have received your horsepower charges for irrigation. If you have changed your horsepower or you think it is wrong, please contact us at the office at 307-568-2419.



# EQUIPMENT IN LINE

Each year, dozens of workers are killed, and hundreds are injured in accidents involving power lines and electrical equipment.

It is always important to review with all workers the activities that take place around power lines. Inspect the height of all equipment to determine clearance. According to state law and safe electrical practices the High Voltage Line Safety Act states that no person, or part of any tool or material used or handled by a person, shall get within six feet of a high voltage overhead powerline, and no equipment shall be operated within 10 feet of a high voltage overhead powerline in the performance of a work activity.

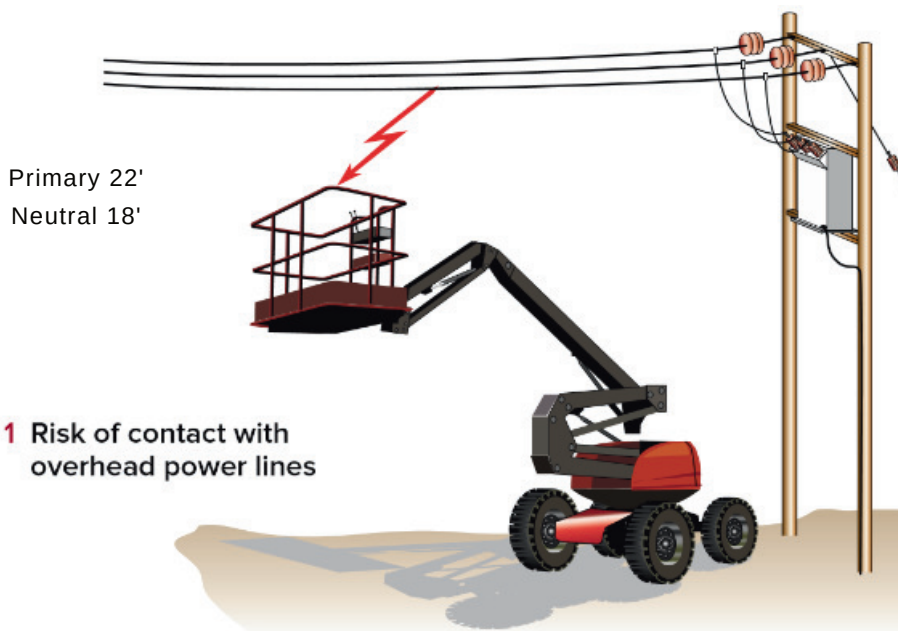
Operators of equipment or vehicles must also know what to do if the vehicle encounters a power line: Stay on the equipment, warn others to stay away and call 911. Do not get off the equipment until the utility crew says it is safe to do so.

If the power line is energized and you step outside, touching the vehicle and ground, your body becomes the path and electrocution is the result. Even if a power line has landed on the ground, the potential for the area nearby to be energized still exists. Stay inside the vehicle unless there's fire or imminent risk of fire.

If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together, without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, shuffle your feet by keeping in a toe to heel position as you leave the area.

Once you get away from the equipment, never attempt to get back on or even touch the equipment. Some electrocutions have occurred after the operator dismounts and, realizing nothing has happened, tries to get back on the equipment.

It is very important that all workers and seasonal employees are informed of electrical hazards and trained in proper procedures to avoid injury.



**FIG 1** Risk of contact with overhead power lines



## CONGRATULATIONS WILLIE BRIDGES!

John Joyce presented Willie Bridges with his Director Gold Certificate.

This certificate recognizes directors who are committed to continuing their education throughout their tenure on the board. Director Gold is an addition to NRECA's Director Education Program.

# 5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER



When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce use and grow your summer savings.

## 1. Raise your thermostat

The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temp, the more you'll save.

## 2. Install window coverings

like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

## 3. Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping

around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.

## 4. Run ceiling fans

around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.

## 5. Lower your water heater thermostat

by lowering your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees you can reduce standby heat loss.



## >>> BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Joyce, President  
Manderson: 568-2514  
[jnjoyce56@gmail.com](mailto:jnjoyce56@gmail.com)

Willie Bridges, Vice President  
Cowley: 548-2545  
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John Fernandez, Director  
Meeteetse: 272-1553  
[john.fernandez8614@gmail.com](mailto:john.fernandez8614@gmail.com)

## FOR OUTAGE OR TROUBLE

Call the office number: ANYTIME  
(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419

After 5 p.m., weekend and holidays all calls will be answered by our professional answering service, who will contact the appropriate person(s)



**Big Horn Rural  
Electric Company**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

PO Box 270, Basin, WY 82410  
(307) 568-2419  
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[bhrec@bighornrea.com](mailto:bhrec@bighornrea.com)  
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## Staff and Crew

Dotti Brown  
Rusty Burden  
Clint Getzfreid  
Todd Herman  
Jazmin Jara  
Wade Koehn

Heather Lawrence  
Anthony Nelson  
Bill Phillips  
Aileen Schriener  
Tristen Snyder  
Greg Tharp  
Randy Theasmeyer

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(307) 899-8153  
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Make sure to check out our QR Code to reach our website quicker, and follow us on Facebook for any outage updates!

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