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**OFFICE HOURS**  
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

**STREET ADDRESS**  
300 Weber Road  
Albion, IN 46701

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
P.O. Box 137, Albion, IN 46701

**EMERGENCY POWER OUTAGES**  
To report a power outage, please call  
800-933-7362. We are available to  
serve you 24 hours a day.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
Rick Robertson, *Chairman*  
Doug Burnworth, *Vice Chairman*  
Bill Knox, *Treasurer*  
Andy Strack, *Secretary*  
George Bennett  
Mark Demske  
Joe Hutsell  
Larry Ott  
Jay Wysong

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**  
Ron Raypole,  
*President & CEO*  
Sarah Dreibelbis,  
*Office Manager*  
Doug Dickmeyer,  
*Manager of Engineering & Operations*  
Kevin Dreibelbis,  
*Communications & Marketing Manager*  
Adam Chitwood,  
*Manager of Finance & Accounting*



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One of my favorite events — and also one of our newest — is coming up on June 1, when Noble REMC will host our second annual Member

Appreciation Event. I look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for me, our employees and our directors to talk with our members and hear what's on your minds.

Our Member Appreciation Event is a gathering where neighbors can meet new neighbors — or catch up with old acquaintances. As our lives get busier with the errands of life and more of our interactions with others are online, we must remember the value of face-to-face human connections. Very few organizations are uniquely positioned like Noble REMC to bring together members of our local communities.

We hope you'll join us June 1 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Noble County Community Fairgrounds to enjoy a free porkburger meal; soft serve ice cream; family-friendly activities, including an animal petting farm,

bounce houses and horse and pony rides; as well as to meet and to interact with community organizations.

New this year, our journeymen linemen will also present high voltage demonstrations to show the importance of safety around electricity!

And don't forget to take the time to meet your board of directors' candidates, who will be available for introductions and questions.

Simply register at the Merchants Building when you arrive to receive your event gift, meal tickets and put your name in our cash prize drawing — then the evening is yours to do as you please!

Noble REMC's core purpose and mission is to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a co-op, we're also motivated by service to our community, rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the Member Appreciation Event on June 1. We look forward to seeing you!

**RON RAYPOLE**  
President/CEO

# IT'S TIME TO CAST YOUR VOTE!

It's finally here! It's time to vote for your board of directors and mark your calendars for the Noble REMC Annual Meeting.

## HOW TO VOTE

All Noble REMC members will receive a paper ballot in the mail about mid-May, where you will mark your vote, approve your 2022 Annual Meeting minutes, tear off the ballot on the perforation and send it back in the prepaid return envelope.

Feel free to keep your pen handy to mark your choices and send it right back to us, or wait to mail back your ballot until after you've met your board of director candidates at the Member Appreciation Event June 1.

**Ballots must be postmarked by June 7 to be counted in this year's election.**

**NOTE:** Please do not include any bill payments in the prepaid return envelope. We understand it's tempting with the free postage, but these will not be opened until our credentialed ballot committee meets in June to tally the votes, making your payment late if included. Instead, call our secure pay line or pay through SmartHub, which are both free options to you and available right from your home.

## MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

### DISTRICT 4

**BILL KNOX**, facilities director for East Noble School Corp., currently represents District 4 and serves



**BILL KNOX**

as treasurer of the board. He also represents Noble REMC on the Indiana Electric Cooperatives' board of directors. A Corunna resident, Knox was first elected in 2011.

He is a 40-year member of the Knights of Columbus and has assisted with the East Noble High School football program for 23 years.

### Why does he want to serve on the REMC Board of Directors?

"I like the idea that I can offer something back to my community. As a customer of Noble REMC, I can have a direct impact and see and know how things are done."

### DISTRICT 5

A detective with the Noble County Sheriff's Department, **JOE HUTSELL** of Ligonier was elected to represent District 5 in 2020.



**JOE HUTSELL**

He is currently a member of Stone's Hill Church, Cromwell Masonic Lodge #705, Fort Wayne Scottish Rite, Mizpah Shriners, Land of Lakes Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 126 and the Indiana School Board Association.

### What most qualifies him to represent District 5?

"I have served as a director for the past three years for District 5. While serving on the board of directors, I have had the opportunity to take many hours of training to help assist me in making decisions in the best interests of both Noble REMC members and the co-op. It has been a privilege serving the public for most of my adult

life, which in turn prepared me for the commitment in bringing affordable electricity for Noble REMC members."

### DISTRICT 9

**LARRY OTT**, an Avilla farmer and Smith-Green Community Schools bus driver, has represented District 9 for six years.



**LARRY OTT**

He is an active member of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and National Beef Cattle Association, as well as the Chianina, Maine-Anjou and Simmental cattle associations.

### What most qualifies him to represent District 9?

"I enjoy the challenge of working with the CEO and other directors to help identify our ever-changing local, state and national energy needs. Through the many training sessions I've attended over the last six years, I bring a more informed opinion on emerging issues and ideas to help our community prepare for our future."

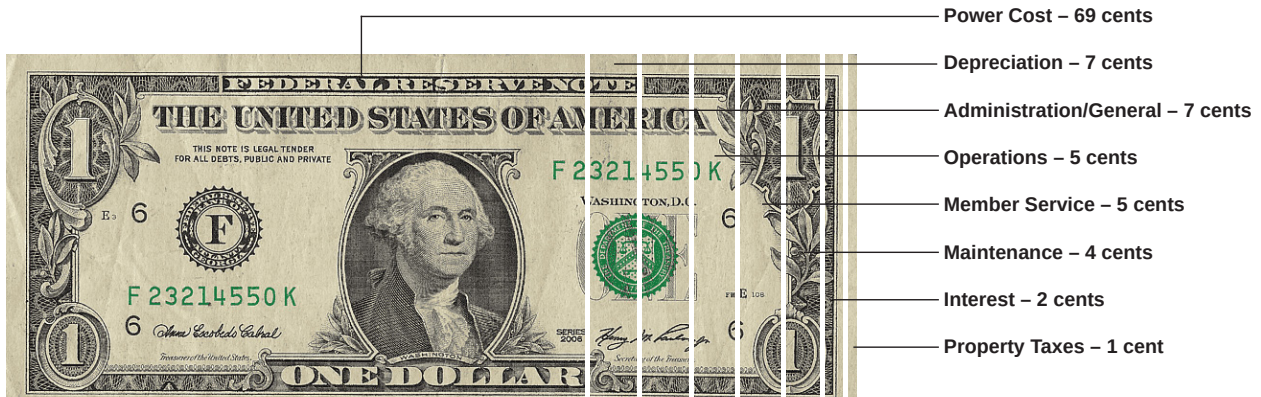
## ELECTION RESULTS

**Noble REMC's Annual Meeting will be broadcast on our Facebook ([facebook.com/nobleremc](https://facebook.com/nobleremc)) and YouTube ([youtube.com/nobleremc](https://youtube.com/nobleremc)) channels at 5 p.m. on June 14.** This is where we will discuss the state of the cooperative, as well as announce the winners of the board of directors' election.


# 2022 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

	2022	2021
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>\$25,330,655</b>	<b>\$24,500,085</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Purchase Power	\$17,431,712	\$16,206,305
Administrative & Maintenance Expense	\$5,393,691	\$5,024,208
Long-term Debt Interest	\$505,636	\$514,725
Depreciation	\$1,674,026	\$1,642,095
Taxes (Local, State, Federal)	\$329,595	\$536,414
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$25,334,660</b>	<b>\$23,923,747</b>
<b>Net Margins:</b>		
Income (Loss) After Expenses	(\$4,005)	\$576,338
Interest Income	\$73,954	\$55,350
Patronage Capital & Other Income	\$395,097	\$556,799
<b>Total Margins</b>	<b>\$465,046</b>	<b>\$1,188,487</b>
<b>Assets:</b>		
Electric Utility Plant (Less Depreciation)	\$27,493,947	\$26,986,340
Other Assets and Investments	\$10,049,275	\$9,858,462
Cash and Temporary Investments	\$1,417,317	\$2,511,723
Accounts Receivable	\$2,687,960	\$2,553,730
Materials and Supplies	\$448,729	\$375,907
Other Current Assets	\$528,849	\$614,738
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$42,626,077</b>	<b>\$42,900,900</b>
<b>Equities:</b>		
Patronage Capital	\$24,456,463	\$24,782,973
Other Equities	\$2,328,370	\$2,294,355
Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	(\$11,200)	(\$11,200)
<b>Total Equities</b>	<b>\$26,773,633</b>	<b>\$27,066,128</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Long-term Debt	\$11,578,649	\$11,901,262
Accounts Payable	\$1,872,791	\$1,595,030
Accrued Taxes	\$290,094	\$312,023
Other Accrued Liabilities	\$2,110,910	\$2,026,457
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$15,852,444</b>	<b>\$15,834,772</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equities</b>	<b>\$42,626,077</b>	<b>\$42,900,900</b>

## Where does your dollar go when you pay the bill?







Groundman and tree trimmer Jared Buckles stands in the Noble REMC garage after a day of work.

**Noble  
REMC**  
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# LIGHTING *the Way*

JARED BUCKLES  
IS JUST  
BEGINNING

Starting as a tree trimmer only two years ago, Jared Buckles has already added the title of groundman to his name. That means he now spends half of his time working with the right-of-way crew and the other half with the line crew.

It also means he's one step closer in his goal of becoming a lineman here at Noble REMC.

From Columbia City, Buckles is one of our youngest employees, but that hasn't stopped him from making his mark. Let's learn a bit more about him:

## **WHY DID YOU WANT TO WORK HERE AT THE CO-OP?**

"Right out of high school, I had a job that did the same line of work and decided to come here based on the good things I heard."

## **WHAT'S YOUR ULTIMATE GOAL IN WORKING HERE?**

"Ultimately, I would like to be a journeyman lineman and complete the apprenticeship program."

## **WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THIS KIND OF WORK?**

"I just like the work itself. I like being outside. I like how it's complicated, and there's a lot of problem solving to it."

## **WHAT DOES AN AVERAGE DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU? DO YOU HAVE AN AVERAGE DAY?**

"It depends. One week, I go out with the tree crew; another week, I go out with line crew. My days usually change up a lot."

## **WHAT'S SOMETHING PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW OR UNDERSTAND ABOUT WHAT YOU DO?**

"You can't flip a switch and make the lights come back on."

## **HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME AWAY FROM THE CO-OP?**

"I like hunting and fishing a lot."

## **DO YOU TRAVEL TO HUNT AND FISH?**

"We usually stay around here, and every year, in the fall, we'll go to Michigan and salmon fish."

## **WHAT MOVIE HAVE YOU WATCHED THE MOST? HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU THINK YOU'VE SEEN IT?**

"The Hangover,' probably three or four times."

## **WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE MUSIC?**

"I like all music, but usually country or rock."

## **WHAT'S THE LAST CONCERT YOU WENT TO?**

"I've never been to one. I was supposed to go see Morgan Wallen, but I got sick."

## **WHAT'S ONE THING WE MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU? DO YOU HAVE ANY HIDDEN TALENTS OR SECRETS?**

"No hidden talents. Not really. I mean, what you see is what you get."

## **IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY, ENOUGH TO SET YOU UP FOR LIFE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT?**

"Oh, probably build a house. Have a nice shop I can go and do things in. Do some traveling. Go fishing other places. Go hunting other places."

## **WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF IN YOUR LIFE? WE KNOW THAT'S A BIG QUESTION.**

"I'm 21," he laughed, acknowledging his young age.

## **SO THEN, IN YOUR YOUNG LIFE, WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?**

"Graduating high school, I guess, and getting a good job out of high school."

# Impact our environment

How far can a few dollars go to help the environment?

An investment of \$5 a month allows you to purchase electricity from renewable energy sources and enhance the local landscape, all by simply signing up for Noble REMC's EnviroWatts program.

And the impact of those dollars will soon be seen locally, as we recently granted 2023's disbursement to **West Lakes Conservation, Inc.** The nonprofit received \$3,000 to treat invasive weeds in a 50-acre area of Waldron Lake and the North Branch of the Elkhart River, which is frequented by fishermen, swimmers, skiers and recreational boaters in addition to property owners and renters. If not treated, the weeds will restrict the flow

in the outlet river, potentially resulting in flooding of the West Lakes — similar to what happened in 2017.

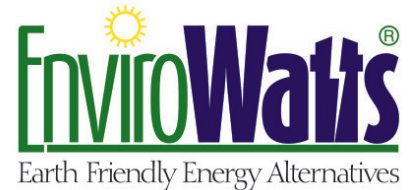
This assistance to our community's projects was provided with just 40 participating Noble REMC members. Thank you to those members for their generosity, and just think of what could be done with even more support.

## ARE YOU PARTICIPATING IN OUR ENVIROWATTS PROGRAM?

You'll pay no more than what you would for a meal at McDonald's or drink from Starbucks each month to give back to both your community and the environment.

Sounds like a pretty good deal, huh?

When you sign up for EnviroWatts,



you pay an additional one cent for your first 500 kilowatt-hours each month. Those pennies then go into a fund to be awarded annually to environmental improvement projects. But what's more, that energy is then generated from renewable, environmentally preferred sources.

Sign up today by calling our office at 800-933-7362 or visiting [nobleremc.com/envirowatts](http://nobleremc.com/envirowatts) and filling out and returning the form provided for member participation.

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OSPREY!

It's that time of year when osprey will be building their nests high in the sky in preparation for laying eggs.

Unfortunately, when they can't find a higher perch, they sometimes choose one of the most dangerous locations for their nesting — electrical poles.

Noble REMC wants to make sure that these birds stay safe and away from our lines, which have the potential to run 7,200 volts through their nests, putting them and their eggs in danger. It also becomes a hazard for our members, who could then experience an outage if a fire occurs.

It nearly happened last May when two ospreys chose a pole near Gilbert Lake to build their home. By the time our lineworkers were able to get to the nest, it was already burning. Luckily, our workers were able to build a higher perch nearby and transfer the nest to the new location before any harm was done.

We ask our members and those in the community to please be on the lookout for any nests being built on our poles this spring and summer. Call our office at 800-933-7362 if you spot any osprey trying to make our poles their home.



Last May, two ospreys built their nest on a REMC pole near Gilbert Lake. Linemen worked to transfer the nest to a new, higher perch nearby.