



2020 Noble REMC Annual Meeting Minutes

The traditional annual meeting and picnic – which normally brings thousands to the REMC’s headquarters – had to transition online this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. With safety being the electric cooperative’s top priority, members voted on its board of directors by mail and the business meeting was held in front of a virtual audience on the morning of June 6.

With more than 1,735 ballots returned, all three candidates, running unopposed, were voted into their respective positions:

- Incumbent William Knox will continue to lead members in District 4,
- Newcomer Joe Hutsell will be the director for District 5, which was previously served by Bill Emmert, who retired from the position after 18 years, and
- Incumbent Larry Ott will continue his duties as director for District 9.

The business portion of the annual meeting was held live on Facebook – where it can still be viewed, no account necessary – and focused on the current success of the REMC, while outlining the future of the cooperative.

President and CEO Ron Raypole pointed to the cooperative’s commitment to renewable energy, the Operation Round Up grant program, annual cash back allocation and the Commitment to Zero Contacts safety program as measures that keep the cooperative as successful as it is.

“During this unprecedented health emergency, our employees did not miss a beat in taking care of you. I am so proud to have the dedicated staff who care so much about meeting your needs,” Raypole said. “We hope that you will think of Noble REMC as more than your trusted energy resource, but also as a local business who supports community, powers economic development and is a leader for quality of life initiatives for area residents.”

Board Chairman Rick Robertson added that the REMC is in solid financial shape and has worked to put a strategic plan in place, including maintaining safety as the co-op’s first priority, operating efficiently, providing competitive rates and supporting economic development.