

**2021 Noble REMC Annual Meeting Minutes**

While Noble REMC was encouraged by the continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2021, too much was still undecided and unpredictable to plan and safely hold a traditional, in-person Annual Meeting and Picnic.

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 June 5.

Running unopposed, all three candidates were voted into their respective positions:

- Andrew Strack will continue to lead members in District 3,
- George Bennett will continue to represent District 6 and
- Mark Demske will continue to lead District 7.

The business portion of the annual meeting was held live on Facebook and focused on the current success of the REMC, while outlining the future of the cooperative.

During the meeting, President and CEO Ron Raypole introduced the cooperative's new electric vehicle pilot program, Charge Ahead, and commented on the work still being done behind the scenes to explore whether the co-op can assist in providing broadband to its members.

His speech also focused on the co-op's continued commitment to the local community through its Operation Round Up grant program, its annual cash back distribution and the reliability and affordability of its service.

"It has been a crazy 15 months, to say the least, as we continue to adapt while still delivering excellent customer service and safe, reliable power that you have come to expect. Even with the COVID restrictions, our employees did not miss a beat in taking care of you," Raypole said. "We hope that you think of Noble REMC as more than your trusted energy resource, but also as a local business, who supports the community and empowers economic development. Thank you again for allowing us to serve you."

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.