



# BIG FLAT NEWS



November 2025

[www.bigflatelectric.com](http://www.bigflatelectric.com)

## Logan Sims joins Big Flat Electric

**B**IG Flat Electric Cooperative would like to welcome Logan Sims to our work family as an apprentice lineman. He attended Primeline Academy in Heyburn, Idaho and has been in the lineman field for two years. Logan worked for NorVal Electric Cooperative in Glasgow and Beartooth Electric Cooperative in Red Lodge prior to joining our crew.

When asked what the deciding factor was for becoming a lineman,

Logan said he was tired of being broke, enjoyed being outside and working out of town. Plus, his brother, Matt Sims, was a lineman, which helped him become aware of the trade.

Having grown up in Malta, Logan decided he wanted to come back to the area as it would allow him to be near family and give him the opportunity to live the lifestyle he enjoys.

Once again, welcome Logan to Big Flat Electric. RM



**HAPPY**  
*thanksgiving*

**Big Flat Electric**  
**will be closed**

**Nov 27th & 28th**

**LET'S BE GRATEFUL FOR ALL THE GOOD THINGS**

## BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RETIREMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU



**Darren Demarais**, left, retired in October, **Debbie Kindle**, center, will retire in June 2026, and **Ross Hasler**, right, will retire in January 2026.

## BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# ANNUAL MEETING

## 78th Meeting of the Members a success

**WHAT** a beautiful day for the Big Flat Electric Cooperative's 78th Annual Meeting, and it was quite successful! Here is a summary of the key highlights:

### Attendance

Seventy-five members registered for the meeting, and there were approximately 100 attendees overall.

### Presidents Report

Alan Wasson, board president, announced the Board had approved a demand charge increase of 75 cents to all rate classes. The rate increase will go into effect January 1. He also thanked retired Board Member Betty Campbell for her 27 years of service, and shared stories of her years representing BFEC.

### Prizes and Donations

Several vendors generously donated prizes, including HDR, Border States, First State Bank, Bank of Malta, IBEW, Hardware Hank, NISC, NWPPA, PC News, Central Avenue Pit Crew, Malta Tire and Ezzies Wholesale.

• A \$900 cash prize was offered to members in attendance. The member drawn was not present, so next year's jackpot drawing will increase to \$1,000. The \$300 grand prize went to Roger Oelke and the \$50 young member prize went to Bret Peigneux.

• There were eight pork bundles and 19 beef bundles given as door prizes.

### Employee Recognition

Seven employees and directors were honored for their years of service:

- Brenden Johnson, lineman – five



Service Awards were presented at Big Flat Electric's Annual Meeting, including to Ross Hasler, 30 years, Debbie Kindle, 30 years and Joe Hould, 20 years. | **BFEC PHOTOS**



Big Flat Electric's Patty Quisno and Alan Van Voast present Roger Oelke with the \$300 grand prize. | **BFEC PHOTOS**

years of service.

- Kevin Koss, director – five years of service.
- Erik Simanton, meter technician – 10 years of service.
- Joe Hould, line superintendent – 20 years of service;
- Patty Quisno, director – 30 years of service.
- Debbie Kindle, billing clerk/member services – 30 years of service.
- Ross Hasler, sub-foreman – 30 years of service.

### Guest Speaker

Sommer Green shared her experience as the Big Flat Electric Youth Tour Recipient to Washington, D.C.

# THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- **Find us on Facebook** under Big Flat Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- **Visit our website** at [www.bigflatelectric.com](http://www.bigflatelectric.com).
- **Sign up for budget billing** and/or ACH (auto payments) by calling our office.
- **Bills** are generated on the 1st working day of each month, and are due on the 20th of each month.
- **Bills that are 60 days in arrears are subject to disconnect.** Once disconnected, a reconnect fee will be charged. The bill will then have to be paid in full to be reconnected.
- **We have a secure, automated toll-free phone number** for members making payments by credit card and/or bank account: 1-844-968-1965. You will need to have your account number and/or phone number that is on file with our office to access the automated system.
- **Take control of your electric account with SmartHub.** You can pay your bills; set up and cancel reoccurring payments; set up notifications; obtain duplicates of your bills; and view your monthly and yearly usage, all at your fingertips. Visit our website: [www.bigflatelectric.com](http://www.bigflatelectric.com) or download the SmartHub app from your Play Store on Android or the App Store on Apple devices.
- New service and service change quotes are only **valid for 30 days.**



Big Flat Electric's Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. | **BFEC PHOTOS**



Big Flat Electric's Board of Directors Duane Klindworth and Patty Quisno congratulated Doug Hardy on his retirement after 50 years as Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative's manager. | **BFEC PHOTOS**



Erik Simanton was recognized for his 10 years of service. | **BFEC PHOTOS**

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## Board of Directors

- Alan Van Voast (District 2) retained his seat on the board of Big Flat Electric Co-op.
- Patty Quisno (District 6) retained her seat on the board of Big Flat Electric Co-op.
- Warren Morin (District 4) was newly appointed to the Big Flat Electric Co-op board.



Big Flat Electric's Joe Hould presents Bret Peigneux with the young member \$50 door prize. | **BFEC PHOTOS**

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The brain is a wonderful organ; it starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get into the office.

Robert Frost

## FROM NOVEMBER 1962: BFEC NEWSLETTER



### “Me, a billion-dollar Cinderella?”

This isn't a fairy tale. Our Cinderella is a modern farmer's wife. Instead of a fairy godmother, she and her neighbors depend upon their own rural electric system for “magic” power.

Now, with countless new electric helpers working to free her from the water-pumping, stove-feeding drudgeries of only a few years ago, “Cindy'll live happier ever after!” And so will thousands of other Americans who make the electric appliances that help her dream of a richer, fuller life come true.

For every dollar invested by the locally-owned rural electric in system facilities, the people they serve spend four dollars for

wiring, appliances, and electrically-powered equipment. In fact, rural electric consumers spend a billion dollars annually for electric appliances alone. And this is only the beginning as they find new ways to use electricity.

This big new market creates business activity and job opportunities across the nation. In the form of wages, payments for goods, and tax revenue, this great new market benefits all Americans. We're proud that a sound rural electrification program, pioneered by nearly 1,000 rural electric systems and financed by Rural Electrification Administration loans, has created this tremendous market.

### Along Our Lines

NOVEMBER 1962  
BFEC Newsletter

- Now enjoying mercury vapor yard lights which have recently been installed are Andrew Hellie, Oscar Whorley both of Loring; Harold Cowan of Turner; and the Hays School at Hays
- Mr. and Mrs. William Dunbar of Whitewater have started construction on their new home in Whitewater.
- Short taps have been built to serve the residences of Harold Werk, David Hawley Jr., and George Chandler all of Hays.
- A new consumer on our lines is the Floyd Kesler family which have moved to the Henry Smith place north of Malta.
- Mr. and Mrs. Linnie Cornell and family of Turner have moved to the former Crittenden place from the Long place.
- Mr. and Mrs. Iver Johannesen are in the process of having a new home built on their farm near Loring.
- Among the new consumers on our lines are Phillip Harvey, the new owner of the M & J Bar at Hogeland; George Singleton who has purchased the D-Y Bar near Landusky. The name of the D-Y Bar has been changed to the Last Chance Bar.

### Light Before You Decorate

Each year homebuyers carefully select colors and furnishings to enhance home decor, and then wonder one night why they don't seem to come to life in the home.

Colors and textures that are brought to life by good lighting in the store can be lost in the murky shadows of an ill-lighted home, the American Home Lighting Institute points out.

Without good lighting, the most expensively and tastefully-decorated room is a waste of money.

On the other hand, lighting is used as a decorative tool by those homeowners who know and appreciate its value in enhancing color, design and texture.

Good lighting, the Institute says, can even make the most economical decor look far better than its cost would indicate.

Here are some of the ways fixture lighting can keep various decorating elements in proper perspective and add interest to the room:

- Accenting the room accents by illuminating colorful interior walls, paintings and art objects.
- Emphasizing patterns and textures by carefully lighting draperies, fabrics and surfaces.
- Highlighting conversation corners, sofas, dining tables and buffets by spotlighting these areas.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District 1 Duane Klindworth
- District 2 Alan Van Voast
- District 3 Alan Wasson, President
- District 4 Warren Morin
- District 5 Roger Solberg, Vice President
- District 6 Patty Quisno
- District 7 Kevin Koss

General Manager: Gretchen Boardman



## BIG FLAT ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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