

## New Clay Electric office will have geothermal HVAC system

Work continues on the construction of the new Clay Electric Co-operative headquarters office building. The office will be equipped with geothermal heating and cooling. A grant has been applied for to aid in the construction costs of the most energy efficient HVAC system. Workers drilled seven vertical wells that will tie into the geothermal unit.



## Geothermal heat pump federal tax credits reinstated

Federal tax credits for geothermal heat pumps were recently reinstated by the federal government. Residential consumers are eligible for a 30 percent federal tax credit for installing a geothermal heat pump system in their home. The reinstated tax credits are retroactive to Jan. 1, 2017, meaning that anyone who installed a geothermal system in their home in the past 14 months now qualifies for the tax credit. The tax credits are extended through Jan. 1, 2022, through a phase out plan in which the credit is reduced to 22 percent before ending.

The geothermal tax credit was part of a measure to extend the tax incentives to renewable energy technologies like geothermal heat pumps, combined heat and power systems, microturbines, small wind systems, fuel cells, etc., that were taken out of the legislation passed by Congress two years ago, extending the tax credits for the solar industry.

In addition to the residential tax credits, there is also a 10 percent investment tax credit for commercial geothermal systems that was also extended.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative

Association joined with a coalition of many national and state organizations to support reinstatement of the tax credits. The cooperatives are appreciative of the efforts of Rep. John Shimkus and several other Illinois Congressmen who sponsored legislation leading to the tax credit reinstatement.

The tax credit extension was part of the Continuing Resolution action by the Congress in early February to fund the federal government.

“We are appreciative of our leaders’ support for Geothermal Heat Pump technology, and providing parity with the other renewable energy technologies,” said John Freitag, executive director of the Geothermal Alliance of Illinois. “Geothermal heating and cooling is by far the most efficient and effective way known today to heat and cool our homes and businesses. The tax credit extension helps to make installation of a geothermal heat pump the obvious best choice for heating and cooling.”

Thanks to John Freitag, executive director of the Geothermal Alliance of Illinois, for this article.

### Clay Electric Co-operative office temporary location

Temporary office headquarters is the trailer across the street (North side of Old Hwy 50) during the construction of the new Clay Electric office.



# New employee

**P**lease join us in welcoming Adam McKnight to the Clay Electric Co-operative family as the new Member Services Manager, replacing Doug Hockman who will retire early 2019. Adam started in August.



Adam grew up in Olney and graduated from East Richland High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts in communication from University of Illinois Springfield.

Prior to working for the co-op, Adam spent many years working in radio. He resides in Flora with his wife, Maggie, and daughter, June.

## Tips for a Safe Harvest



Harvest season brings hard work and can be an exhausting, but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous (even deadly!) when working near overhead power lines. We urge farm operators and workers to keep the following safety tips in mind:

-  Use care when operating large machinery near power lines.
-  Inspect the height of equipment to determine clearance.
-  Always keep equipment at least 10 feet away (in all directions) from power lines.
-  Remember to lower extensions when moving loads.
-  If a power line is sagging or looks to be dangerously low, please call us immediately.

Source: SafeElectricity.org



State of Illinois  
Illinois Department on Aging

## Be a Savvy Senior



**Were you the victim of elder financial abuse?**

### Don't let it happen again!

- ▶ If someone close to you has taken control of your finances against your will, **TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT IT!**
- ▶ If someone close to you has used your credit card, checking account or ATM information without your permission, **TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT IT!**
- ▶ If someone close to you has encouraged you to sign a power of attorney or a document that allows the person to act on your behalf, and you don't understand the actions he or she can take using your name and assets, **TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT IT!**
- ▶ Always use good financial practices. Use direct deposit. Do not sign blank checks. Never leave money laying around.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of elder financial abuse and want to talk confidentially to someone about it, a Adult Protective Services caseworker can help you take steps to alleviate the situation.

### Just call:

Illinois Department on Aging  
**Adult Protective Services Hotline:**  
**1-866-800-1409**  
1-888-206-1327 (TTY)  
[www.illinois.gov/aging](http://www.illinois.gov/aging)

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY).

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# Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular meeting June 25, 2018

**T**he regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clay Electric Co-operative, Inc. (CECI) was held at the Depot in Flora, Illinois beginning at 7:00 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, May 29, 2018.

Trustees present were: Frank Czyzewski, Bill Croy, Neil Gould, Frank Herman, Kevin Logan, Bob Pierson, Richard Rudolphi, Danny Schnepfer, and Greg Smith. Also present were: Ed VanHoose Executive V.P. General Manager, Tyra Cycholl, CECI Attorney, Doug Hockman, CECI Member Services Director, and Youth Tour participants Vivian Duquaine, Collin Moseley and Nick Miller.

The meeting was opened by Richard Rudolphi, who presided and Greg Smith, Secretary, acted as secretary thereof.

The invocation was given by Kevin Logan.

The following proceedings were had [all action being first duly moved and seconded, and all action taken being upon the unanimous vote of the Board or without dissenting vote of abstention unless otherwise stated]:

**APPROVED** the Suggested Agenda as amended, with suspending item # 5 until all Youth Tour Participants were present.

**APPROVED** the consent agenda as amended including the following:

**APPROVED** the May 29, 2018 Minutes.

**REVIEWED**, that the Board of Trustees hereby: (a) approve and admit to membership those 18 applicants connected for service since the last such review by the board, and (b) cancel those 5 former members shown on the Manager's Report since the last such review by the Board, said members no longer taking service.

**APPROVED** the May Disbursements.

**REVIEWED** the May credit card statements.

**REVIEWED** the May Attorney Retainer.

**REVIEWED** the Federated May Member update.

**REVIEWED** the Livewire Summary.

**REVIEWED** the CFC May Board Report.

**HEARD** a report by Gen. Mgr. VanHoose regarding the retirement of Capital Credits to the estates of 2 deceased Members.

**APPROVED** the retirement of those Capital Credits pursuant to Cooperative Policy.

**APPROVED** June write-offs in the amount of \$2,192.95.

**APPROVED** Kevin Logan as Voting Delegate and Richard Rudolphi as Alternate for the NRECA Regional Meeting.

**DISCUSSED** the retirement of a Bucket Truck and **APPROVED** advertising it for sealed bids.

**REVIEWED** letter from the Attorney General regarding the Transformer issue with Bud Welch.

**RETURNED TO ITEM # 5.** Heard from Doug Hockman, Vivian Duquaine, Flora HS, Collin Moseley, Flora HS, and Nick Miller, Clay City HS regarding the Youth To Washington, DC Tour, and the Youth Day to Springfield, IL. Thereafter the guests left the meeting.

**REVIEWED** the CFC Forum Meeting.

**INFORMED** the CFC Quarterly Loan Payment was submitted.

**HEARD** a preliminary report on the upcoming SIPC meeting by Trustee Herman.

**REVIEWED** the SIPC substation fly over report.

**HEARD** a report by Kevin Logan on the recent AIEC meeting held in June.

**INFORMED** of AIEC Employee departures.

**DISCUSSED** the AIEC Annual Meeting registration, events to be held, NRECA Training Courses offered, and the ACRE Breakfast.

**INFORMED** of the Groundbreaking ceremony for the new CECI office building.

**INFORMED** that a standby generator was purchased for the temporary office building.

**REVIEWED** the soil remediation options. **WERE INFORMED** that option 3 was the best solution.

**HEARD** a financial report by Manager VanHoose as to the following:

- a. May 2018 Form 7
  - b. May 2018 Cash Flow
  - c. SIPC Power Delivered in May 2018 dated June 8, 2018
  - May 2018 Power Factor
  - May 2018 Power Cost Adder
  - May 2018 Line Loss
  - Monthly Reconciliation
  - Account Summary Report
- HEARD** a General Safety Report for June 2018.

**REVIEWED** Monday morning safety meeting sheet dated June 18, 2018.

**HEARD and APPROVED** a report by Manager VanHoose as to the following:

- a. June Operations Report
- b. NRECA Benefits update
- c. Clay County Farm Bureau Board Meeting invitation
- d. FEJA ComEd Appeal
- e. Lightning Damage
- f. Clay County Water
- g. Upcoming meetings

**DISCUSSED and APPROVED** Ed VanHoose leaving the NRECA Member Advisory Group to join the Strategic Technology Advisory Council.

**ADJOURNED**



# Don't Miss APPLEKNOCKER '18

Sat., Sept. 29th  
9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Flora IL Elementary School  
445 Emory Street

**Great  
FOOD**

**FUN!**

**Numerous enriching  
Hands-on Activities**

**FUN!**

**SHOWS**

*8:15 AM KIDS DASHES 8:30 AM 5K, 1 MILE RUN,*

**Flora High School Band**

**Free Activities**

**Live Music and Entertainment**

**Featuring Mark Twain**

**Power & Grace Tumbling**

**DAS'zie Dance & Tumbling**

**Inflatibles for young kids**

**One Man Band**

**Stilt Walker / Mime**

**Clowns**

**Boy Scout Troop #282**

**Rope Bridge**

**Delicious**

**APPLE DUMPLINGS**

**A Full Day of Family Fun and Learning!**  
**Sponsored by the Flora Academic Foundation**  
**Visit FAF Appleknocker link @floraschools.com**

