



Holiday Closing Notice

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of Labor Day.

As always, cooperative dispatchers will be on duty to answer your emergency calls.

Have a happy and safe holiday!

Want More Content from Your Co-op?



Follow Powell Valley Electric Cooperative on Twitter @powell_valley for more news, energy-saving tips and other energizing content!

Fiber Update Info as of 7/18/2022

Miles of backbone – 1,801
Services installed to the home – 4,415

CONTACT US

420 Straight Creek Road, P.O. Box 1528
New Tazewell, TN 37824

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Web pve.coop **f** **Email** info@pve.coop

Tazewell Office

All Inquiries: 423-626-5204

Jonesville Office

All Inquiries: 276-346-6003

Sneedville Office

All Inquiries: 423-733-2207

General Manager

Brad Coppock

Tazewell Area Supervisor

Ronnie Williams

Jonesville Area Supervisor

Jason Stapleton

Sneedville Area Supervisor

Joey Southern

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.



Air conditioning. A cold glass of iced tea. A ceiling fan. Electricity is important year around, but there is something about summer that makes it even more crucial.



Manager's Message

Brad Coppock
General Manager

This was a hot summer. It began with a May that was 83% hotter than last year, and June, July and August provided little relief. Hot weather brings with it a surge in demand for energy. With air conditioning, refrigeration and pool pumps putting added strain on our system, I am pleased to report that Powell Valley Electric Cooperative's power grid met the summer power needs of the communities we serve. I commend our team for the planning, preparation and work required to keep the lights on and our communities cool through this long, hot summer.

With the intensity of summer in Tennessee largely behind us, it is worth taking a moment to reflect on what makes the modern power grid truly impressive.

It adapts to real-time to changes in demand.

Whether it is a sweltering summer day or a mild fall evening, the power grid adapts to meet the real-time needs of our communities. Power cannot be efficiently stored, so it must be generated and delivered to your home or business the very moment you need it. Sometimes you need more; sometimes you need less. Regardless, the grid adapts to those moment-by-moment needs.

It is remarkably reliable.

I know that, despite our best efforts, sometimes the power does go out. Fortunately, that is relatively unusual. In fact, in the last 12 months, our team at PVEC has kept the lights on 99.94 % of the time. Even so, we're continuing to invest in the system and adapt our processes to minimize power interruptions.

PVEC has also invested and continues to invest in technology to help us operate a more efficient, reliable and secure power grid. From remote switches and monitors along the distribution system to communication and control systems in our substations, we have access to more data and information about the status of our power system than ever before. This allows us to make better decisions to keep rates low and reliability high.

As an official with the Tennessee Valley Authority recently told a reporter, summer in the South is the Super Bowl for utilities. It is what we prepare for all year. I am pleased that we navigated the challenges of this hot summer — and even more pleased that cooler weather is approaching. You and your family can be confident that the team at Powell Valley Electric Co-op will be here, working around the clock to meet your power needs, regardless of the temperature.



Sandy Smith Retires

Sandy Smith was recently honored by her coworkers upon her retirement from Powell Valley Electric Cooperative. Sandy served the members of the cooperative for 34 years, beginning her career in customer service and later moving into the administrative assistant position.

Sandy lives in the Speedwell area of Claiborne County with her husband, Billy Wayne. She is looking forward to a leisurely retirement, relaxing and spending time with family and friends.

PVEC wishes Sandy the very best in her retirement.



PVEC Hosts Ribbon Cutting

Powell Valley Electric Cooperative hosted both the ribbon cutting ceremony for its new Sneedville office and Member Appreciation Day on Friday, July 1.

“We are proud to serve our local communities,” says Brad Coppock, general manager of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative. “We hope that through this new office, we can continue to better serve the community in and around Sneedville.”

Rev. Tony Collins opened the ceremony in prayer. During the ceremony Hancock County Mayor Thomas Harrison and PVEC Board President Roger Ball each spoke briefly on the impact the new office facilities has had on the community. Powell Valley Electric Cooperative Board Director Lena Short, representing the fifth district, completed the occasion by cutting the ribbon.

Annual Meeting – Saturday, Sept. 17

Time is once again drawing near for this year’s annual meeting.

For PVEC, this is a time of both planning and reflection, a time to look back and see how life has changed. Two years ago, we were in the midst of a pandemic, and life as we knew it had changed dramatically. One year ago, we could see progress being made, albeit slowly. This year, as the COVID-19 virus continues to change the lives of us all, we can see just how resilient the members of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative really are. As a society, we have adapted to the ever-changing environment. While much of our everyday lives has returned to some sense of normalcy, we must continue to remain cautious. With this in mind, this year’s annual meeting will be modified.

Registration will open at 9 a.m. at Thomas Walker High School, and the business session will start at 11 a.m. Voting for the director election will take place during this time. The cooperative’s

business session will be conducted in the usual manner. However, due to ongoing COVID-19 concerns, there will be no entertainment, health fair, lunch or door prizes. The program and any related activities will be carried out in as safe a manner as possible. Although presently there are no mandates, we will follow the CDC recommended COVID-19 guidelines regarding social distancing, masks and attendance that are in place on the date of the meeting. For more information, visit pve.coop or call your local PVEC office.

On behalf of the directors, management and employees of Powell Valley Electric Cooperative, we appreciate you — our members. Your contributions to keep your communities going and moving forward do not go unnoticed.

We thank you and look forward to continuing to serve our members and the communities we serve by providing safe, reliable and affordable power.

OFFICIAL NOTICE ANNUAL MEETING ORDER OF BUSINESS POWELL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

ANNUAL MEETING

Sept. 17, 2022 – Thomas Walker High School, Ewing, Va.

Annual Meeting – Sept. 17, 2022

Registration – 9-11 a.m.

Special Note: CDC recommended COVID-19 guidelines regarding social distancing, masks and attendance that are in place on the date of the meeting will be followed. Guidelines will be available at all PVEC offices and will be posted on our website at pve.coop prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

- 11 a.m.** Call to Order – Roger Ball, President
- Invocation
- Reports
- Business Session – Roger Ball, President

***Any customer with special needs, i.e., ramp for access by wheelchair, etc., at the annual meeting location, please notify the cooperative at 423-626-5204.**

Annual Meeting Order of Business

1. Report on number of members present.
2. Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
3. Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
4. Presentation and consideration of, and acting upon, reports of officers, directors and committees.
5. Election of directors.
 - a. Report of Committee on Nominations.

Pursuant to the Bylaws, the Board of Directors has appointed a Committee on Nominations. This Committee has met and nominated the following members for your consideration:

- District 1 – Tracey Sharp
- District 4 – Allen Parkey
- District 5 – Lena Short
- District 9 – Gary Russell

- b. Report on nomination by petition.
 - District 1 – Jeffrey S. Norris
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.

Proposed change in Powell Valley Electric Cooperative’s Bylaws, Article XIII, Miscellaneous, Section 4.

Existing language: Article XIII, Section 4.

Subscription to “Cooperative Living Magazine” and Subscription to “The Tennessee Magazine.” For the purpose of disseminating information devoted to the economical, effective and conservative use of electric energy, the board of directors shall be authorized, on behalf of and for circulation to the members periodically, to subscribe to a magazine entitled “Cooperative Living.” The annual subscription therefor, shall be deducted from any funds accruing in favor of such members, so as to reduce such funds in the same manner as would any other expense of the Cooperative. The Board of Directors shall also be empowered and authorized, on behalf of and for

circulation to the members periodically, to subscribe to “The Tennessee Magazine.” The annual subscription therefor, shall be deducted from any funds accruing in favor of such members, so as to reduce such funds in the same manner as would any other expense of the Cooperative.

Notices included in these two publications shall constitute due notice.

This section shall remain in effect until the annual meeting to be held in 2022, at which time it will expire, unless the provisions thereof are extended by a majority vote of members voting at that meeting.

Proposed language: Article XIII, Section 4.

Subscription to *Cooperative Living* magazine and Subscription to the *Tennessee Magazine*. For the purpose of disseminating information devoted to the economical, effective and conservative use of electric energy, the board of directors shall be authorized, on behalf of and for circulation to the members periodically, to subscribe to a magazine entitled *Cooperative Living*. The annual subscription therefor, shall be deducted from any funds accruing in favor of such members, so as to reduce such funds in the same manner as would any other expense of the Cooperative. The Board of Directors shall also be empowered and authorized, on behalf of and for circulation to the members periodically, to subscribe to the *Tennessee Magazine*. The annual subscription therefor, shall be deducted from any funds accruing in favor of such members, so as to reduce such funds in the same manner as would any other expense of the Cooperative.

Notices included in these two publications shall constitute due notice.

This section shall remain in effect until the annual meeting to be held in 2027, at which time it will expire, unless the provisions thereof are extended by a majority vote of members voting at that meeting.

8. Adjournment.

/s/ Judith Robertson, Secretary

PVEC hosts Member Appreciation Days

Recently, Powell Valley Electric Cooperative held a series of Member Appreciation days at each of its district offices. These events were held on July 1 in Sneedville, July 27 in Jonesville, and July 28 in New Tazewell. Those attending were served hot dogs and other refreshments. We had a great time of fellowship with our members, who are at the heart of what we do. Thank you for putting your trust in us.



Jonesville



Sneedville



New Tazewell



Safety Tips

Joey Southern
Sneedville Area Supervisor

Would you drive on a highway blindfolded? Of course not—that'd be foolish. However, if you text while driving 55 miles per hour on a highway, you are essentially doing just that.

Five seconds is the average time your eyes are off the road while texting. When traveling at 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field while blindfolded. Talking on a cellphone also carries significant risks. According to the National Safety Council, drivers can miss seeing up to half of what's around them—traffic lights, stop signs, pedestrians—when talking on a cellphone.

In our digital world, people feel pressure to remain in constant contact, even when behind the wheel. As mobile technology use increases, distracted driving—talking, texting, sending emails—is a growing threat to community safety. We have all seen distracted drivers, and, most likely, we ourselves have used phones while driving. Drivers don't realize the dangers posed when they take their eyes off the road and their hands off the wheel to focus on activities other than driving.

You may be wondering why your electric co-op cares about this issue.

We see distracted drivers every day. Our crews spend a lot of time up poles, working along the side of roadways, and they have a pretty good view through the windshield of passing motorists. They know how common it really is.

Texting and cellphone use behind the wheel take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel and your focus off driving—endangering the driver and others, including passengers, pedestrians, other drivers, bystanders and even utility workers.

Safety is a core value for Powell Valley Electric Cooperative. At this time of year in particular when more people are on the roads and kids are going to and from school, our goal is to raise awareness and spur conversation about the dangers of distracted driving. Talking on a cellphone quadruples your risk of an accident, about the same as if you were driving drunk. Risk doubles again if you are texting while driving. We are committed to eliminating this unnecessary risk and believe that no conversation or text is worth the potential danger.

Help promote a culture of safety. We encourage everyone to join us and help keep our families, friends and neighbors safer by putting their phones down and focusing on the road when they drive. Together, we can put the brakes on distracted driving.



PHOTO BY SCOTT VAN OSDOL

Get Your Home Ready for Cooler Weather

Heating season will be here before you know it. Here are six ways to keep your energy use—and your utility bills—in check as the weather gets cooler.

- Check for gaps in your walls around windows, doors and holes in exterior walls where cords and cables enter the house. Cool air that leaks into the house through those gaps can compete with the warm air your heating system pumps. Keeping cool air outside where it belongs will mean your heating system doesn't have to work as hard to keep your family comfortable.
- Set the thermostat at 68 degrees. At bedtime and before everyone leaves the house for the day, dial it down between 7 and 10 degrees. Lowering the temperature by that amount for eight hours a day can save up to 10% on heating costs, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The easiest way to ensure that the thermostat rises and lowers depending on whether anyone is in the house is to program it ahead of time to automatically change temperatures.
- Reverse the direction that your ceiling fan blades spin. A clockwise movement pushes warm air back down into the room, which can make people in the room feel warmer.
- Replace or clean the filters in your heating and air conditioning systems. A clogged filter blocks air from flowing through, which makes your HVAC system work harder and use more energy.
- Make an appointment with an HVAC service to inspect your heating system and repair any problems before it gets really cold outside. Spending a little on maintenance now could head off a more costly problem later.