

Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

SULLIVAN COUNTY REC

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STAFF

John Lykens, CEO
Todd Molyneux, Manager,
Electric Operations
Heidi Roupp, CFO
Diane E. White, Executive Assistant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ann B. Henderson - CCD*/BLC/Gold Chair**
Stephan Paul Brady - CCD/BLC/Gold* Vice Chairman**
Kathy A. Robbins - CCD/BLC/Gold Secretary
David L. Aumen - CCD/BLC/Gold
Karen Beinlich
Jeff Hamilton - CCD/BLC/Gold
Jim Lambert - CCD
Jay Lewis - CCD/BLC/Gold
David R. Rakestraw - CCD

*Credentialed Cooperative Director

**Board Leadership Certificate

***Director Gold Certificate

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A Little Insight into Electric Vehicles



JOHN LYKENS

ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EVs) HAVE GROWN in popularity, and each year their sales continue to increase. Buyers have varied reasons for purchasing them. Some want to reduce their carbon footprint or keep abreast of the latest technological advancements. Others want the thrill of being in a vehicle with generous torque when accelerating. In the first quarter of 2021, new sales included 98,832 EVs in the U.S., and in the last quarter of 2023, that number rose to 317,168.

EVs aren't going away, nor should they.

The primary "driver" of the EV is the battery, which provides direct-current (DC) electricity to a motor located at each of the wheels. As the bank of batteries powers the wheels, it slowly loses power as it discharges its stored energy.

Most EVs have two types of charging modes — alternating current (AC) or DC. AC charging is accomplished through plugging the vehicle into an AC supply from household electricity. The conversion from household AC power to DC is accomplished within the EV's onboard electronics. This is more commonly known as Level 1 or Level 2 charging, which can take from 4 to 21 hours to complete. Level 3 and Level 4 charging are accomplished through DC charging, often done at charging stations. Charge times can be as little as 30 minutes or less.

EVs can be more expensive than their internal-combustion engine counterparts. For example, a Tesla Model 3 retails for around \$42,000. A comparable gas-powered vehicle, such as the Toyota Camry, retails for between \$25,000 and \$35,000. The "range," or the miles an EV can travel on a single charge, varies depending on the model. The Model 3 generally has a range of 248 to 272 miles per charge, while the Toyota Camry has a range of 350 to 500 miles per tank.

The main elements that make up an EV's battery bank are cobalt, nickel, and lithium. Currently, all three elements are readily available to be mined, and it is expected all three can be recycled and put into new EV batteries. Thus far, there are no worries about keeping up with demand for EV battery banks.

For those members considering purchasing an EV, please note the cooperative does have an at-home charging rate. This rate includes a separate meter to be installed on the member's service. The rate has a \$2 base charge, plus a per kilowatt-hour rate of 17.1 cents during peak load times and 9.2 cents at off-peak times. The concept behind this rate structure is to encourage members to charge their vehicles during off-peak hours, from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m., and on certain holidays, such as Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Charging an EV at home during peak hours adds to the cooperative's peak demand. This can negatively impact cooperatives like ours and the costs we pay to purchase the energy distributed to our members.

EVs aren't for everyone, just like vehicles with internal-combustion engines may not be for those looking for a cleaner alternative. Whatever your preference, please know your cooperative is here to provide you with safe, reliable, cost-responsible electricity now and into the future.

Semper Fidelis! 🇺🇸

JOHN LYKENS

CEO

Meet Your Director Candidates

DIANE WHITE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Three seats on the cooperative's board of directors are up for election each year. This year, members will be electing directors in Districts 3, 4, and 8. A ballot was mailed to you in mid-March with a self-addressed, postage-paid blue envelope. We must receive the completed ballot, enclosed in the blue envelope, no later than 10:30 a.m. Thursday, May 16. So, if mailing, please

allow sufficient time for delivery. You also may bring your ballot to the cooperative's office, but please make sure it is sealed in the provided blue envelope. Elected candidates, who will be announced at the cooperative's virtual annual meeting on May 16, will serve three-year terms. A profile of each candidate follows:

District 3:

Forks Township and Forksville Borough, Sullivan County; and Overton Township, Bradford County



Jim F. Lambert represents District 3 on the board of directors. He attended Penn State University, earning a degree in general agriculture, and worked on his family's farm for 20 years. He also attended Penn College for surveying technology and is currently employed as a professional land

surveyor with the Pennsylvania Game Commission. He has served on the Forksville Borough Council and the Sullivan County School Board. He currently serves on the Sullivan County Planning Commission. He is active in St. Basil's Church in Dushore. Jim and his wife, Melanie, have two daughters. They all reside in Forksville.

District 4:

Cherry and Laporte Townships, and Laporte Borough, Sullivan County; and Albany Township, Bradford County



Jeff S. Hamilton represents District 4 on the board. Jeff is a technical consultant, was recently re-elected as a Laporte Township supervisor, and is president of the County Council of Governments. He dedicated more than 600 hours to Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative (SCREC) board work last year. He has a master's degree in electrical engineering, decades of

experience with television and broadband technology, 168 course hours of director training, and his Director Gold certification. He chairs the cooperative's Broadband Committee, which is considering various options for providing fiber/broadband service to our members without cost to the electric side of the business. He and his wife, Sue, have four children and three grandchildren. He values his service on the SCREC board and requests your support for a third term.



Marvin Brown is the seventh generation to be born and raised on his family's farm in Elkland Township, Sullivan County. He graduated from Sullivan County High School in 1976 and attended Williamsport Area Community College, where he received an associate degree in automotive

technology. Marvin worked for Hulsizer Chevrolet in Montgomery for 18 years and Equipment Depot for 20 years before retiring in 2020. He is married to Gail Wagner Brown. They enjoy hunting, fishing, travel, and family. Retired, Marvin is interested in becoming more involved in the community and serving on the SCREC Board of Directors.

District 8:

Plunketts Creek Township, Lycoming County



Dave L. Aumen represents District 8 on the board. A resident of Plunketts Creek Township, Dave has a forestry degree from Penn State University and, as the owner of a forestry consulting business for more than 29 years, he continues to update his education annually. Dave is a dedicated

director, having earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director, Board Leadership, and Director Gold certificates from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He has been elected by his fellow directors to represent SCREC on the Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc. board. Dave and his wife, Annie, have a son, Larry. Dave is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys spending time in God's creation.

Please Send in Your Director Election Ballot

DIANE WHITE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

The 2024 director election ballot has been sent out to all members for Districts 3, 4, and 8.

Members may vote for all districts, regardless of which district they live in. Please vote for each district and return your ballot in the enclosed blue envelope to Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative by **Thursday, May 16**. Members may also drop their ballot off at the office by **10:30 a.m. May 16**.

Do **not** include any payments or other correspondence in the blue envelopes; they will not be opened until May 16.

Districts up for election are:

- ▶ District 3 — Jim F. Lambert
- ▶ District 4 — Jeff S. Hamilton
Marvin E. Brown
- ▶ District 8 — Dave L. Aumen

Remember: All members can vote for directors in all districts.

Thank you for your participation in this important activity. 🗳️



HELP IN THE FIELD: Contracted crews from Spako's Tree Services recently went through "bird dog" training at SCREC. "Bird dogging" is the process of going out in the field ahead of our lineworkers during large-scale outages and finding the source of the problem (like how a bird dog goes out in the field ahead of a hunter).

The crews learned how to fill out pole bands, report back to dispatch, read our line map, patrol and investigate lines, and follow safety procedures. This will help reduce outage times as our lineworkers will not have to look for the problem and can come to the source of the outage prepared with equipment and tools.

SCREC is dedicated to implementing new ways to make outage restoration fast and efficient for our members and line crews, while keeping everyone safe.

Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, May 16, 2024 - 6:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom **only**.

Prior to the meeting,
please download the Zoom app.

Registration is required by **May 15**:
Visit bit.ly/screcAnnualMtg2024

OR

Contact Diane White at
DianeWhite@screc.com/570-924-3381

Agenda:

6:30 p.m. - Call to Order

Report of 2024 Director Election
(Attorney Chappell)

Board Chair Report
(Ann Henderson)

CEO Report (John Lykens)

Q&A (submitted during meeting)

7:15 p.m. (approx.) - Adjourn

The Power Behind Sullivan County REC: Our Employees

A Monthly Spotlight

SARAH PARRISH, COOPERATIVE COMMUNICATOR

THE LIMELIGHT SHINES ON Alex Laudermilch this month not only for our employee spotlight but also for his recent promotion to journeyman lineman.

Alex started at Sullivan County Rural Electric Cooperative (SCREC) in February 2020 after working for Williamsport Electric for eight years.

“At Williamsport Electric, we were primarily industrial based,” he explains. “We did do some line work, which I really enjoyed, and I wanted to do more of it.”

Enjoying line work isn’t the only perk of the job. Alex also appreciates that each day as a lineworker is different. “You never do the same thing,” he says.

He also likes outage restoration, although he prefers winter storm outages rather than summer storms.

“It’s a good feeling being able to help our members,” Alex says. “I’m not one for hot weather ... especially the humidity that follows a thunderstorm.”

It’s a rewarding career requiring constant attention and safety. “You always have to be mindful of your surroundings and what’s going on,” Alex explains.

Our lineworkers are constantly learning, watching each other’s backs, and looking out for the safety of their coworkers and our members. To be the safest lineworker he can be — and to be promoted from apprentice to journeyman — Alex had to complete basic, intermediate, and advanced rubber glove and hot stick schools, climbing school, and chainsaw school.

“Linemen always have to be willing to learn,” he says, especially young apprentices or people aspiring to be lineworkers. “You have to be willing to work outages; that’s the fastest way to learn your system.”

Alex lives in Overton Township with his wife, Martha, their children, Lexia and Colt, and two dogs, Axle and Zeus. He enjoys spending time with his family as much as possible,

ALEX LAUDERMILCH



TIME WITH THE FAMILY: Being a lineworker is a time-intensive, demanding job. That’s why Alex Laudermilch, who was recently promoted to journeyman lineman at SCREC, enjoys being with his wife and children – and two dogs – as much as possible.

but keeps busy around the house.

“I’m always working on something ... four-wheelers or trucks,” he adds.

SCREC is proud to have a crew of dedicated lineworkers. Their commitment to learning and dedication to speedy, safe outage restoration allows them to serve our members to the best of their ability. 🇺🇸

2023 ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The SCREC 2023 Annual Report is available at [screc.com/2023-annual-report](https://www.screc.com/2023-annual-report).

Reference it for employee updates, our board of directors, finances, operations, and member service activities.



NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

We are happy to acknowledge our electric operations department this month as we celebrate National Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 8. Please join us in thanking the following men:

- ▶ Todd Molyneux – Manager of Electric Operations
- ▶ Jeff Spako II – Operations Assistant I
- ▶ Tyler Worthen – Operations Assistant II
- ▶ Dave Kepner – Crew Chief
- ▶ Nolan Chase – Senior Lineman
- ▶ Chad Phillips – Senior Lineman
- ▶ Kendall Achey – Journeyman Lineman
- ▶ Darrick Higley – Journeyman Lineman
- ▶ Alex Laudermilch – Journeyman Lineman
- ▶ Tom Livezey – Journeyman Lineman
- ▶ Josh Heess, Jr. – Apprentice Lineman
- ▶ Shane Kline – Apprentice Lineman