



MAY - JUNE 2019

MEA Annual Meeting and Election Results

MEA members have elected three incumbents to serve as their representatives on the Board of Directors. The 2019 election included three At-Large Board seats with four candidates that members could vote for online, by mail or at the Annual Membership Meeting at the Curtis D. Menard Center in Wasilla on April 23rd. During the Annual Membership Meeting, all votes were tallied and preliminary election results were announced. The election was then certified by the MEA Board of Directors in a Special Meeting that same evening. The 2019 MEA At-Large Election results are as follows:

- Candidate Peter Burchell – 3,610 Votes
- Candidate Kit Jones – 3,233 Votes
- Candidate Janet Kincaid – 2,965 Votes
- Candidate Kerry Williams – 2,581 Votes

2019 At-Large Elected Directors



Peter Burchell



Kit Jones



Janet Kincaid

Of the member votes, 76% were completed by mail, 22% were completed online and 2% of votes were made at the Annual Membership meeting. More than 450 people attended the Annual Meeting and 220 members registered to receive a \$10 credit on their bill for attending. The winner of the grand prize, a year of free electricity (up to 10,000 kWh), was also announced at the meeting; MEA would like to congratulate Judith and Gregg Upton of Wasilla.

Next year in 2020, the Susitna East and Susitna West district Board seats will be up for election which represent the Wasilla, Big Lake, Willow and northern-most part of our service territory. A call for candidates will be announced at the end of this year.

MEA 2019 Scholarship Winners

MEA's 2019 scholarship winners were announced at this year's Annual Membership Meeting. A total of \$12,500 was awarded to students within MEA's service territory. This year's awardees include:



Melanie Chaffey

Eagle River High
\$2,000 Scholarship



Madison Ressler

Wasilla High
\$3,000 Scholarship



Shannon Frati

Colony High
\$7,500 Scholarship

MEA would like to congratulate this year's recipients and wish them the best in all their future studies.

MEA 2019 Summer Projects

MEA staff attended nearly a dozen community council meetings throughout the spring to update members on MEA projects and activities in their area, including plans for substation upgrades and clearing projects this summer. The following is a list of major projects MEA will focus on during the next few months:

- **Special Clearing Projects** - MEA's clearing crews will work extensively in Wasilla and in the northern Trapper Creek area to tackle danger trees caused by major spruce bark beetle kill in the area.
- **Theodore Substation** - Upgrades to MEA's Theodore Substation are expected to be completed this summer to account for growth and improve reliability to members in the Knik Goose Bay (KGB) area.
- **Pole and Wire Relocation** - In conjunction with State DOT projects, MEA will be relocating and upgrading poles, wires, and equipment along the Glenn Highway during road widening and rerouting projects.



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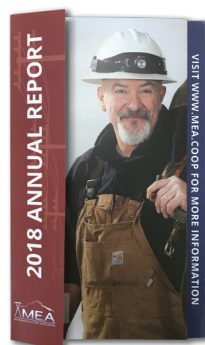
Second Quarter Rate Update

MEA's typical-use member (using approximately 655 kWh/month of electricity) saw a total increase of about 1.19% or \$1.66 per month to their overall bill as a result of second quarter adjustments to the Cost of Power Adjustment (COPA) rate, effective April 1, 2019. There were no changes to MEA's base rates in the second quarter.

MEA requested an increase of 3.54% to the quarterly COPA rate which was approved by the RCA in April. The COPA rate fluctuates quarterly based on fuel and purchased power costs. Currently, MEA provides the second lowest rates on our interconnected system and offers the lowest base rates of any of our neighboring utilities.

MEA Releases 2018 Annual Report

The 2018 MEA Annual Report is now available to members online. Members can also get a printed copy of the annual report at any MEA office or request one by mail. The annual report includes information about the financial health of the cooperative, goals that were accomplished in 2018, and priorities that have been set for this year. To read this year's annual report visit: mea.coop and click on the 'Annual Reports' section.



Mark Your Calendar – Summer Kids Day Events

MEA is hosting two Kids Day events this summer at our local ball parks. Join us with your kiddos for free entry, goodies and giveaways on the following dates and times:

- **July 18th** Mat-Su Miners Game (free tickets available at all MEA offices two weeks prior). Game starts at 6:00 p.m., Hermon Brothers Field at the Alaska State Fairgrounds
- **July 21st** Chugiak/Eagle River Chinooks (all entry is free, no tickets required). Game Starts at 2:00 p.m., Lee Jordan Field at 18100 Old Glenn Hwy

Clarification of Board Service Fees in MTA Publication

Inaccurate information regarding MEA's Board of Directors service fees was published in MTA's 2019 proposed amendment to its Bylaws. MTA reported MEA Directors receive \$383.33 for their service which is true only for meetings of the Board. All other meetings provide a more modest service fee based on the type, length, and location of the meeting. For additional information on MEA's Board of Directors and Bylaws, please visit: <https://www.mea.coop/about-mea/board-of-directors/>

Gas Contract Extension Results in Member Savings

MEA has extended its long-term fuel supply agreement with Hilcorp, Alaska LLC resulting in significant future cost savings for members. The new agreement extends fuel delivery between Hilcorp and MEA through March of 2028; the original supply contract agreement was set to expire in 2023.

MEA estimates the fuel supply contract extension will provide approximately \$11.2 million in fuel cost savings over the next four years based on a price reduction of the original contract. The cost of fuel and purchased power contributes to roughly 40% of MEA's overall expenses.

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