

Building on our past. Lighting the way to the future.

SUMNER-COWLEY **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE** 

NEWS FROM THE

# WHEAT CAPITAL

#### **SUMNER-COWLEY ELECTRIC CO-OP. INC.**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

John Schon

President, District 7

Keith Leddy

Vice President, District 4

**Jeff Swanson** 

Secretary-Treasurer, District 2

John Beard

Director, District 3

Craig Knudsen

Director, District 1

Jim McMullin Director, District 5

Gabe Schlickau Director District 6

#### **STAFF**

Coni Adams CFO

Jordan Creed

**Director of Operations** 

Stacy Wiley

Director of Finance

**Tanner Ford** 

Member Engagement and Creative Services

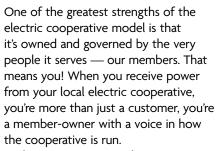
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FROM THE CEO

# Help Shape the Future of Your Cooperative

### Run for the Board of Directors



That voice is exercised, in part. through the election of our board of directors. Directors play a vital role in setting policies, guiding the strategic direction of the co-op, and providing crucial fiduciary oversight. These responsibilities help ensure that every decision and every dollar spent is made with one thing in mind: service to our members.

Serving on the board is both a privilege and a meaningful way to give back. Directors help make decisions that shape the future of our cooperative and ensure that we continue to deliver safe, reliable and affordable electricity. From emerging energy technologies to evolving regulations and grid modernization, this industry is dynamic — and your leadership can be a part of it.

The good news? You won't be navigating it alone. Cooperative directors have access to unmatched support through statewide and national

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Coni Adams



## **COLD WEATHER** RULE EFFECTIVE FROM NOV. 1 **THROUGH MARCH 31**

The provisions of the Cold Weather Rule (CWR) allow for special payment and disconnection procedures for any qualifying residential member. The rule allows a qualifying member to retain or restore electric service throughout the cold weather period, which extends from Nov. 1 through March 31, and for the development of payment agreements between the cooperative and the member.

The cooperative will not disconnect a member's service between Nov. 1 and March 31 when the National Weather Service office forecasts the temperature will drop below 35 degrees F or will be in the "mid to low 30s" within the next 48hour period if the member complies with the provisions of the Good Faith Test.

To meet the Good Faith Test requirements, the member must inform the cooperative of their inability to pay the bill in full before the stated date of delinguency. The member and the cooperative may negotiate payment arrangements mutually agreeable, individualized to the member's situation. Once an agreement has been made and those terms are defaulted on, the agreement becomes null and void and the member's electric service will be subject to immediate disconnection.

A COMMON MISCONCEPTION IS THAT ONCE THE CWR IS IN EFFECT. **ELECTRIC BILLS CAN BE IGNORED** AND THE COOPERATIVE WILL NOT **DISCONNECT SERVICE. THIS IS NOT** TRUE. THE COOPERATIVE CAN AND WILL DISCONNECT FOR NON-PAYMENT IF CERTAIN CRITERIA ARE NOT MET.

For more information related to the CWR, please contact our office at 620-326-3356.

## Help Shape the Future of Your Cooperative Continued from page 12A >

organizations that provide extensive training, resources and educational opportunities. Whether it's learning about cooperative financials, understanding rate structures, or diving into cybersecurity best practices, new and returning directors are equipped with the tools they need to serve effectively.

Being a director is more than attending meetings; it's about working together to make thoughtful, future-focused decisions that reflect the values and needs of the people served by this cooperative.

If you're a residential member living in **DISTRICT 3**, and want to make a difference, getting on the ballot is simple. Just submit a petition signed by at least five members from your district to CEO Coni Adams between Jan. 1-30, 2026. That's all it takes to get your name on

the ballot and take the first step toward a leadership role in your cooperative.

Voting will take place by mail in early May, and the results will be counted and announced at the annual meeting of the cooperative members on MAY 19, 2026.

This is your cooperative. Your voice matters. Your leadership matters. We encourage any member who's passionate about leadership, service, and the future of Sumner-Cowley Electric to consider running for the board.

For more information about the director election process or to verify your eligibility, contact our office we're happy to help!

> COOPERATIVELY YOURS. **CONI ADAMS, CEO**



# Apply for the Trip of a Lifetime!





CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Each year Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative sends two high school juniors to attend one of two, all-expenses-paid youth trips: the **ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR**, or the **COOPERATIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP!** These trips offer an incredible chance to travel, learn about leadership, and meet other students from not only across Kansas but also from other states.

Electric Cooperative Youth Tour will take place June 13-19, 2026, in Washington, D.C. Kansas students will join students from Hawaii on this fun and engaging trip. You will tour the city's iconic sites, monuments and museums, as well as take part in fun, leisure activities the D.C. has to offer. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet and speak to our state and federal legislators to learn how electric cooperatives in America are affected by political decisions.

Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp near Steamboat Springs, Colorado, will be held July 10-16, 2026. If selected, you will join 100 other high school students from Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and Wyoming where you will participate in fun and educational activities to enhance your leadership skills, build long-lasting relationships with other students, and even go river rafting! This is an incredible opportunity to learn about the cooperative business model while creating unforgettable memories.

Opportunities like this do not come around often! Applications are available on our website and must be submitted by Jan. 16, 2026. Requirements are that you must be a high school junior, and your parents or guardians must be current members of Sumner-Cowley Electric Co-op. If you have questions about the trip or would like an application emailed to you, contact Tanner Ford at tannerf@sucocoop.com. These exciting experiences not only offer lasting memories, but they will look great on your résumé or college applications! Do not miss out — apply now!

## **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**

### **TANNER FORD**

On Sept. 9, we welcomed new Member Engagement and Creative Services Specialist **TANNER FORD** to Sumner-Cowley Electric! Tanner comes to us from the Wellington Recreation Commission where he spent 13 years as the sports director. At the WRC, he was heavily involved with the implementation, promotion and supervision of all youth and adult sports programs.

Tanner graduated from the University of Kansas in 2011 with a bachelor of general studies degree in public administration and a minor

in business. He is a lifelong resident of Sumner County and is excited to continue his journey here with us.

At SCEC, Tanner's duties include planning the annual meeting, effectively communicating and engaging with members, and heading up our youth programs. Outside



**Tanner Ford** 

of work Tanner enjoys cheering on his Kansas Jayhawks and Kansas City Chiefs, bowling, grilling and spending time with friends and family. Tanner is excited to join the Sumner-Cowley family and can't wait to get out and meet the members!

## **2026 SENIORS: APPLY FOR THE SCEC SCHOLARSHIP!**

Applications for the SCEC Scholarship Program are open! We know that pursuing higher education is a costly investment, and we would like to show our commitment to the future generation of leaders by lessening that financial burden and helping provide the resources to achieve their dreams.

To apply, you must be a 2026 high school graduate and your parents or guardians must be current members of Sumner-Cowley Electric Co-op.

Scholarship applications can be found online at www.sucocoop.com and must be completed and returned by April 10, 2026. If you would like an application emailed to you, reach out to Tanner Ford at tannerf@sucocoop.com.



## **Statement of Non-Discrimination**

Sumner-Cowley Electric Cooperative, Inc. is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and is subject to the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age of Discrimination Act of 1975.

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or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint-filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call 866-632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

