

OEC Current

Broadband Project Update

We are happy to announce that this spring, we were awarded \$7.1 million provided by the Rural Development Opportunity Fund through the FCC to expand existing infrastructure further into unserved and under-served locations in Otsego, Herkimer and Madison County. This will allow us to build approximately 110 more miles to areas across the county and connect more people who are in great need of fast, reliable internet that OEConnect offers.

Long-time Director Retires from Board

Wendell E. Saunders retired from the Board of Directors on February 22, 2021 after serving as a Director for over 49 years and as Treasurer of the Board for many of those years. Wendell still remembers when the lights turned on at his family's home in 1945 on Frost Hill in the Town of Plainfield on the northern reach of OEC's territory. Wendell grew up on a dairy farm that was powered by a Delco Battery Plant until the power was installed by OEC. He has lived on this farm his whole life while running a very successful construction business, raising animals, working with draft horses and making maple syrup for many years. Wendell became a board member in 1972 while Winfred C. Arnold, Sr. was the Board President. He eventually became Treasurer and he served in that role for over 35 years until his retirement from the Board in February. His contributions are too long to list but suffice it to say, he was involved in every major decision that took place here at OEC for almost 50 years including the construction of the new office addition in 1994. Wendell saw electricity service for Otsego Electric arrive when he was a young boy and he lived in the same homestead when our OEConnect Broadband service arrived! We appreciate all that Wendell has done here at OEC and he will surely be missed.



Otsego Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 128,
Hartwick, NY 13348

Office Hours
7:30 – 4:00
Monday – Friday

Phone:
607-293-6622

Pay-by-Phone
1-844-843-6842

After Hours and Outages:
1-866-591-3192

Call **Dig|Safely**. New York
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Fred Braun, Jr.
Director

Amy Parr
Director

Wendell Saunders
Director Emeritus

Timothy R. Johnson
CEO

www.otsegoec.coop
www.oconnect.coop

Automatic Payments

There is no better time than now to set up automatic payment for your electric and internet bills! With summer months on the way, what better way to make sure you don't miss a payment than with automatic payment! Signing up for bank draft or online with SmartHub, you can find peace of mind knowing that your payment will never be forgotten. Please call our office if you would like to sign up for auto bill pay!

New Employee

We would like to welcome Brian Wellman to our team as an Apprentice Lineman. Brian currently lives in Hartwick, NY with his wife and daughters. We are excited to add him to our team!



Operations Update

With spring here and warmer weather on the way, Otsego Electric has started some summer projects. The brush crew is working in various areas throughout the service area doing line trimming and mowing to help avoid outages and keep the right-of-way clear. We also have plans to do necessary line upgrades to keep the system in good shape. Please drive slowly if you see our crews working close to or on the roads.

*****Nominating Committee Notice*****

All members are hereby notified that, as set forth in the bylaws of Otsego Electric Cooperative, Inc., the Board of Directors appoints a Nominating Committee every year. The Nominating Committee will meet during the month of June to review petitions and select the list of nominees for open director seats.

Article 4, Section 3 of the bylaws follows:

NOMINATIONS. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to appoint, not less than thirty days nor more than seventy-five days before the date of a meeting of the members at which directors are to be elected, a committee on nominations and elections consisting of five members who shall be selected from different sections of the project area so as to insure equitable representation. No member of the Board of Directors may serve on such committee. The committee, keeping in mind the principle of equitable representation, shall review, certify and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least twenty days before the meeting a list of nominations for directors. Any fifteen or more members acting together shall make nominations by petition not less than seventy-five days prior to the meeting. In the event adequate nominations are not received and certified, the nominations and elections committee will have the authority to appoint nominees. The Secretary shall be responsible for mailing with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least ten days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of directors to be elected and the names and addresses of the certified candidates.

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Members has been scheduled on August 18, 2021. Elections for two board seats will occur at the 2021 Annual Meeting. We will announce the Annual Meeting location soon. *If you are interested in running for the Board of Directors, petitions are available at the Cooperative office or at our website at www.otsegoec.coop.*

Petitions must be submitted on or before Tuesday, June 2, 2021.