

Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



One of 14 electric cooperatives serving Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Somerset REC

223 Industrial Park Road
Somerset, PA 15501
814-445-4106
800-443-4255

Email: e-mail@somersetrec.com
Website: www.somersetrec.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jonathan Hillegas,
Director of Finances

Emily Baer,
Director of Marketing and Member Services

Phil Stern,
Manager of Metering

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Emergency Outage Number

814-445-4106
800-443-4255

From the General Manager



The true cost of service

By Ruston Ogburn

RECENT headlines about increases to electric rates across the country prompted calls from our members asking if our rates would be increasing as well. Our member services personnel answered these questions as they came in, but I wanted to update everyone on our process for evaluating rates and our financial plans.

No one will be surprised to hear that the rising prices impacting everyone also increased the prices we pay for everything, ranging from poles and transformers to trucks and tools. These items comprise about 25% of our annual expenditures, and the average increases for them over the last few years have easily exceeded 20%.

Fortunately, the largest portion of our annual budget, purchased power, has not seen such drastic inflation. Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative purchases our power from Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., which owns generation resources and purchases power from other generation suppliers, which we, in turn, provide to our members.

For 2022, the rates we pay for this power have been locked in, so these costs will not impact our budgeted cost for power this year. However, significant increases in the cost to produce and transmit energy will transfer directly to our costs in the coming years. Our financial projections looking forward several years anticipate at least a 10% increase in these costs.

Given these known and projected

increases, we have begun the process of reviewing the costs for providing services to our members. We refer to this process as a “cost-of-service study.” Our last formal cost-of-service study was prior to our basic service increase in 2018. At that time, we found that our fixed costs, which should generally be covered by the monthly basic service fee, were significantly misaligned. Therefore, after reviewing many options, we partially closed the gap between our actual fixed costs and our basic service fee. As we begin our next cost-of-service study, I will keep you up to date with our findings and the timing of any broader rate increases.

In the meantime, we are considering an increase in the monthly charge for existing and new installations of yard lights to align with the increased costs associated with the lights themselves and the service work required to install and maintain them. We completed our preliminary yard-light calculations, and I do anticipate an increase in that charge in the coming months.

With all of this in mind, I want to remind you that the board and employees work to provide services to our members in a cost-effective way and continually focus on operating your cooperative to maintain our financial strength and flexibility.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to talk with me, please do not hesitate to call or stop by the office. ☀

We owe these people money. Can you help us find them?

The following is a list of names of people who have unclaimed capital credits (money) waiting for them at the cooperative office. Their capital credits checks were returned by the post office as undeliverable. These checks were part of the capital credits retirement mailing in December 2021 for capital credits earned from a portion of 1997 and 1998.

The cooperative is seeking information about these people. If you have any information that may be helpful in locating the person or their family, if the person is deceased, please contact the Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative business office by phone at 814-445-4106 or toll-free, 800-443-4255, or e-mail, service@somersetrec.com.

CATHERINE ACKERMAN FAIRHOPE PA	KEYSER WV ILENE BRANT SOMERSET PA	SOUTH ELGIN IL JOSEPH CZURKO MUNHALL PA	RICHARD EUTIN SOMERSET PA	PITTSBURGH PA MATTHEW GOTTO CHAMPION PA	RANDY HOLLIDAY CONFLUENCE PA
CHARLES ADAMS FORT HILL PA	KENNETH BROWN WAYNESBURG PA	STEPHANIE DANIELS BOSWELL PA	VERNA FARKAS CENTRAL CITY PA	LEE GRIBBLE SOMERSET PA	GREG HOLMES LORAIN OH
NANCY ALBRIGHT MEYERSDALE PA	SHELBY BROWN ACOSTA PA	MERLE DANIELS AVON LAKE OH	RUBY FERNER ROCKWOOD PA	GLENN GRIFFITH PITTSBURGH PA	ROBERT HOLSING DUNBAR PA
BRIAN APGAR N HUNTINGDON PA	CYRIL BUECHEL JEFFERSON HILLS PA	AVON LAKE OH GLENN DAY FAIRHOPE PA	JOHN FERNER ROCKWOOD PA	DOROTHY GROFT FAIRHOPE PA	RITA HOOVER FRIENDSVILLE MD
ERIC ARMEL CONFLUENCE PA	HARRY BUTLER FROSTPROOF FL	MARY DEAL CONFLUENCE PA	RUSSELL FIKE UNIONTOWN PA	JOHN GROSS CROSS JUNCTION VA	GEORGE HORMAN FREDERICK MD
TIMOTHY ARMENTROUT FRIENDSVILLE MD	VICKIE BUFFY CENTRAL CITY PA	RONALD DECKER NORTH RIDGEVILLE OH	WILLIAM FILICKY STOYSTOWN PA	BRUCE HORNER BOSWELL PA	BRUCE HORNER BOSWELL PA
RICHARD ARMSTRONG ROCKWOOD PA	MIRIAM BURKHOLDER MEYERSDALE PA	MARGARET DEFIBAUGH STOYSTOWN PA	GARY FISCHER TROUTVILLE VA	JOHN HORNICK AXTON VA	JOHN HORNICK AXTON VA
B & K BUILDER DAVIDSVILLE PA	PATRICK BURNSWORTH CHALK HILL PA	JOSEPH DEMARCO JENNERSTOWN PA	BRANDON FISHER BERLIN PA	CATHERINE HAEBICH EBENSBURG PA	MARK IMLER FAIRHOPE PA
HARRIET BAIR JOHNSTOWN PA	ROBERT BURNSWORTH OHIOPYLE PA	ALFRED DEMARY NEW ALEXANDRIA PA	MARIE FLEEGLE WINDBER PA	RONALD HAHN MEYERSDALE PA	ROSETTA HOSTETLER CONFLUENCE PA
BARRY BAKER SOMERSET PA	LEORA BURNSWORTH MILL RUN PA	ANDREAS DEMIDONT ALLENSTOWN PA	MARJORIE FLICK HEIDELBERG PA	HARDING ESE INC ALPHARETTA GA	RONDA HOSTETLER BERLIN PA
TERRI BAKER SALISBURY PA	DOROTHY BURNWORTH CONFLUENCE PA	D DEWITT HOPWOOD PA	MILDRED FLICKINGER BERLIN PA	BRENDA HARRINGTON ACOSTA PA	TED HUFF BUCKEYSTOWN MD
TERI BAKEWELL MCMINNVILLE OR	MIKE BUSHWACK LIGONIA PA	DINO DEYULIS EBENSBURG PA	HUNTER FOX INDIAN HEAD MD	NANCY HARRINGTON MCKEES ROCKS PA	MARK IMLER FAIRHOPE PA
RICHARD BARBUSCHAK WINDBER PA	KENNETH BUTLER MEYERSDALE PA	LISA DITMORE FRIENDSVILLE MD	INDIAN HEAD MD NELLIE FRANTZ FRIENDSVILLE MD	JOYCE HARRIS UPPER MARLBORO MD	ADA JAMES DAISYTOWN PA
J BARCLAY SOMERSET PA	RONALD CABRAL CUMBERLAND MD	SARA DNEASTER SOMERSET PA	DORIS FRAZEE UNIONTOWN PA	RHONDA HARTMAN MARKLEYSBURG PA	NAOMI JOHNSON GARRETT PA
JEROME BARTLEY CARMICHAELS PA	CASSELMAN ENTERPRISE INC	SCOTT DOCHERTY VALENCIA PA	BRUCE FRITCH ROCKWOOD PA	WILLIAM HARTZ GLENSHAW PA	MATTHEW JOHNSTON NEW BALTIMORE PA
JOSEPH BASINGER CONFLUENCE PA	SOMERSET PA LORI CATALUCCI	SHIRLEY DODGSON FORESTVILLE MD	JOANN FUNDIS SOMERSET PA	JOSEPH HAWK SCOTTDALE PA	GERMAINE JOHNSTON MCMURRAY PA
ROBERT BATEY JOHNSTOWN PA	JEFFERSON HILLS PA ROBERT BATEY JOHNSTOWN PA	JAMES DOLL JOHNSTOWN PA	JOHN FUNDIS SOMERSET PA	BRAD HAY ROCKWOOD PA	ALONZO KALP CHAMPION PA
BARRY BAUER WINDBER PA	JOHNSTOWN PA BEVERLY CERULLA WINDBER PA	ALEXANDER DOMBROWSKY VILLA RICA GA	STEVEN FUNK GRANTSVILLE MD	DOUGLAS HAY ROCKWOOD PA	ROBERT KAMINSKI PITTSBURGH PA
JERRY BEAM SOMERSET PA	LOIS CHARLES FREDERICKSBURG VA	JOHN D'ONOFRIO PITTSBURGH PA	GRANTSVILLE MD DEANA GARLITZ GRANTSVILLE MD	HAROLD HAY GARRETT PA	RUBY KEEFER RUSKIN FL
CHESTER BEATTY MONROEVILLE PA	FREDERICKSBURG VA BARRY CHARLTON STOYSTOWN PA	DAVEY DOUILLIEZ CANONSBURG PA	ALVERDA GARY HOLLYWOOD SC	ALAN HAYES WEXFORD PA	WILLIAM KEEFER CONFLUENCE PA
BECKY BENFORD GARRETT PA	RAJANI CHUENSUMRAN WEXFORD PA	SANDRA DWIRE SOMERSET PA	GASA INC PITTSBURGH PA	ROGER HEINING SOMERSET PA	IDELLA KEEFER MEYERSDALE PA
DONALD BERANEK MT PLEASANT PA	PAUL CIPA SOMERSET PA	MICHAEL DZURIKANIN CONFLUENCE PA	DONALD GECKLE MT PLEASANT PA	L HELMICK FAIRMONT WV	JAY KENNEDY BERLIN PA
SHIRLEY BERARDI JOHNSTOWN PA	ARTHUR CIPRINI CLAIRTON PA	EDWARD EBERSOLE HOMESTEAD FL	DIANE GHION MONONGAHELA PA	HELMICK CORP FAIRMONT WV	ELISSA KERNS SALISBURY PA
GERALDINE BERKEY WINDBER PA	WARREN CLARK SMITHFIELD PA	ROBERT EDGAR WASHINGTON PA	MARK GLASS ADDISON PA	THOMAS HELSEL JOHNSTOWN PA	E KETCHAM BEDFORD PA
MERLE BITTNER MEYERSDALE PA	ANDREW COBAN MCKEESPORT PA	HARRY EDGAR PITTSBURGH PA	GLENCOE SPORTSMEN MEYERSDALE PA	PATRICIA HERRING SMOCK PA	MORRIS KEYSER BOSWELL PA
ALBERTA BITTNER MEYERSDALE PA	COMMERCIAL COAL SALES FRIEDENS PA	DANIEL EKAS SARVER PA	GLENN VALLEY CLUB HARRISBURG PA	DALE HETRICK FORT HILL PA	HOWARD KILCHENSTEIN SOMERSET PA
WILLIAM BODES GARRETT PA	WILLIAM CONNELLY GLENSIDE PA	WILLIAM ELLER SOMERSET PA	DONALD GLOVER MOUNT AIRY MD	CARL HETRICK BERLIN PA	YEONG KIM PHOENIXVILLE PA
JOE BONUS LAFAYETTE HILL PA	CHRISTY COOPER OAKDALE PA	TY ELY PITTSBURGH PA	DONALD GNAGEY JOHNSTOWN PA	S HILLEGAS FAIRHOPE PA	DANIEL KIMMEL BOSWELL PA
ROBERT BOOSE SOMERSET PA	FRANCIS COTTINGHAM CARLISLE PA	DAVID EMERICK GARRETT PA	GAYLE GOODEN CENTRAL CITY PA	JOHN HILLEGAS SALISBURY PA	CHARLES KING SOMERSET PA
THOMAS BOWLEN FARMINGTON PA	W COUGHENOUR BERLIN PA	FRANK EMMERLING NEW KENSINGTON PA	JOHN GORDEUK SMITHS GROVE KY	LINDA HIMES LIGONIER PA	LEE KIRBY ROCKWOOD PA
PAUL BRADSHAW BETHEL PARK PA	JAMES CRAWFORD	TED ENCKE FAIRHOPE PA	DAVID GORDON WINDBER PA	BONNIE HINDMAN HARRISBURG PA	MATT KLEJKA SOMERSET PA
JARRED BRADSHAW			JAMES GORDON	HENRY HITECHEW VINE GROVE KY	DONNA KNOPSNYDER SOMERSET PA
					ERNEST KORNS

SOMERSET PA
W KORNS
SOMERSET PA
MILDRED KOVATCH
GREENSBURG PA
JAMES KOWNACKI
VANDERGRIFT PA
VIOLET KRAMER
MOUNT JULIET TN
CHARLES KREGER
ROCKWOOD PA
WILLIAM KRIZAN
PITTSBURGH PA
DONALD KUHN
PITTSBURGH PA
GEORGE LAFLAMME
BRISTOL CT
MARY LAMONACA
WINDBER PA
JOHN LAROSA
ACME PA
RANDALL LASURE
BEATTVILLE KY
TIM LAWSON
FRIENDSVILLE MD
DENISE LEACH
YORK PA
MARY LEASURE
FAYETTEVILLE GA
STANLEY LEPLEY
MEYERSDALE PA
SHAWN LEYDIG
MEYERSDALE PA
JACK LIMBERG E
MCKEESPORT PA
MATTHEW LINTZ
MARKLETON PA
BILLY LIVENGODD
ROCKWOOD PA
JASON LOCKE
ALTOONA PA
BENJAMIN LOHR
MEYERSDALE PA
RICHARD LORANTAS
MONONGAHELA PA
THOMAS LOWER
EVANS CITY PA
RICHARD LOWERY
WILLOW STREET PA
MICHAEL LOWERY
ELLSWORTH PA
ANN LYBARGER
REYNOLDSBURG OH
ALICE MAKEL
WAYNESBURG PA
DAVID MALEY
BOYNTON PA
OSCAR MARKER
GARRETT PA
EUGENE MARRACCINI
MONONGAHELA PA
ROBERT MARTIN
CUMBERLAND MD
G MARTIN
CHAMPION PA
DAVID MARTIN
SOMERSET PA
ERIKA MASCIANTONIO
JOHNSTOWN PA
ALEEN MATHEWS
HONOLULU HI
CLIFFORD MAUST
SALISBURY PA
MARGARET MAUST
GRANTSVILLE MD
LEONARD MAUST
SPRINGS PA

DALE MAUST
CLARENDON PA
JOHN MAUST
FRIEDENS PA
JAMES MAYERSCIK
JOHNSTOWN PA
JERRY MCALLISTER
CRESTVIEW FL
MATTHEW MCCLINTOCK
CONFLUENCE PA
RUTH MCCOLLUM
CLARKSVILLE PA
ANNABELLE MCCORMICK
SOMERSET PA
LARRY MCCUSKER
BERLIN PA
VIRGINIA MCENROE
UNIVERSITY PARK FL
RICHARD MCGINLEY
PITTSBURGH PA
ANNA MCGUINNESS
ADDISON PA
VIRGINIA MCLAUGHLIN
FREDERICK MD
RYANN MCVICKER
JOHNSTOWN PA
JOHN MEEHAN
FLAT ROCK NC
JOHN MELE
ROCKWOOD PA
JUDY MERKEL
FAIRHOPE PA
HENRIK MIKE-MAYER
ROCKWALL TX
JOHN MILAS
YARDLEY PA
EDNA MILLER
FORT HILL PA
THOMAS MILLER
FRIEDENS PA
GUY MILLER
BERLIN PA
ALVIN MILLER
TURTLE CREEK PA
BRIAN MILLER
SHANKSVILLE PA
RAYMOND MINTER
BUENA VISTA PA
IRIS MOGNET
MT PLEASANT PA
STANLEY MOGNET
SOMERSET PA
LOUIS MOLINKO
CANONSBURG PA
JEFFREY MONTGOMERY
SOMERSET PA
SHEILA MOSES
CENTRAL CITY PA
BEATRICE MOSTOLLER
SOMERSET PA
PAULA MUNSON
FROSTBURG MD
MATTHEW MYERS
BOSWELL PA
ROBERT MYERS
CENTRAL CITY PA
D M NASER
EASTON CT
ARTHUR NASS
CHARLOTTE NC
SANDRA NAZELROD
ABERDEEN NC
WILLIAM NEDROW
FRIENDSVILLE MD
JANE NELSON
NORTHFIELD MN
ROBERT NEVILLE

PITTSBURGH PA
LAWRENCE NICHOLAS
CONFLUENCE PA
JOSEPH NIEDOBA
GREENSBURG PA
JASON OHLER
CONFLUENCE PA
PETER O'KELLY
UNIONTOWN PA
WILLIAM OLDHAM
FISHERTOWN PA
JEFFREY OSSELBURN
HOUSTON TX
THOMAS OSTERMEIER
WEST MIFFLIN PA
DOMINIC PAPARELLA
CLERMONT FL
CINDY PATTANA
SOMERSET PA
DAVID PATTERSON
WEXFORD PA
RICHARD PAUL
PLEASANT HILLS PA
DANIEL PAULONE
WEST PALM BEACH FL
KAREN PENROD
BOSWELL PA
BRANDON PETRUCCI
SMITHFIELD PA
TIMOTHY PHILLIPS
JOHNSTOWN PA
RAY PLATT
SOMERSET PA
SANFORD PLETCHER
ROCKWOOD PA
KENNETH PLUMMER
CHAMBERSBURG PA
DANIEL POIRIER
ELIZABETH PA
DAVID POLUTNIK
NORTH HUNTINGDON PA
SUSAN POWER
CHAMPION PA
POWER INDUST SERV
DONORA PA
EDWARD PRICE
TILTON NH
JEFFREY PRITTS
ROCKWOOD PA
DAVID PUTMAN
ROCKWOOD PA
EDWARD PYERITZ
ELIZABETH PA
PATRICIA PYLE
ROCKWOOD PA
RICHARD RABOCI
HOLBROOK PA
FRANKLIN REED
FRIEDENS PA
JOHN REESE
ROCKWOOD PA
ADELE REEVES
SOMERSET PA
CHRIS REILLY
SMITHTON PA
JEAN REKEN
DAYTON PA
REBECCA RESH
ACCIDENT MD
LLOYD RICHTER
NORMALVILLE PA
SHARON RICHTER
SPENCERVILLE IN
RONALD RIEBLING
YORK HAVEN PA
DONALD RIELLY
MONROEVILLE PA

DALE RIGGIN
UNIONTOWN PA
STACEY RINGER
MARKLETON PA
CARL RINGLER
GREENSBURG PA
THELMA ROBB
PITTSBURGH PA
GENEVA ROGERS
MARKLETON PA
NOAH ROGERS
CENTRAL CITY PA
ALLEN ROSE
FORT HILL PA
ERIC ROSE
ROCKWOOD PA
ROSE LUMBER COMPANY
BOSWELL PA
JAY ROSS
FRIENDSVILLE MD
STANLEY ROSSELL
ROSCOE PA
WILLIAM RUGG
FORT HILL PA
RUBY RUMMEL
FALLS CHURCH VA
J MICHAEL SABATINI
PITTSBURGH PA
CLIFFORD SALE
STOYSTOWN PA
WENDY SANNER
MEYERSDALE PA
RICHARD SANSONETTI
CUMBERLAND MD
KENNETH SCHMUCK
ROCKWOOD PA
NANCY SCHROCK
PITTSBURGH PA
GOULD SCHROCK
INDIANA PA
MELODY SECHRENGOST
SOMERSET PA
JOSEPH SENKO
PITTSBURGH PA
SHAFFER TRUCKING
BOSWELL PA
CLARENCE SHAY
FORT HILL PA
CLYDE SHIPLEY
SOMERSET PA
WILBUR SHIPLEY
BLAIRSVILLE PA
BRYAN SHOBER
BERLIN PA
JOHN SHOWALTER
SALISBURY PA
HARRISON SHROYER
MARKLETON PA
MABEL SHUMAKER
RISING SUN MD
SANDRA SILVERIO
MCKEESPORT PA
ANNA SIMPSON
SOMERSET PA
JOHN SINES
MEYERSDALE PA
JASON SINES
FRIENDSVILLE MD
HAZEL SIPE
ROCKWOOD PA
BETTY SISLER
FRIENDSVILLE MD
LYNN SISLER
OAKLAND MD
BRENDA SISLER
ACCIDENT MD
DAVID SLUSS

WESTMINSTER MD
DAVID SMEARMAN
FRIENDSVILLE MD
ROY SMITH
VERONA PA
MATTHEW SMITH
BERLIN PA
LOUIS SOCRATES
JEANNETTE PA
HENRY SOLODAR
PITTSBURGH PA
ATTILA SOOKY
PITTSBURGH PA
RICHARD SORG
ROCKWOOD PA
ELMA SOWERBROWER
JENNERSTOWN PA
RANDY SPOERLEIN
MYRTLE BEACH SC
GEORGE STABLEIN
CHARLEROI PA
CLARA STANTON
HOLLSOPPLE PA
LISA STAYROOK
GRANTSVILLE MD
JAMES STEINKAMP
WEST MIFFLIN PA
GEORGE STEINKERCHNER
BOSWELL PA
ROBERT STEVENSON
IRWIN PA
DAVID STONE
NAPLES FL
DIANA STONSIFER
OAKLAND MD
NORBERT STRAZNICK JR
CHESWICK PA
JESS STUMB
PITTSBURGH PA
JOHN STURTZ
SOMERSET PA
JACK SUDER
HOPWOOD PA
LARRY SUHER
MONROEVILLE PA
MICHAEL SUPINKA
INDIANA PA
VICTOR SURMA
MOUNT LEBANON PA
TIMOTHY SUTTON
MEYERSDALE PA
SVONAVEC INC.
ROCKWOOD PA
ROBERT SWANSIGER
JOHNSTOWN PA
MILDRED SWAUGER
CONFLUENCE PA
HILDA SWINDELL
SOMERSET PA
ROBERT TANNEHILL
SHINNSTON WV
ROBERT TAYLOR
JOHNSTOWN PA
GREGG TAYLOR
MCKEESPORT PA
GARY TAYLOR
CENTRAL CITY PA
TEL-POWER INC.
HOLIDAYSBURG PA
TATE THELMA STEINER ES
STOYSTOWN PA
LISA THOMAS
WACO TX
L THOMAS
HOLLSOPPLE PA
TINKEY BROS LUMBER CO
ROCKWOOD PA

CHARLES TRAINOR
BUTLER PA
RONALD TRESSLER
ALIQUPPA PA
CONNELL TRESSLER
CONNELLSVILLE PA
TREVDECK CONST CO.
HOLLSOPPLE PA
BRENT TRILLOW
OHIOPPLE PA
CLIFFORD TRIMPEY
LATROBE PA
BRIAN TROWBRIDGE
MEYERSDALE PA
JOHN UHUTCH
CHARLEROI PA
JOSEPH UMBEL
FRIENDSVILLE MD
WILLIAM VALENTINE
MEYERSDALE PA
FREDA VANSCHETZ
FRIENDSVILLE MD
PAUL VIRGIN
RICHMOND VA
LOWELL WAGNER
MONROEVILLE PA
RAYMOND WAID
JACKSONVILLE NC
BETH WALKER
BERLIN PA
GALE WALKER
SOMERSET PA
DEBRA WATKINS
GARRETT PA
THOMAS WEST
VENICE FL
WEST PENN POWER
JOHNSTOWN PA
MARY WEZOREK
PITTSBURGH PA
JASON WHIPKEY
BERLIN PA
MILDRED WHIPKEY
STAHLSTOWN PA
ROBERT WHITE
ROCKWOOD PA
BARBARA WILHELM
SOMERSET PA
ROBERT WILL
FRIEDENS PA
TAMMY WILL
BERLIN PA
JOHN WILLIAMS
MILL RUN PA
CARL WILLIS
SUMTER SC
MELVIN WILT
MEYERSDALE PA
CHRISTINE WILT
GARRETT PA
RICHARD WISECARVER
ACCIDENT MD
MIKE WISNESKI
MOUNT PLEASANT PA
DANIEL ZANIN
FROSTBURG MD
JOHN ZBOROVANIK
FRIEDENS PA
WAYNE ZUROWSKI
ST AUGUSTINE FL

Another successful drive-thru annual meeting

THE 83rd Somerset Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) Annual Meeting was held May 26 at the cooperative office, 223 Industrial Park Road, and was an even bigger success than last year. A total of 826 members participated in the drive-thru event and many provided positive feedback about their experience by commenting, “I’ve lived in a lot of places and states, and you all are best by FAR!” and “I think this is the best way to do your meeting.”

Upon arrival, members split into two lanes and began registration. After registering, members were given a ballot to vote for the incoming District 6 director. After casting a ballot, members then proceeded to the gift area, where they received a Somerset REC collapsible camping chair and goodie bag filled with a copy of the annual report, trail mix and an LED lightbulb. Registered members also received a \$10 bill credit. Copies of the annual report are available upon request.

The Elections & Credentials Committee paired up with Somerset REC employees to count the ballots. Larry Hay represented the committee by providing the report of tellers and announced members had chosen P. Timothy Vought to represent District 6 on the board.

Recipients of the \$1,000 Somerset REC scholarship were also recognized at a brief ceremony at the cooperative the week prior to the annual meeting. For those who couldn’t participate in the ceremony, Emily Baer, director of marketing and member services,



CASTING A VOTE: A Somerset REC member casts a ballot for director at the 83rd annual meeting in May.



DIRECTORS ELECTED: Somerset County REC General Manager Rus Ogburn, left, congratulates newly elected directors, from left, Josh Sechler, Tim Vought and Jerry Engle.

attended their high school’s Award Day ceremony and presented their scholarship there.

Comment cards were also mailed with member registration cards, and the responses can be viewed on our website, somersetrec.com, and Facebook page and will be printed in the August issue of *Penn Lines*. Highlighted categories include right-of-way maintenance, broadband, our electric grid and solar information, operations and reliability, and complaints and thanks.

Re-elected directors are Jerry Engle for District 4 and Joshua C. Sechler for District 8. During the board re-organization meeting, the following officers were elected: Ben Waltermire, president; Engle, vice president; and Lowell Friedline, secretary/treasurer. Sechler will serve as the cooperative’s representative on the board of the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association, our statewide organization, and Friedline will continue to serve as the cooperative’s representative on the board of Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., our wholesale power supplier.

We extend our sincere thanks to the members who participated



THANK-YOU GIFTS: Somerset REC employees hand out gifts, including a collapsible folding chair, to members participating in the drive-thru event and enjoying the beautiful weather.

in this year’s drive-thru event and look forward to seeing those who couldn’t make it next year. 🌸