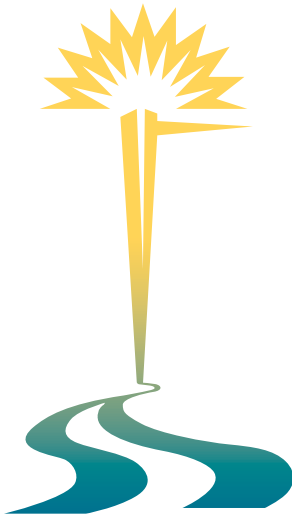


Mid-West Electric  
Consumers Association

66th  
Annual Meeting  
&  
Preference Customers  
Conference



December 12-14, 2023  
Grand Hyatt Hotel  
Denver, Colorado

## ***Registration***

Registration opens on Tuesday (December 12) from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Wednesday (December 13) from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The registration desk is located in *Torreys Peak* across from the *Colorado Ballroom* on the second floor.

Registration fees are \$385 for members, \$160 for spouses, and \$420 for non-members and guests. Registration includes two luncheons, the Members' Reception, one breakfast, and other meeting activities and facilities.

## ***Special Events***

### ***Simonton - Graves Award***

The Frederick G. Simonton-Thomas P. Graves Distinguished Service Award will be presented during the luncheon on Wednesday, December 13.

### ***Members' Reception and Dance***

The Members' Reception will be held on Wednesday, December 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the *Capitol Peak Ballroom* on the 38th floor of the Atrium Tower, across from the Hyatt lobby.

### ***Friends of Mid-West Coffee***

Friends of Mid-West coffee is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 12 in the *Crystal Peak A* room on the 38th floor of the Atrium Tower. We have a fun cooking demo for those who attend. Coffee, tea and delightful treats will be served.

Mid-West is providing a **1-day** shopper's shuttle between the Hyatt and Cherry Creek North shopping center on **Wednesday, December 13**. The bus leaves the Hyatt from the Welton Street entrance every hour, starting at 9:30 a.m. The last run will leave Cherry Creek North at 3:30 p.m. Seating is limited; sign up with Registration to secure a seat.

## ***Special Thanks***

We would like to thank East River Electric Power Cooperative for providing and Bob Gale for managing the audio-visual portion of our meeting once again this year.

We would also like to thank the Cooperative Finance Corporation and CoBank for their sponsorship.

*“Defending Long-Term Value”*

Mid-West Electric  
Consumers Association

66th  
Annual Meeting  
&  
Preference Customers  
Conference

December 12-14, 2023  
Grand Hyatt Hotel  
Denver, Colorado

# Committee Meetings

**MONDAY, December 11, 2023**

---

Noon      **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Board Luncheon & Meeting**

*Aspen Ballroom  
2nd floor*

# Conference Program

**TUESDAY, December 12, 2023**

---

- 8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
- 8:00 a.m. **Mid-West Resolutions Committee Meeting**  
(open to all members) *Aspen Ballroom, 2nd floor*  
**Chairman**  
Tim McCarthy  
General Manager/CEO  
Sioux Valley Energy  
**Vice Chairman**  
Jeff Peters  
Missouri River Energy Services
- 9:00 a.m. **Mid-West Water & Power Committee Meeting**  
(open to all members)
- 10:30 a.m. **Friends of Mid-West Coffee and  
Cooking Demonstration**  
*Crystal Peak A, 38th floor Atrium Tower*
- Noon **Mid-West Member Luncheon**  
Invocation by Mike Heidemann  
*Colorado Ballroom, 2nd floor*  
**Welcome and Introduction**  
Jim Horan  
Executive Director  
Mid-West Electric Consumers Association
- 1:00 p.m. **First Session: *Strategic Goals and the  
Year Ahead from the Western Area  
Power Administration***  
Tracey LeBeau  
Administrator  
Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)
- 1:40 p.m. **Second Session: *Regional Transmission  
Expansion in the West***  
Steve Johnson  
Senior Director of Markets Administration  
Southwest Power Pool  
**Moderated Q & A by**  
Matt Washburn  
Executive Vice President and  
General Manager  
Northwest Iowa Power Cooperative

*continued on next page*

# Conference Program

**TUESDAY, December 12, 2023**

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- 2:10 p.m. **Third Session: *The Colorado Big Thompson Project***  
Jeff Rieker  
Regional Manager  
Eastern Colorado Area Office  
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
**Moderated Q & A by**  
Vernell Roberts  
General Manager  
Detroit Lakes Public Utilities
- 2:40 p.m. **COFFEE BREAK - Sponsored by CFC**
- 3:00 p.m. **Fourth Session: *Upper Great Plains Regional Update***  
Lloyd Linke  
Regional Manager  
Upper Great Plains Western Area  
Power Administration  
**Moderated Q & A by**  
Jeremy Mahowald  
General Manager  
Upper Missouri Power Cooperative
- 3:30 p.m. **Fifth Session: *WAPA's Transmission Infrastructure Program***  
Paul Schwabe  
Transmission Infrastructure  
Program Manager  
Western Area Power Administration  
**Moderated Q & A by**  
Kory Hammerbeck  
General Manager  
Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative
- 4:00 p.m. **Sixth Session: *State of the States***  
Steve Barnett, SDREA  
Jenny Glumack, MREA  
Rick Nelson, NREA  
Josh Kramer, NDAREC  
Kent Singer, CREA  
Shawn Taylor, WREA  
Matt VanSchouwen, IAMU  
Gary Wiens, MECA
- 5:00 p.m. ***Adjourn for the day***

# Conference Program

**WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023**

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- 8:00 a.m.    **Seventh Session: *WAPA's Grid Modernization & Asset Management***  
Tina Ko  
Chief Operating Officer  
Western Area Power Administration  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Mark Joffer  
Board President  
Heartland Energy
- 8:30 a.m.    **Eighth Session: *The Corps' Omaha District and the Missouri River***  
Kayla Eckert Uptmor  
Chief of Civil Works and  
Congressional Liaison for  
the Omaha District of the  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Craig Wietjes  
Vice President  
Dawson Public Power District
- 9:00 a.m.    **Ninth Session: *The Challenge of Sedimentation on the Big Muddy***  
Scott Kostal  
Executive Director  
Missouri Sedimentation Action  
Coalition  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Steve Lehner  
General Manager  
Watertown Municipal Utilities
- 9:30 a.m.    **COFFEE BREAK**  
*Sponsored by CoBank*
- 9:50 a.m.    **Video Message:**  
***Representative Harriet Hageman (R-WY)***

*continued on next page*

# Conference Program

**WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023**

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- 10:00 a.m. **Tenth Session: *Regional Economic Outlook and Utility Industry Impact***  
Kiran Kini  
Senior Vice-President and Treasurer  
CoBank  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Bob Sahr  
General Manager  
East River Electric Power Cooperative
- 10:30 a.m. **Eleventh Session: *National Legislative Update***  
Ian Lyle  
Legislative Affairs Director  
NRECA  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Doug Hardy  
CEO  
Central Montana Electric Power Cooperative
- 11:00 a.m. **President's Address:**  
***Vernell Roberts***
- 11:15 a.m. – **State Caucuses – *Nomination of Mid-West Directors***
- | <b>State</b> | <b>Room</b>              |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Colorado     | Mt. Harvard (3rd Fl.)    |
| Iowa         | Blanca Peak (2nd Fl.)    |
| Minnesota    | Mt. Princeton (3rd Fl.)  |
| Montana      | Mt. Yale (3rd Fl.)       |
| Nebraska     | Mt. Columbia (3rd Fl.)   |
| North Dakota | Maroon Peak (2nd Fl.)    |
| South Dakota | Aspen Ballroom (2nd Fl.) |
| Wyoming      | Mt. Wilson (3rd Fl.)     |
- Noon **Luncheon & Simonton-Graves Award**  
Invocation by Jim Lueck



# Conference Program

WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023

---

- 1:00 p.m. **Twelfth Session: *Member Spotlight: Building the Cooperative Energy Ecosystem***  
Reginal Rudolph  
SVP Chief Energy Innovation Officer  
Tri-State Generation and  
Transmission Association  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Julie Kilty  
Board President  
Wyrulec Company
- 1:30 p.m. **Thirteenth Session: *Rocky Mountain Regional Update***  
Bart Barnhart  
Rocky Mountain Regional Manager  
Western Area Power Administration  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Tim Peggram  
Board of Director  
Morgan County REA
- 2:00 p.m. **BREAK**
- 2:20 p.m. **Video Message:**  
***Representative Dusty Johnson (R-SD)***
- 2:30 p.m. **Fourteenth Session: *Grid Reliability and Transmission Development***  
Claire Vigesaa  
Executive Director  
North Dakota Transmission Authority  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Jerry King  
General Manager  
Burke-Divide Electric Cooperative
- 3:00 p.m. **Fifteenth Session: *Garrison Spillway Modification Project and USACE Dam Safety***  
Jeff Greenwald  
Project Manager  
USACE  
***Moderated Q & A by***  
Stuart Travis  
Board of Director  
Y-W Electric Power Cooperative

*continued on next page*

# Conference Program

**WEDNESDAY, December 13, 2023**

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- 3:30 p.m. **Sixteenth Session: *The Challenges with and the Need for Market Expansion***  
Neil Lindgren  
Manager  
Energy Management and Marketing Office  
Upper Great Plains Region  
Western Area Power Administration
- Moderated Q & A by**  
Russ Bloom  
Board President  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Cooperative
- 4:00 p.m. **BREAK**
- 4:15 p.m. **Mid-West Business Meeting**  
Election of Directors  
Review and Adoption of Mid-West Resolutions  
Other Business
- 5:00 p.m. **Board of Directors Meeting**  
*Aspen Ballroom, 2nd Floor*  
Reorganization
- 6:00 p.m. **Members' Reception**  
*38th Floor, Atrium Tower*  
*(across from the Hyatt's Lobby entrance)*



# Conference Program

**THURSDAY, December 14, 2023**

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7:30 a.m. **Members' Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. **Final Session: *Mid-West Annual Report***

Jim Horan

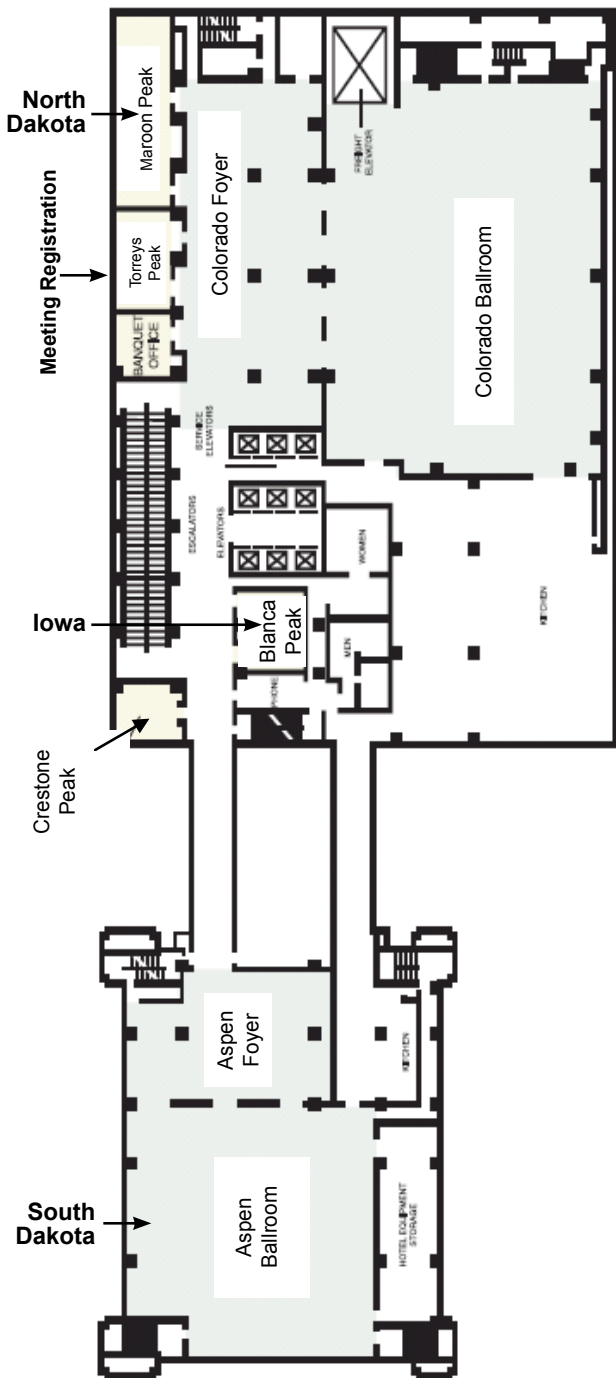
Executive Director

Mid-West Electric Consumers Association

8:30 a.m. ***Adjourn***

# Grand Hyatt Map

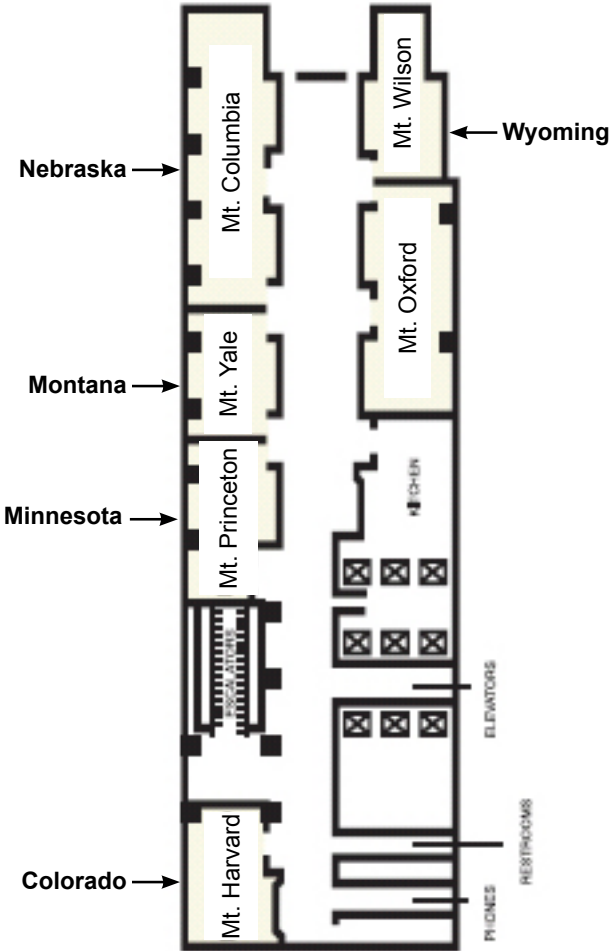
## Second Floor



# Grand Hyatt Map

## Third Floor Caucus Meeting Rooms

(CO, MN, MT, NE, WY Caucuses)



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AND**

**COMMITTEES**

# Mid-West Electric Consumers Association Officers and Directors 2023

## **President**

Vernell Roberts  
Detroit Lakes Public  
Utilities  
Detroit Lakes, MN

## **Vice President**

Patti Murphy  
McCone Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.  
Circle, MT

## **Secretary/Treasurer**

Darin Bloomquist  
Nebraska Electric  
G&T Cooperative  
Columbus, NE

## **Executive Director**

Jim Horan  
Executive Director  
Mid-West Electric  
Consumers Association

---

## ***Colorado***

Jim Lueck  
Highline Electric  
Iliff, CO

Tim Peggram\*  
Morgan County REA  
Wiggins, CO

Stuart Travis  
Y-W Electric Association  
Akron, CO

Dan Walter\*  
Tri-State G&T  
Westminster, CO

## ***Iowa***

David Huff  
Lyon REC  
Ashton, IA

## ***Iowa (cont.)***

Kenneth H. Kuyper\*  
Corn Belt Power Coop, Inc.  
G&T  
Humboldt, IA

Matt Van Schouwen\*  
City of Orange City  
Orange City, IA

Matthew Washburn  
Northwest Iowa Power  
Cooperative  
LeMars, IA

## ***Kansas***

Brad Mears  
Kansas Municipal Utilities  
McPherson, KS

Lee Tafanelli  
Kansas Electric Cooperative  
Topeka, KS

*\*term expires 2023*

*(continued)*

# Mid-West Electric Consumers Association Officers and Directors 2023

## *Minnesota*

Ted Cash  
City of Alexandria  
Alexandria, MN

Mike Heidemann\*  
Brown County REA  
Sleepy Eye, MN

Vernell Roberts\*  
Detroit Lakes Public  
Utilities  
Detroit Lakes, MN

Mark Sandberg  
South Central Electric Assn.  
Sherburn, MN

## *Montana*

Russ Bloom  
Sun River Electric  
Simm, MT

Douglas Hardy  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Cooperative  
Great Falls, MT

Jeremy Mahowald\*  
Upper Missouri  
Power Cooperative  
Sidney, MT

## *Montana (cont.)*

Patti Murphy\*  
McCone Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.  
Circle, MT

## *Nebraska*

Darin Bloomquist\*  
Nebraska Electric  
G&T Cooperative  
Columbus, NE

Micheal Collins\*  
Panhandle Electric  
Membership Assn.  
Alliance, NE

Glen Pfeifer  
Cornhusker PPD  
Lindsay, NE

Craig Wietjes  
Dawson PPD  
Riverdale, NE

## *North Dakota*

Karen Hennessy\*  
Verendrye Electric  
Cooperative  
Des Lacs, ND

Jerry King\*  
Burke-Divide Electric  
Cooperative  
Columbus, ND

*\*term expires 2023*

*(continued)*



# Mid-West Electric Consumers Association Officers and Directors 2023

## *North Dakota (cont.)*

Luther Meberg\*  
Nodak Electric Cooperative  
Park River, ND

Tom Meland  
Central Power Electric  
Cooperative  
Minot, ND

## *South Dakota*

Kory Hammerbeck\*  
Rushmore Electric  
Power Cooperative  
Rapid City, SD

Mark Joffer\*  
Heartland Energy  
Parker, SD

Steve Lehner  
Watertown Municipal  
Utilities  
Watertown, SD

Bob Sahr  
East River Electric Power  
Cooperative  
Madison, SD

## *Wyoming*

Dewey Hageman\*  
Wyrulec Company  
Jay Em, WY

David Keener  
Niobrara Electric  
Marsland, NE

Julie Kilty\*  
Wyrulec Company  
La Grange, WY

Kosha Olsen  
High West Energy  
Carpenter, WY

*\*term expires 2023*

# Resolutions Committee

## Chairman

Tim McCarthy  
Sioux Valley Energy  
Colman, SD

## Vice Chairman

Jeff Peters  
Missouri River Energy  
Services  
Sioux Falls, SD

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## *Colorado*

Evan Jurkovich  
Tri-State G&T Association  
Westminster, CO

Tim Peggram  
Morgan County REA  
Wiggins, CO

Stuart Travis  
Y-W Electric Association  
Akron, CO

## *Iowa*

David Huff  
Lyon REC  
Ashton, IA

Kenneth H. Kuyper  
Corn Belt Power Coop, Inc.  
Humboldt, IA

Matthew Washburn  
Northwest Iowa Power  
Cooperative  
LeMars, IA

## *Kansas*

Brad Mears  
Kansas Municipal Utilities  
McPherson, KS

(continued)

# Resolutions Committee

## *Minnesota*

Mike Heidemann  
Brown County REA  
Sleepy Eye, MN

Mark Peterson  
Minnesota Valley  
Cooperative Light & Power  
Association  
Madison, MN

Vernell Roberts  
Detroit Lakes Public Utilities  
Detroit Lakes, MN

Jon Saxen  
Federated REA  
Welcome, MN

## *Montana*

Douglas Hardy  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Cooperative  
Great Falls, MT

Patti Murphy  
McCone Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.  
Circle, MT

## *Nebraska*

Darin Bloomquist  
Nebraska Electric  
G&T Cooperative  
Columbus, NE

John McClure  
Nebraska PPD  
Columbus, NE

Glen Pfeifer  
Cornhusker PPD  
Lindsay, NE

Shelly Sahling-Zart  
Lincoln Electric System  
Lincoln, NE

*(continued)*

# Resolutions Committee

## *North Dakota*

Stacey Dahl  
Minnkota Power Cooperative  
Grand Forks, ND

Brita Endrud  
Minnkota Power Cooperative  
Grand Forks, ND

Luther Meberg  
Nodak Electric Cooperative  
Park River, ND

Jean Schafer  
Basin Electric Power  
Cooperative  
Bismarck, ND

David Sigloh  
Burke-Divide Electric  
Cooperative  
Columbus, ND

## *South Dakota*

Steve Lehner  
Watertown Municipal  
Utilities  
Watertown, SD

Tim McCarthy  
Sioux Valley Energy  
Colman, SD

Russell Olson  
Heartland Energy  
Madison, SD

James Ryken  
East River Electric  
Power Cooperative  
Gayville, SD

Bob Sahr  
East River Electric Power  
Cooperative  
Madison, SD

# Organization Committee

## **Chairman**

Douglas Hardy  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Co-op  
Great Falls, MT

## **Co-Chairman**

Vernell Roberts  
Detroit Lakes Public  
Utilities  
Detroit Lakes, MN

---

## ***Colorado***

Tim Peggram  
Morgan County REA  
Wiggins, CO

## ***Nebraska***

Darin Bloomquist  
Nebraska Electric G&T  
Cooperative, Inc.  
Columbus, NE

## ***Iowa***

Ken Kuyper  
Corn Belt Power Coop, Inc.  
Humboldt, IA

## ***North Dakota***

Luther Meberg  
Nodak Electric  
Cooperative  
Park River, ND

## ***Minnesota***

Ted Cash  
City of Alexandria  
Alexandria, MN

## ***Wyoming***

David Keener  
Niobrara Electric  
Marsland, NE

## ***Montana***

Douglas Hardy  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Co-op  
Great Falls, MT

# Water & Power Planning Committee

## **Chairman**

Matt Washburn  
Northwest Iowa Power  
Co-op  
LeMars, IA

## **Vice-Chairman**

Evan Jurkovich  
Tri-State G&T  
Westminster, CO

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## ***Colorado***

Evan Jurkovich  
Tri-State G&T  
Westminster, CO

Tim Peggram  
Morgan County REA  
Wiggins, CO

Stuart Travis  
Y-W Electric Association  
Akron, CO

## ***Iowa***

Curt Dieren  
L&O Power Cooperative  
Rock Rapids, IA

Matt Washburn  
Northwest Iowa Power  
Co-op  
LeMars, IA

## ***Kansas***

Brad Mears  
Kansas Municipal  
Utilities  
McPherson, KS

## ***Minnesota***

Jenny Stryhn  
Agralite Electric Co-op  
Benson, MN

Adam Tromblay  
Nobles Electric Cooperative  
Worthington, MN

*(continued)*

# Water & Power Planning Committee

## *Montana*

Gretchen Boardman  
Big Flat Electric  
Cooperative  
Malta, MT

Jason Brothen  
Lower Yellowstone REC  
Sidney, MT

Douglas Hardy  
Central Montana Electric  
Power Cooperative  
Great Falls, MT

Steve Tilton  
McCone Electric  
Co-op, Inc.  
Circle, MT

Tye Williams  
Southeast Electric  
Cooperative  
Ekalaka, MT

## *Nebraska*

Darin Bloomquist  
Nebraska Electric  
G&T Cooperative  
Columbus, NE

Lacey Gulbranson  
Wheat Belt Public Power  
District  
Sidney, NE

## *Nebraska (cont.)*

Jon Sunneberg  
Nebraska Public Power Dist.  
Columbus, NE

Nick Wischhof  
Lincoln Electric System  
Lincoln, NE

## *North Dakota*

Jason Doerr  
Basin Electric Power Co-op  
Bismarck, ND

Becky Kern  
Basin Electric Power Co-op  
Bismarck, ND

Travis Kupper  
KEM Electric Cooperative  
Linton, ND

Tom Meland  
Central Power Electric  
Cooperative  
Minot, ND

*(continued)*

# Water & Power Planning Committee

## *South Dakota*

Russ Halgerson  
Brookings Municipal  
Utilities  
Brookings, SD

Mark Joffer  
Heartland Energy  
Parker, SD

Tim McCarthy  
Sioux Valley Energy  
Colman, SD

Jeff Peters  
Missouri River Energy  
Services  
Sioux Falls, SD

Bob Sahr  
East River Electric  
Power Coopertive  
Madison, SD

## *Wyoming*

Julie Kilty  
Wyrulec Company  
La Grange, WY

Mid-West President  
Vernell Roberts, *ex officio*



# **Mission Statement**

Mid-West Electric Consumers Association promotes and protects the interests of its non-profit consumer-owned utility members that purchase power and transmission at cost from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), the agency responsible for marketing power generated at federal multi-purpose projects operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) within the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program.

# Annual Meeting Acronym Glossary

APPA	American Public Power Association
BA	Balancing Authority
CBO	Congressional Budget Office
CBT	Colorado Big Thompson Project
CFC	Cooperative Finance Corporation
CFS	Cubic Feet per Second
CRSP	WAPA's Colorado River Storage Project
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Committee
GAO	Government Accountability Office
GDO	Grid Deployment Office (within Department of Energy)
LAP	WAPA's Loveland Area Projects
MSAC	Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition
MISO	Midcontinent Independent System Operator
MRRIC	Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee
NRECA	National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OATT	Open Access Transmission Tariff
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PMA	Power Marketing Administration
PP&W	Purchase Power and Wheeling
RAX	Replacements, Additions and Extraordinary Maintenance
REC	Renewable Energy Credit
RMR	WAPA's Rocky Mountain Region
RPS	Renewable Portfolio Standard
RTO	Regional Transmission Organization
SPP	Southwest Power Pool
TIP	WAPA's Transmission Infrastructure Program
UGP	WAPA's Upper Great Plains Region
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USBR	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
WAPA	Western Area Power Administration
WACM	Western Area Colorado Missouri Balancing Authority
WEIS	Western Energy Imbalance Services
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act
WSPC	Western States Power Corporation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



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on the web: [meconsumers.com](http://meconsumers.com)