

## John W. Sturm appointed Chief Executive Officer



John W. Sturm, CEO

The Johnson County REMC Board of Directors appointed John W. Sturm as Chief Executive Officer. Sturm replaces retired Chief Executive Officer, L. Chester (Chet) Aubin.

Before joining Johnson County REMC, John served as President and Owner of Resolution Energy, LLC. Sturm has spent about three decades creating business growth and improving service for several organizations. His skills as the Manager of Power Marketing and Trading at Wabash Valley Power Association helped define a department which eventually served as the platform for the 1999 formation of the Alliance for Cooperative Energy Services (ACES). He previously held the position of Manager of Power Trading for ProLiance Energy before ultimately joining ACES as Vice President of

Corporate and Regulatory Affairs. Mr. Sturm holds both a Bachelor of Science in Economics/Finance and Masters of Business Administration from Ball State University (2018).

John is excited to join Johnson County REMC and is happy to have the opportunity to contribute to its unique combination of reliable and affordable utility services, talented employees, dedication to technical innovation, and care for the local community. John and his wife Yvonne have lived in Greenwood, Indiana for over 30 years.

Johnson County REMC supplies electricity to more than 26,000-meter services with 1,680 miles of electric distribution line and 180 miles of fiber optic cable spanning our entire distribution network. John will continue the vision of moving Johnson County REMC into future stages of growth while staying true to our mission of providing reliable, competitively priced utility services to our customers and the community.

# It's that time of year again – Annual Meeting Time!

The next Johnson County REMC annual business meeting is just around the corner. Please join us on Saturday, April 21, 2018, for the annual meeting of our membership. There will be prizes, food, and enjoyable entertainment.

The theme of the meeting is **"Going the Extra Mile."** No matter what the weather may bring, our mission is always to provide affordable, reliable and safe electricity. We also aim to improve the quality of life in the community we serve. Every year we award two \$2,000 college scholarships to local high school senior students and send two high school juniors to Washington D.C. with the Indiana Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour.

We participate and sponsor various local events and initiatives, including sponsorship of the Johnson County 4H and Agricultural Fair Queen Contest and participation in the livestock auction.

From awarding scholarships to university-bound students, providing electrical safety demonstrations to schools and organizations, to reaching out to members with information that will help them save money with energy efficiency information and rebates, we care about the members we serve.

We continually work on improving our business processes. One example is our customer account management portal named SmartHub. Developed to provide convenience for our members, SmartHub is an excellent tool which consumers may use with a computer, tablet or mobile device. With this valuable online resource, our members can check electricity use, manage payments, set up alerts, and more.

With the addition of our fiber optic communications, an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) was installed to achieve our ongoing goal of distributing the electricity that you and your family rely on.

Our fiber optic network and AMI allows remote control of our electrical distribution service, quick identification of power outages, online electricity use information through the SmartHub portal, and a Prepaid Billing option for interested members.

This is why we say that Johnson County REMC provides reliable electric service at the forefront of technology and innovation.



The annual meeting event is held in accordance with Johnson County REMC bylaws and is your opportunity as a member to be involved in your cooperative and vote. Candidates for Board Directors this year are:

**DISTRICT #2 – Seth Brown**  
**DISTRICT #3 – Steve Shaul**  
**DISTRICT #7 – Ron Barnett; Curt Boner**

# Member's Annual Meeting

**Saturday - April 21, 2018**

Franklin Community High School  
2600 Cumberland Drive  
Franklin, Indiana

Breakfast & Registration 8 - 10 a.m.  
Business Meeting 10 a.m.

We will once again serve our traditional hot breakfast and offer the ever-popular coin holder drawing with a chance to win **\$5, \$10, \$20 or \$50 cash**. Prizes include three chances to win a **\$100** bill, two chances to win an **iPad**, and an opportunity to win the grand prize **John Deere lawn tractor**. This year we are thrilled to welcome back to our stage for your entertainment, three-time Grammy® nominated musical artists, The Grascals.

Registration notices will be mailed the first week of April. Please bring the registration notice with you to the meeting to be eligible to register, receive an attendance gift, vote and enter the prize drawing.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting in April!



## The Grascals

The Grascals are three-time Grammy® nominated musical artists hailing from Nashville, Tennessee. Founded in 2004, the band has since gained a level of notability by playing on the Grand Ole Opry and in Bluegrass festivals around the country.

In 2005 the band won the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Emerging Artist of the Year Award, as well as the Song of the Year award for "Me and John and Paul." In 2006 and 2007, they won the IBMA Entertainer of the Year.

The Grascals have released two studio albums, both on Rounder Records. Their self-titled debut featured guest vocals from Dolly Parton on Elvis Presley's "Viva Las Vegas." Their 2006 album, Long List of Heartaches, features artists such as Steve Wariner, George Jones, The Jordanaires, and Dierks Bentley. Their third album, Keep on Walkin', was released July 15, 2008 and features Vince Gill as a guest. Their 2017 album release entitled Before Breakfast, continues to showcase the excellence of The Grascals' musical taste and talent.

## Board of Directors Election

Living on co-op lines is more than just knowing there are people out there working to bring you safe, reliable and affordable electric service. It is an investment in our community and its members.

Johnson County REMC is a not-for-profit business. When we make more money than we need to keep the lights on, we return it to our members (that's you!) in the form of capital credits.

Johnson County is not owned by far-away investors. We are run by a democratically elected Board of Directors – a board who is given the privilege to serve because of your vote. Because we are owned by you, our members, you have a voice in who makes the major decisions that directly affect your life and your family. The next Board of Directors election will take place during our Annual Meeting.



Don't fall for scammers **pretending** to be utilities.



**Urgent call** from Johnson County REMC? It could be a scam.



Johnson County REMC employees will never ask you to pay **immediately or be disconnected.**



Johnson County REMC will **never** ask you to buy a prepaid debit card.

# Watch out for scams

Unfortunately, in today's world, scams are inevitable. Scammers can threaten you with everything from legal action involving the IRS to turning off power to your home.

Utility scams may involve an individual or group posing as an employee of Johnson County REMC. The scammer may use threatening language to frighten you into offering your credit card or bank account information. Don't fall victim to these types of scams. Understand the threats posed and your best course of action.

If someone calls your home or cell phone demanding you pay your electric bill immediately, gather as much information as you can from that individual, hang-up the phone and contact your local law enforcement. Scammers often use threats and urgency to pressure you into giving them your bank account number or loading a pre-paid credit or debit card (such as a Green Dot card). Johnson County REMC will never ask you to offer up personal financial information over the phone. If you have any doubts about your bill; contact our customer service payment

center either in person, over the phone at 317-736-6174 or via our SmartHub app.

If someone comes to your home claiming to be an employee of Johnson County REMC that needs to collect money, call your local law enforcement for assistance and do not let the individual into your home. We do not conduct financial transactions in person at your home.

If someone comes to your home claiming to be an employee of Johnson County REMC and inspect parts of your property, call us to verify they are, in fact, an employee. If they are not, call your local law enforcement for assistance and do not let the individual into your home.

Don't fall victim to a utility scam. Johnson County REMC **DOES NOT** call and threaten to shut off electric service unless immediate payment is made. It is important to remember that when our office is closed, we do not conduct financial transactions in person or call members asking for payments.

Please report any suspected utility scam to local law enforcement.

## False Damage Reports Extend Outages

Some outages affect a small portion of territory; our crews can find the cause relatively quickly and restore power immediately. Some outages affect large areas and locating the outage cause takes extra time.

We have previously received false information from some members who report damage to equipment or claim that power lines are down nearby. When that happens, we have to send a crew to inspect the situation, thus losing valuable time looking for the outage cause in the wrong area. This results in a longer electricity outage for everyone affected.

Please know that our Facebook page is not monitored for outage reporting.

**In the event of an outage, call 317-736-6174**

Johnson County REMC  
750 International Drive  
Franklin, Indiana 46131

**Mailing address:**  
P.O. Box 309  
Franklin, Indiana 46131  
**Monday-Friday Office hours:** 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: (317) 736-6174  
24 hours / 7 days

**Fax:** (317) 736-8185  
[jcremc.com](http://jcremc.com)  
[custservice@jcremc.com](mailto:custservice@jcremc.com)

**Call before you dig 811**  
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Johnson County REMC publishes News & Views as a service to our members. Back issues may be viewed on our website or obtained from our office.

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