



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

16755 Finley Butte Road  
P.O. Box 127  
La Pine, OR 97739

www.midstateelectric.coop  
info@midstateelectric.coop  
541-536-2126 • 800-722-7219

#### Departments

Member Service . . . . . Option 3  
Engineering . . . . . Option 4  
Marketing . . . . . Option 5  
Operations . . . . . Option 6

**After-Hours Outages and Emergencies:**  
**541-536-2165 or 800-752-5935**

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
Closed Fridays and holidays

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

##### President

Dick Luebke, Sunriver

##### Vice President

Ron Cass, La Pine

##### Secretary/Treasurer

Tanna King, Chemult

Daniel Jansen, Christmas Valley

Garry Journey, Crescent

Vic Russell, Fall River

Alan Parks, Fort Rock

Gil Ernst, Gilchrist

Bud Kendall, La Pine

The board meets the fourth Monday  
of each month at the co-op office.

#### STAFF

##### General Manager

James "Jim" Anderson

##### Engineering Manager

Tom Weller

##### CFO/Accounting Manager

Jami Steinhauer

##### Information Services Manager

J.D. Powers

##### HR and Communications Manager

Sina Streeter

##### Marketing Manager

Britni Davidson

##### Attorney

Raymond Kindley

OR-23

## Manager's Message

Veterans Day is November 11. It is a time to recognize the brave men and women who willingly serve and sacrifice in the U.S. Armed Forces to protect our liberties and freedoms.

Midstate Electric Cooperative is grateful to have veterans within our service territory, and we take pride in serving them and their families. Beyond our gratitude, we demonstrate our deep appreciation through our actions.

In September, we had the privilege of sponsoring 11 veterans, who are also co-op members, on an unforgettable journey to Washington, D.C., as part of the Honor Flight of Central Oregon. I was fortunate enough to accompany them as a guardian. Standing alongside our veterans at the memorials reinforced the importance of honoring them, recognizing their sacrifices and expressing our gratitude whenever we have the chance.

For an in-depth account of the Honor Flight trip, please read this month's cover story. I hope you will join me in acknowledging the sacrifices made by veterans for our great nation and the contributions they continue to make to our community. Veterans, we salute you!

Following this journey with our veterans, I returned to the office, where I immediately plunged into Midstate's budget planning sessions for 2024. In September, we learned that our power supplier, Bonneville Power Administration, is implementing an 18% rate increase, which took effect in October. MEC's board of directors and management are strategizing ways to incorporate this rate hike, alongside inflation-related costs, into our 2024 budget.

Like many other businesses, we have

experienced supply chain disruptions and substantial price increases for essential equipment. Midstate has been absorbing significant cost increases ranging from 50% to 100%

for transformers, poles, wires and more. The cost of shipping to our headquarters has increased 100%. All of these factors force us to make difficult decisions regarding Midstate's rates. We want to give our members as much advance notice as possible that we are in the preliminary stages of planning for a rate adjustment.

We are committed to keeping you informed about any further developments related to this rate increase and how it may affect our co-op. We understand this news may be unsettling, but know we are dedicated to finding solutions that will allow us to continue providing the best possible service to our members while managing these increased costs.

Our rates are designed not to make a profit but to cover the costs of providing power. While rate adjustments are an unfortunate necessity, Midstate will continue to have some of the lowest rates in the country. The cost of electricity will remain a great value considering all the ways we depend on it.

We urge you to stay attuned to rate communications from Midstate and begin considering ways to conserve energy this winter to help mitigate your overall energy expenses.

**CEO/General Manager Jim Anderson**



*"The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude." —Jeff Miller*