

# HIGHLIGHTS

VOL. 42, ISSUE 3

Look for us online @ [www.bighornrea.com](http://www.bighornrea.com)

APRIL 2021

## Remember to Use Caution When Burning

Each spring, all across Big Horn REA's territory, members prepare to burn ditches and fields for the upcoming growing season. And, every spring, Big Horn's employees witness damage being done to co-op poles and equipment by "controlled" burns. Please be aware that burning or even scorching a pole will compromise the integrity of the structure. Power poles are treated with a protective coating that prevents moisture from entering the core of the pole and causing deterioration. If a pole is scorched or blackened, the protective coating is damaged. Though it may appear as just a discoloration or slight burn, this is in fact, damage to the pole. This will significantly shorten the life of a power pole. This pole may then become a hazard and could cause an outage.

Big Horn once again reminds members to plan burning before you begin. It is much cheaper to prevent a pole from catching fire than to pay for a new pole. Members will be held liable for the replacement cost of pole(s) and/or equipment due to fire damage. This cost may vary from \$1,000 to more than \$2,000 depending on the structure of the pole and equipment. It only takes a little extra effort to prevent pole damage and help control costs for you and your cooperative. Burning of pastures and ditches does not have to result in the burning/scorching of power poles. If there are power poles in the area to be burned, clear the vegetation/weeds at least four feet around the base of the pole and wet the base of the pole with water before beginning to burn. If the fire does get away from you and a pole becomes engulfed in flames,



immediately call the fire department and Big Horn REA. Do not spray water close to the power lines! Water and electricity do not mix! This may cause a short circuit. You and/or the firefighters could be in the path of that current and serious injury or death may result. Report any fire-damaged pole to Big Horn REA immediately. Not reporting the damage may cause a serious accident to happen later. A pole that has been burned through is likely to fall over. This can leave the energized lines about a foot off the ground. If a person comes into contact with the line, they most likely will be seriously burned or even killed. This carelessness could cost a life!

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***SAFETY: Think About It***

# Mark Your Calendar...



We've missed you! We are planning to hold District Meetings in each of our five board districts in May! Come join us for some information about your cooperative and have dinner with us. Meetings will be held from 5:30pm – 7:00pm.

We will send you a postcard invite in the mail for your district.

## Upcoming District Board Meetings

- May 4 – Shell Community Hall
  - May 5 – Ten Sleep School cafeteria
  - May 6 – Lovell Community Center
  - May 11 – Burlington Fire Hall
  - May 12 – Meeteetse School cafeteria
- Make plans now to attend the meeting in your area. Watch your mail for the invitation!*

### ATTENTION IRRIGATORS:

A reminder that you will see your Annual Horsepower Charge on the bill you receive the first part of May. The minimum annual charge under the irrigation rate will be the highest of the following:

1. The horsepower multiplied by \$26.  
For example – a service with a 25HP motor would be billed 25 x \$26 = \$650.00
2. A charge of \$200.00.

If you have made any changes to your irrigation, or have any questions please call our office at (800)564-2419.

## LINEWORKERS BRING THE LIGHT.

### Lineworker Appreciation Day

On April 12, remember to #ThankALineworker.

## FOR SALE BY SEALED BID

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is accepting bids on the following items. These items may be inspected at Big Horn REA's Basin shop on April 27th or May 18th from 10:00am to noon. Anyone interested in viewing an item should call the office at (307)568-2419 or (800)564-2419 to make an appointment. Anyone coming to view should be mindful of COVID-19 restrictions and be wearing a mask. **ITEMS MAY ONLY BE VIEWED BY APPOINTMENT.** Items to be sold are As Is/Where Is.

All bids are subject to the terms and conditions of the Sale of Surplus Equipment. Bids must be received in the Basin office, PO Box 270, 415 South Street, Basin, WY 82410, in a sealed envelope clearly marked "SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SEALED BID". Bids must be received no later than 3:00pm on May 20, 2021. Big Horn REA reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.

**#1** 1998 International 4800 4x4 with a 6 speed manual transmission a DT466E motor with 40,911 miles. Comes with a Texoma 270 pressure digger, and 6 different auger sizes.



**#2** 2011 Ford F350 4x4 regular cab with an automatic transmission, has a flatbed with boxes and a Warn bumper and winch. 165,928 miles.



**#3** New take off. 2020 Ford long box with front and rear bumpers.



**#4** 2009 Polaris RMK 600 with a 155" track. Comes with cover, hand and thumb warmers. 707 miles.



**#5** 2001 Temco 16' bumper pull trailer with a 2 5/16 hitch and a breakaway system. 7000# g.v.w



**#6** 1975 wire reel trailer.



**#7** New take off, 2020 Fab Four Black Steel front bumper with optional winch tray.



**#8** 2008 Yamaha Rhino 700 E.F.I. 1,320 miles





**A** new feature for 2021 to allow you to get to know our employees just a little bit better.

# Watt's Cookin'

At Big Horn REA

**Recipe**  
DIRECTIONS

## Jeff's Pizza Hotdish

### Ingredients:

1 lb hamburger, browned	1 tsp sugar
4 cups raw potatoes, sliced	1 tsp oregano
½ cup diced onion, slightly browned	1 can tomato soup OR 1 sm jar pizza sauce
1 can cheddar cheese soup	Parmesan cheese
1 cup milk	Mozzarella cheese

### Directions

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Place potatoes in 9"x13" pan. Mix hamburger and onions together and put on top of potatoes.

Mix one can cheddar cheese soup and 1 cup milk. Heat until just warm along with 1 tsp sugar and 1 tsp oregano. Pour over hamburger. Next pour one can tomato soup or 1 small jar of pizza sauce (best in my opinion) over items in pan. Cover with foil. Cook for 1 hour and 40 minutes.

Ten minutes before it is done, take pan out, unfoil and sprinkle with parmesan cheese and shredded mozzarella cheese. Cover and bake until cheese melts.

\*\*If you want more ingredients in the hotdish, a person can add items such as slightly browned green peppers and slightly browned mushrooms or black olives. Just mix any additional items in with hamburger and onions.

## JEFF UMPHLETT



Our General Manager Jeff has worked at Big Horn REA for 22 years.

**What do you bring to your co-op?**

A strong commitment for the safety of our employees and the public.

**What is the best thing about working at Big Horn?**

The varied job duties – that is, whether meeting and discussing items with employees, preparing for the board meeting, preparing financial data, or visiting with members – it is all interesting and each day is different.

**What is your favorite meal from childhood?**

On a Sunday morning having pancakes with molasses and side pork.

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BIG HORN RURAL  
ELECTRIC COMPANY

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### Staff and Crew

Dotti Brown	Sheila Kampbell
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Bill Dahlke	Anthony Nelson
Clint Getzfreid	Bill Phillips
Todd Herman	Tristen Snyder
Reece Hill	Greg Tharp
Carrie Hunt	

For Outages or Trouble

Call the office number: **ANYTIME**  
(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419

After 5 p.m., weekends and holidays all calls will be answered by our professional answering service, who will contact the appropriate person(s).

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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