

# HIGHLIGHTS

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

MARCH 2022



## Mark Your Calendar...

One of the advantages of being a member of a cooperative is local member control. Due to continued concerns with COVID, **there will not be an annual meeting in 2022.** However, because of last year's success of having district meetings, Big Horn will be hosting district meetings again. Make sure to mark your calendar to learn more about Big Horn REA, board nominees and enjoy some yummy local meals starting at 5:30pm at each location.

## Upcoming District Board Meetings

**May 4th—Burlington Fire Hall**  
catered by Kelly's Place.

**May 5th—Meeteetse School Cafeteria**  
catered by Randol's Southern BBQ.

**May 10th—Lovell Community Center**  
catered by Hawg Heaven.

**May 11th—Ten Sleep School Cafeteria**  
catered by The Sleepy Coyote.

**May 12th, Shell Community Hall**  
catered by The Shell Store.

*Make plans now to attend the meeting in your area!  
It's your company; we look forward to talking to you!*

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## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

When was your cooling system last serviced? Most manufacturers recommend an annual tune-up for your home's cooling system. March is a great time to schedule this service so you can beat the summer rush when the pros are busiest.

A qualified professional can check the amount of refrigerant, accuracy of the thermostat, condition of belts and motors, and other factors that can impact the efficiency of your system.

Source: Dept. of Energy



## TESLA FACTS

### How far can I drive the Tesla?

- Tesla Model 3 is rated for 300+ miles per charge.

### Where can I charge it?

- Tesla has a network of fast chargers available exclusively to its vehicles.
- For everyday driving, EV owners usually charge at home or at work, relying on fast chargers mainly for long trips.

### How long does it take to charge if I use a normal wall outlet in my garage?

- Using the same sort of outlet that you would use for a toaster, you can recharge about 50 miles overnight. If you have a 240 volt outlet like those used for electric clothes dryers or ovens, an overnight recharge can be at least 200+miles.

### How much would it cost to install a fast charger at home? How fast would it charge my car?

- Installing a faster charger at home typically costs \$500-1500. It is more expensive if your charger is far from your breaker panel or if you want a charger with more than the basics. The fast chargers are the same as any other 240 volt



outlet, recharging 200+ miles of range overnight.

- The really fast chargers like those at Walmart or the Tesla Supercharger Stations can recharge 200 miles of range in under an hour, but they cost \$100k+.

### How much will my electricity bill go up if I charge this car at home?

- Twenty to fifty dollars per month, depending on local rates and how much you drive.

### Can I use the heat in the winter, or does that drain the battery so much that I might not make it to work?

- Your range can be reduced by ~30% on really cold days due to these factors:
- Gas and diesel cars use waste heat from fuel combustion to heat the cabin. Because electric car motors are much more efficient, there isn't enough waste heat to heat the cabin.
- The current generation of batteries have reduced capacity when they're cold.
- All cars are less efficient in the cold and in the snow.
- All cars are less efficient on winter tires.

### Are EVs offered in all-wheel drive?

- The Tesla Model 3 is AWD

Tri-State G&T, our power supplier will be providing a Tesla electric vehicle (EV) at our five district meetings for members to look at and drive.

and provides exceptional control. Controlling the output of electric motors with electromagnetic fields is faster and smoother than controlling an engine. Since there are two motors, the front and rear wheels can be controlled independently. It feels a bit like magic.

### How much does a Tesla Model 3 cost?

- Relative to gas-powered vehicles EVs are currently more expensive up front, but they've been holding their value well and their maintenance costs are lower than gas and diesel cars. There are also tax credits available to qualifying buyers.
- One analysis claiming that a Model 3 is cheaper to own than a Toyota Camry: <https://loupventures.com/tesla-model-3-cost-of-ownership-slightly-cheaper-than-a-camry/>

**ev** EXPERIENCE  
WWW.TRISTATE.COOP

# Planning A New Service?

**B**elieve it or not, spring is on the way! If you are planning a new service – a new home, grain dryer, irrigation, etc. – you should call Big Horn REA early in the planning. We help with the process and ensure you have the power you need. There are many factors to be considered when adding something that uses electricity. Does a larger transformer or service need to be installed? Is there clearance? When will you need the electricity? Is Big Horn's system capable of handling the prospective load? What is the cost to put in a new service or upgrade my service?

Big Horn's Line Superintendent, Bill Dahlke, adds, "We want our members to be aware that there is certain paperwork we will need before building a new service or upgrading an existing service. We have had several members call and need a service 'tomorrow,' and while we do our best to accommodate, there is a process to a new service."

**If you are thinking about a new service, please check the New Service Process on our website. This will help you understand what we need to get things started.**



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**



**Digging into an outdoor project?**

Dial 811 or visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) first to protect underground utility lines.

April is National #SafeDiggingMonth



Sara Schlattmann, Willie Bridges, John Joyce, and Steve Helburn are pictured with certificates of training received from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). John Fernandez (not pictured) received his certificate this past October.

An ever-changing business environment has imposed new demands on electric cooperative directors, requiring increased knowledge of changes in electric utility business, new governance skills and a solid knowledge of the cooperative principles and business model. Big Horn's Board of Directors have a commitment to increase their body of knowledge for the benefit of Big Horn's electric member/owners.

The Certificate programs from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) require attendance and demonstrated understanding of competencies in such areas as: Director Duties and Liabilities; Understanding the Electric Business; Strategic Planning; Board Operations and Process; and Financial Decision Making, along with training on specific issues relative to electric cooperatives.



**Reminder:**

Daylight Savings  
Time begins on  
**March 13, 2022.**



# Watt's Cookin'

— At Big Horn REA —

**Recipe**  
DIRECTIONS

## Tony's Pizza Burger

**Ingredients:**

1 lb of hamburger	1 small onion chopped
½ lb Velveeta cheese	¼ tsp pepper
1 can of tomato soup	12 hamburger buns
¼ tsp oregano	

**Directions**

1. Brown meat and onion, then drain.
2. Add other ingredients, heat until cheese is melted.
3. Place mixture on hamburger bun halves.
4. Put in oven at 350° for 8-10 minutes.

### TONY NELSON



Tony is one of our journeyman linemen and has worked for Big Horn REA for almost five years.

- What do you bring to your co-op?**  
A construction background, hardworking and good people skills.
- What is the best thing about working at Big Horn?**  
The safety culture and how family oriented everyone is here at the co-op, as well as working with a great group of people.
- What is your favorite meal from childhood?**  
Pizza burger

## HIGHLIGHTS

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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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