




# HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC NEWS & VIEWS

April 2026



1.877.394.7804    
hillcountyelectric.coop

## CEO Message

Join us for our 81st Annual Meeting on May 12, 2026 at Hill County Electric!



Craig Gates  
General Manager/CEO

Hill County Electric (HCE) is pleased to invite you to join us for our 81st Annual Meeting. This event is an important opportunity to connect with our members, reflect on the progress we've made together over the past year, and

look ahead to the future of your cooperative. We are proud of the work accomplished in 2025 and remain focused on continuing to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to the members we serve.

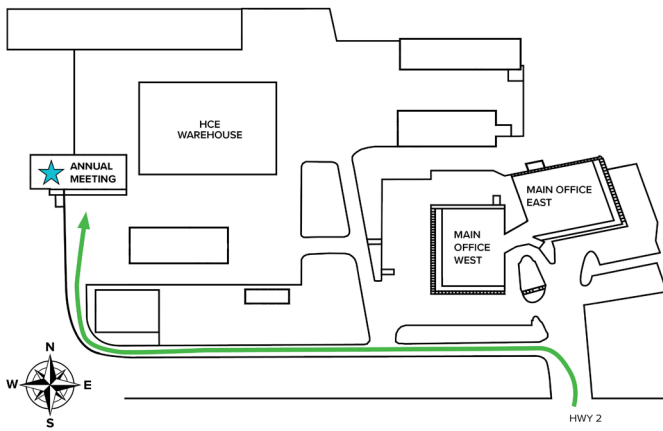
The Annual Meeting will be held on May 12, 2026, at our headquarters located at 2121 US

Hwy 2 NW. Doors will open at 11:30 AM, lunch will be served at 12:00 PM, and the business meeting will begin at 1:00 PM. As in previous years, signage will be posted to guide you to the meeting location, and drivers will be available to assist those who need transportation to the main entrance.

The meeting will include reports from our Board President, Board Secretary, fellow trustees, CFO Mark Majeres, and myself. We will review the cooperative's financial performance, highlight key accomplishments from the past year, and discuss priorities and challenges facing the electric industry. Members will also have the opportunity to visit with staff from various departments and ask questions about programs and services.

Attending the Annual Meeting is a great way to learn more about your cooperative, spend time with fellow members, enjoy a meal, and have a chance to win prizes.

The entire HCE team and I sincerely invite you to attend this year's Annual Meeting. We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing you there.



# 2026 Nominee Letters

## ROBERT "BOBBY" LASALLE, DISTRICT #2 (INCUMBENT)

My name is Robert "Bobby" LaSalle. I am running for the trustee position for Hill County Electric District 2. I am a resident of Hill County. I have a ranching operation on Rocky Boy Reservation where I currently reside. I am also the manager of the tribal owned Dry Fork Farms.

I have served on numerous boards which include: Hill County Farm Service Agency County Committee, St. Judes School Board, Hill County 4-H Foundation and Chipewea Cree Cattleman's Association.

I have been married to my wife Susie for 37 years and we have 2 children Beau (Maia) and Kayla and 2 grandsons.

I have a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Operations Technology and a Minor in Agricultural Business from Montana State-Northern. My past work experience includes Soil Tech for USDA-NRCS and Program Technician for USDA-FSA.

I am currently serving on the Hill County Electric Board of Trustees as an appointed member that filled the vacant position for District 2. I would greatly appreciate your vote to continue representing District 2 in the upcoming election.

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## TREVOR STANDING ROCK, DISTRICT #2

I am proud to be a candidate for the Hill County Electric Cooperative board, having previously served six years in this role. During my time on board, I have remained committed to responsible governance, transparency, and thoughtful decision-making that reflects the best interests of our members.

My primary goal is to ensure sound financial management while maintaining affordable electric rates and delivering superior, reliable service to our community. I understand that our cooperative exists to serve its members, and I believe every decision should be made with long-term stability, accountability, and member value in mind.

I bring experience, dedication, and a strong understanding of the cooperative model. If given the opportunity, I will remain focused on protecting our cooperative's financial health, strengthening infrastructure, and ensuring dependable service for all members.

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## TREVOR WOLERY, DISTRICT #3

Trevor Wolery is a fifth-generation small grains and pulse crop producer in Rudyard, continuing a long family tradition of Montana agriculture. He and his wife, Karleen, have been married for 26 years and are raising their family on the land that has supported generations before them.

Trevor has been deeply involved in both agriculture and community service throughout his life, serving as a dedicated EMS first responder since 2004. In addition to his emergency service work, he has served on the Hill County Conservation District and later represented producers as the Montana Grain Growers Association representative for District 4.

Together, Trevor and Karleen have three children: Kenidee, a graduate of Rocky Mountain College with a degree in biology who is currently pursuing pre-medical studies; Rhett, who will graduate from Montana State University this May with a degree in crop science; and Dirk, who will graduate from North Star High School this May and plans to attend Montana State University-Northern this fall.

**HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC'S 81<sup>st</sup>**  
**ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Doors open at 11:30 AM  
 Lunch at 12:00 PM  
 Meeting at 1:00 PM

**SAVE THE DATE**



Today's rapidly changing energy landscape places new demands on electric cooperative trustees, requiring an understanding of industry developments, strong governance skills, and a solid knowledge of cooperative principles and business models.

Because of this, Hill County Electric bylaws require trustees to earn their Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in order to serve on the board.

We'd like to congratulate Shane Barrett, HCE Trustee and President/Chairman of District 1, for going beyond this requirement by completing his Board Leadership Certificate (BLC) and Director Gold Credential (DGC) through the NRECA.

The BLC and DGC programs provide deeper training in key industry and governance topics and recognize directors who are committed to continuing their education and strengthening their leadership. Shane now joins fellow trustees Leslie Smith, Secretary/Treasurer of District 3, who has earned her BLC, and Nick Siebrasse, Vice President of District 5, who has earned both his BLC and DGC.

Congratulations to Shane on achieving this next level of certification, and thank you for your continued dedication to serving Hill County Electric members.

## ⚡ Honoring Those Who Power Our Community ⚡

We are grateful for our linemen every single day of the year, but on April 18th, we take extra time to recognize and celebrate them on *Lineman Appreciation Day*.

Through freezing temperatures, strong winds, long hours, and challenging conditions, our linemen serve with dedication, skill, and an unwavering commitment to safety. Much of their work happens behind the scenes, yet its impact is felt daily — powering homes, farms, and businesses, and restoring service as quickly and safely as possible when outages occur.

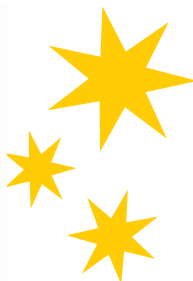
We are incredibly proud to honor their hard work, resilience, and service to our members. Please join us in offering a sincere thank you to the linemen who keep our community connected and powered.



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**BEN!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR **10 YEARS** OF SERVICE!



HAPPY WORK ANNIVERSARY!

**BRIAN!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR **5 YEARS** OF SERVICE!



# Swap and Shop

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members! Ads submitted online are usually added within 2 to 3 business days.

Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next month's magazine.

*\*Denotes photo available on website*

## Missing: B.M. BOWER books

Taken from Big Sandy Cultural Center. Please return them. \$100 reward.

## 2011 CASE IH (STEIGER)\*

450 HD 3822/2568 HRS, power shift, Pro 700, 372 receiver, 57 gpm hydraulic pump, 800/70R38 tires. \$172,000. (406) 899-2202.

## Deluxe Auger Drill and Cart\*

2018 CASE IH Precision Disk 500, 60", 10", single shoot, intelligent ag 2012 CASE IH Precision Air 4430, tow between three tank cart with new stainless steel double shoot manifold & new tires. \$134,500. (406) 899-2202.

## 2013 CASE PATRIOT 4430\*

5630 HRS, 120 ft boom, 1200 gal. \$67,000. (406) 899-2202.

## 2013 Frontier Grain Trailer

47 ft long, 96" W x 66" H. Like new, stored inside. \$35,000. (406) 262-4466.

## Counter height table and four chairs

Sold as a set, butterfly leaf. Table 54Lx36wx36h. Good solid set. (406) 868-2471.

## 2013 Kawasaki Mule 4010 4x4\*

New enclosure, new battery in 2024, new plow 2024, new tires and rims, 4-seater, power steering, blinkers, cab enclosure in 2024, winch with remote control. Please use text or email. Would be good for farm and ranch use. \$6,700. clips3@yahoo.com (406) 390-3780.

## ISO Used 4-wheeler

250-300cc, with rack to mount sprayer, 4-wheel drive not necessary. (406) 899-9279.

## Anatolian Shepherd Karakachan Livestock Guardian Puppies\*

Working lines. Males and females. Located in Columbus. (406) 290-3127

## Side & front windows from a 1979 8ft topper

Windows slide. Make an offer. (406) 390-4493

## Wanted: Hunting lease for elk and deer

Personal use, not a outfitter. Prefer annual lease but will consider options for shorter duration. (406) 932-5296.

## New Aluminum Stall Horse Door + Hardware Kit System

Five horse door hardware kits with everything you need. \$2000 OBO. (406) 932-4391.

## BOSCH 3-1/4" Planer Kit\*

Barely used \$75. (406) 750-7894.

## Greenhouse Windows

Make offer. (406) 439-5456.

## Two Horse Buggy Parts

Free. (406) 439-5456.

## Morris Cultivator CP760

Great shape, 60" wide with harrows. \$7,500. (406) 262-4466.

## Misc Tools

Van Norman Boring Bar & Accessories. Souix Valve Grinder & Hard Soft Facer. (406) 262-3058.

## 2022 Chevy G3500 Passenger Bus

Comes with a chair lift, seats 14, or 12 with 2 wheel chairs. \$20,000. (406) 932-5455.

## 1973 28' Red Dale 5th Wheel

Sleeps 4, full bath, kitchen etc. Great for hunters or bunk house. \$2,450. (406) 262-4466.

## Birch Hutch

Lots of storage, bottom has 4 drawers and 4 cupboards, upper portion has glass front. Length 6 ft.- Height 7 ft. \$250.00. (406) 376-3135.

## Hydraulic Rock Picker

\$1,750. (406) 670-9706.

## Whole & Half Pork

Processing dates of July, August, and September 2026. Raised in Havre, MT processed at the Pay-N-Save in Saco. (406) 230-2281.

## Free Dogs

1 English bulldog and 2 tea cup yorkies. (854) 737-3737.

## Hundreds of free books and records

Big Sandy Cultural Center. 79200 U.S. Highway 87, Big Sandy. (406) 378-2514.

## FlexCoil 2320 45' Airdrill

12" single shoot. Lots of new parts. (406) 390-3185.

## Professional Chicken Cages

Accommodates 550 Hens. \$800 each. (406) 945-2027.

## 1 year old Border Collie

Started on sheep, too much energy. No fear. Will be great on cows. Has had 2 weeks professional training. Great with children and other dogs. \$950. (406) 374-2406.

## 2015 Polaris 1000XP

3,945 miles, 468 hrs. Handle bar & hand warmer, hard case lockable front rack, winch, 3/4 tread left, rear receiver, medium size trunk. \$7200. (406) 390-4077.

## 1993 Safari Motorhome For Sale

3430 Cummins, 8.3 turbo-charged, intercooled. Allison World transmission with 6 speed and 2 overdrive gears. 98,600 miles. \$15,000. (406) 547-2184.

*Swap & Shop is a classified advertising section of the Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric websites and newsletters. It is maintained as a service to customers and communities wanting to buy, sell and announce non-commercial items. To have an ad included, simply enter all the pertinent information on the online form. An administrator will review the information within two business days and if approved, the ad will then appear. It will stay online for 60 days unless you notify us to remove or change it. It will also appear in any of the newsletters printed during that 60 day window. Triangle reserves the right to abbreviate ads and if the section is full, we will display ads on a first come, first-served basis. If you're unable to enter your ad online you may mail or e-mail it to us using the contact info inside the front cover of this magazine. Happy swapping and shopping.*