

# 2026 MEMBERS' ANNUAL MEETING



UDWI exists to improve rural life. We safely deliver reliable electricity to our members. We provide outstanding customer service from every position within UDWI. We serve our communities by providing helping hands and hearts to those in need.



# WELCOME!

Board President  
Melinda M. Hendrix

# OUR TEAM



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# CALL TO ORDER

Board Secretary  
Shawn Dugan



# CERTIFICATION OF MAILING NOTICE

Board Secretary  
Shawn Dugan



# APPROVAL OF 2025 MINUTES & TREASURER'S REPORT

Board Secretary  
Shawn Dugan

# ELECTION CANDIDATES & RESULTS



Board Counsel

James Buddenbaum, Attorney



David Kirkling  
District 1



Todd Carpenter  
District 5



Melinda Hendrix  
President, District 7



# UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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# KEEPING OUR MOMENTUM

Chief Executive Officer  
Shane Smith

# QUICK LOOK BACK...



## Retirees

Doug Childs



Charles Robert "Rob"  
Firestone

Billy J. Baize



Tracy Deckard

Thomas W. Sparks



# A LOOK BACK AT WHAT MADE US PROUD THIS YEAR



- Dedication to Safety
- Supporting Broadband Deployment
- Major Storm Response
- Community Fund
- Employee-led initiatives

# 2025 LINEMAN RODEO:



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# SAFETY/GLOVING:



# STRATEGIC GOAL #1:



- **Safety is a core organizational value**
- Linework and vegetation management are among the highest-risk roles
- A strong safety culture protects employees, strengthens operations, and builds trust
- Ongoing commitment to public safety initiatives, including first responders

# LIVE LINE:



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# STRATEGIC GOAL #2:



- **Strengthen Member Trust and Engagement**
- Continue to build member trust
- Provide communications, services, and solutions that meet our members' needs.
- Enhance member service through continued employee training

# STRATEGIC GOAL #3:



- **Strengthen Workforce and Culture**
- Employees are at the heart of how we serve our members and deliver on our mission
- Invest in workforce development
- Continue developing a positive work culture

# STRATEGIC GOAL #4:



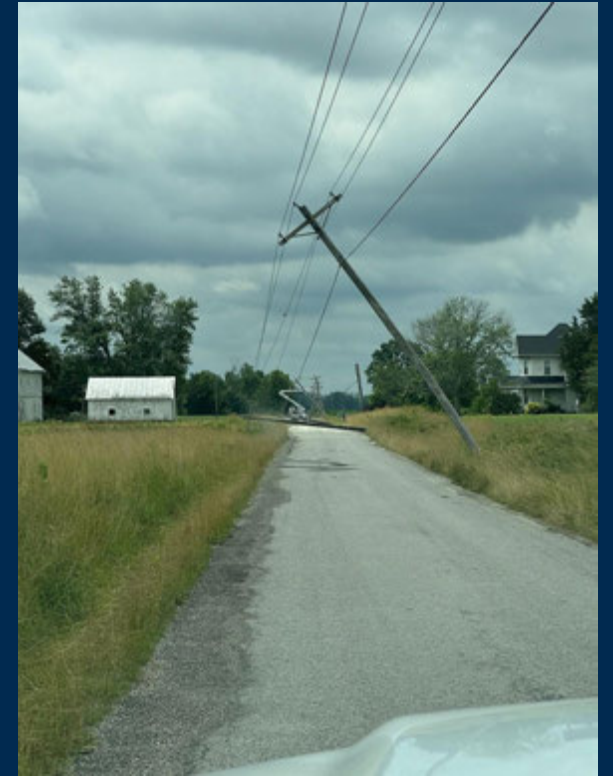
- **Strengthen Financial Planning**
- Create policies to support long-term stability and cost control
- Continue long-term planning to promote rate stability and predictability
- Maintain a strong, sustainable cooperative while keeping costs as low as possible for members

# STRATEGIC GOAL #5:



- **Optimize Operational Efficiency**
- Maintain focus on reliability and performance, with on ongoing focus on emergency preparedness for severe weather events.
- Maintain strong vegetation management programs to support system reliability
- Continue supporting broadband initiatives across our communities

# PAST STORM DAMAGE:



# STRATEGIC GOAL #6:



- **Providing Secure and Optimized Systems and Software**
- Protect member data through secure, reliable, and well-managed information systems
- Prioritize cybersecurity to safeguard sensitive information and ensure system integrity
- Use technology to strengthen system reliability and support informed operational decision-making

# STRATEGIC GOAL #7:



- **Intentional Approach to Economic Development**
- Support economic development efforts that align with the cooperative's mission and long-term strategy
- Strengthen communities by helping attract jobs, housing, and a growing tax base for members
- Ensure new growth is structured to “pay its own way,” minimizing impact on existing member rates



# NEXT STEPS



# THANK YOU!