



**People's Energy Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## **Immediate NEWS RELEASE**

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### **John Winter, Jerry Wooner, and Jeff Orth elected to People's Energy Cooperative Board of Directors at 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**Oronoco, MN, March 24, 2023** – Results of People's Energy Cooperative's (PEC) director elections were announced on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the Cooperative's 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

Five candidates vied for three seats with three-year terms on PEC's Board of Directors. The results are as follows:

In District 3, John Winter defeated Mike Hintz for the seat once held by Bob Hoefs who did not seek re-election after 21 years of service. Winter won with 1,074 votes and Hintz received 908 votes.

District 5 incumbent Jerome Wooner of Eyota ran unopposed and received 1,881 votes.

District 7 incumbent Jeff Orth of Rochester Township defeated challenger Theresa Hornberg. Orth won with 1,422 votes and Hornberg received 576 votes.

During the meeting, Board Chair Jerry Wooner addressed the 200+ cooperative members who were in attendance and talked about the challenge of delivering on the mission of providing affordable electricity in today's economy. Wooner stated, "The biggest challenge we're facing from a rate standpoint right now is the rate of inflation and its impact on the cost of materials required to deliver reliable electric service and the cost of fuel that is driving up the cost of power."

President and CEO, Mike Henke shared the Cooperative's success in hitting key metrics relative to delivering reliable power in 2022. Henke shared stats around two key factors in measuring reliable electric service, the frequency of outages and how long they last. Henke said, "In 2022, on average, each member experienced an average of 0.37 power outages. Keep in mind, this is an average so if you do the math, about one-third of our members had an outage and two-thirds did not last year."

Henke also stated, "Of the 8,760 hours in 2022, we delivered electric service 8,759 hours which equates to 99.991% of the time."

### **About People's Energy Cooperative**

People's Energy Cooperative is a member-owned electric cooperative celebrating 87 years of delivering retail electric power to its nearly 20,000 consumer-members in Olmsted, Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Wabasha, and Winona Counties. People's Energy Cooperative is a Touchstone Energy® cooperative and a member-owner in the Dairyland Power system of electric cooperatives that generates and transmits reliable electric power in 62 counties of four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois). People's is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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