

BIG FLAT — NEWS —

April 2021

www.bigflatelectric.com



The Governor met with Big Flat Electric personnel and director Alan Wasson at a pole yard where poles for the transmission line to serve the Keystone Pipeline load are being stored.

Picture above, left to right are: Governor Greg Gianforte, Line Superintendent Darren Demarais, Manager Gretchen Boardman, President of the Board Alan Wasson and Kari Hammond, Big Flat Electric's office manager.

Job opening at Big Flat Electric

Big Flat Electric Co-op., Inc. is currently seeking a motivated self-starter to serve as our material/work order/office clerk and communications administrator. The successful candidate will possess a great attitude, good work ethic and be excited by new challenges.

With the wide variety of duties this job requires, from maintaining the warehouse facility to office work and more, the ideal candidate is dependable and a multi-tasker with strong computer, mathematical and communication skills. Post-secondary degree in business, accounting or finance and 2-4 years of job-related experience; or the equivalent combination of education and experience is required.

Big Flat Electric is a member-owned electric cooperative serving over 2,000 meters, with the office based in Malta. Big Flat Electric has an excellent benefits program. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. To apply for the position, visit www.bigflatelectric.com to obtain an application and view the full job description. Submit application, cover letter and resume' to: Big Flat Electric Co-op., Inc. at PO Box 229, Malta, MT 59538 or by email to: kari@bigflatelectric.com.

Applications must be received in the office by 5:00 p.m. on April 28, 2021.

Inside:

- ★ Thank a lineworker 4-12-21
- ★ Buckhorn Store and Cabins
- ★ Beau Simonson wins Basin scholarship

Thank a lineworker on April 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Big Flat Electric, I bet you would picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

“Lineworker” is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training,

ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment.

How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of service to the community is truly what sets them apart.

That’s why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Big Flat Electric it’s important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the

scenes. Others provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op. Member service representatives are always standing by to take your calls and questions.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Big Flat Electric, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, I hope you’ll join us in thanking them for their exceptional service. We hope you’ll remember that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op whose commitment to service runs just as deep.



Lineworker Appreciation Day

Buckhorn Store and Cabins - Zortman

A mainstay in the town of Zortman, Montana, the Buckhorn Store and Cabins have been around since 1938 when Ray Holzhey started the business. Today it is in the hands of Rod and Karen Bolland who took over ownership in 1992.



Owner Rod Bolland sells note cards to a visitor from out of town. Among the many items the store sells are clothing and gift items.

As well as providing groceries and sundry items to locals and visitors, they also sell fuel, fishing and hunting licenses, and hardware supplies. The building houses the Zortman Post office. It is truly a one stop shop.

The Buckhorn has seven cabins that they rent to hunters, visitors and outdoor buffs who visit the Zortman area. Two of the cabins are open all year.

In addition to being a great area to hunt, Zortman has 120 miles of trail that four-wheeler enthusiasts can trek through the Little Rocky Mountains. The busiest times of the year are from September when bow season opens through the end of hunting season in November.

If you are ever in the Zortman area, check out the Buckhorn Store and Cabins.

At the entrance of the store residents can pick up their mail from Kathy Davis, who is in charge of the Zortman Post Office.



More than a general store in the small town in the Little Rocky Mountains, the Buckhorn Store and Cabins serves the Zortman area year round.



The shelves are well stocked. In addition to groceries, customers can find everything from pickles in a barrel, steak, kitchen utensils, to hardware items and hunting licenses.

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:



1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before your work begins. The operator will notify the utilities affected by your project.

2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for affected utilities to respond to your request. They will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded to your request by comparing the marks to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. The markers are your guide for the duration of your project.



5. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project location.



Source: call811.com

Basin Electric Scholarship awarded to Beau Simonson



Beau Simonson

Beau Simonson has been given the honor of winning the Basin Electric Power Cooperative's \$1,000 scholarship. Beau is the son of Matt and Heather Simonson of the Loring area. He is currently a senior at Whitewater High School. Congratulations, Beau.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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