

BIG BEND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.



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Ritzville, Lind, Washtucna area after hours,
Saturday, Sunday and holiday emergency calls:

659-0487

All other areas within 509 area code after hours,
Saturday, Sunday and holiday emergency calls:

(866) 844-2363

DIRECTORS: President Lyle Holt; Vice President Dennis Swinger Sr.; Secretary James Person; Treasurer Robert Clinesmith; Daniel Bauermeister, Melvin Kagele, Ken Story, Curtis Dahl. Manager James Johnson; Legal Counsel Kenneth D. Carpenter.

Manager's Message

2007 Caring Neighbors Donations Top \$29,000

During 2007, Caring Neighbors, a nonprofit corporation formed by Big Bend Electric Cooperative, donated \$29,650 to needy non-profit and municipal organizations in our communities.

Although the amount of money donated by individual Big Bend members might appear small, when added together it creates a large pool of funds available to help emergency agencies, children, and neighbors in need.

The Caring Neighbors board and Big Bend personnel serve on a voluntary basis. All funds contributed by consumers have been used for donations except for mandatory fees assessed by the Internal Revenue Service and state of Washington.

During 2007, several food banks were helped in Adams and Franklin counties. Donations were made for youth and community projects in Benge, Connell, Lind, Mesa, Othello, North Pasco, Ritzville and Washtucna, including helping a senior center, a pre-school, and emergency services.

Caring Neighbors also donated funds to community action agencies specifically for helping needy Big Bend consumers pay their electric bills.

Caring Neighbors made a huge difference in our communities during 2007. Since Caring Neighbors was started, more than \$170,000 has been donated to needy organizations. Big Bend members made this happen.

Your tax-deductible contributions have helped make dreams come true. Thank you! ■

Visit the Caring Neighbors display at Big Bend Electric Cooperative's Annual Meeting on Saturday February 23, 2008, at Basin City Elementary School. See next month's Ruralite magazine for more information about the Co-op's Annual Meeting.

Big Bend Members Make the Difference

Thank you, Big Bend Electric Cooperative members, for your contributions to Caring Neighbors.

Members contribute to Caring Neighbors by allowing their electric bills to be rounded up. The rounded-up amount goes to Caring Neighbors. It's an easy, low-cost way to help our communities.

Big Bend consumers who are not signed up for Caring Neighbors are encouraged to contact Big Bend and sign up. Members who do not wish to be a Caring Neighbors participant may contact Big Bend to be removed from the program.

Yes, It's Deductible

Caring Neighbors holds 501(C)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service, which allows donors to deduct contributions for federal tax purposes.

Caring Neighbors donations appear each month on consumers' bills. The cumulative amount for 2007 appears on the January 2008 bill (or on the final bill if a consumer terminated service during the year). If you need help determining your donation amount, feel free to contact our office. ■

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