

Harney Electric

# Ruralite

JANUARY 2018



Counselor Garrity O'Crowley works out of Diamond in Harney County.  
PHOTO BY LAUREN BROWN

# Harney Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy®  
Cooperative   
*The power of human connections®*

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## Manager's Message

Dear Members,

As we start the new year at the cooperative, I would like to recap our 2017 accomplishments and lay out our plans for 2018.

First, I would like to thank the Harney Electric staff for its support and help as we took on more projects in 2017 than the cooperative had attempted for several years.

Construction began on a transmission project that our team spent the first nine months of 2017 planning and designing. Replacement of the section between the Fields switch yard and Fields Substation was completed and energized. Most of the poles from Denio Junction to Quinn River Substation have been set, with a portion having the conductor strung. This project should be completed in the first quarter of 2018.

We upgraded our McDermitt Substation and have installed most of the new meters in that area, which will give us automated readings to the Hines office. As part of that upgrade, communication equipment was installed to give us the ability to monitor and control circuit breakers from the Hines office. We plan to complete these types of upgrades and meter installations for five more of our substations this year.

Additionally, a breaker on the transmission line at our Hanley Lane switch yard was replaced in 2017, along with some controls that will allow us increased communication and control over the breakers.

We will be very busy in 2018 with the above-mentioned projects, in addition to some of the regular upgrades necessary to keep and improve our system's efficiency and reliability.

As we work to keep the cooperative operational, we must also keep a close eye on the changes taking place in the electric industry. Some of the issues we are facing include the Energy Choice Initiative in Nevada, and the carbon cap and trade in Oregon. On the federal level, we are working to keep power from the Columbia River System competitive and affordable.

We began a grassroots program in 2017 to achieve the goals of the cooperative, and I invite you as a member to join and get involved. For more information, go to our website at [www.harneyelectric.org](http://www.harneyelectric.org) and click on the ORECA logo.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

**Fred Flippence**  
General Manager

