



GRAND VALLEY POWER



## C.E.O.'s Corner

JANUARY, 2017

### GRAND VALLEY POWER'S MISSION BY TOM WALCH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As we pin up a new calendar in January, many of us embark on self-improvement projects with ambitious New Year's resolutions. Before we turn the calendar page to February, most of those resolutions have fallen to the wayside. Why is that? Maybe it's because our resolutions tend to focus on our shortcomings. Maybe our success rate would improve if we concentrate on what we do best. Over the past few weeks, a group of Grand Valley Power employees and directors have endeavored to put together a mission statement – a resolution of sorts – that will guide our organization next year and for years to come. This effort required us to examine our purpose, our reason for existing, and describe it with a few brief words. With a focus on what we do best, this is what we came up with:

#### ***Empowering lives with hometown service***

These five words pack a punch! Yes, they capture our core function – providing power for the consumers that we serve here in Mesa County – but they go farther than that. They speak to the quality of life that affordable, reliable electricity makes possible. They address the importance we place on supporting our community. Grand Valley Power empowers lives with scholarships and assistance for local educational efforts, economic development, and its first-of-a-kind low income community solar facility. We empower lives by being good stewards of the environment.

The focus on hometown service is central to our mission. It includes, of course, the servicemen and linemen who brave the elements to restore power when Mother Nature wreaks havoc.

There's a good chance you may know them personally, from church or Little League. When you call us on the phone, you won't be routed to a call center in another state hundreds of miles away; you will talk to someone working here on the Western Slope, who knows what's going on in our service territory. And don't forget the hometown service that your locally-elected board of directors



delivers. These are the folks from right here in Mesa County who provide direction and guidance for our organization. They face the same challenges and issues that all of our members have to deal with. If you have a question or concern, they are here to address it.

*Empowering lives with hometown service.* This is a broad statement of purpose. It's broad enough that we need a few guideposts to help us stay on track. Recognizing this, our team of directors and employees identified four foundational principles to guide us along the way:

*We are committed to the safety of our workforce and the general public.*

*We strive to do the right thing, holding true to our values and principles.*

*We seek to find new and better ways to serve our members and communities.*

*We are dedicated to delivering value to all we serve.*

While these words were composed just a few weeks ago, the ideas are not new for Grand Valley Power. I've only been here about five years, but as one of my senior staff members put it, "we've been doing this for decades." Even so, I think it will be helpful to have the ideas distilled down to these guiding principles. Since we have identified the track we are on, we will be held accountable if we stray.

Just as New Year's resolutions are hard to keep, meaningful mission statements can be difficult to live up to. With Grand Valley Power's eighty-year tradition of service excellence here in Mesa County, I am confident in our ability to move forward with our mission successfully.



#### GRAND VALLEY EVENTS

## Colorado National Monument

### Free Admission January 16, 2017

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr Day, entrance fees will be waived at Colorado National Monument for the federal holiday Monday, January 16. The waiver of park entry fees includes Colorado National Monument and the 129 other National Park Services (NPS) sites across the country.

