



## Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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## LMRE names new General Manager



Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Cooperative (LMRE) has selected the CEO of a southern Illinois electric cooperative to be its eighth general manager in LMRE's 83-year history.

Lorain-Medina board president John Eaton announced this week the board has hired Edward VanHoose, CEO of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CECI), in Flora, Ill. VanHoose will succeed Markus Bryant, who is retiring in January after 24 years with LMRE.

After a national search conducted with the aid of CEO search consultant, VanHoose was selected by a combined board made up of representatives from LMRE and North Central Electric Cooperative of Attica, Ohio. The two cooperatives form a management and shared-services cooperative called Federated Energy Services Cooperative (FESCO). VanHoose will serve as FESCO president and, as a result, will serve as general manager for both cooperatives.

VanHoose will join the cooperatives in mid-November and will work with Bryant until Dec. 11, when he will officially assume the duties of FESCO president. Bryant will work with VanHoose on the management transition until his retirement date of Jan. 2, 2019.

"I appreciate the faith the FESCO board has placed in me as the incoming president," VanHoose said. "My family and I are incredibly excited to begin our journey with both cooperatives, and we look forward to many years of service in northern Ohio."

For the past four and a half years, VanHoose, 45, served as the CEO of CECI, where he oversaw all aspects of operations of the cooperative.

"We believe Mr. VanHoose brings a wealth of experience and education that will fit our cooperatives for the long term," Eaton said. "Before he joined the statewide association, he owned an information technology (IT) company and had 40 employees. He impressed us when he said he considers all employees as extensions of his family. He looked each of us in the eye and said, 'I want to come and work for you. I want this job.'"

Prior to joining CECI, he worked as the IT manager for the Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives (AIEC) based in Springfield, Ill., where he advised AIEC's 25 electric and eight telephone cooperative members on various technology issues, ranging from network security and smart grid deployment to broadband adoption. He also was involved at the statewide level in economic development and communications. VanHoose served on the Governor's Broadband Deployment Council and the Steering Committee for the East Central Illinois Development Corporation.

For the past eight years, he has served on a national industry cybersecurity member advisory group, as well as other local civic organizations. He also served as the vice president of the Illinois Cooperative Worker's Compensation Group. VanHoose represents his cooperative on the board of Southern Illinois Power Cooperative, a generation and transmission cooperative, as well as the boards of the National Renewable Cooperative Organization and ACES Power Marketing. He completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Illinois-Springfield and his MBA at the University of Southern Indiana-Evansville.