

# IMPA Wire



News from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency

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## 20 Years of IMPA Service Corp

**B**rent Slover of Linton, IN, reached his 20-year anniversary with IMPA Service Corp this March, marking two decades of support beyond power supply to IMPA's member communities. IMPA's not-for-profit subsidiary officially formed in March 2001 at the request of several IMPA member communities who wanted the Agency's help in finding qualified engineers to design projects for their electric systems on a pay-per-use basis. Since its formation, IMPA Service Corp has rapidly expanded from providing management consulting, engineering and project management, and rate-related services to a wide-reaching organization that offers additional services in the areas of system management, distribution utility services, substation maintenance, and more.

IMPA Service Corp began expanding its services in 2013, when the group launched its Operations division for interested member communities. At this point, the subsidiary had been providing engineering designs for over a decade, but communities had to hire external contractors or use their own staff to complete the work. The addition

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## New Chairman of the IMPA Board



Brent Slover of Linton, IN (left) and Phil Goode of Crawfordsville, IN (right)



Brent Slover of Linton, Indiana, was appointed as the next Chairman of the IMPA Board of Commissioners on April 9 at the Agency's monthly Board meeting. Brent has been an IMPA Commissioner since 2012 and has served the town of Linton as their General Manager of Utilities for over 30 years. Before stepping up to the role of Chairman, Brent served on IMPA's Executive Committee as the Vice Chairman. His expertise on the electric industry and understanding of small communities will bring a wealth of knowledge into the Chairman role. Ending his term as Chairman of the Board was Phil

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# IMPA Service Corp

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of the Operations division allowed members to hire IMPA Service Corp crews to construct entire electric utility projects from start to finish. Today, Operations services include, but are not limited to, electric system maintenance, emergency services, storm restorations, and vegetation maintenance.

In 2017, IMPA Service Corp achieved another milestone in forming its dedicated services program. For many member communities, maintaining a reliable, local electric system is difficult to do due to limited funding and expensive, skilled labor. Retaining a skilled line crew to maintain and operate the local system was a struggle for some IMPA members who found difficulty in balancing the need for regular infrastructure maintenance to its costs. To address this issue, IMPA Service Corp launched the dedicated services program in which participating communities receive system maintenance, vegetation management, and outage restoration services from an IMPA staffed line crew on a regular basis. Four years later, twelve member communities are served by the dedicated services program to support their local electric distribution system.

As demand for Dedicated Services grew, the Agency found itself in need of additional space to house line crews and vehicles. After acquiring a parcel of land in the member community of Spiceland, IMPA constructed a 6,400 square-foot service facility, complete with four vehicle bays and office and operations space. Since the completion of this building, crews are able to more quickly address issues that arise in dedicated service communities as well as more efficiently route crews to deal with scheduled maintenance issues.

Most recently, IMPA Service Corp has found success in its Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program, which helps member communities utilize economies of scale to acquire the latest technology in smart metering. Nine communities have signed contracts to implement the program within their systems, with more showing interest.

Being formed at the request of IMPA members, IMPA Service Corp has remained true

to its original goal of working to build a healthy electrical infrastructure that reliably serves residents, businesses, and industries in IMPA communities. Over the span of two decades, the program has become an integral part of several IMPA communities, in many cases serving as the community's primary resource for electric system maintenance, operation, and restoration. The exponential success of the last 20 years proves that there is no limit to what IMPA Service Corp will be able to accomplish in the future. *W*

## Esteemed IMPA Retiree Passes Away



Kerry Vincent, whose lengthy public power career spanned four decades in the utility industry, passed away on April 17 at the age of 61.

Vincent's extensive public power experience included 20 years with Richmond Power and Light, where he began his career as an Engineer and later served as Line Superintendent for the utility. It was at RP&L where Kerry met his wife of 35 years, Becky. Vincent spent the last 20 years of his career with the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), overseeing the formation and growth of the Agency's IMPA Service Corp subsidiary and serving as an invaluable asset to municipal electric utilities throughout the state.

Kerry's passion for the industry, and the brotherhood of lineman, was evident in everything he did.

He always had time to share a story or advice with other people the industry, and he never met a stranger. He was an experienced and knowledgeable individual in the field, but an even better person and friend. *W*



# New Chairman of the IMPA Board

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Goode of Crawfordsville, Indiana, whose enthusiasm for public power and the betterment of IMPA communities has led the Agency since 2018. As the General Manager of Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power, Phil has served on the Board of Commissioners since 2009 and held a position on the Executive Committee for nine years. Per IMPA tradition, Goode's term as Chairman of the Board came to an end after he served in the role for three years.

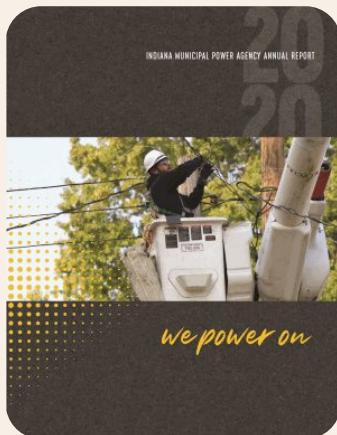
"I truly appreciate all the education I've received in these years as Chairman," said Goode. "I've learned so much about the business from each and every member on the Executive Committee, and I want to thank the IMPA staff and Raj [Rao] for their support throughout my term. Brent is highly experienced, and he will do a great job as the next Chairman of the Board."

Goode's service as Chairman was noted by many at IMPA.

"I think I can speak on behalf of the Board of Commissioners when I say that we appreciate Phil's leadership and service to IMPA," said Slover. "It's been an honor to serve with him. It's not hard to see the passion that he provides, and I've certainly got some big shoes to fill. I'm truly humbled and honored that you've all selected me as the next Chairman, and I hope to live up to the legacy that Phil and Sue [Saunders] and those before have established."

"Phil has done tremendous things for both Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power and IMPA," said President and CEO of IMPA, Raj Rao. "Though he's no longer on the Executive Committee, we will still seek his guidance as he is now in an exclusive club of men and women who have previously served as Chairman of the IMPA Board. We look forward to Phil's continued direction as an IMPA commissioner and a friend of IMPA, and we are glad to welcome Brent Slover in the Chairman role." 

## 2020 Annual Report Now Available Online



IMPA's 2020 Annual Report is now available at [impa.com/financial](http://impa.com/financial).

To request a hard copy, contact Niki Dick at [niki@impa.com](mailto:niki@impa.com) or 317-573-9955.

## IMPA Commissioners Receive APPA Award

 Each year, the American Public Power Association (APPA) recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to public power communities with the Honor Roll award. Recipients of the Honor Roll distinction are recognized at the national level, serving as excellent examples to all public power employees and contributors in the country. The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is proud to recognize two commissioners of the Agency's Board who were honored by APPA early this year.

Phil Buckmaster of Walkerton, Indiana, has always focused his work on improving the health of his community. As the town's Executive Director of Economic

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## APP Award

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Development, Buckmaster involves himself in all town happenings, whether it deals with utilities, affordable housing, park improvement, communication and education, or local businesses. He's also been involved with finding a location for an IMPA solar park in Walkerton. His excellent leadership skills have contributed to the long-term success of public power in Walkerton, and the community as a whole.

Jim Caldwell of Advance, Indiana, was also awarded the Honor Roll. Caldwell's commitment to public power shows through his numerous accomplishments with the town's electric utility. Caldwell played an integral part in bringing solar power to the Advance community in 2018, and he continues to help the utility improve by serving on the town council and being closely involved with the town's Automated Metering Infrastructure program. His additional dedication to the community's fire department for nearly 30 years proves his loyalty to his community.

IMPA truly appreciates the commitment to public power shown by all of the IMPA Board of Commissioners. Please join the Agency in congratulating Phil Buckmaster and Jim Caldwell on their prestigious awards and thanking them for their devotion to public power. **10**



Phil Buckmaster (left) and Jim Caldwell (right).