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Energy Saving Tip

Spring is nearly here! Now is the perfect time to test your A/C and ensure it's ready for summer. Remember to check the evaporator coil, which should be cleaned annually for optimal efficiency.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy



Mark Your Calendar

April 15 March 31 Electric Bill Due
April 26 April Board Meeting



Find Your Account Number & Win!

TEC has hidden an account number in this newsletter. If you find your account number, notify us by March 1st and you will get a \$10 bill credit.

We have not received a winner for February's newsletter yet.



Joel Janorschke
General Manager

Rural Minnesota is Working to Reduce Electric Vehicle Range Anxiety

Traverse Electric Cooperative Participates in Statewide Infrastructure Funding Conversation, Advocating for Members

(ST. PAUL, MINN.) – Traverse Electric Cooperative was among more than 230 democratically elected directors and leaders from the state's 50 electric cooperatives who gathered in St. Paul on March 15-16 for the Minnesota Rural Electric Association's (MREA) legislative day and annual business meeting. Driven by their members, democratically elected directors from Traverse Electric advocate for policy that benefits their members in providing affordable, reliable, safe, and increasingly clean electricity.

“As directors, we engage with our members on a daily basis. Our members are our neighbors, and we have a responsibility to advocate for legislation that benefits our communities,” says Jerry Tvedt, MREA board director, who also serves as a director for East Central Energy in Braham, MN. “Our annual legislative

day is dedicated to talking to legislators about what's happening in our service area and issues of importance, which could impact co-op member consumers.

With a state budget surplus of more than \$8 billion and approximately \$7.3 billion expected from the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act State (IIJA), legislators are debating how to allocate funding. As part of the IIJA, Minnesota should see more than \$68 million over 5 years to deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure throughout the state. Electric cooperatives are advocating for the vast majority of funding for the public EV charging network to be directed to rural Minnesota, to cover the utility make-ready costs that would otherwise be borne by co-op members and be coordinated with electric cooperatives.

“Rural charging infrastructure is vital to meeting EV goals made by

TEC February Financials

	February 2021	February 2022	YTD 2022
Total Revenue	\$1,002,670.32	\$1,090,332.87	\$2,314,537.02
Cost of Power	\$625,525.03	\$675,980.67	\$1,159,717.77
Total Cost of Service	\$933,416.73	\$1,009,926.79	\$1,822,785.84
Operating Margins	\$69,253.59	\$80,406.08	\$491,751.18
Total Margins	\$66,858.94	\$78,571.08	\$485,631.86
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	11,163,720	12,130,916	26,000,010
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	10,613,066	11,603,202	24,855,825
Line Loss	4%	4%	4%

ANNUAL COGENERATION NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERSHIP

In compliance with Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers, whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements.

All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board. Interested members should contact Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 66, Wheaton, MN 56296 or call 800-927-5443.

continued... Rural Minnesota is Working to Reduce Electric Vehicle Range Anxiety

government and auto manufacturers. Although most EV charging will be done at home, ideally off-peak through a charging program, a critical obstacle to increasing EV adoption is easing consumer range anxiety,” says General Manager Joel Janorschke.

For insight on Minnesota’s energy priorities, Senators David Senjem (R, 25) and Nick Frentz (DFL, 19), and Representatives Jamie Long (DFL, 61B) and Chris Swedzinski (R, 16A) participated in a panel discussion about issues facing the energy industry, the state and electric cooperatives. Electric vehicles, particularly EV charging infrastructure, were at the center of discussions.

“Electric vehicle charging infrastructure funding is a key priority for us,” says Representative Jamie Long. Consumers must have confidence they can take a trip anywhere in the state without running out of battery. Range anxiety can be eased with widespread fast charging available across the state and electric cooperatives are obvious partners in ensuring adequate statewide charging infrastructure.

Issues important to Minnesota’s electric cooperatives include providing adequate funding to ensure high quality broadband throughout the state, maintaining the long-standing property tax exemption for attachments to cooperative distribution lines, and preventing the Department of Labor and Industry from requiring new permitting and inspection requirements.

ABOUT THE MINNESOTA RURAL ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

The Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) is a nonprofit trade association serving Minnesota’s electric cooperatives. MREA provides legislative and regulatory representation, director and employee education programs, technical training for electric cooperative line workers and serves as the focal point for cooperation among cooperatives. Minnesota’s 44 distribution cooperatives serve about 1.7 million Minnesotans in all 87 counties and operate the largest distribution network in the state with more than 135,000 miles of electric lines. ▶

2021 CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS INVALID ADDRESS LIST

Name	Address	Years in Service
Brent & Connie Carter	Petersburg ND	2005-2006
Peter Dahl	Chanhassen MN	2004-2016
Dennis Faber	Glyndon MN	2005-2009
Tom Lang	Eden Prairie MN	2003-2009
David Martin	Wahpeton ND	2004-2005
Kevin Olson	Fargo ND	2005-2010

Washington DC Youth Tour Winner



Wyatt Krueger, son of Holly and Gary Deutsch of Beardsley, MN was selected to attend the 2022 Washington DC Youth Tour in June 2022. Wyatt is a student at Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley High School in Graceville, MN. Congratulations Wyatt!



High School Scholarship Winners

\$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship



Amber Findlay was selected to receive a \$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship. Amber is the daughter of Gary and Rhonda Findlay of Herman, MN and is a senior at Wheaton Area High School, Wheaton, MN. Amber plans to attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and major in Pre-Law/Economics and minor in Mathematics, and then attend law school at the University of Minnesota Law School. She would like to become a Medical Malpractice Defense Attorney. Congratulations Amber!

\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship



Jordan Pistorius was selected to receive a \$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship. Jordan is the son of Scot and Justine Pistorius of Rosholt, SD and is a senior at Wheaton Area High School, Wheaton, MN. Jordan plans to attend Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown, SD for two years and major in welding and become a welder. Congratulations Jordan!

\$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship



Emily Berger was selected to receive a \$500 Traverse Electric Scholarship. Emily is the daughter of Chadd and Kelley Berger of Wheaton, MN. Emily is a senior at Wheaton Area High School, Wheaton, MN. Emily plans to attend North Dakota State University and major in Radiologic Sciences and after graduating obtain a job at Sanford Hospital as a radiographer before attending medical school to become a radiologist. Congratulations Emily!

Thank you to our members who registered and drove through for our 82nd Annual Meeting held on March 24, 2022 at Traverse Electric in Wheaton, MN. There were over 330 members registered for the meeting. Elected to serve a three year term on the board of directors at the annual meeting were: District 3: Michael Gaulrapp, District 6: Stacy Ehlers, and District 9: Terry Monson.



BOARD REPORT

February 2022 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The February regular board meeting was held on Friday, February 25, 2022 at 9 AM. Absent: None.

Staff members present were General Manager, Joel Janorschke and Karen Lupkes.

President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the January board meeting were approved.

The January check register was approved.

Diekmann, Marks, and Monson reported on the East River Energize Forum.

Discussed the East River & Basin video reports.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report.

Janorschke presented the Manager's Report, which included:

- ▶ Provided a Basin Electric update.
- ▶ Provided an East River update.
- ▶ REED Fund review.
- ▶ NRECA update.
- ▶ MREA and MN legislative update.
- ▶ SDREA and SD legislative update.

Lupkes gave the Office Manager's Report, which included:

- ▶ January 31, 2022 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- ▶ A list of new members was reviewed.
- ▶ COVID update.

- ▶ Newsletter is now inserted with electric bills.
- ▶ Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- ▶ East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the January 2022 Financial Report.

Janorschke gave the Operations Report. Items discussed included:

- ▶ Crews are doing pole changes, repairing light, and OCR maintenance.
- ▶ The plow is in for repairs and annual inspection.
- ▶ Annual DOT inspections are being done on all trucks.
- ▶ Reviewed our Safety Program.
- ▶ Outages were reviewed.

Discussed new facility planning process and the bidding phase.

Discussed the Class Cost of Service Study process.

Selected a youth delegate to attend the Washington DC Youth Tour in June 2022.

Selected scholarship recipients.

Approved an ERC loan for a generator and heat pump installation.

Discussed the district meetings and upcoming annual drive-thru meeting on March 24.

A list of upcoming meetings and attendees was reviewed.

Meeting adjourned. ▶

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Doug Diekmann, Beardsley, MN
 Secretary: Mark Pearson, Rosholt, SD
 Treasurer: Michael Marks, Norcross, MN
 Michael Gaulrapp, Breckenridge, MN
 Terry Monson, Veblen, SD
 Tom Frisch, Dumont, MN
 Matthew Glynn, Sisseton, SD
 Bradley Rudolph, Dumont, MN
 Stacy Ehlers, Wheaton, MN

OFFICE PERSONNEL

Joel Janorschke – General Manager
 Karen Lupkes – Office Manager
 Dale Schwagel – Operations Manager
 Melissa Przymus – Accountant
 Susan Wilts – Billing Clerk

OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

Richard Davis – Foreman
 Lonnie Tekrony – Journeyman Lineworker
 Joe Gahlon – Journeyman Lineworker
 Austin Reinke – Journeyman Lineworker
 Golden Helberg – Journeyman Lineworker
 Dennis Koch – Facility Technician
 Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician

GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

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 jjanorschke@traverseelectric.com

MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-9104
 Conner Bartz
 -Apprentice Electrician 320-287-0009

ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS MINNESOTA

Brandon Lennox 320-808-5309
 Big Stone County Grant County
 Stevens County Traverse County
 Rodney Schaffer 701-235-2840
 Wilkin County

NORTH DAKOTA

Mark Moderow 701-226-3779
 Richland County

SOUTH DAKOTA

Dan Urban 605-222-0143
 Marshall County Roberts County

**In case of a power outage, call
 (800) 927-5443**

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 P.O. Box 66

Wheaton, MN 56296 USA
 Toll-free phone: 800.927.5443
 Local phone: 320.563.8616

Hours of Operation

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Web site: www.traverseelectric.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Our Mission: To provide dependable service at the lowest possible rates, consistent with sound business principles.