TRAVERSE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



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### Mark Your Calendar

July 4 ..... Office Closed
July 15.... Electric Bills Due
July 25.... 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 May 1st and you will get a \$10 bill credit.

# watt matters



### We're Here to Serve You

MANAGER'S COLUMN

JEREMY HUHNSTOCK

General Manager

"We're here to serve you." We've all heard this phrase countless times. These words may sound generic, but to us – your local electric cooperative – they mean everything.

Traverse Electric Cooperative was created to serve our community. Back in the day, neighbors banded together and formed our co-op for the common good. In our case, it was the only way the community could bring electricity to the area where there was none. In doing so, TEC helped the community thrive. That mission-focused heritage is the golden thread that is woven throughout our history.

Today, we are continuing to power the community. While our focus has remained steady on providing reliable energy to our members, today's energy landscape and consumer expectations are far different than they were decades ago. That's why we're adapting, to keep pace with changing technology, evolving needs and new expectations.

Serving as your trusted energy advisor means we want to help you save energy (and money) and provide advice and information on a broad range of energy topics. For example, if you're looking for ways to save energy, check out www.traverseelectric.com for energy-saving tips and ideas to increase the energy efficiency of your home. Understanding how your home uses energy can help determine the best ways to modify energy use and thereby keep more money in your wallet.

If you're considering a rooftop solar installation, our electricians would be happy to give you an unbiased view of the pros and cons. Investing in a solar system is a major decision, and it's important to fully understand the costs, responsibilities and potential energy savings. Unlike a solar company that has one objective—to sell their products and services—we will look at the total energy picture and help you determine the best options for your home. We understand that homeowners must undertake their due diligence, and we're here to help you through that process.

In a similar vein, we recognize that many members are considering electric vehicle options. TEC provides information about EV charging and electrical requirements to our members so you can make informed decisions about EVs. No matter what our members drive, we want to help you achieve energy savings.

So, the next time you hear Traverse Electric Cooperative use the phrase "we're here to serve you," we hope you know that we mean it. Service is deeply ingrained into who we are. We continue to evolve with the times, and in return, we've found additional ways to serve you and provide more options for you to power your life.

We're here whenever you need us. Connect with us online, in person, or our social media channels. However you choose to connect, please let us know how we can serve you better.



## Water Heater Program

- Traverse Electric carries 50, 85, & 100 gallon Rheem Marathon Residential Water Heaters in stock
- Comes with a Lifetime Limited Warranty on tank for leaks for as long as you own it.
- Parts come with a 6 year warranty.
- Rebates and a \$4.00 monthly electric bill credit available to Traverse Electric members when placed under load control. Restrictions apply.

Call our office at 800-927-5443 for more information on rebates & load control.

## **MARATH°N**

HOT WATER FOR LIFE!





# DIRECTOR CANDIDATES WANTED

## DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR VACANCY NOTICE:

We are looking for members who reside in District 7 who are interested in serving on our board of directors to complete a three year term. To qualify you need to be a current member (electric account is in your name), and have your permanent residence in White Rock, Victor, or Harmon Townships in Roberts County, SD or live in Richland County, ND adjacent to and due north of White Rock Township.

If you are interested or would like more information on being a director please call our office at 800-927-5443 and ask for Jeremy.

North Dakota

DISTRICT 9

DISTRICT 6

DISTRICT 7

DISTRICT 6

DISTRICT 7

DISTRICT 7



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Summer is a prime opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. To reduce home energy use, avoid using your oven and use a grill instead. Not only will cooking outdoors eliminate the electricity used to power the stove, but it will also avoid raising the temperature inside your home, reducing the need for air conditioning or cooling.

You can also avoid using the oven with tasty no-bake recipes. Get creative in the kitchen (or the backyard) and find new ways to save energy!

Source: Dept. of Energy



## Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. **Electrician Services**

Installations • Repairs • Maintenance

- Agriculture
- Residential
- Commercial

Minnesota

Generator Installations





# May 2023 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The May regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 8 AM. Absent: None.

Staff members present were General Manager, Jeremy Huhnstock, Dale Schwagel, and Karen Lupkes.

President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the April regular board meeting were approved.

The April check register was approved. Discussed the East River and Basin video reports.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report.

Huhnstock presented the General 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:

- ▶ April 30, 2023 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- A list of new members was reviewed.
- Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- Annual audit in progress
- ▶ East River Capital Credit

Retirement received in May.

- ▶ Final FEMA reimbursement payment received from May 2022 storm damage.
- ▶ East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the April 2023 Financial Report.

Schwagel presented the Operations Report per written report. Items discussed included:

- Provided a crew update.
- Reviewed upcoming and completed projects.
- Discussed Digester Services.
- Reviewed our Safety Program.
   Substation Switchman Certification training held.
- Outages were reviewed.

Received an update on the new facility and construction progress.

Discussed the District 7 vacancy on the board. Will advertise in newsletter/ Facebook.

Selected the East River voting delegates Voted for CRC District 1 Board of Directors candidates.

Reviewed and accepted the 2022 Service Reliability Report.

Approved a revision to Policy 309.

Executive Session.

Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees.

Meeting adjourned.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

#### **OFFICE PERSONNEL**

Jeremy Huhnstock – General Manager Karen Lupkes – Office Manager Dale Schwagel – Operations Manager Melissa Przymus – Accountant Stacie Johannsen – Billing Clerk

#### **OPERATIONS PERSONNEL**

Richard Davis – Foreman Lonnie Tekrony – Journeyman Lineworker Joe Gahlon – Journeyman Lineworker Austin Reinke – Journeyman Lineworker Justin Lundblad – Apprentice Lineworker Isaac Callens – Apprentice Lineworker Tayden George – Apprentice Lineworker Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician

### GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Cell: 320-349-9901 | Direct: 320-563-1055

#### MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-910-Connor Bartz

### ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS MINNESOTA

Brandon Lennox
Big Stone County
Stevens County
Rodney Schaffer
Wilkin County

320-808-5309 Grant County Traverse County 701-235-2840

NORTH DAKOTA

Mark Moderow
Richland County

701-226-3779

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Dan Urban Marshall County

#2152

605-222-0143 herts County

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

1618 Broadway 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, 7 a.m. – 3:30 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.

### TEC May Financials

	May 2022	May 2023	YTD 2023
Total Revenue	. \$962,307.03	\$969,830.92	\$5,102,606.41
Cost of Power	. \$614,601.63	\$591,600.33	\$2,880,500.98
Total Cost of Service	. \$923,842.88	\$968,382.08	\$4,647,976.54
Operating Margins	. \$38,464.15	\$1,448.84	. \$454,629.87
Total Margins	. \$56,573.65	\$25,880.55	. \$564,429.33
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	10,129,344	9,869,768	. 55,543,201
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	9,663,019	9,424,187	. 52,919,050
Line Loss	5%	4%	4%