Kandiyohi Power Coop

MARCH 2023 - ISSUE 137 VOLUME 3

GET INVOLVED! JOIN US AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

One of my favorite events is coming up on April 25th, when Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will host our annual meeting for you, the members we proudly serve. I always look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for me and our employees to talk with our members and hear what's on their minds.

We hope you'll join us for the annual meeting, which will take place at Little Crow Event Center. For those who are unable to attend in person, we also offer a virtual option. Virtual information will be available soon, stay tuned! Whether you attend in person or online, we thank you in advance for getting involved because your participation means so much to us.

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our community's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community. As I'm sure you know, the energy industry is in the midst of massive change. Consumer needs and changing technology impact nearly every aspect of how we manage and deliver energy to local homes, schools and businesses.

As we navigate major changes in the coming years, we need to hear from you

and your neighbors to inform our planning as we strive to meet the long-term needs of all KPC members.

You have a say.

You may be wondering if your opinion really makes a difference, and yes, it does! Gaining guidance and perspective from our members and board helps set priorities for the co-op and guide future decisions. At our annual meeting, we raise issues for voting consideration by the general membership (that's everyone who pays for electric service from KPC).

Our board of directors is comprised of 9 members who live and work right here in our local service area, so they are in the best position to know where community investments are most needed. And by the way, we hope you'll consider running for the board in the future – we're always looking for folks who care about our community who would be willing to serve.

Your electric bill is an investment in our community. This local input means those closest to the community know its needs and priorities and help direct where co-ops dollars are spent. Every year, we invest funds to make updates to our local system, which helps maintain reliability and grid resilience. Think of it this way: every time



Ryan Nelson, CEO

you pay your electric bill, you're actually investing in your community because all the money we take in stays here in the local community. By making these investments in our local system, we can ensure you have reliable power for everyday life.

Most consumers likely don't equate active involvement with their electric company with helping their community. But KPC is not an ordinary utility company. We're a co-op, and our business model is meant to serve the members and the community in which it operates.

Our core purpose and mission are to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a co-op, we're also motivated by service to our community, rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting on April 25th. We look forward to seeing you!

MAKE YOUR ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATION NOW!

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative is holding their Annual Meeting April 25th at the Little Crow Event Center. The doors will open at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. sharp with brunch to follow. Due to limited space, we ask that you please RSVP NO LATER than April 14th if you plan on attending the Annual Meeting. Contact us at 1-800-551-4951 or by email to contactus@kpcoop.com.

We hope that you will be able to join us and take this opportunity to visit with your Board Directors and hear what is happening at your cooperative. As always, we will have a welcome gift and prize drawing.

HEAT PUMPS PROVE EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE IN COLD CLIMATES

If you are looking for ways to cut your heating and cooling costs, consider installing an energy-efficient air-source heat pump.

Heat pumps function as both an air conditioner and heater, and they use 72% less electricity than conventional air conditioners and furnaces by collecting and moving heat instead of generating it.

During the cooling season, heat pumps cool the air by pulling heat from the inside the conditioned space and pumping it outside. Alternatively, during the heating season, heat pumps pull heat from outside air — even when it's cold out — and pumps it inside.

Since heat pumps transfer heat rather than generate it, they are one of the most efficient means of cooling and heating your home.

While heat pumps are common in warmer climates, most people think these appliances will not work in places where temperatures drop below freezing — but that is no longer true.

When properly installed, many of today's cold-climate air-source heat pumps (ccASHPs) can keep your home warm even during the coldest months of the year and use far less energy than other types of heating systems.

The key feature in a ccASHP is a variable speed compressor, enabling a single heat pump to work efficiently and effectively. In addition, the variable-speed system holds a steadier temperature than a traditional single-speed heating or air-conditioning system.

There are both central-ducted systems and ductless systems of ccASHPs available. Central-ducted systems are designed and installed to meet the full heating and cooling needs of the home. Ductless systems deliver heat to a specific area of a home through a single interior head with no ductwork. In cold-climate applications, ccASHPs typically require a backup system to provide heat when cold outdoor air temperatures limit the heat pump capacity. Ducted systems typically use a propane/natural gas furnace as a backup. These backups take over the load of the system at an outdoor air temperature where the capacity of the heat pump is no longer sufficient. Homes with ductless systems typically rely on electric-resistance boards for backup heating.

Visit energywisemn.com/air-heat-pumps to learn more and watch an animated video about heat pumps.

Rebates from KPC as well as tax incentives may be available. Visit our

website at kpcoop.com/rebates-incentives to find rebates currently available and be sure to watch for special promotional offers beginning in May 2023.

The Inflation Reduction Act contains a tax credit of up to 30% of the cost for purchase and installation of a heat pump, up to \$2,000, is available.

Visit energystar.gov for eligible products and credit details.

In addition, there will be a new point-ofsale rebate for people earning up to 150% of area median income that will apply to heat pumps. The rebate has a \$14,000 cap. Visit energystar.gov/rebate-finder.



8605 47th Street NE Spicer, MN 56288-0040 Phone #: 800-551-4951 Fax #: 320-796-0620 www.kpcoop.com

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING of the KANDIYOHI POWER COOPERATIVE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will be held at Little Crow Gold Resort, 15980 MN-23, Spicer, Minnesota on Tuesday, April 25th, 2023. The Annual Business Meeting of the Members will be called to order at 9:00a.m. The following business will be transacted:

- 1) To hear, examine, and approve of the reports of the officers, directors, and committees.
- 2) To elect four (4) Directors for said Association for the ensuing term.
- 3) For the transaction of such other and further business as may lawfully be brought before the membership of the Association and as may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Association.

DATED: Spicer, Minnesota, February 27th, 2023

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Anderson, Chairman Stanley Wulsben, Secretary/Treasurer

LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY APRIL 10

Electric Lineworkers provide an essential service: They install and maintain overhead and underground power lines that keep electricity flowing. These specialized workers are on call 24/7 in case severe storms or other circumstances cause the power to go out.

Lineworkers work with high-voltage electricity, often at great heights, in all kinds of weather conditions. Maintaining the power grid is physically demanding. To become proficient, most Lineworkers go through a technical training program and first learn on the job as apprentices under the careful eye of seasoned Lineworkers who have earned journeyman status.

Electric power Lineworkers held approximately 126,600 jobs in 2021, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Nearly half of these employees worked for electric power generation, transmission and distribution utilities.

Safety comes first

Lineworkers spend numerous hours in safety training each year and must understand and apply crucial safety regulations.

Protective clothing is required to shield Lineworkers since they work around high voltages. Collectively, gear components can weigh up to 45 pounds.

According to the U.S. BLS, electric power Lineworkers typically:

- Install, maintain or repair the power lines that move electricity.
- Identify defective devices, voltage regulators, transformers and switches.
- Inspect and test power lines and auxiliary equipment.
- String (install) power lines between poles, towers and buildings.
- Climb poles and transmission towers and use truck-mounted buckets to access equipment.
- Operate power equipment when installing and repairing poles, towers and lines.
- Know and implement safety standards and procedures.

When a problem is reported, Lineworkers must identify the cause and fix it. This usually involves diagnostic testing using specialized equipment and repair work. To work on poles, they usually use bucket trucks to raise themselves to the top of the structure, although all Lineworkers must be adept at climbing poles and towers when necessary. Workers use specialized safety equipment to keep them from falling when climbing utility poles and towers.

Storms and other natural disasters can cause extensive damage to power lines. When power is lost, Lineworkers must work safely and efficiently to restore service. We salute our Lineworkers who work around the clock to keep the power on. Their safety, as well as yours, is our top priority.



BOARD MEETING SUMMARY February 27, 2023

The Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting. There were seven directors present in-person and two connected virtually. Chairman, Dale Anderson called the meeting to order.

Additions made to the agenda: None

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
- Staffing Update
- GRE Regional Meeting recap
- MREA Annual Meeting recap
- Brady Martz annual audit completed
- Member Services/Communications - Accepting Youth Tour applications
- CURE Survey Update
- Remit Plus program training in process
- Annual Cogeneration Filings and Report review; accepted by Board.
- Engineering Report
- Safety and services update
- Update on current projects
- Finance Report
- Annual audit completed.
- Tax forms for 2022 in process
- IS/Maintenance
- AMI system demo for Minn-Valley Co-op Light-Power
- Upgraded MB for backup purposes
- Secondary internet service provider in place
- Reviewed building maintenance projects
- **CRC Voting Delegates**

Policy Review

Upcoming Meetings & Conferences

REPAC/ACRE Memberships

Larry's retirement Gift

Resolution-Approval and Acceptance of Offer to Amend Power Purchase Contract

Great River Energy (GRE) Director's Report by Chair Anderson

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda
- January Minutes with revisions
- February write offs
- Upper limit sale price
- Lower limit sale price
- CRC Voting Delegates
- Approval of policies:
- 118 (Breach of Duty By Director) with revisions
- 119 (Electronic Devices- Handling and Disposal)
- 120 (Election and Term of Office Process) with revisions
- 201 (Check singing and Access to Safe Deposit Boxes)
- Approval of resolution to amend
- Power Purchase Contract - Larry's retirement check
- Adjourn meeting

Meeting Adjourned – Next regular board meeting is March 22, 2023



8605 47th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288 www.kpcoop.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am – 4pm Phone: 1-800-551-4951 Fax: 320-796-0620

Tom McCormick Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809

Drop boxes available for your convenience at Cash Wise and our headquarters building near flag pole.

Ryan Nelson, CEO	320-796-1160
Michele Scheffler,	
Member/Communications	320-796-0982
Brent Hatlestad,	
Line Superintendent	320-796-1163
Patrick Krueger, CFO	320-796-0991

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
Dale Anderson, Chair - 320-894-1687	1
Rollo Campe - 320-894-1601	1
Larry Powers - 320-212-7960	1
Dan Pomranke - 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post, VC - 320-212-1119	2
Stan Wubben, Secretary - 320-905-832	25 2
Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930	3
Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745	3
Robbert Stone - 320-894-8867	3

KILOWATT STAFF: Michele Scheffler, Editor



When your lights go out, so do we.

Call us if your power goes out even if you think your neighbors already did. Leave one light on so you know when power has been restored and make sure you have an emergency kit ready.

1-800-551-4951

The Cooperative will attempt to furnish continuous service but will not guarantee uninterrupted service.



INTERESTED IN COMMUNITY SOLAR?

With KPC's Community Solar, you can purchase solar power without installing equipment on your property and without worrying about maintaining the system.

Lock in your future price of power for a portion of your electric needs. Your monthly electric bill is reduced by the number of kWh's that the panel(s) produce, and the bill credits are priced at the current KPC retail rate. If KPC's rates rise, so do the solar bill credits.

You get all the benefits of owning solar panels, with none of the hassle! Choose as few as one, or as many panels as you need to power your entire home. Call us at 800-551-4951 for more information.

Get warned about water.



MONITORED WATER SENSORS ALERT YOU BEFORE A BACK-UP BECOMES A FLOOD.

As part of a monitored security system, get alerted about potential water issues such as a failing sump pump, drain back-up, or sewer back-up, before costly damage occurs.



SECURITY AUTOMATION VIDEO MEDICALALERTS 888.264.6380 heartlandss.com



February's \$25 Winner: Lynn Rudeen Enroll in our Auto Pay program to be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Save time and money! Must be on Auto Pay to be eligible to win. You can also select email as your only delivery option. You will then receive an email instead of a paper bill when your bill is ready for payment.