

KILOWATT



THANKFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

October was National Co-op Month, and Kandiyohi Power Cooperative joined cooperatives across the U.S. to celebrate. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, but they each have a common goal: to provide goods or services for the members of the co-op.

Electric co-ops, including Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, exist to serve their member-owners. Our priority is to provide affordable, reliable energy to our local communities. We are governed by you, the members we serve, and adapt to meet your needs.

As the calendar flips to November, we have many things to be thankful for here at KPC.

Thankful for Community: KPC helps our community grow by promoting economic empowerment, fostering community engagement and supporting the unique needs of co-op member-owners. “Concern for Community” is one of our core principles, and being community-focused is essential to everything we do.

Thankful to Grow Together: Co-ops are all about cooperation, not competition. That’s why electric co-ops work together to share lessons learned, successful strategies and better ways to serve our member-owners. We’re better when we grow together!

Thankful to Grow Tomorrow’s Leaders: Electric co-ops serve as fertile ground for growing tomorrow’s leaders through a variety of youth engagement programs. Whether through school demonstrations, community events or the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program, we’re committed to providing opportunities for local youth to learn and thrive in our community and beyond.

Thankful for You: At Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, your satisfaction is a top priority. It’s why we were formed many years ago to fulfill a uniquely local purpose. We’ve come a long way since then, and your needs continue to evolve. That’s why we’ll never stop working to serve you!



Ryan Nelson,
CEO



LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE



FIVE WAYS TO SAFEGUARD YOUR HOME THIS WINTER

As the temperatures drop and the days grow shorter, there's a natural inclination to create a warm and cozy haven at home. Unfortunately, as we see increased use of heating equipment, candles and electrical items, the number of home fires tends to increase during winter months.

Here are five ways you can safeguard your home for the winter season.

1. Ensure carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are working properly. If your detectors are battery-operated, replace the batteries annually. Test the detectors once a month and give them a good dusting to ensure the sensors are clear of dirt and debris.



2. Inspect electrical cords. We depend on more cords during winter, whether for holiday lighting, extension cords or portable heaters. Before using any corded items, double check to make sure cords aren't frayed or cracked. If you use portable space heaters, remember to keep them at least 3 feet away from flammable items. Use models that include an auto shut-off feature and overheat protection. Space heaters can take a toll on your energy bills. Use them efficiently (to heat smaller spaces) and safely. Never plug a space heater into a power strip. Speaking of power strips...



3. Avoid overloading electrical outlets and power strips. When overloaded with electrical items, outlets and power strips can overheat and catch fire. If you use power strips for multiple devices, make sure the strip can handle the electrical load. For a safer bet, look for power strips that include surge protection.

4. Clean the fireplace to improve safety and efficiency. There's nothing better than a warm fire on a chilly night, but it's important to maintain your fireplace for safety. As wood burns, a sticky substance known as creosote builds up in the chimney. When creosote buildup becomes too thick, a chimney fire can ignite. The chimney should be cleaned at least once a year to reduce fire risks. Regular cleaning also improves air flow and limits the amount of carbon monoxide that seeps indoors.

5. Practice safety in the kitchen. As we spend more time in the kitchen during the holiday season, be mindful of potential fire hazards. Never leave food that's cooking on the stovetop unattended. Clean and remove spilled foods from cooking surfaces and be mindful of where you place flammable items like dish towels.



Kandiyohi Power Cooperative wants you and your family to stay safe during the winter season. Visit www.kpcoop.com for additional safety tips.



WHY IS MY METER DISPLAY PANE FLASHING?

Sometimes you might see a flashing "888888" number appear on your meter's screen. Don't be alarmed! This simply means that your electricity meter is doing a routine check of its display pane.

Get warned about water

Adding monitored water sensors to your security system will alert you before a leak becomes a flood.



888.264.6380 • heartlandss.com
Security | Automation | Cameras | Medical Alerts



**October's
\$25 Auto Pay
Winner:
Jodi & Christopher
Dupre**

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.

Don't Become Electricity's **PATH TO GROUND**



When electric utility equipment becomes damaged, **the ground and objects can become energized.**

If you are in a situation where there could be downed power lines or a damaged pole, guy wire or padmount transformer (green box), **know what to do to save your life and the lives of others:**

CAR ACCIDENT

Stay inside your vehicle or cab since the ground or objects could be energized.

Call 9-1-1 and report that there are downed or damaged power lines or a dislodged green box.

Wait for the utility crew to arrive to deenergize the power.

Do not exit until someone from the utility says it is safe to do so.



ONLY EXIT IF THE VEHICLE IS ON FIRE

Cross your arms over your chest and **make a clean jump out.**

Do not touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time.

Make solid hops with your **feet together** as far away as you can.

Do not return to the vehicle.



IF YOU ARE A BYSTANDER

Do not approach the scene to try and help.

Stay at least 50 feet away and do not lean on or touch anything, including fences or guardrails.



LEARN MORE AT SAFELECTRICITY.ORG



BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

October 25, 2023

The Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting. There were nine directors present. Chairman, Dale Anderson called the meeting to order.

Additions made to the regular agenda:
None

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
 - IJJA Consortium, Topic 3: Innovative Regional Grid and New ERA Grant
 - Safety Day
 - Touchstone Business Center Owners Association
 - City of Spicer Electric Franchise Ordinance
 - Guatemala 2024
 - NRECA & RE Magazine
- Member Services/Communications
 - Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks process
 - ASHP Promotion Numbers breakdown
 - Visit from GRE Strategist
 - Energy Assistance applications are available, funds are not available yet
 - KPC Trunk & Treat
 - Insights and Analytics
 - Auto Pay Metrics
- Engineering Report
 - Safety and services update
 - Update on current projects
 - Safety Committee Updates
- Finance Report
 - Review of financials for September
 - 2024 budget preparation
 - Preliminary audit testing finished
 - Sales tax refund and audit update

Homestead Funds Presentation by Mark Edwards

KRTA Presentation (FYE '22) by CFC Representative, Amanda Seger

Pemberton Law Introduction of Chad Felstul

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

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda
- September Meeting Minutes
- October write-offs
- Hiring of Pemberton Law
- Adjourn meeting

Meeting Adjourned

Next regular board meeting is November 20, 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 - 320-905-8325	2
Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930	3
Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745	3
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3

KILOWATT STAFF:
Michele Scheffler, Editor

Equal opportunity provider and employer.



811 CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!!!
www.gopherstateonecall.org
1-800-252-1166



**24-HOUR
OUTAGE
NUMBER**

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.



SHARING SUCCESS PROGRAM SUPPORTS LOCAL ORGANIZATION

Kandyohi Power Cooperative partnered with CoBank in their Sharing Success charitable matching grant program. CoBank is a cooperative bank that delivers financial services to the U.S. rural economy in all 50 states.

CoBank's Sharing Success program matches qualifying contributions made by its members, such as Kandyohi Power Cooperative, to local non-profit and charitable organizations. Since Sharing Success was established in 2012, CoBank and its members have together contributed nearly \$76 million to groups such as volunteer fire departments, local schools and hunger relief programs. Through an application process with CoBank, Kandyohi County Family YMCA's Spicer Early Learning Center received matching funds from CoBank this year.

Matching contribution: \$5,000

Everything the YMCA does is in the service and spirit of building a better community. The matching contribution will be used to fund Creative Curriculum materials from Teaching Strategies. Kandyohi County Family YMCA accepts the donation from KPC. Pictured are Pam Fox and Jenny Holweger from the YMCA and Patrick Krueger and Ashley Veeder from KPC.

