

# KILOWATT



**KANDIYOHI POWER COOPERATIVE** will be closed on **April 10th, 2020** in celebration of **Good Friday.**

If you need assistance, please call **800-551-4951.**



4.13.2020

LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

**Thank You**

IT TAKES A TEAM TO  
POWER A COMMUNITY

## A PARTNER THAT CARES: SUSTAINABILITY AT GREAT RIVER ENERGY

As a cooperative, Great River Energy — Kandiyohi Power Cooperative's wholesale power provider — is deeply committed to sustainability through solid environmental policies and practices and helping to build strong communities.

Sustainability has been at the heart of the organization since it was formed in 1999. Great River Energy commits diverse resources to deliver on its promise to provide its member-owner cooperatives with affordable, reliable energy in harmony with a sustainable environment.

Great River Energy provides energy through a diverse portfolio of power supply resources and a dependable transmission system, all of which serve the region's energy market. Great River Energy committed to reaching 50% renewable energy by 2030. The cooperative is on schedule to reach that goal, with plans to sustain 30% renewable energy in 2020.

As a business model, cooperatives are designed to support their communities. Great River Energy employees embody this commitment to community principle. Employees regularly rally their peers to raise funds or dedicate time to important causes. Over time, that culture of community adds up to a meaningful and lasting impact.

Some examples of sustainability in action at Great River Energy:

- 2% of income donated to community causes
- Employee volunteerism through a dedicated Week of Service, Habitat for Humanity and more
- Nearly \$80,000 raised for nonprofits through the 2019 employee giving campaign
- Environmental management systems and ISO 14001 registration
- Food, book, supply and blood drives
- Economic development efforts in member-owner cooperative service territories
- Community-based sponsorships and contributions
- DryFining™, a lignite fuel enhancement process making coal cleaner and more efficient
- A culture of safety

*"We're deeply committed to sustainability,"* said Erik Heinen, Great River Energy's environmental and sustainability administrator. "More and more, individuals and companies are expecting that their power providers have a clear commitment to the environment, the communities they live in and serve, and their employees. We want to continue to provide Kandiyohi Power Cooperative's end-use consumer, commercial and industrial members with affordable, reliable power in a sustainable manner."

Great River Energy has delivered on its commitment to sustainability for more than 20 years and will continue to do so for the benefit of its member-owner cooperatives and the communities they serve.

*Great River Energy employees strive to provide member-owner cooperatives, and their members, with safe, reliable and affordable energy with concern for community and environmental stewardship for current and future generations.*



## RIGHT ON: WHAT IS RIGHT-OF-WAY?

What is right-of-way and why is it necessary?

A right-of-way, when it comes to utilities, is an agreement that allows a utility to use or access a piece of property according to the terms of the easement.

Easements are areas designated for overhead and underground utility access, and are usually defined when a lot or neighborhood is first platted. Easements are implemented because it is more efficient and less expensive to run utility lines straight through neighborhoods than it is to run them around parcels of land.

Having right-of-way means that utilities can access the area to fix a utility-related problem or to perform maintenance.

Easements outline general property rights by others while right-of-way (as its name implies) is a specific property right.

Workers who service utility lines should arrive in a marked vehicle and have proper identification. If you have any concerns, please call us at 800-551-4951.

*According to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's frequently asked questions:*

*Q: Who decides whether an electric utility can cut down a tree near a power line?*

*A: The choice of how to trim trees and manage vegetation growth near a power line is primarily made by the electric utility, subject to state and local requirements and laws, applicable safety codes, and any limitations or obligations specified in rights-of-way agreements.*

*Q: The power lines near my house don't seem to be anywhere near the trees. So why is the electric utility trimming my trees anyway?*

*A: There are two reasons for this. First, electric utilities are required to maintain the appropriate clearance between trees and transmission lines at all times. For example, in the summer, power lines sag as they expand, due to air temperature and heavy use. Clearances around the lines must account for this, as well as wind, which causes the lines to sway. So on a cool, still day, it may appear that there is ample, or even excessive, clearance that is needed for hot or windy day. Second, electric utilities usually prune or remove vegetation to a distance greater than the minimum clearances to account for future growth, movement of trees or power lines due to wind, conductor sag due to heat and line loading, and other factors.*

*Q: But the trees are in my yard. Why can't I stop the utility from cutting down or trimming my trees?*

*A: An electric utility is granted an easement or a right-of-way on private property in order to build and maintain electric power lines. The terms of a utility right-of-way, defining the rights of the parties for building and maintaining electric lines, are specified in rights-of-way agreements, (and) these agreements are usually attached to a property deed.*

## COMMUNITY ROOM

*"Thank you so much to everyone who had a part in making my Dad's wedding possible at the Co-op. Even though the weather was less than perfect the wedding was wonderful. A special thanks for allowing me to bring things in early. And Thank You Loel for helping me get in the garage & carrying supplies. The friendly staff made this special occasion a true joy."*

*Sincerely, Kathy Wersinger*



Did you know that we be able to offer our community room for rent by cooperative members and local organizations? The cost to rent is \$50 per day. There are tables, chairs and a furnished kitchen available for your convenience. The room size is approximately 32 feet by 34 feet. To inquire about the Community Room, please contact Robin at 800-551-4951 or visit [www.kpcoop.com/community-room](http://www.kpcoop.com/community-room).

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### GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE APRIL 1, 2020

To be considered at the April 2020 meeting, grant applications must be received by April 1, 2020.

Grant applications are available at the KPC office or by visiting our website [www.kpcoop.com/operation-round](http://www.kpcoop.com/operation-round).

### KILOWATT CREDIT SCORECARD

Win a credit on your next bill.

Account numbers used are 9 digits, as appearing on your monthly bill. If you find your account number in this KILOWATT, please notify us by the 4th to claim your credit.

We will credit your bill. Do not deduct the amount from your bill; pay as usual. Harley Wiedeman found his account number for the \$5 credit. Each account number is worth \$5.00.

# BOARD OF DIRECTOR FILING FOR 2020

The period for filing for election to the Board of Directors closed on February 24th, 2020. Filings were received for the following seats which are up for election:

**District #1** – Larry Powers (Incumbent)    **District #2** – Dan Pomranke (Incumbent)

**District #3** – David Streich (Nominee) and Robbert Stone (Incumbent)

Article IV, Section 4.2 states “In the event that there is only one candidate for election to a Director position, either through filing or by nomination, the single candidate shall be deemed elected by acclamations an unopposed candidate and no voting shall be required for such an uncontested Director election.”

The only voting will be for KPC Members in District #3 because there are two candidates running for election.

*The Power of Human Connections*



**Kandiyohi Power Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

8605 47<sup>th</sup> Street NE  
Spicer, MN 56288-0040  
Phone #: 800-551-4951  
Fax #: 320-796-0620 \* [www.kpcoop.com](http://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 (KPC) will be held at the Little Crow Event Center, 15980 Hwy 23 NE, Spicer, Minnesota on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. The Annual Business Meeting of the Members will be called to order at 9:00 a.m. The following business will be transacted:

- 1) To hear, examine and approve the reports of the officers, directors, and committees.
- 2) To elect three (3) 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, 2020

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Anderson, Chair

Stanley Wubben, Secretary

## MEMBER REMINDER:

### RSVP TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

We are holding our Annual Meeting on April 21st, 2020 at the Little Crow Event Center. The doors open at 8:30 am with the meeting beginning at 9:00 am sharp, brunch to follow. Due to limited space, we ask that you RSVP no later than April 13th if you plan to attend the annual meeting. RSVP by calling 800-551-4951 or by email to [rryks@kpcoop.com](mailto:rryks@kpcoop.com). We hope that you will be able to join us and take this opportunity to visit with your Board of Directors to hear what is happening at your cooperative. As always, we will have a gift.



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[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE)

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# Kandiyohi Power Cooperative

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 headquarters building near flag pole.

### MANAGEMENT STAFF

Steph Jakel, Interim CFO  
Diane Maurice, Member Services  
Michele Scheffler, Communications/HR  
Ryan Nelson, Engineering  
Scott Luberts, Line Superintendent

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dale Anderson, Chair- 320-894-1687	1
Rollo Campe- 320-894-1601	1
Larry Powers- 320-212-7960	1
Dan Pomranke, VC- 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post- 320-212-1119	2
Stan Wubben, Secretary- 320-905-8325	2
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3
Diane Helgeson- 320-220-3745	3
Robbert Stone- 320-894-8867	3

### KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

**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**

# DON'T WADE

## in the water



In the U.S., **floods kill more people** each year than tornadoes, hurricanes or lightning.

*National Severe Storms Laboratory*

## WHEN FLOODS ARE FORECAST

Have an **evacuation plan** in place for family... and pets too.

Gather an **emergency kit** complete with water, food and medications.

Before evacuating, **turn off** power at the main service panel and **disconnect** electrical appliances.

## INSIDE

## AFTER A FLOOD

Never enter a flooded basement; the water could be energized.  
Do not use appliances, electronics or other devices that are wet.  
After waters subside, have an electrician check your home.

## OUTSIDE

Assume all downed lines are energized and could be deadly.  
Live, downed lines can be lurking under debris or water.  
When cleaning up, look up for power lines when using ladders.



### FLOOD FACT:

More U.S. homes are damaged by flooding than any other type of natural disaster (FEMA).

Learn more at

