



The Power of Preparation

Joel Janorschke
General Manager

this issue

pole top rescue
training/rebates p2

the power of
preparation cont. p3

board report p4



Mark Your Calendar

August 15 Electric Bill Due

August 30 Board Meeting

September 5 Closed
Labor Day



Find Your Account Number & Win!

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

We have not found a winner yet for last month's newsletter.

With severe weather events occurring more frequently, now more than ever, it makes sense to be prepared. During a prolonged power outage or other emergency, this means having enough food, water and supplies to last at least a few days.

In honor of National Preparedness Month in September, I want to remind members of our community about the power of preparation. While you don't have to achieve a "doomsday prepper" level of preparedness, there are several practical steps you can take to keep you and your family safe.

Even at a modest level, preparation can help reduce stress, anxiety and lessen the impact of an emergency event. We recommend starting with the basics.

Here are general guidelines recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- ▮ Assemble a grab-and-go disaster kit. Include items like nonperishable food, water (one gallon per person, per day), diapers, batteries, flashlights, prescription medications, first-aid kit, battery-powered radio and phone chargers.
- ▮ Develop a plan for communicating with family and friends (i.e., via text, social media, third party, etc.).
- ▮ Have some extra cash available; during a power outage, electronic card readers and cash machines may not work.

- ▮ Store important documents (birth certificates, property deed, etc.) in safe place away from home (for example, a bank safe deposit box).
- ▮ Keep neighbors and coworkers apprised of your emergency plans.
- ▮ Fill your car with gas.
- ▮ Organize your supplies so they are together in an easily accessible location that family members know about.

Caring for vulnerable family members

If you have older family members or those with special needs, make sure they have enough medication and supplies for a few days. If they don't live with you, arrange for a neighbor to check in on them. If a severe weather event is expected, consider having your relative stay with you if feasible, otherwise call them daily. If you have an infant or young children, make certain that you have ample formula, diapers, medication and other supplies on hand to weather an outage lasting several days or more.

Keeping four-legged family members safe

For families with pets, having a plan in place in the event of a prolonged outage or an emergency will help reduce worry and stress especially if you need to make a decision during an emergency.

- ▮ Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm or other emergency. Pets can become disoriented and

Pole Top Rescue Safety Training



Shawn Marthaler from MREA was at TEC doing pole top rescue safety with our linemen. Our crews need to be prepared to take action in case of an emergency out in the field. Joe Gahlon and Tony Bruns are shown first working on a pole top rescue and next is an “injured” Colden Helberg in the bucket being rescued by Justin Lundblad.



Replacing your old appliances?

We have rebates available for Energy Star® Rated refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, and clothes washers and dryers:

Refrigerator: **\$50**

Freezer: **\$50**

Dishwasher: **\$25**

Clothes washer/dryer: **\$25**



*Must be an
Energy Star®
appliance to qualify.*

Other Rebates available:

- ▶ Lifetime warranty electric water heaters
- ▶ Heat Pumps
- ▶ Ductless heat pumps
- ▶ Commercial upgrades to LED lighting



Go to our website at www.traverseelectric.com for rebate information or call our office at **800-927-5443** for more information on our rebates and qualifications.

Facility Update

Dirt Work began for our new facility on July 12 and was completed on July 19. The black dirt was removed and the area where the new facility will be built back up. The next step in the construction process is laying fabric and gravel.

#2407



ENERGY SAVING TIPS

- Use cold water to wash your clothes.
- Run full loads of laundry instead of several smaller ones.
- When drying clothes, include a dry towel the first 20 minutes.

 Safe Electricity.org®

Preparation...continued

frightened during severe weather and may wander off during an emergency.

- ▶ Microchip your pet and ensure the contact information is up to date.
- ▶ Store pet medical records on a USB drive or in an easy-to-remember location.
- ▶ Create an emergency kit for pets (include shelf-safe food, bottled water, medications and other supplies).

At Traverse Electric, we care about your safety. Planning for an emergency situation today can give you more confidence to deal with severe weather and potential outages in the future. ▶

June 2022 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The June regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 8 AM. Absent: None.

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

President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the May regular board meeting and June 6, 2022 special meeting were approved.

The May check register was approved.

Accepted the YE 2021 and 3/31/22

Independent Audit Report by Clifton Larson Allen.

Reviewed Class Cost of Service Study results and rate recommendations.

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:

- May 31, 2022 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- A list of new members was reviewed.
- Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- Reported on RUS loan funds drawn down.
- Received capital credits from East River.
- 2021 SD generation tax paid to Roberts and Marshall Counties.
- Recapped May 12th storm damage

costs and potential for FEMA reimbursement.

- East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the May 2022 Financial Report.

Schwagel gave the Operations Report. Items discussed included:

- Plan to replace electronic reclosers in the Graceville sub.
- Widespread storms have caused material shortages and longer lead times.
- Material needed for a digester ordered.
- Increase in requests for new services for tile pumps and services on the lakes.
- Reviewed projects completed and in progress.
- Carr's Tree Service will begin tree trimming in September in our NE MN service areas.
- Urd cabinet inspection will begin soon.
- Reviewed our Safety Program.
- Outages were reviewed.

Annexation by the City of Wheaton for the new facility is approved. Dirt work will begin as soon as permits are received.

Signed RUS loan application documents.

Passed resolution for application for line of credit from CFC.

Discussed Policy 109

Revised Policy 303 and 307

Adopted Policy 315

Elected Cyber Security insurance coverage with Federated Rural Electric Insurance.

Selected East River Annual Meeting voting delegates

Selected NRECA voting delegate.

Reviewed possible mission statements.

Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees.

Meeting adjourned. •

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Doug Diekmann, Beardsley, MN

Vice-President: Tom Frisch, Dumont, MN

Secretary: Mark Pearson, Rosholt, SD

Treasurer: Michael Marks, Norcross, MN

Michael Gaulrapp, Breckenridge, MN

Terry Monson, Veblen, SD

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

Tony Bruns - Apprentice Lineworker

Justin Lundblad - Apprentice Lineworker

Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician

GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Joel Janorschke

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MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

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Connor 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

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 June Financials

	June 2021	June 2022	YTD 2022
Total Revenue	\$938,246.41	\$978,469.00	\$6,268,056.31
Cost of Power	\$625,730.24	\$641,887.21	\$3,667,334.07
Total Cost of Service	\$942,276.29	\$956,449.70	\$5,629,791.32
Operating Margins	\$(4,029.88)	\$22,019.30	\$638,264.99
Total Margins	\$(2,250.33)	\$41,751.00	\$673,101.65
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	9,781,227	10,056,590	69,173,409
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	9,254,646	9,603,490	66,039,461
Line Loss	5%	4%	4%