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Mark Your Calendar

April 15 Electric bills due

April 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**.



General Manager Introduction

MANAGER'S COLUMN

JEREMY HUHNSTOCK

General Manager

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Board of Directors for this opportunity. I am honored to be selected as the General Manager of Traverse Electric Cooperative. I would also like to thank Dale Schwagel for his leadership and dedication to Traverse Electric while serving as interim General Manager.

As the new General Manager of Traverse Electric Cooperative, I would like to share some background information about myself. I have ten years of experience working for electric cooperatives and its members.

My electric cooperative background consists of working as a GIS Analyst, before moving into a member service role as Key Accounts Coordinator. As Keys Accounts Coordinator, I was the main contact for the farm/irrigation, commercial, DER, and EV members. This position worked directly with the members and provided me the opportunity to enjoy getting to the know members, not only on a cooperative level, but on a personal level. I would like to carry that on with the membership at Traverse Electric.

In my personal life, I have an amazing wife, Sara, who is a school psychologist. She has accepted a job with the Fergus Falls Area Special Education Cooperative, where she was placed in the Breckenridge and

Campbell school districts. In our spare time we love to golf, hunt, fish, and any other outdoor recreational activity with our dogs.

I look forward to meeting you and working for Traverse Electric Cooperative. ▶

Welcome Stacie!



We would like to introduce our new billing clerk, Stacie Johannsen. She started with us on February 23rd and will be taking over for Sue upon her retirement.

Stacie grew up in Wheaton and went to MSU in Moorhead. She and her husband, Mickey, have 2 adult sons. In her free time, Stacie likes to read, spend time with family and be at the lake. She looks forward to meeting the members and being a part of the Traverse Electric community. ▶

Grassroots Efforts Help Improve 100% Carbon-Free Bill

RYAN JOHNSON, MREA Blog, February 8, 2023

At Minnesota’s electric cooperatives, our priority is to provide sustainable, reliable, and affordable electricity. With that goal in mind, I want to provide an update on significant legislation that Governor Walz signed into law on Tuesday.

The legislation calls for Minnesota’s electric sector to be 100% Carbon Free by 2040. While Minnesota’s rural electric cooperatives had significant reservations with the original bill, we are pleased to report that the final package is better than what was first proposed, despite our continued concerns about affordability and reliability.

Our grassroots efforts were successful in getting legislators from both sides of the aisle to work with us to add amendments that addressed some of our major concerns. Thank you to everyone who reached out to

your legislators and made your voice heard. It made a difference!

Minnesota’s electric cooperatives have long been working and planning toward a sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy future. As part of that effort, we remain determined to do everything possible to ensure that the heat will be on in the dead of winter and the AC available in the dog days of summer. Furthermore, we want the electricity we provide to always be affordable for your family while being good stewards of our planet.

The Minnesota Rural Electric Association successfully secured changes to the legislation that will provide more flexibility in implementing its mandates. As one example, we sought and obtained language providing greater flexibility in the use of renewable energy credits (RECs) as an option to comply with the carbon reduction mandates. We also received a reduction in the bill’s steep timeline, allowing co-ops to reach 60% carbon-free generation by 2030, rather than 80%. All utilities will still need to be 100% carbon-free by 2040. However, the legislation contains “off-ramps” that allow utilities to ask the Public Utilities Commission to modify the legislation’s requirements if needed to protect reliability or affordability.

There were other adjustments Minnesota’s rural electric providers advocated for to improve reliability and affordability that did not make it into the final bill, but we remain hopeful that additional concerns can be addressed in the future.

In the end, we want you to know that your electric cooperatives are working to provide an environmentally friendly energy future while keeping the reliability and affordability you expect. We ask that you stay engaged as more legislation moves through the process and can sign up for alerts at <https://voicesforcooperativepower.com/minnesota/>.

2022 CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS INVALID ADDRESS LIST

Name	Address	Yrs in Service
Darren & Stephanie Ammons	Tintah MN	2007-2010
Richard Blanchard	Morris MN	2006-2008
Peter J Dahl	Chanhassen MN	2004-2016
Danny Farmer	Anderson TX	2006-2012
Heart O'Lakes Realty	Frazee MN	2006-2007
Jobeth Heminger	Claire City SD	2007
James Hennen	Wheaton MN	2016-2018
Evert A Johnson	Lidgerwood ND	2006-2020
Vanessa Lafromboise	Browns Valley MN	2006-2010
Duncan McClellan	St Cloud MN	2006-2009
Bernard Ohnstad	Argusville ND	2005-2006
Earl Philippi	Clitheral MN	2004-2009
Brian Renville Estate	Sisseton SD	2005-2007
Barb Rettig	Fairmount ND	2002-2010
RLD Enterprises - Dick Dillon	Paynesville MN	2007-2013
Duane Sanow	Montevideo MN	2004-2009
Sara Sauer	Sartell MN	2007
Jeffrey G Shepherd	Rosholt SD	1990-2021
Colleen Sparby-Davis	Scottsdale AZ	2006-2011
Arnold Timm	Shawnee OK	2002-2012
Garth & Jeannie Whiddon	Webster SD	2003-2020
Oleta A Willis	Bryant SD	2007-2008
Robert Wulfekuhle	Henning MN	1999-2014
Theresa Yares	Minneapolis MN	2006-2011

January 2023 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The January regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 9 AM. Absent: None.

Staff members present were Interim General Manager Dale Schwagel and Karen Lupkes.

President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the December regular board meeting were approved.

The December check register was approved.

Glynn, Monson, and Pearson reported on the SDREA Annual Meeting.

Discussed the East River and Basin video reports.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report.

Schwagel 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:

- ▶ December 31, 2022 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- ▶ A list of new members was reviewed.
- ▶ Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- ▶ Discussed Basin and East River capital credit allocations for 2022.
- ▶ Reported on the sale of RECs in the Basin Marketing Pool.
- ▶ Reviewed December heating kwhs sales and 2022 kwhs sales and revenue.
- ▶ East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the December 2022 Financial Report.

Schwagel gave the Operations Report. Items discussed included:

- ▶ Provided a crew update.
- ▶ Reviewed upcoming and completed projects.
- ▶ Crews have been moving snow, doing pole changes, OCR maintenance, and line patrol.
- ▶ Discussed a requested load and transformer size request for a digester service.

- ▶ Discussed needs to bury cable to digester services.
- ▶ Reported that the EZ Spotter and F-350 have been ordered.
- ▶ Tree trimming and pole inspection contracts for 2023 have been signed.
- ▶ Reviewed our Safety Program.
- ▶ Outages were reviewed.

Received an update on the new facility and construction progress.

Discussed status of our RUS loan and interest rates.

Selected Monson to be our NRECA voting delegate.

Discussed our annual meeting on March 23, 2023 at the Wheaton High School with registration at 6 PM and business meeting at 6:30 PM.

Discussed recent district meetings held and District 7 director nominations.

Approved offering the General Manager position to Jeremy Huhnstock.

Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees.

Meeting adjourned. ▶

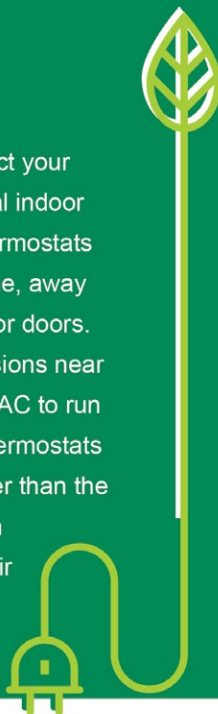
ANNUAL COGENERATION NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERSHIP

In compliance with Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers, whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements.

All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board. Interested members should contact Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 66, Wheaton, MN 56296 or call 800-927-5443. ▶

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The location of your thermostat can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. For maximum accuracy, thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that tend to feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home. Do not place furniture in front of the thermostat, which can block air flow and result in inaccurate readings.



February 2023 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The February regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 9 AM. Absent: None.

Staff members present were Interim General Manager Dale Schwagel and Karen Lupkes. Also present was Jeremy Huhnstock.

President Diekmann called the meeting to order.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the January regular board meeting were approved.

The January check register was approved.

Gaulrapp, Monson, and Marks reported on the East River Energize Forum.

Frisch and Marks reported on the MREA Annual Meeting.

Discussed the East River and Basin video reports.

Diekmann gave an East River Board Report.

Schwagel 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:

- ▶ January 31, 2023 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- ▶ A list of new members was reviewed.
- ▶ Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- ▶ Provided an RUS financing update.
- ▶ Stacie Johannsen began on Feb 23 as our new billing clerk to replace Sue Wilts who will retire later this year.

- ▶ Reported that we received a Margin Stabilization Return on our January power bills.

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

Reviewed and approved the January 2023 Financial Report.

Schwagel gave the Operations Report. Items discussed included:

- ▶ Provided a crew update.
- ▶ Reviewed upcoming and completed projects.
- ▶ Crews have been doing pole changes.
- ▶ Reported on a planned new hog facility east of Wheaton.
- ▶ Reviewed a project for the Bois Des Sioux Watershed District.
- ▶ Gave a GRIP Grant application update.
- ▶ Reviewed our Safety Program.
- ▶ Outages were reviewed.

Received an update on the new facility and construction progress.

Discussed the status of our RUS loan, interest rates, and process to advance funds.

Discussed the District 7 vacancy on the board.

Our annual meeting will be held on March 23, 2023 at the Wheaton High School with registration at 6 PM and business meeting at 6:30 PM.

Selected scholarship recipients.

Selected our 2023 Washington DC Youth Tour Delegate.

Approved a revision to Policy 300.

Reviewed upcoming meetings and attendees.

Meeting adjourned. ▶

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Doug Diekmann, Beardsley, MN

Vice-President: Tom Frisch, Dumont, MN

Secretary:

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

Jeremy Huhnstock – General Manager

Karen Lupkes – Office Manager

Dale Schwagel – Operations Manager

Melissa Przymus – Accountant

Susan Wilts – Billing Clerk

Stacie Johannsen – Billing Clerk

OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

Richard Davis – Foreman

Lonnie Tekrony – Journeyman Lineworker

Joe Gahlon – Journeyman Lineworker

Austin Reinke – Journeyman Lineworker

Colden Helberg – Journeyman Lineworker

Justin Lundblad – Apprentice Lineworker

Chris Falk – Facility/Staking Technician

GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Jeremy Huhnstock

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

jhuhnstock@traverseelectric.com

MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-9104

Connor Bartz
– Journeyman 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 February Financials

	Feb. 2022	Feb. 2023	YTD 2023
Total Revenue	\$1,090,332.87	\$1,011,188.15	\$2,105,220.41
Cost of Power	\$675,980.67	\$640,466.23	\$1,086,327.28
Total Cost of Service	\$1,009,926.79	\$992,552.98	\$1,744,971.54
Operating Margins	\$80,406.08	\$18,635.17	\$360,248.87
Total Margins	\$78,571.08	\$18,713.64	\$355,189.80
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	12,130,916	11,175,481	23,503,357
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	11,603,202	10,687,144	22,367,225
Line Loss	4%	4%	4%