



## this issue

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## Energy Saving Tip

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy



## Mark Your Calendar

Mar. 15 .....Electric Bills Due  
Mar. 23 .....Annual Meeting  
Mar. 28 .....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 April 1st and you will get a \$10 bill credit.



## 2022 in Review

### Traverse Electric Cooperative Annual Report from the President and Interim General Manager

Doug Diekmann  
President

Dale Schwagel  
Interim General Manager



It is our pleasure to welcome everyone to Traverse Electric's 83rd Annual Meeting on behalf of the board of directors and your co-op employees. This is the first time since March 2019 that we have been able to meet in person. For the past three years our annual meetings have been held in a drive-thru format due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions. Although many of you appreciated the ability to register for the meeting, vote for directors, receive information, and receive your registration gifts without ever leaving your car, your board of directors feel it is in the best interest of the cooperative to resume in person business meetings to allow for more information to be shared with all of you.

One thing that is different from our annual meetings held in the past is that this year members coming to the annual meeting will not receive a catered meal. Instead, members who register for the meeting and stay for the business meeting in addition to being able to win door prize drawings, will also receive a \$30 food voucher that can be used at many area participating businesses that are printed on the back of the voucher anytime until the end of 2023. Although we encourage everyone to use their \$30 vouchers at our area restaurants, vouchers can also be turned into Traverse Electric's office for a \$15 electric bill credit. #2664

In 2022, we ended the year with \$12,181,690.76 on operating revenue and 130,324,633 kWh sales. In addition, we ended the year with an operating margin of \$805,437.89 and total margins of \$1,948,350.37. We also deferred \$400,000 in revenue from 2022 to 2023 to help offset expenses related to increased costs of material and equipment. We returned to our members who earned capital credits in 2006 and 2007 and to estates in 2022, \$600,000. This brings the total to just over \$10.7 million in capital credits retired that we have returned to our members.

In 2022 we saw continued growth with line crews installing new services for new homes, grain dryers, and tile pumps. We also continued to work on the reliability of our system by continuing our maintenance programs that include pole testing, overhead line inspection, OCR maintenance, tree trimming, and underground cabinet inspections. 2022 also brought severe summer storms. We did incur over \$139,000 in outage expenses relating to the May 12th storm that hit most of our MN territory. We were fortunate that FEMA will reimburse us about \$107,000 of those costs.

We began construction of our new facility in July 2022 and expect it to be complete and ready to move into in June 2023. The new facility includes a new office/warehouse directly west of our current facility. The new space will assist with efficiencies. Once we are moved into our new facility we will hold an open house so all of our members can have a tour.

Also in 2022, Joel Janorschke, who served as General Manager from January 2018 to October 2022, left Traverse Electric to become the CEO at Cooperative Light and Power in Two Harbors, MN. Your board of directors conducted a general manager search and selected Jeremy Huhnstock as your new general manager who will begin his career at Traverse Electric on March 6. We would like to welcome him to our community and cooperative.

In closing, we would like to thank our members for your continued patronage this past year. We appreciate the opportunity to serve as your board president and general manager. We would also like to thank the employees for their service and continued dedication to the cooperative.

At your service,

President Diekmann &  
Interim General Manager Schwagel

# Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting | March 23, 2023 6:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING ONLY

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Wheaton High School, 1700 3rd Ave S., Wheaton, MN 56296

Notice is hereby given that the annual membership meeting of Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at the Wheaton High School with a business meeting only (no catered meal) at 6:30 PM. Members will register, receive a registration gift, and will also receive a \$30 food voucher immediately following the business meeting that can be used at area participating restaurants or it can be redeemed for a \$15 electric bill credit. We encourage you to use them to support our area restaurants that are printed on the back of the voucher.

This year Districts 1, 4, & 7 have director seats up for election for a three year term. Registered members of those districts will receive a ballot to vote for their director if there is more than one candidate seeking election. Voting will take place during the meeting. You are a member of Traverse

Electric if you are currently receiving electric service from Traverse Electric, and the electric account is in your name.

The General Manager's Report, reviewing the operations of your cooperative in 2022 and other pertinent information will be given at the meeting.

After the meeting, names will be drawn from registered members in attendance for bill credits and prizes. All members departing the business meeting will receive a \$30 food voucher (limit one per membership).

Here are the candidates running for election in each of the districts:

**District 1**

Tom Frisch

**District 4**

Doug Diekmann

**District 7**

Vacant

Annual meeting agenda on page 4

## Annual Meeting Door Prize Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ Please print your name as it appears on your electric bill.
- ▶ Clip and bring this ticket with you to the meeting when you register.
- ▶ One registration ticket per member.

## 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. Minutes, March 24, 2022

The eighty-second annual meeting of Traverse Electric Cooperative was held at the office of Traverse Electric, 1618 Broadway, Wheaton, Minnesota on Thursday, March 24, 2022 as a drive-thru meeting. Registration was held from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM. There were 313 members registered.

General Manager, Joel Janorschke, welcomed members to their annual meeting via Facebook and provided the President's and General Manager's Report to the membership.

Members registered in their vehicles outside the office building where they were given a ballot for director elections if they were a member of District 6 with two candidates on the ballot. Incumbents for Districts 3 and 9 were unopposed so were automatically elected for another term. Members registering for the meeting received a gift and a \$30 food voucher for area participating restaurants or to be used as a \$15 electric bill credit.

District 6 members were given ballots to vote for a director. The following candidates were seeking election:

- District 3 Michael Gaulrapp
- District 6 Russel Armstrong, Stacy Ehlers
- District 9 Terry Monson

After registration and voting ended at 6:00 p.m., the tellers counted the votes from District 6.

The results of the director elections are as follows:

- District 3: Michael Gaulrapp, re-elected running unopposed
- District 6: Stacy Ehlers, was elected with 40 votes
- District 9: Terry Monson, re-elected running unopposed

Meeting adjourned.

A drawing for bill credits was held the next day. Winners were announced on Facebook and in the next issue of Traverse Electric's monthly newsletter, *watt matters*.

# Balance Sheet

December 31, 2022

## What We Have

Assets and Other Debits		
Utility Plant		
Utility Plant in Service	\$28,398,627	
Construction Work in Progress	<u>\$6,030,665</u>	
Total Utility in Plant		\$34,429,292
Less: Reserve for Depreciation	<u>\$11,581,193</u>	
Utility Plant Less Reserve for Depreciation		\$22,848,099
Other Property & Investments		
Non-Utility Property - Net	\$411,839	
Capital Credits-East River, Basin & CFC	\$7,287,980	
Investments in associated Enterprises	\$412,331	
Temporary Investments	\$2,914,988	
Other Special Funds	<u>\$400,000</u>	
Total Other Property & Investments		\$11,427,138
Current Assets and Deferred Charges:		
Special Deposits	\$0	
Accounts Receivable	\$1,059,260	
Prepayments/Materials and Supplies	\$972,025	
Interest Receivable	\$1,881	
Deferred Debits	<u>\$10,841</u>	
Total Current Assets and Deferred Debits		<u>\$2,044,007</u>
Total Assets and Other Debits		<u><u>\$36,319,244</u></u>

## What We Owe

Liabilities and Deferred Credits		
Long-Term Obligations to REA	\$15,892,095	
Long-Term Obligations Other	\$495,811	
Current and Accrued Liabilities	\$2,020,582	
Deferred Credits	<u>\$1,229,544</u>	
Total Liabilities and Deferred Debits		<u>\$19,638,032</u>
Net Assets - Member Equities		<u>\$16,681,212</u>
Total Liabilities and Other Credits		<u><u>\$36,319,244</u></u>

## What We Own

Member Equities		
Patronage Capital	\$14,157,547	
Operating Margin - Current Year	\$805,438	
Non-Operating Margin	\$1,142,915	
Other Equities	<u>\$575,313</u>	
Total Member Equities		<u><u>\$16,681,212</u></u>

## Comparative Operating Statistics

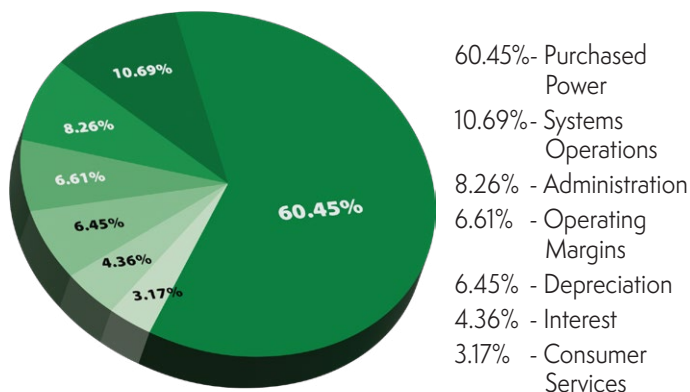
	2022	2021
Number of Miles Energized - Distribution	1,763	1,747
Number of Services in Place	3,367	3,321
Kilowatt Hours Purchases	136,614,648	130,520,064
Kilowatt Hours Sold	130,234,633	124,349,020
Percent Line Loss	4%	5%

# Revenue and Expenses

January 1 to December 31, 2022

Operating Revenue		\$12,181,691
Cost of Purchased Power	\$7,363,386	
Total System Operations	\$1,302,562	
Total Consumer Services	\$386,444	
Total Depreciation	\$785,691	
Total Interest	\$531,375	
Total Administration	<u>\$1,006,795</u>	
Total Cost of Electric Service		<u>\$11,376,253</u>
Operating Margins		\$805,438
Non-Operating Margins		\$151,669
Transmission Capital Credits		\$991,243
Total Margins		\$1,948,350

## What Do Your Dollars Pay For?



## Summary of Loan Fund

Total Debt Obligation, December 31, 2022	16,387,905
Balance	16,387,905
Less: Advance Payments	0
Net Obligations to RUS, FFB, CFC and USDA 12/31/2022	16,387,905

## Capital Credits Paid\*

1956 to 2006 ...	\$4,786,519.55	2015 .....	\$288,893.81
2007 .....	\$245,782.06	2016 .....	\$300,004.40
2008 .....	\$280,627.11	2017 .....	\$400,010.49
2009 .....	\$321,723.71	2018 .....	\$400,000.00
2010 .....	\$331,007.12	2019 .....	\$450,000.00
2011 .....	\$384,588.29	2020 .....	\$600,000.00
2012 .....	\$220,197.99	2021 .....	\$600,000.00
2013 .....	\$199,990.49	2022 .....	\$600,000.00
2014 .....	\$299,995.08		

**Total Paid Back ..... \$10,709,340.10**

\* Capital credits shown above have been paid to estates of deceased members plus payments to members for years 1942 through part of 2007.

## AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, March 23, 2023

Wheaton High School 6:30 PM

6:00 P.M. Registration

6:30 P.M.

Call of Meeting by Doug Diekmann, President

Introduction of Directors and Guests

Reading of the Notice of Mailing and Proof of Mailing by Secretary, Mark Pearson

Minutes of last Annual Meeting by Mark Pearson, Secretary

Treasurer's Report by Manager, Jeremy Huhnstock

General Operating Report by Manager, Jeremy Huhnstock

Questions

President's Report by Doug Diekmann

Opening of Polls

Closing of Polls

2022 Washington DC Youth Tour Report-Wyatt Krueger

Old Business

New Business

Announcement of Results of Election of Directors

Prizes

Adjournment

# Facility Update



Our new facility continues to progress. The office is mostly sheet rocked and the first coat of mud/tape applied. The brick on the outside of the office area, has been done on the west and south side, as you can see in the photo, they are working on the east side at this time, windows have also been installed. The fence around the perimeter is in progress. The warehouse has been enclosed and is being heated, with the anticipation of pouring that floor in March, once that is complete, the overhead doors will be placed. We are still on schedule to start moving in by the end of May, with move in completion by early June. ▶

## 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

Dale Schwagel – Interim 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

## INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Dale Schwagel  
 Cell: 320-808-6176 | Direct: 320-563-1060  
 dschwagel@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, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Web site: [www.traverseelectric.com](http://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.*

## 2022 CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS Invalid Address List

Name	Address	Years in Service
Darren & Stephanie Ammons	Tintah MN	2007-2010
Mary Ann Arndt	Beardsley MN	2002-2016
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
Dave Schmit	Eden Prairie MN	2002-2013
Stephen J Schulte	Sioux Falls SD	2005-2015
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