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## Mark Your Calendar

Oct. 15 . . . . . Electric Bills Due

Oct. 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 November 1st and you will get a **\$10 bill credit**.

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



## Keeping Pets and Energy Bills Comfortable

MANAGER'S COLUMN

Joel Janorschke  
General Manager

I don't know about you, but I consider my four-legged companions' part of the family. I personally have several dogs, and I can't imagine life without them. I know others feel this way, too. That's why during the winter months, we make sure our whole family, including our four-legged members, is cozy--without taking a big "bite" out of our budget.

This month, I'd like to share a few simple ways you can make your home more comfortable this winter, which can ultimately help you save on energy bills.

At the onset of the cold weather season, we replace the HVAC filter for better air quality and to help the unit operate more efficiently. You can also keep your home cozier by caulking and weatherstripping windows and doors. If your home is particularly chilly, you can tape or affix heavy, clear plastic to the inside of your window frames to create an additional barrier against the cold. Ensure that the plastic is tightly sealed to the frame to help reduce infiltration.

We know winter can be "ruff", so we set our thermostat at 68 degrees, a "purr-fect" temperature for people and pets. This is especially important for smaller, short hair and senior dogs--not just for warmth, but for their general health. Puppies, kittens and older pets with arthritis or other ailments may have a harder time controlling their body heat and need

the additional warmth when it's chilly out.

Pets that sleep close to the floor can be subject to cold drafts that enter your home through windows and exterior doors. If your pet's bed is near a window or door that feels drafty, tightly roll up a towel and place it near the bottom of the door or window to eliminate the draft. Cutting down on cold drafts helps everyone feel more comfortable during colder months.

If possible, elevate your pet's bed so it's not placed directly on a cold floor. An old chair or sofa cushion works well. If you don't use a dog bed, take some old blankets and create a donut shape on the cushion so the dog can snuggle and "nest" within the blanket. You can do the same for cats but on a smaller scale. Blankets enable pets to nestle into them, even when they aren't tired, and provide a comfortable place for dogs and cats to curl up.

During the day, open your blinds and curtains to allow sunlight to warm your home. Close window coverings at night for an added layer of insulation.

At Traverse Electric, we want to help you save energy and money. Check out our website at [www.traverseelectric.com](http://www.traverseelectric.com) for additional energy-saving tips.

We can't control the weather, but we can provide advice to help you save energy and keep your family and furry friends more comfortable during the winter season. ▀

# Thank you to everyone that stopped by our booth at the Traverse County Fair!

Winners of a \$25 electric bill credit are:

Jim Guy, Rosholt, SD

Timothy Braun, Rosholt, SD

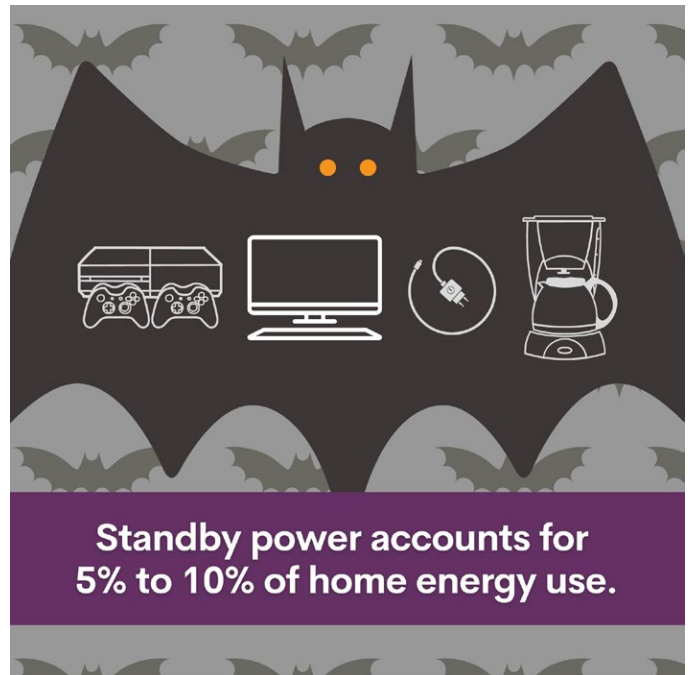
Paula De Haan, Wheaton, MN

James Hustel, Veblen SD



Pictured are:  
Connor Bartz (Apprentice Electrician, left) and  
Steve Powers (Master Electrician/Member Services, right)

#2886





# Facility Update



# August 2022 Traverse Electric Board Meeting Highlights

The August regular board meeting was held on Tuesday, August 30, 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 July regular board meeting were approved.

The July check register was approved.

Glynn reported on the MREA New Director Orientation he attended.

Janorschke reported on the MREA Energy Issues Summit.

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:

- ▶ July 31, 2022 accounts receivable balances were reviewed.
- ▶ A list of new members was reviewed.
- ▶ Update on Electrical Dept. and Generator Program.
- ▶ Received a power bill credit on our July power bill from Basin.

- ▶ We sold RECS in the Basin Marketing Pool for \$3.06.
- ▶ East River power bill and Basin's financial reports reviewed.

Reviewed and approved the July 2022 Financial Report.

Schwagel gave the Operations Report. Items discussed included:

- ▶ Many new tile pump service requests this year.
- ▶ Temporary service for new facility energized.
- ▶ Annual pole inspections and padmount cabinet inspections are complete.
- ▶ Carr's Tree Service started tree trimming last week for us.
- ▶ Blinks on the Beardsley substation were caused by storms and Otter Tail Power transmission issues.
- ▶ Reviewed projects completed and in progress.
- ▶ Reviewed our Safety Program.
- ▶ Outages were reviewed.

Received an update on the new facility and construction progress. We received the appraisal value for our current property.

Next construction steps are pouring the footings and connecting to city water/sewer services. Steel and rebar were delivered to site.

Discussed long-term financing options and interest rates.

Went into executive session to discuss union contract negotiations.

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  
 Cell: 320.304.1392 | Direct: 320.563.1055  
 jjanorschke@traverseelectric.com

## MEMBER SERVICE REP/ MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Steve Powers 320-808-9104  
 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, 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.*

## TEC August Financials

	August 2021	August 2022	YTD 2022
Total Revenue	\$922,165.30	\$969,082.41	\$8,249,091.83
Cost of Power	\$598,706.61	\$648,186.52	\$4,916,869.98
Total Cost of Service	\$906,226.30	\$979,225.20	\$7,529,868.20
Operating Margins	\$15,939.00	\$(20,142.79)	\$719,223.63
Total Margins	\$29,455.20	\$(1,324.55)	\$779,010.91
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Purchased	9,790,905	10,074,374	89,735,949
Kilowatt-Hours (kWh) Sales	9,296,028	9,589,287	85,628,747
Line Loss	5%	5%	5%