

KILOWATT



We Love Powering your Lives!

CEO ARTICLE

Maintaining affordable electricity for members. If you have gone grocery shopping or filled up at a gas station recently, you know firsthand how the cost of goods fluctuate. The United States Department of Agriculture reported meat prices in 2021 increased an average of 8%. Gasoline prices rose 58% since last year, fuel oil was 59%, natural gas was 25%, and electricity prices in the U.S. rose by 6.5%.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) forecasted U.S. households' heating bills to increase 54% compared to last winter. The EIA expects the Midwest to see 49% increases for natural gas-heated homes and a 54% increase for propane. The good news? Homes heated with electric heat are expected to only be modestly impacted at 6%.

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative is committed to serving member-owners like you with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity. KPC understands the challenges our member-owners face, and we work to keep costs stable while improving the resiliency of the grid.

The electricity you use is generated and transmitted regionally. It is monitored by an Independent System Operator (ISO) that looks at energy demand and what generating resources will be needed every day. This process helps us manage energy demands.

The structures in place that monitor, protect and supply electricity to your home are constantly reviewed by KPC, Great River Energy, and the ISO. This level of analysis is one reason electric costs have not seen dramatic increases during the past three decades. Locally owned operations along with constant review of systems for security and safety — through the cooperative business model — are just a few reasons electric costs remain stable for member-owners like you.

Ryan Nelson,
CEO



BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

January 25, 2022

The Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting. All directors present. Chairman, Dale Anderson called the meeting to order.

Additions made to the agenda:

- Operation Round Up Recap
- Protocol for Zoom Calls
- Overview of Rates
- Strategic Plan Recap

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report – discussed monthly activities
 - COVID Update
 - Material outlook is a little bleak - difficult to receive orders in time
 - Employees completed CPR and First Aid – Certified for 2 years
 - MREA will do fire extinguisher training for employees
 - Met with City of Willmar Planning Project Manager concerning Broadband
 - EV Chargers
- Finance – Finance Manager, explained discrepancies and variations within the December budget.
 - Year-end financial reports completed
 - Business Dissolution Capital Credit payout request
- Member Services/Communications
 - Care Act Report
 - Pandemic Plan Updated
 - AutoPay Promotion
 - Youth Tour Update
- Engineering/Operations
 - No near misses or accidents
 - 82 New Services for 2021
 - Outage Review
- IT/Network
 - Replacement of Servers
 - SmartHub Security
 - ODIN – Nationwide Outage Tool
 - Increasing Password Lengths

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda
- Minutes of the December 2021 Board Meeting
- Consent Agenda
- Write-Offs
- Business Dissolution Capital Credit payout
- NRTC Voting Delegate
- NRECA Voting Delegate
- Continued Education for Directors
- GRE Special Member Meeting Resolution

Great River Energy (GRE) Director's Report by Chair Anderson

Meeting Adjourned – Next regular board meeting is February 23, 2022



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[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE](https://www.facebook.com/kandiyohipowercooperative)

FIVE REASONS WE LOVE SERVING OUR MEMBERS

February may be the shortest month, but it's packed with special observances like Presidents' Day, Black History Month and Valentine's Day, in addition to a host of unofficial "national" days you've probably never heard of like "National Tater Tot Day." But they all have something in common. They were created to draw attention to a particular issue or theme.

Valentine's Day may seem like an observance originally created by a greeting card company, but over time, it's become a widely celebrated day generating millions of dollars spent on flowers, candy and of course, greeting cards professing our love. But Valentine's Day isn't just for the lovebirds. It's also the perfect time to let our friends, family, co-workers, and other special people in our lives know we care about them—with or without a store-bought greeting card.

So, in that vein, we've created our list of top five reasons why we love serving you, the members of Kandiyohi Power Cooperative.

1. We love serving our members because without you, the co-op wouldn't exist. Our purpose is to provide you with reliable, responsible, and safe electricity. Simply put, Kandiyohi Power Cooperative exists

to serve you. That's why we were formed- to bring power to our local area when for-profit utilities would not.

2. You enable us to complete our mission by supporting our efforts to give back. A major part of our mission is to serve our community and look after the greater good. With your assistance, we're able to help the most vulnerable members of our community through food and toy drives and programs like Operation Round-Up that help local families pay their energy bills when times are tough.
3. Members of our co-op also serve on the board of directors. They provide guidance for setting co-op priorities and helping make big decisions. Because our board members live in the area, they're able to serve as the pulse of the larger community and identify immediate and long-term needs. The broader co-op membership provides helpful input through their vote on director elections and by weighing in on co-op and community issues.
4. You help us get it right. Kandiyohi Power Cooperative members are great about keeping us in the know.

We do our best to avoid power outages, but Mother Nature can occasionally throw us a curveball; our members are quick to report any power disruptions and are patient as our crews work to safely restore power. We know outages are frustrating, and your support as we work through storms means so much to our employees. We also appreciate your feedback on co-op programs and services. Your opinions are critical for the co-op's success, and we thank you for that.

5. You and other Kandiyohi Power Cooperative members make up the community we serve—and for us, it's all about community. Our employees live and work here too and care about our community the same way you do. We're invested and work to help it thrive. It's also why we invest in economic development, and why you'll see our employees volunteering at local schools and other charitable and community endeavors.

As a co-op, our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community and look after its long-term interests. We love serving our members and our local community, and just like you, want to see it continue to thrive.

FIVE WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY WHEN WORKING FROM HOME

1. Use a smart power strip. Plugging in your most-used devices, like computers, monitors and routers, to a smart power strip ensures these devices aren't drawing power when they're not in use. Smart power strips also give you the option to select which devices should stay in "always on" mode.

2. Unplug your least-used equipment. If your home office includes equipment like printers and scanners, you're probably not using these electronics every day. In this case, go ahead and unplug your least-used electronics and devices, since many of these draw energy even when they're not being used.

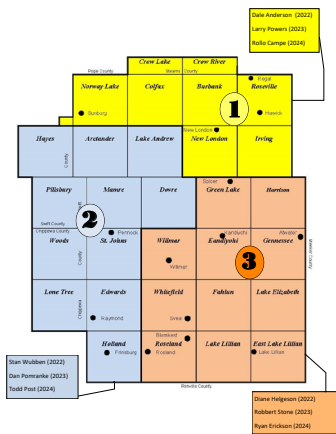
3. Choose ENERGY STAR®-certified office equipment. If you're looking to purchase new equipment for your workspace, look for the ENERGY STAR label to ensure you're getting the most energy efficient features. Computers, monitors, imaging equipment and other office electronics that receive the ENERGY STAR rating include power management features to make saving energy easy, and most are designed to run cooler and last longer.

4. Flip the switch and use natural light instead. It's still chilly out there, so take advantage of natural light and additional warmth from the sun. When you're working during the day, open blinds, curtains and other window coverings to let natural light in—and don't forget to turn off the lights to reduce energy use!

5. Lower the thermostat. Home heating makes up a significant portion of your energy bills. Turn the thermostat down a couple degrees during the day to reduce energy use and save money. The Department of Energy recommends setting the thermostat to 68 degrees or cooler during winter months. You're more likely to stay focused and alert when it's cooler in your home, so all the more reason to mind the thermostat.



BOARD MEMBER DISTRICTS 2022



DIRECTOR FILINGS NOW OPEN FOR ONE DIRECTOR IN EACH DISTRICT # 1, 2, 3.

Would you like to serve as a Director on the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board for your district? Please call Robin at 320-796-0989, email rryks@kpcoop.com or stop by our KPC office and request a Directors Packet. These packets contain the cooperatives bylaws, as well as the qualifications to become a director. As a board director you will serve a 3-year term and must reside in the district you are filing for. Filings must be signed and returned to the KPC office by Monday, March 7th, no later than 4:00 p.m. Election results will be announced at the Annual Meeting on April 26, 2022.

MAKE YOUR ANNUAL MEETING RESERVATION NOW!

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative is holding their Annual Meeting April 26th at the Little Crow Event Center. The doors will open at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. sharp with brunch to follow. Due to limited space, we ask that you please RSVP NO LATER than April 15th if you plan on attending the Annual Meeting. Contact us at 1-800-551-4951 or by email to contactus@kpcoop.com. We hope that you will be able to join us and take this opportunity to visit with your Board Directors and hear what is happening at your cooperative. As always, we will have a welcome gift and prize drawing.

WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL...

PAY ONLINE

Pay your bill, view energy use history, set up alerts and update your contact information through SmartHub. SmartHub is your one-stop shop for online account management anytime day or night. Visit our website www.kpcoop.com and see how to create your account in SmartHub.

PAY NOW

Make a quick, one-time payment using the Pay Now option. All you need is your account number and the last name or business name on the account.

AUTOMATIC DEDUCTION

Make it easy and don't even think about your monthly bill. Sign up to have your bill automatically drafted on the first of every month from the bank account of your choice. Sign up through SmartHub.

BY MAIL

When paying by mail, return the top portion of your bill with your check or money order and keep the bottom portion for your records. Please do not send cash. Payment envelopes are included with your statement.

If you have misplaced your payment stub, mail payment to:

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative
8605 47th St NE
Spicer, MN 56288

DROP BOXES

Drop boxes are available at Cashwise in Willmar and in the circle drive at our headquarters.

IN PERSON

You can pay your bill in person at our office from 7:30am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Payments can be made with cash, check or credit card. Visa, MasterCard, Discover & American Express cards are accepted.

BY PHONE

Payment by phone is available anytime. You can make a payment by phone using a credit card, debit card, checking account or savings account. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express cards are accepted.

OTHER OPTIONS

BUDGET BILLING

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative offers budget billing as a monthly payment plan intended to take the seasonal highs and lows out of your monthly heating and cooling bills.

Budget billing is a free, stable payment plan. It gives you more predictable bills by averaging the amount you pay each month. Your budget amount is calculated by averaging the actual billing for the previous twelve months. Budget amounts are recalculated each year and reflected on the July billing statement.

PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

For those members that have trouble paying their electric bill, several agencies are available to help.

If you are unable to bring your account up to date, please contact one of the agencies below. You may be eligible for assistance with your heating and cooling costs. If you qualify, the payment will be made directly to KPC.

UNITED COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

320-235-0850
800-992-1710

PRAIRIE FIVE COMMUNITY ACTION

320-269-7976
800-282-5437

Salvation Army
320-235-2033

TRI-COUNTY ACTION AGENCY

320-251-1612
888-765-5597

KANDIYOHY COUNTY FAMILY SERVICE

320-231-7066

RENNVILLE COUNTY ENERGY ASSISTANCE

320-523-5522
800-450-2071

THE LINK

(New London/Spicer area)
320-354-5555



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 our headquarters
building near flag pole.

Ryan Nelson, CEO	320-796-1160
Michele Scheffler,	
Member/Communications/HR	320-796-0982
Brent Hatlestad,	
Line Superintendent	320-796-1163
Patrick Krueger, CFO	320-796-0991

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
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
Ryan Erickson - 320-979-5033	3
Diane Helgeson- 320-220-3745	3
Robbert Stone- 320-894-8867	3

KILOWATT STAFF:
Robin Ryks, Editor



SMART ENVIRONMENT

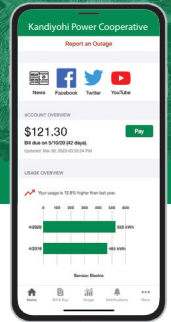
SMART MANAGEMENT. SMART LIFE. SMARTHUB.

Saving money, and the planet, just got easier.

Going paperless with SmartHub is easy.

And with convenient access to your bill anytime, anywhere, doing your part
to save the environment just got easier.

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For more information visit www.kpcoop.com/smarthub



Enroll in our Auto Pay program to be entered into a monthly
drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Save time and money! Must be
on Auto Pay to be eligible to win. You can also select email as
your only delivery option. You will then receive an email instead
of a paper bill when your bill is ready for payment.

CONGRATULATIONS to Curtis Newberg!

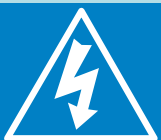
Curtis is our AutoPay Promotion
winner. Pictured is CEO Ryan Nelson
and Curtis with his new Nest
Thermostat! The Nest Thermostat
can use sensors and your phone's
location to check if you've left, then
sets itself to an ECO Temperature
to save energy. With the Nest app,
your thermostat lives on your wall
and in your pocket. Once you
connect your thermostat to Wi-Fi,
you can control it from anywhere.
Adjust the temperature from the app,
and the Nest Learning Thermostat adjusts quickly back at home.



We are continuing our AutoPay Promotion, so don't delay signing up.
Every month we will draw from those who have signed up for AutoPay, past and
present, for a \$25 bill credit.



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1-800-252-1166

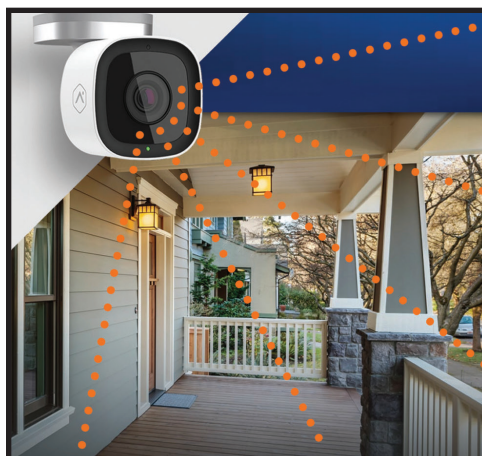


24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

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



Create a safe zone.

**SMART VIDEO LETS YOU CREATE ZONES
AROUND YOUR HOME TO NOTIFY
YOU OF ACTIVITY.**

"Ground zone" alerts are best for observing
specific areas where activity is important but
unpredictable, like porches or backyards.



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