Kandiyohi Power Coop

MAY 2024 - ISSUE 151 VOLUME 5

### KPC ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Ryan Nelson, CEO I hope this newsletter finds you well and you are enjoying the spring season. I want to thank all of you who attended our 2024 annual meeting on April 23rd. Congratulations to the victors of the election: Rollo Campe won his race in District 1, Todd Post in District 2, and Kelly Erickson was unopposed in District 3. As well, the amended Articles & Bylaws were passed by the membership. It was great to see so many of you in person and to share with you some of the highlights and achievements of our co-op in the past year. For those of you who were not able to join us, the recording is available to watch on our website or YouTube.

Our co-op had a strong financial and operational performance in 2023. We provided safe, reliable, and affordable electricity to 9,019 services, selling 167,950,943 kWh of energy and generating \$23,071,989 in revenue. We invested \$3.5 million into our distribution system by extending and replacing our electric plant, and we maintained a high service availability index of 99.964%. We also retired \$1,256,194 in capital credits back to our member-owners and received \$855,733 in capital credits from our associated organizations. Our total margins amounted to \$2,631,637, of which we allocated \$2,358,499 back to our member-owners as patronage capital.

We continue to support our member-owners who are interested in distributed

energy resources, such as solar, wind, and battery storage. We processed eight renewable applications, resulting in 137.828 kW of connected generation. Additionally, we offer our community solar array, where member-owners can purchase panel output and receive credits on their bills. If you are interested in the benefits of owning solar with none of the hassle, contact us as we still have panels available.

One of the most memorable events of 2023 was the July 25th storm that hit our service area, causing widespread outages and damage. I want to thank our linemen and staff for their quick and effective response, restoring power to almost 5,000 member-owners. I want to thank HiLine Construction for their mutual aid and assistance. I also thank you, our member-owners, for your patience and understanding during that challenging time. We were able to recover \$96,603 in damages from the Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management Public Assistance program, thanks to the efforts of our team.

Our IT department maintains several solutions to protect our data and networks from hackers and threats, such as firewalls, encryption, and multi-factor authentication. We also installed and maintained various applications to improve our customer service and efficiency, such as Remit Plus and MultiChannel Messenger. On top of that, we participate in trainings and exercises with other cooperatives in the state to enhance our IT security and resilience.

We pursued several grant opportunities to help us fund some of our projects with federal and state dollars. We applied for the New ERA program from the USDA,

## KPC OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MAY 27TH IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

which provides grants and loans for new clean energy projects. We are chasing funding for three projects: a solar array to self-produce 10% of our energy, a large battery system, and a load controller change out. In addition, we applied for the GRIP program from the DOE, which provides funding for increasing the resiliency of the grid. We requested funding to replace traditional reclosers with electronic reclosers, which can improve our fault detection and restoration capabilities. We were also awarded over \$1 million from the State Competitiveness Fund, which helps us offset the matching requirements of federal grants. We are still assessing the long-term impacts of these projects, and we have the option to decline the funding if we find them not feasible or beneficial.

We highlighted various rebates and incentives to help our member-owners save energy and money at home. We have a heating and cooling rebate program, where member-owners could receive up to \$900 for installing an air source heat pump or up to \$250 per ton for installing a ground source heat pump. We have load management programs, where member-owners could receive a \$25 per kW rebate for installing an ETS space heating system. In addition, we introduced a new EV time-of-use rate, where member-owners could save money by charging their electric vehicles during off-peak hours.

As a cooperative, we care about our community and our environment. We participated in various community events and activities, such as hanging flags, driving in parades, educating students, and collecting toys for tots. We partnered with Ridgewater College to support their new electric Continued P2

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vehicle service course, which trains the next generation of EV technicians. We sent Hunter, son of a KPC member-owner, to the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington DC where he learned about the political process and met with our elected officials. We also received several awards and recognition for our work, such as the Impact Award from Ridgewater College, the Governor's Work Safety Award, and the MRET Leroy Vanderpool Award.

As we look forward, we are excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. We are committed to providing you with safe, reliable, and affordable electricity, to enhancing the quality of life for our member-owners, and to being a trusted leader in the energy industry. We are also committed to following the co-op principles, such as democratic member control, concern for community, and education and training.

I want to thank you for being part of KPC, and for your support and participation. I hope you feel proud and confident about your electric cooperative. Please feel free to contact me or any of our staff if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. We are always happy to hear from you and to serve you.

### 2024 BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to those who ran for board.

District 1: Rollo Campe District 2: Todd Post District 3: Kelly Erickson



April's \$25 Auto Pay Winner: Andy & Gretchen Lindblad

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.



The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has brought high school students to Washington, D.C. for a week in June every year since the late 1950s. Students gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as a citizen by meeting their Representative and Senators. They also hear featured speakers who provide insight to the important roles electric cooperatives play in their communities.

YOUTH TOUR WINNER Congratulations to Emma Walter! KPC is excited to announce the 2024 Youth Tour winner. Emma Walter, daughter of KPC members Larry and Diane Walter, has been chosen to represent KPC at the 2024 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Emma, a

homeschooled junior, will join more than 1,800 high school students and chaperones for the Youth Tour from June 18-23, 2024. Congrats Emma!

**Can You Dig** 



An underground utility line is **damaged once every 9 minutes** because someone didn't call 811.



811 locators **do not detect** underground sprinkler systems, invisible fences, data communication systems, private water systems, or gas piping to a garage.



Once **all of your utilities** have been located, then you can start your digging project! Call 811, the "Call Before You Dig Number," at least **2 business days** prior to digging.



Even if you have previously had underground utilities marked, **utilities can shift**, so it's best to call before starting a new project.

Learn more at



## ELECTRIC VEHICLE TIME OF USE RATE

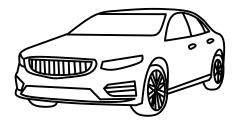
Are you aware of our Electric Vehicle (EV) Time of Use (TOU) Pilot program? This voluntary TOU rate is designed to incentivize EV owners to charge their vehicles during times of lower electricity demand. Participants will be charged \$0.074 per kWh during off-peak hours and \$0.334 per kWh during peak hours.

For those interested in discovering more about the EV TOU pilot, including program details and how to enroll, please reach out to us at 800-551-4951 or via email at contactus@kpcoop.com.

### ON YOUR BILL: ACCESS FEE

The Access Fee is a fixed fee and is on all member bills, regardless of how much or how little energy is used each month. The Access Fee is the cost to deliver energy to your location. This fee recovers a portion of the cost to maintain the electrical service at your home or location, including poles, meters, lines, substations, equipment, plant improvements, operations, maintenance, and administration. It's like the costs you pay to own your car, even when you aren't driving it.

### Items needed to keep a vehicle ready for the road:



- insurance
- taxes
- auto loan
- driver's license
- maintenance
- fuel

### Items needed to make electric service available to you:

- safety equipment and training
- bucket trucks, poles, meters
- wire and line equipment
- system improvements
- right of way maintenance
- insurance, taxes
- employees, office building
- computer systems and software
- billing services
- storm repair
- 24/7 service





### BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

April 24, 2024

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

Additions made to the regular agenda:

- Discussion on officers of the board.

- The following reports were given:
- CEO Report
- IIJA Consortium, Topic 3 Update.
- MREA CEO's Spring Conference Recap.
- GRE Reward LMR Pilot Program success.
- KPC ERP review update.
- GRE MMG update.
- Annual meeting discussion and recommendations.
- Engineering & Operations Manager has been hired; start date 5/1.
- Member Services/Communications
- Annual meeting recap.
- Youth tour update.
- Form EIA-861S submitted.
- Insights & Analytics.
- Revision to Rate 34.
- Engineering Report
- Safety and services update.
- Update on current projects.
- Employee safety training update.
- Finance Report
- Review of financials for March.
- MN DOR's proposed gross operating revenue tax feedback sent.
- CFC Director application process completed.
- REDLG discussion.

Executive Session

Upcoming Meetings & Conferences

Operation Round Up Recap Willmar Stingers Presentation

Rotation of Officers on Board

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

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda.
- Consent Agenda.
- Rate 34 edits.
- April Write-Offs.
- Chair Anderson appointed KPC's representative at GRE Annual Meeting.
- Vice-Chair Post appointed KPC's alternate representative at GRE Annual Meeting.
- Chair Anderson to be KPC's Director of GRE for one-year term.
- Adjourn meeting.

Meeting Adjourned Next regular board meeting is May 22, 2024.



Member Appreciation Stingers Game July 10th





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	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 - 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post, VC - 320-212-1119	2
Stan Wubben, Secretary - 320-905-8325	5 2
Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930	3
Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745	3
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3

#### KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

Equal opportunity provider and employer.



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

The Cooperative will attempt to furnish continuous service but will not guarantee uninterrupted service.

#### • • YOUR SOURCE FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT HEATING AND COOLING.

# ASHP Rebate Promotional Special

Take advantage of these hot promo rebates when you install a qualifying, energy-saving air source heat pump!



Air source heat pumps are a high efficiency heating system. By switching to air source heat pumps, you can reduce your energy bills as you'll be using the outside air for your heating and cooling needs. If you are considering installing an air source heat pump, take advantage of these rebates!

Equipment must be purchased and installed in May, June, July or August 2024.

Ducted ASHP	Promotional Rebate	
≥ 14.3 SEER2 & ≥7.5 HSPF2	\$600.00	
≥ 15.2 SEER2 & ≥ 8.1 HSPF2	\$900.00	
*≤ 5 ton & Quality installation required		

Ductless ASHP	Promotional Rebate
Delivered Fuels	\$400.00
Electric Heat	\$600.00
Efficency Requirments: >1 ton & ≥ 14.3 SEER2 & ≥7.5 HSPF2	

Limited funds are available and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate amounts and programs are subject to change without notice.

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