

# KILOWATT



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DIRECTOR AT KANDIYOHI POWER COOPERATIVE?



Ryan Nelson, CEO

### Who is Kandiyohi Power Cooperative (KPC)?

KPC is an electric distribution cooperative owned by the members we serve and governed by a nine-member board of directors. Headquartered in Spicer, MN, the cooperative provides reliable, safe, and affordable electric service to almost 9,000 meters throughout four counties in Minnesota: Kandiyohi, Chippewa, Stearns, and Swift.

### Board of Directors

The main responsibility of a Kandiyohi Power Cooperative director is to provide oversight of the CEO who manages the staff and operations of the cooperative. Understanding the cooperative business model is essential. Every question deserves to be asked; it's all part of learning.

To better understand the cooperative business model and to contribute effectively to the development of the cooperative, directors are offered training. All directors are encouraged to attend trainings and to participate beyond this to further support the cooperative. State, national, and affiliated organizations have meetings throughout the year that directors may attend as well as legislative forums, community celebrations, and award presentations.

### Board Makeup

KPC's member-owners are represented by a Board of Directors consisting of nine members, three from each of the three districts that make up the cooperative's service territory. Each year the membership elects one director from each district to serve a three-year term.

### WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

The Board of Directors are responsible for the safe and sound operation of KPC and ensuring

the cooperative fulfills its mission. The board also:

- Develops and oversees the strategic direction and objectives of the cooperative.
- Oversees the organizational performance of KPC.
- Provides competent leadership and management of KPC.
- Ensures appropriate risk oversight including sound internal controls and compliance.
- Exercises independent judgment.
- Works cooperatively with management and for the good of all members of the cooperative.
- Performs the duties of director diligently and impartially.
- Effectively communicate with member-owners regarding cooperative issues.

### WHO CAN BECOME A DIRECTOR?

Member-owners are eligible to serve as director if they:

- Live and are being served in KPC's service territory.
- Are able to enter legally into binding contracts.

Member-owners are ineligible if they:

- Have been convicted of a felony.
- Are employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling energy, supplies, or services to the cooperative.
- Have been an employee of KPC within the past three years.

### WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- Directors are elected to a three-year term.
- Board meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, lasting 4-5 hours on average.

- Preparation for board meetings can take 2-3 hours to review the agenda, study the materials provided, and read articles regarding the electric industry.
- Each April, KPC hosts an Annual Meeting where members participate in elections.
- Once every few years, directors meet for strategic planning. These sessions are typically scheduled for a couple of days to set long-range goals for the cooperative.
- There will be additional time commitments for director trainings and conferences.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A DIRECTOR?

- Serving your community and the membership.
- Directly represent the interests of the cooperative's member-owners.
- Represent KPC by traveling to regional and national meetings.
- Continuous Learning about the electric industry.

### How the Election Process Works

The director election process takes place in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. Director candidates must submit paperwork to be eligible to run in the director election. The Annual Meeting mailing is sent to the membership in early April and includes ballots for the director election. Members may mail ballots to the cooperative, vote online, or vote in person at the Annual Meeting. Results of the election are announced at the Annual Meeting, and any changes on the board take effect that day.

For more information on becoming a Director at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, please visit our website [www.kpcoop.com](http://www.kpcoop.com)



## ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federally funded program through the US Department of Health and Human Services, which helps eligible households pay toward home heating costs. Energy Assistance is free for eligible households. To learn more about the EAP or apply for assistance:

- Visit the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Assistance website, <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>
- Contact your County EAP service provider for additional information and assistance:  
[United Community Action Agency – 320-235-0850 or 800-992-1710](#)  
[Prairie Five Community Action – 320-269-7976 or 800-282-5437](#)  
[Tri-County Action Agency – 320-251-1612 or 888-765-5597](#)
- Other Local agencies that provide aid for those in need:  
[Salvation Army – 320-235-2033](#)  
[Kandiyohi County Family Service – 320-231-7066](#)  
[The Link \(New London/Spicer area\) – 320-354-5555](#)

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill, please contact us to discuss payment arrangements.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KANDIYOHIPOWERCOOPERATIVE)



### October's \$25 Auto Pay Winner: Wallace & Marlys Vandeneinde

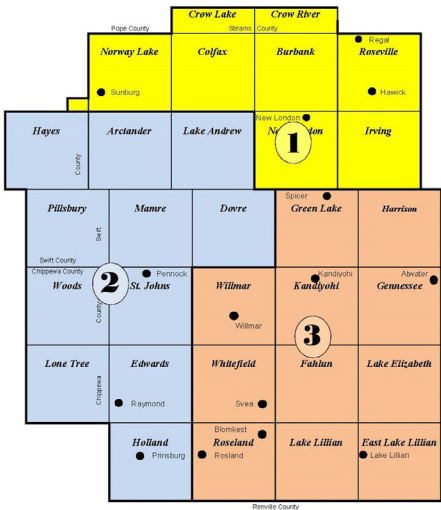
Enroll in our Auto Pay program to be entered into a monthly drawing for a \$25.00 bill credit. Save time and money!

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.

## BOARD DISTRICT MAP



### Director Filings now open for Districts 1, 2 and 3

Are you interested in serving  
as a Director on the  
Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board?

We are now accepting filings for  
Directors in Districts 1, 2, & 3.  
To request a director's packet, please  
call the KPC office at 800-551-4951,  
send an email to [aveeder@kpcoop.com](mailto:aveeder@kpcoop.com),  
or visit our office. The packet includes  
the cooperative's bylaws, and the quali-  
fications required to become a director.  
As a Board Director, you will serve a  
3-year term and must reside within the  
district for which you are filing. Filings  
are due at the  
KPC office by 4:00 pm  
on January 22nd, 2025.  
Election results will be announced  
at our Annual Meeting  
on April 22nd, 2025.

## We're Grateful for Your Membership

**Our offices will be closed  
Thursday, November 28,  
and Friday, November 29**

**in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

**We are incredibly grateful for your membership  
as our team spends this special time  
with love ones.**

**From our co-op family to yours, we hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!**

## NOTICE OF TAX EXEMPTION FOR ELECTRIC HEAT

Electricity sold for residential heating use is exempt from Minnesota sales tax for the months of November through April if qualified. To qualify, a member must have electric heat as their primary source of heat. Primary source of heat is the source that supplies more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season.

If the primary source of residential heat is electricity and there is only one meter for that utility, then all electricity measured through that meter is not taxable during the winter heating months. A separate exemption form is required for each qualifying service location.

Members who have previously signed the form for their existing service location or members who have a dual fuel meter are already receiving the exemption. The Residential Sales Tax Exemption printable or online form can be found on our website: <https://www.kpcoop.com/sales-tax-exemption>.

## KPC OFFERS MANY WAYS TO PAY

### 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.

### 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 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.

### 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, excluding holidays. We accept cash, check or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express).

### By Phone

Payments can be made anytime by phone via our automated phone payment system.

View all available payment options by visiting our website at [www.kpcoop.com/payment-options](http://www.kpcoop.com/payment-options).



## BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

October 23, 2024

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

Additions made to the regular agenda: Closed session/CEO review.

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
  - IJIA Consortium, Topic 3 and New ERA update.
  - MMG Meeting recap.
  - Stearns Co. proposed ordinance.
  - Future energy forum.
- Member Services/Communications
  - Stinger's Member Appreciation Event.
  - Capital Credit Payouts.
  - Watts Up member event recap.
  - Member Halloween event on 10/31 from 3-5pm.
  - ASHP Promo update.
  - Insights and analytics.
  - Auto pay metrics.
- Engineering Report
  - Recap of Florida hurricane mutual aid.
  - Fifty-three new services; twenty-six retired to date.
  - IJIA GRIP & New ERA grant updates.
  - Evaluation of engineering software.
  - Meadow Star/Riverview Dairy new service update.
  - Outage breakdown YTD 2024.
  - Employee safety and compliance update.
- Finance Report
  - Review of financials for September.
  - WAPA shortfall meeting.
  - Load control financial analysis.
  - Budget meeting in December this year.

Operation Round Up Update – Director Pomranke

Set 2025 Board Meeting Schedule

CFC Governance Date Options

Homestead Funds Plan Interest

Upcoming Meetings & Conferences

Great River Energy (GRE)

- Director's Report by Chair Anderson.
- Form of Resolutions for APEX Big Bend and NEXTERA Three Waters Amendment – tabled for November meeting.

Closed Session

Motions made and approved by the Board:

- Regular Agenda with addition.
- Consent Agenda.
- Approval to move forward with Stingers Member Event contract extension.
- Capital Credits Payout per Board Policy.
- October Write Offs.
- Adjourn meeting.

Meeting Adjourned- Next regular board meeting is November 25, 2024.





8605 47th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288

www.kpcoop.com

Email: [contactus@kpcoop.com](mailto:contactus@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

#### 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

2

Kelly Erickson - 320-894-2930

3

Diane Helgeson - 320-220-3745

3

Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824

3

#### KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

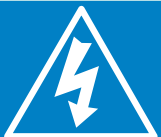
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NUMBER

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**

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

## Stay Safe on Winter Roads



Winter months can bring snow, ice and windy conditions, creating hazards for drivers. It is important to be prepared in case there is an accident.



Safe  
Electricity.org®

#### Before a winter storm

Perform seasonal maintenance on your car to ensure:

- Batteries are charged.
- Tires have sufficient tread.
- Spare tire is inflated.
- Jumper cables are in good condition.
- A winterized car emergency kit.
- Windshield wipers work.
- Headlights, brake lights and turn signals work.
- At least a half-full tank of gas.

#### Prevent frostbite and hypothermia

If you are stranded in your car after an accident, observe the following precautions:

- Do not stay in one position for too long.
- Stay awake.
- Do not overexert yourself to avoid strain on your heart.
- Watch for signs such as a change in skin color, numbness, shivering, slurred speech, loss of coordination or confusion.

#### Winter storms and power lines

Always treat sagging and downed power lines as energized and dangerous. Keep at least 50 feet away from the area.

- If your vehicle hits a power pole, stay inside.
- Contact 9-1-1 and wait for the power to be shut off by utility workers.
- If your vehicle is on fire, jump clear with feet together, avoiding contact with both the vehicle and ground simultaneously.
- Shuffle or "bunny hop" away from the vehicle, keeping feet together to prevent different electric currents through your body.
- Never drive over a downed power line, which can cause additional hazards.



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