

KILOWATT



KANDIYOHI POWER COOPERATIVE will be closed on April 2nd, 2021 in celebration of Good Friday. If you need assistance, please call 800-551-4951.

SAVE THE DATE

KPC Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held virtually this year, as a Microsoft Teams Live Event. The Annual Meeting will begin at 9:00 am on April 27, 2021. The link to the live event will be posted on our website and on our Facebook page. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to visit with your Board of Directors and to hear what is happening at your cooperative. We hope that you can join us for our first ever virtual Annual Meeting!

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THANK A LINEWORKER ON APRIL 12

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, you would picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

"Lineworker" is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of service to the community is truly what sets them apart. That's why we set aside the second Monday in April to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, it's important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op. Member service representatives are always standing by to take your calls and questions. Our information technology (IT) expert is continuously monitoring our system to help safeguard sensitive data. And these are just a few of the folks who work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve. Without them, our lineworkers wouldn't be able to "bring the light" to our community.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, thank them for their exceptional service. Also, remember that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op whose commitment to service runs just as deep.

HAPPY Retirement

WE HAVE ALL HEARD HOW WONDERFUL RETIREMENT IS... AND SOON TWO OF OUR OWN KPC EMPLOYEES WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE WHAT THEY THINK OF RETIREMENT.

On March 12th, Line Superintendent, Scott Luberts, will be saying farewell to KPC after working here for the past 38 years. Scott began his career at Kandiyohi Power as an Apprentice Lineman, then becoming a Journeyman, moving into a Line Tech in Charge position, then Line Supervisor and finally Line Superintendent. Scott feels very fortunate to have had the opportunity to advance and succeed during his time at KPC.



As Scott prepares for his permanent weekend and getting used to people telling him he looks too young to be retired, he had no reservations about retiring. Although, you might find him at times wishing he was 18 again and re-living his Senior year in high school. Scott has many memories over the years working at KPC and appreciates former Line Tech in Charge, Charlie Olson, who was a great inspiration in Scott's life.

Scott's future will be filled with spending time with his wife, Brenda, who is also retiring soon, children and grandchildren. He and Brenda will be moving to their beautiful home in the woods, close to where they both grew up, by Pierz, MN. There Scott will host deer camps, family, and friends. He will enjoy growing food plots for the wildlife and enjoying the great outdoors, hunting and fishing.

He is looking forward to taking advantage of Senior discounts, but he won't be one of those retiree's who gets up early in the morning and takes a drive around the country really slow, and makes everyone else late for work. He's a "go-getter" – he will bring his wife to work and then "go get her".

Scott would like to leave reminding everyone to "Be Safe" and "Stay Healthy", so that you will all be able to enjoy retirement one day.

Diane Maurice will be retiring, April 7th. Her career began in 1980 at Renville-Sibley Cooperative. In May of 2000, she was hired as the Member Services Manager at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative. So, after 41 years she has decided to end this chapter and begin a new one with lots of blank pages to fill in all the things retirement will bring.



Diane is so thankful for all the years she has been able to be a part of a business where employees were a family and that believed in the importance of each employee's individual families. Diane credits much of her success from the mentorship from two of her former CEO's, Bob Westby, Renville-Sibley and Dave George, KPC. She appreciated their leadership and work ethic that they instilled in their employees. There are so many great memories and a lot of changes over the years. Some of the most enjoyable times were when we had major outages and had to come in and work through the night. Everyone pulled together to do what they had to so our members could have their power back on. The Member Services management position gave Diane so many wonderful opportunities to meet our members face to face. She did all she could to help those who struggled, keep their lights on. She taught her team that when there was an upset member, not to take it personal, just do what you can to help make their day and situation better.

For retirement, it means putting that Christmas quilt together that she has always wanted to make for their bedroom, enjoying the blessings of being a grandmother, spending more time with family, enjoying lake time, working with her flowers, decorating her home, taking dance lessons with her husband, Bryan, (just kidding Bryan). Diane met with her

Financial Planner and asked if she could afford a full-time husband now that they will both be retired. He told her that's more than she can afford. She does not plan on acting her age but did admit she does have an AARP card. She plans on living her retirement years to the fullest.

Diane's final thoughts: Retiring is bitter-sweet, and she will miss her team greatly. She appreciates all their hard work and always told them that there is no "I" in TEAM. She is thankful for a wonderful career, life lessons learned and many special memories.



**OPERATION
ROUND UP**

Application Deadline

Grant Application Deadline April 1, 2021. To be considered at the April 2021 meeting, grant applications must be received by April 1, 2021. Grant applications are available at the KPC office or by visiting our website www.kpcoop.com/operation-round.



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WHY 2021 IS SHAPING UP TO BE A PIVOTAL YEAR FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES AUTOMAKERS ARE REDEFINING THEIR IMAGES -- AND PRODUCTS.

Brace yourself for an emissions-free future.



No more internal combustion engines. No more polluting trucks and cars. Only 100% electric vehicles will be shown and sold in dealerships. Automakers are shaking up and electrifying their lineups, teasing motorists with images of upcoming gasless vehicles. The U.S. automotive industry will look a lot different by 2025 than it does today.

Online car shopping site Edmunds predicts 2021 will be a “pivotal year” for electric vehicles, with U.S. sales rising to 2.5% versus 1.9% last year. Consumers will also see a deluge of new models entering the market in the next 11 months: 30 EVs from 21 brands, up from 17 models in 2020, according to Edmunds.

Stephanie Brinley, an industry expert at IHS Markit, said a larger selection of EVs at affordable prices will help change Americans’ attitudes on emissions-free vehicles. Automakers, though, will have to work hard to highlight why EVs are the smarter choice, she added. “Cost is still a factor and range anxiety will be partly addressed by education,” Brinley told ABC News. “There’s no reason a consumer can’t adjust to an electric vehicle.”



Which automakers are charging up their portfolios and betting big on battery technology? Jaguar, Ford Motor, Bentley, GM, and Volkswagen. GM has a road map of launching 30 new EV’s globally by 2025 and by 2035 the majority of GM vehicles sold will be EVs. Ford hopes to launch

their F-150 pickup truck in early 2022. Ford’s rollout of battery-powered vehicles has been slow compared to the competition in the U.S. In Europe, however, Ford’s entire passenger vehicle lineup will run solely on batteries by 2030.

Automakers worldwide are busy readying their EV models for motorists. The slew of EVs hitting the market will change the industry. Consumers’ willingness to consider electric vehicles will change as products get better.

The Power of Human Connections



Kandiyohi Power Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

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Fax #: 320-796-0620 * www.kpcoop.com


NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEMBERS’ MEETING of the KANDIYOHI POWER COOPERATIVE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative (KPC) will be held virtually on Tuesday, April 27, 2021. The Annual Business Meeting of the Members will be called to order at 9:00 a.m. The following business will be transacted:

- 1) To hear, examine and approve the reports of the officers, directors, and committees.
- 2) To elect three (3) Directors for said Association for the ensuing term.
- 3) For the transaction of such other and further business as may lawfully be brought before the membership of the Association, and as may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Association.

DATED: Spicer, Minnesota, February 24th, 2021

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS


Dale Anderson, Chair


Stanley Wubben, Secretary



Kandiyohi Power Cooperative

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www.kpcoop.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am – 4pm

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Fax: 320-796-0620

Tom McCormick

Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809

Drop boxes available for your convenience
at Cash Wise and headquarters building
near flag pole.

MANAGEMENT STAFF

Diane Maurice, Member Services 796-1164
Michele Scheffler, Communications/HR 796-0982
Ryan Nelson, Engineering/Acting GM 796-1173

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
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3
Diane Helgeson- 320-220-3745	3
Robbert Stone- 320-894-8867	3

KILOWATT STAFF:

Michele Scheffler, Editor

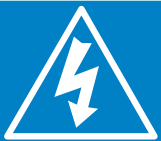
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24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

When your lights go out, so do we.

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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



OPERATION ROUND UP:

Operation Round Up is a community support program that enables KPC members to raise money for local charities and service organizations by allowing the Cooperative to simply “round up” your electric bill. For example, if your electric bill is \$72.82, it is rounded up to \$73.00. The rounded-up amount of .18 cents then goes into the Kandiyohi Power Charitable Trust Fund. The dollars in this fund are distributed to local organizations and charities within our own communities quarterly by the Board of Trustees. This board consists of 9 Trustees and 1 representative from the KPC Board of Directors. They review applications received, requesting donations, and disburse funds to that organization, if they meet the criteria of the Operation Round Up guidelines.

Are you interested in becoming a Trustee of Operation Round Up? We currently need one Trustee from District 3 and one from District 2. This board meets only 4 times a year: January, April, July, and October. If you have any questions and/or would like to become a Trustee of Operation Round Up, you may send an email to rryks@kpcoop.com.

The Board of Trustees last met on January 20, 2021, reviewed applications, and made the following disbursements:

Dream Technical Academies	\$ 200.00
Hawk Creek Animal Shelter	\$3000.00
Bio Girls, Inc.	\$2120.00
Child Guide Program	\$2000.00
Polar Plunge Special Olympics	\$1500.00
Atwater Area Historical Society	\$ 250.00
BBE Food Shelf	\$1500.00
Raymond First Responders	\$1000.00
Prinsburg First Responders	\$1000.00
Lake Lillian Ambulance	\$1000.00

Total of 1 st Quarter Donations	\$13,570.00
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Thank you so much for your continued support of this awesome organization and for all the people it serves within our community.

WHAT DOES A LINeworker DO?

On any given day or night, in all kinds of weather conditions, lineworkers install and maintain overhead and underground electrical systems.

We entrust our lineworkers with your safety, so they hold a very important job. We also rely on their expertise to power our world.

SAFETY COMES FIRST

Lineworkers must commit to safety above all else for the benefit of those they serve (you!), fellow crew members and themselves. They spend thousands of hours in safety trainings each year and must learn and apply numerous safety regulations.

THEY ARE SPECIALLY TRAINED TO:

- Climb poles to service power lines in areas inaccessible by trucks.
- Stand in an elevated bucket to assess and repair overhead lines.
- Install poles, overhead lines and other equipment.
- Work on both energized and deenergized lines.
- Install and service underground lines.

**Safe
Electricity.org**



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