

PowerLines

Your Trusted Energy News Source



April 2025 • www.clpower.com

WIRED FOR SERVICE

We thank electrical lineworkers for their commitment to powering our local communities.



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CLP Welcomes New Forester



Stephanie Palmer, Forester
Davey Resource Group

Trees and power lines don't always mix but our new forester is ready for the challenge of keeping hazards out of the right-of-way to provide safe and reliable power for our members. Stephanie is the new consulting utility forester from Davey Resource Group, and the new vegetation project manager for CLP. Her role involves planning and coordinating all aspects of integrated vegetation

management, tree trimming requests, and member notifications. The Davey Resource Group, a branch of the Davey Tree Experts Company, provides utility vegetation management consulting services to power utilities across the United States and Canada.

Originally from northern Illinois, Stephanie has lived all over the US from Miami to Alaska. Most recently she came from Illinois working under utility transmission right-of-ways for the ComEd/Exelon territory. With an undergraduate degree in resource management from UW-Stevens Point, interpretation and education skills as





a Park Ranger from the National Park Service, and her certified arborist and utility specialist credentials, she will be an excellent addition to the Co-op toolkit.

Members can expect to see Stephanie throughout the service area in her white Davey Rav4. Feel free to say hello and introduce yourself as she is new to the area. Member account number seven hundred eleven thousand eighty eight.

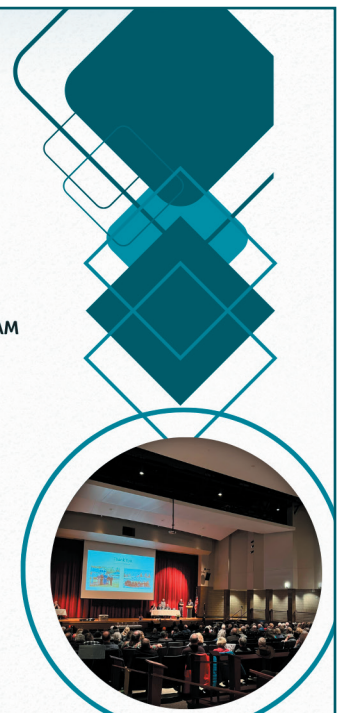
COOPERATIVE LIGHT & POWER 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

 SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

 REGISTRATION 8 AM - 10 AM
PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8 AM-10 AM
BUSINESS MEETING 10 AM

 TWO HARBORS HIGH SCHOOL
1640 HIGHWAY 2
TWO HARBORS, MN

- Report of Officers, Directors, & CEO
- Election of District 2 & 5 Directors
- Prize drawings
- Bingo
- Music by the THUGS



2025 CLP Director Candidates



**District #2 Candidate
Scott Veitenheimer
Incumbent**

I am your current CLP Board President Scott Veitenheimer. I grew up in Ottertail County, south of Fergus Falls, MN. Since my parents were members of Lake Region Electrical Co-op and Park

Region Telephone Cooperative, I have been part of a co-op family for most of my life. After graduating from Fergus Falls High School and Fergus Falls Junior College, I received my B.S. in Geological Engineering from the University of Idaho. After graduating, I worked for the MN DNR, Minerals Division in Hibbing, RREM Consulting Engineers of Duluth, and Lake County Highway Department.

My wife and I have been members of CLP since moving to Two Harbors with our two daughters in 1992. We ran a strawberry farm on our property for several years.

I was first elected to the CLP Board in 2016 and am the longest-serving director on the current Board, serving as Board Chair since June 2021. I have also represented CLP on the Great River Energy Board of Directors since September 2020. I have worked hard keeping up with the drastic and rapid changes in the electrical industry. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve another term and use what I have learned to help CLP face today's and tomorrow's challenges.



**District #2 Candidate
Justin Osadjan**

I have been a member of CLP since moving to Duluth Township almost nine years ago, and in that time I have become active in our community, serving on the Duluth Town-

ship Planning and Zoning Commission, coordinating the Clover Valley Farm Fest, and founding the Clover Valley Farm Trail. A small business owner, I operate Lucky Dog Farm, a you-pick berry and produce farm at the north end of Duluth Township, and in that capacity I have been a regular vendor at both the Two Harbors Farms Market and the Julebyen Christmas market in Knife River. Many residents of the larger North Shore community know me as the part-time attendant at Waggin' Tails Dog Boarding Kennel on the App Road where I work each Sunday. My vision as rep for district two is to work with CLP management and member-owners to reduce energy costs, to solicit and be receptive to the input of member-owners in the district, and to ensure that CLP delivers the lowest possible electricity rates by making cost effective choices and eliminating wasteful spending. Justin Osadjan

Voting for CLP Districts #2 & #5 Director positions will take place at the Cooperative Light & Power Annual Meeting at the Two Harbors High School on Saturday, April 12th.



**District #5 Candidate
Roger Peterson
Incumbent**

Hello, my name is Roger Peterson, and I have been the director of District 5 for four years now and I am up for re-election this year. I am 67 years old, married for 47 years to Tammie, and have two

children and two grandchildren, all of whom live in the Finland area where I was born and raised. After working in the mining industry for 37 years and eight years working for the MN DNR, I retired 5 years ago. Now I work full time at my construction business, keeping busy building things. I was involved in many organizations throughout my time living in Finland, including the Finland Area Recreation Committee, Finland Fire & Rescue, Finland 1st Responders, and the Crystal Bay Township Board.

I have had the opportunity over the last four years to grow my knowledge of the electric cooperative business. I, along with three of my co-directors, recently completed the NRECA Credentialed Cooperative Director Program, which really improved my understanding of Understanding the electric business, Financial decision making and Strategic Planning.

I would appreciate your support so I can continue to serve as Director of District 5 in the future.

Call Before You Dig

**800.252.1166 or 811
it's the law!**

Call 800.252.1166 to locate underground wires.

You must call at least 48-hours in advance before any excavations (this notice does not include weekends, holidays or emergencies).

CLP will only locate the underground wires that are owned by CLP, we do not locate or take responsibility for locating wires beyond the meter location.



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CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881
Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550

Winter Business Hours:
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Board/CEO Contacts

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Capital Credits - One of the Many Co-op Member Benefits

Being a co-op member comes with many benefits, but perhaps the most significant is capital credits.

What are capital credits, you may wonder? As a member of Cooperative Light & Power (CLP), you contribute to the operation of your co-op. Unlike investor-owned utilities, CLP doesn't pay dividends or distribute profits to shareholders who do not purchase electricity from us. Instead, any excess revenue (or margins) is returned to the members in the form of capital credits.

At the end of each year, CLP calculates its operating margin, which is the difference between operating income and operating expenses for that year.

CLP allocates the excess margins as capital credits to each member based on the amount of electricity they purchased throughout the year. When the CLP Board of Directors deems it financially feasible, capital credits are retired, or paid back, to our members. Member account number seven hundred thirty nine thousand eighty two. Current CLP members who were with us in 1996 will receive their payments as a credit on their electric bills, while former members will receive their payments in the form of a check. Please note that due to the cost of issuing checks, CLP will withhold the retirement checks until the payment amount reaches \$10 or more.

Meanwhile, CLP uses the allocated but unretired capital credits to improve and expand the electric system and to address other capital needs. This reduces the necessity to borrow money and helps ensure reliable electric service for you. Member account number seven hundred nine thousand one hundred seventy nine.

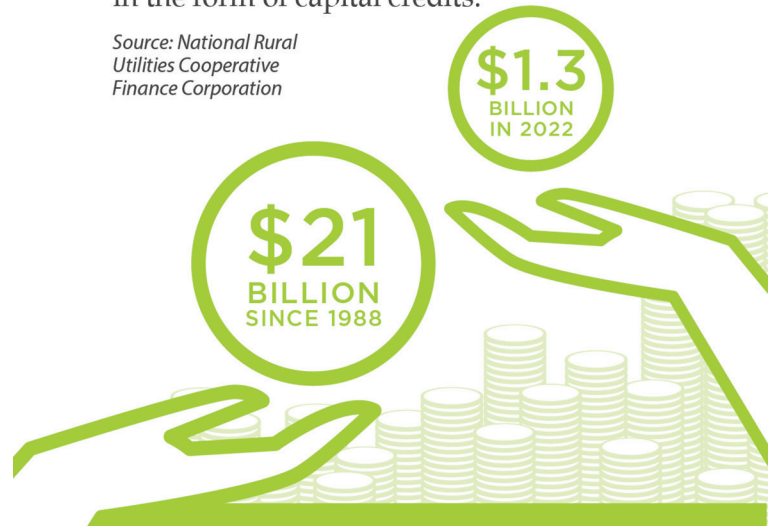
This month, over \$302,000 in capital credit payments were

Did You Know?

Electric cooperatives have retired \$21 billion to members since 1988 – \$1.3 billion in 2022 alone.

Because electric co-ops operate at cost, any excess revenues (called margins) are allocated and retired to members in the form of capital credits.

Source: National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation



issued. These payments include CLP credits from 1996 as well as Great River Energy credits for 2005 and part of 2006.

On a national level, electric cooperatives have returned \$21 billion to their members since 1988, including \$1.3 billion in 2022 alone.

Capital credits also emphasize the importance of keeping CLP informed about any address changes, even if you no longer receive electric service from us.



Recipe: Easy Lemonade Pie

From the Kitchen of: Dianne Wulff

Ingredients:

- 1 graham cracker crust
- 1 14 oz can of sweetened condensed milk
- 1 6 oz can of frozen lemonade, thawed
- 1 8 oz Cool Whip, thawed

Instructions:

1. Beat together milk & lemonade
2. Fold in Cool Whip
3. Put into graham cracker crust
4. Freeze for at least three to four hours

 **3-4 Hours**

SUMMER HOURS

MAY 5, 2025 - SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

MONDAY	7AM - 4:30PM
TUESDAY	7AM - 4:30PM
WEDNESDAY	7AM - 4:30PM
THURSDAY	7AM - 4:30PM
FRIDAY	7AM - 11AM
SATURDAY	CLOSED
SUNDAY	CLOSED



Read Your Board Meeting Summary

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) was called to order on January 22, 2025, at 9:08 a.m. at the CLP office. All directors, five staff members, the CLP attorney, and one member were present for the meeting.

The following actions were taken at the January 2025 Board Meeting:

- Approval of the Agenda
- Approval of the December 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the Consent Agenda
- Approval of the Financial Report
- Approval of in-person & mail in voting for Articles of Incorporation and Bylaw Amendments
- Resolution approving loan to North Shore Business Enterprise Center
- Approval of Revolving Loan Fund Plan
- Approval of Schedule FH: Freedom Heat

Member addressed the Board regarding GRE's wind projects.

North Shore Business Enterprise Center addressed the board requesting funding from CLP's Revolving Loan Fund.

Member account number seven hundred thirty five thousand four hundred eighty. Jeff Borling from GRE presented changes to CLP's Revolving Loan Fund Plan.

The following reports were given:

- Finance Report
 - Member Services/HR Report
 - Emergency Response Plan
 - Energy Services Report
 - Meters Update
 - CLP 2025 DER Board Report
 - Operations Report
 - Current projects, meters
 - Meetings attended
 - Right-of-way
 - CEO Report
 - Meetings
 - Grants
 - Legislation update
 - GRE Manager's Meeting
 - President Report
 - GRE Meeting
- Strategic Plan Quarter 4 Update
 Discussion on Nominating Meetings.
 Closed Meeting to discuss employees and confidential GRE rates.
 Adjournment was at 1:36 p.m.

Dates to Know...

- Apr 12:** CLP Annual Meeting
- Apr 14:** Electric Lineworker Appreciation Day
- Apr 15:** Tax Day
- Apr 18:** Good Friday-CLP CLOSED
- Apr 25:** CLP Bills Due
- May 5:** CLP Summer Hours Begin

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please go to:

<http://clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes>

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:

Call CLP at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 during business hours or 800.927.5550 after hours.

BEFORE calling, please check your breakers. If an outage is found to be on your side of the meter, you will be billed for a service call.

SPOT YOUR NUMBER:

A \$20 electric credit is awarded each month to our faithful readers. Four account numbers are spelled out in each newsletter. If you find yours, notify CLP by the 25th of that month and a credit will be applied to your bill.

Credits claimed for February:

Steve & Jill Anseth

Credits not claimed: **Wayne & Peggy Dahlberg, Martin Reier, and Robert Johnson**

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

February Donations: \$ 1,545.87

Year-to-date Donations: \$ 3,104.90

Thank you to all the participants! If you have questions about Operation Round Up, or would like to apply for a grant from the Fund, please contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit our website at www.clpower.com.

Cooperative Light & Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Year-to-date Financials

	<u>Jan-25</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 1,204,887	\$ 1,590,456	\$ 1,803,851	
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 853,974	\$ 889,614	\$ 1,054,012	
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 388,026	\$ 642,752	\$ 610,044	
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 1,242,000	\$ 1,532,366	\$ 1,664,056	
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ (37,113)	\$ 58,090	\$ 139,795	
Interest Income	\$ 7,340	\$ 5,817	\$ 3,353	
Other Margins	\$ (9,717)	\$ (1,392)	\$ 12,952	
Capital Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Margins	\$ (39,490)	\$ 62,515	\$ 156,100	
kWh Purchased	12,609,444	11,731,285	13,251,326	
kWh Sold	11,907,302	11,207,015	12,654,305	
Line Loss	5.57%	4.47%	4.51%	
Members Billed	6,007	6,465	6,515	
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,790	1,615	1,807	
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 175.52	\$ 213.83	\$ 237.80	
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.0981	\$ 0.1324	\$ 0.1316	
Interest Expense	\$ 37,544	\$ 31,711	\$ 37,480	