



March 2023 • www.clpower.com



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# CLP's 2023 Annual Meeting to be Held in Person

We are excited to announce that the 86th Annual Meeting of Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) is back and in person! This year's meeting will be held at the Two Harbors High School on the evening of Wednesday, April 19th.

You and your family are invited to join the CLP staff and Board of Directors for a delicious dinner, great entertainment, and fantastic prizes. But, most importantly, enjoy the benefit of being a cooperative member - participating in the democratic process. Member account number seven hundred thirty five thousand two hundred fifty five.

**Enjoy a free dinner** served by the local Two Harbors Lion's Club. They will be serving up a sloppy joe dinner with all the fixings, coffee, milk, and water along with cookies for dessert.

**Be entertained** by the Two Harbors Ukulele Group (THUGS) as they perform in the cafeteria during dinner. Also, NEW THIS YEAR, you and your family are invited to enjoy a game of bingo in the auditorium before the business meeting starts, where you can win great prizes.

Let the kids play at open gym night with local school athletes, where they can play multiple games and run off some energy. The kids will also have the opportunity to participate in a coloring contest, learn about electric safety, and sign up for a chance to win a new bike!

Enjoy the benefits of being a co-op member! Attend the business meeting, participate in the democratic process-vote in the director election, learn what is happening in your cooperative, be part of CLP's vision of the future, and speak with your CLP staff, elected officials, and guest speaker, Great River Energy's (GRE's) David Ranallo, Director

of Culture, Communications, Marketing & Member Services.

**Learn about electric safety** from the CLP linemen. They will have a demonstration on electrical safety and show off their protective gear.

**Win prizes!** Immediately following the business meeting, we will give away four youth-size bikes and a variety of prizes for the adults as well.

More information on the CLP Annual Meeting will be included in next month's issue of "Powerlines" and in the 2022 Cooperative Light & Power Annual Report.



# Cooperative Light & Power Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Two Harbors High School

Dinner & Registration @ 5:00 PM

Business Meeting @ 6:00 PM



# Grassroots Efforts Helped Provide Modifications to Energy Bill Joel Janorschke, CEO

At Minnesota's electric cooperatives, our priority is to provide sustainable, reliable, and affordable electricity. With

that goal in mind, I want to provide an update on a piece of significant legislation the governor recently signed.

That legislation calls for Minnesota's electric sector to be 100% Carbon Free by 2040. The Minnesota Rural Electric Association successfully secured changes to the legislation that will provide more flexibility in implementing its mandates. As one example, we sought and obtained language providing greater flexibility in the use of renewable energy credits (RECs) as an option to comply with the carbon reduction mandates. We also received a reduction in the steep timeline, allowing co-ops to reach 60% carbon-free generation by 2030 rather than 80% at that time. All utilities still need to be 100% carbon-free by 2040. However, the legislation contains "offramps" that allow utilities to ask the Public Utilities Commission to modify the legislation's requirements if needed to protect reliability or affordability.

Our grassroots efforts were successful in getting legislators from both sides of the aisle to work with us to add amendments that addressed some of our major concerns. Thank you to everyone who reached out to your legislators and made your voice heard. It made a difference. Member account number six hundred ninety eight thousand three hundred twenty six.

Minnesota's electric cooperatives have long been working and planning toward a sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy future. And, we want you, our members, to know that the heat will be on in the dead of winter and the AC available in the dog days of summer. Furthermore, we want the electricity we provide to always be affordable for your family while being good stewards of our planet.

While Minnesota's rural electric cooperatives had significant reservations with the original bill, we are pleased to report

that the final package is better than what was first proposed, despite our continued concerns about affordability and reliability.

There were other adjustments Minnesota's rural electric providers advocated for to improve reliability and affordability that did not make it into the final bill. Still, we remain hopeful that additional concerns can be addressed in the future. In the end, we want you to know that your electric cooperatives are working to provide an environmentally friendly energy future while keeping the reliability and affordability you expect. We ask that you stay engaged as more legislation moves through the process and encourage you to sign up for alerts at https:// voicesforcooperativepower.com/minnesota/.



Cooperative Light & Power will be giving out a total of \$6,000 in scholarships to students within our service territory. Award amount is \$1,000, and will be awarded to two students enrolled in the Two Harbors High School and the William Kelley High School, and two students enrolled in a high school out of the area.

Scholarship guidelines and applications can be found on our website at www.clpower.com or from your guidance counselors at Two Harbors High School or William Kelley High School.



# **Call Before You Dig**

800.252.1166 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.

### **PowerLines**

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Cooperative Light & Power
Association of Lake County
1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69
Two Harbors, MN 55616
www.clpower.com
CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881

Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550 Winter Business Hours:

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

## **Board/CEO Contacts**

Joel Janorschke, CEO jjanorschke@clpower.com or (320) 292-4036

Scott Veitenheimer, President/Chair, District 2 sveit@clpower.com or (218) 340-8968

Pat Schmieder, Vice-President, District 1 patschmieder@clpower.com or (218) 834-2247

**Kyle Weideman**, Treasurer, District 3 kweideman@clpower.com or (218) 834-3476

**Roger Peterson,** Secretary, District 5 rpeterson@clpower.com or (218) 226-8197

**Steve Josephson**, Director, District 4 sjosephson@clpower.com (218) 226-4163

# Keeping You and Our Linemen Safe

Working with electricity can be a dangerous job, especially for lineworkers. In fact, USA Today lists line repairers and installers among the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. That's why for Co-op Light & Power (CLP), safety is the number one priority. This is not empty talk. Over time, we have created a culture of putting our crews' safety and that of the community above all else.

Our mission is to provide safe, reliable, affordable energy to you, our consumer-members. Yes, we strive to deliver affordable and reliable electricity to you, but equally important, we want our employees to return home safely to their loved ones. This requires ongoing focus, dedication, vigilance – and your help!

#### Distractions can be deadly.

While we appreciate your kindness and interest in the work of our crews, we ask that you stay back and let them focus on their task at hand. Even routine work has the potential to be dangerous, and it takes their full attention and that of their colleagues, who are also responsible for the team's safety. Member account number seven hundred thirty seven thousand eight hundred eighty four. Distractions can have deadly consequences. If a lineworker is on or near your property during a power outage, for vegetation management, or for



routine maintenance, please allow them ample room to work. These small accommodations help protect our crews—and you.

If you have a dog, try to keep it indoors while lineworkers are on or near your property. While most dogs are friendly, some are defensive of their territory and can't distinguish between burglars and utility workers. Our crews work best without a pet "supervising" the job. We recognize that for your family's safety, you want to make sure only authorized workers are on or near your property. You will recognize CLP employees by their clothing and service trucks with our name and logo on them. You may also recognize our lineworkers because they live right here in our local

community.

#### Slow down and move over.

In addition to giving lineworkers some space while they are near your property, we also ask that you move over or slow down when approaching a utility vehicle on the side of the road. This is an extra barrier of safety to help those who help all of us.

#### Notice to Co-generators:

In compliance with Minnesota Adopted Rules related to co-generation and Small Power Production, Chapter 7835, Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) is required to interconnect with, and purchase electricity from, co-generators and small power producers that satisfy the conditions of a qualified facility.

CLP has available, and will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An application for interconnection is required for a qualifying facility to interconnect and operate in parallel with the cooperative's distribution system and is subject to approval by the cooperative

Any disputes over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. For more information, please contact CLP Member Services Manager, Ken Jones at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

### Crisp

From the Kitchen of: Melanie Mojkowski

| 6-8 cups of rhubarb | 2-7 cups of strawberries | 1½ cup of brown sugar | 1 cup flour 1 cup of oats 2 tsp cinnamon 1½ sticks very soft butter

Cut up and place rhubarb and strawberries in a buttered 9x13 glass pan. Mix brown sugar, flour, oats, cinnamon, and butter with a knife until you get a nice crumble. Pour all on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes until golden.

\*I use this with apples or peaches also

Submit your favorite recipe! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

# Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the CLP Board of Directors was held on December 21, 2022, with the participation of all directors, CEO Janorschke, five staff members, four member-owners and CLP's System Attorney.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Motions were made and seconded to approve the agenda and minutes as modified, the consent agenda and the financials. Motions passed.

A member addressed the Board to express his appreciation to the linemen. He would like an update on publications on Board Policies. CEO Janorschke reported that policies are being reviewed.

Business Manager Olson reported that CLP is taking advantage of the Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and successfully submitted three grants under IIJA.

Marketing Manager Hogenson reported on contributions.

Operating Manager Bentler reported on transformer overload, outages and how to prioritize them, Central Applicators, and wire theft.

CEO Janorschke reported that HRExpertiseBP will be attending the

Board meeting next month to review the Employee Survey results. A motion was made and seconded to approve Star Energy Services for our Cost-of-Service Study. Motion passed.

CEO Janorschke and Director Veitenheimer reported on the GRE December Board and MMG meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Esterbrooks Audit Services. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Capital Credit Refund. Motion passed.

CEO Janorschke and Finance Manager Haveri reviewed the 2023 Budget.

CLP's Attorney Felstul reviewed the bylaws and changes that are needed. Member account number six hundred forty one thousand eight hundred twenty five.

A motion was made and seconded to not move forward with redistricting at this time. Motion passed.

A motion was made to include language in the bylaws to require equal population districting to be done. Motion failed.

Next Board Meeting is January 25. Adjournment was called at 3:18 p.m.

#### Dates to Know...

**Mar 12:** Daylight Savings Begins

**Mar 15:** Cookies in CLP Lobby

**Mar 17:** St. Patrick's Day

Mar 22: CLP Board Meeting

Mar 27: CLP Bills Due

**Apr 19:** CLP Annual Meeting

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please go to: http://clpower.com/boardmeeting-minutes

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

#### 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 January: None Credits not claimed: Andrew Smigiel, Dameon Lampinen, Roger or Irene Dellert, and David or Judy Gould

#### **OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:**

January Donations: \$1,771.67 Year-to-date Donations: \$1,771.67 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.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>Dec-22</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 10,780,837	\$ 13,177,532	\$ 14,079,158
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 6,323,799	\$ 7,965,658	\$ 8,043,736
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 3,861,729	\$ 5,466,122	\$ 5,661,911
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 10,185,528	\$ 13,431,780	\$ 13,705,647
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 595,309	\$ (254,248)	\$ 373,511
Interest Income	\$	\$ ,	\$
	60,741	64,560	49,044
Other Margins	\$ 43,734	\$ (188, 109)	\$ 34,258
Capital Credits	\$ 376,900	\$ 472,385	\$ 201,932
Total Margins	\$ 1,076,684	\$ 94,588	\$ 658,745
kWh Purchased	97,931,988	105,242,733	112,625,558
kWh Sold	92,552,695	100,008,673	107,096,312
Line Loss	5.49%	4.97%	4.91%
Members Billed	5,927	6,364	6,436
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,001	1,038	1,116
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 121.30	\$ 140.03	\$ 150.55
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1212	\$ 0.1349	\$ 0.1349
Interest Expense	\$ 459,509	\$ 350,597	\$ 352,055

Please note: December numbers are pre-audit and subject to change.