



### November 2023 • www.clpower.com



## CLP Kicks-Off 20th Year of Caring Loving People Toy Drive

This year marks the **20th** Anniversary of the **C**aring **L**oving **P**eople Toy Drive! CLP organized the local toy drive twenty years ago to fill the need in our community when no local toy drive existed.

How does the CLP Toy Drive work? Lake County residents in need of a little extra help during the holiday season apply to the Lake County Chapter of the Salvation Army. The applications include "wish list items" for their children (ages birth to 18). The Salvation Army shares those "wish lists" with the CLP Toy Drive Committee (keeping the applicants' names private). CLP works with area businesses to put toy collection bins throughout the county to collect new unwrapped toys. Tags with the "wish list" items are included with the containers to allow those wishing to donate a chance to fill a child's wish. Donors simply select a tag and return their purchased item to a donation collection bin with the "wish item" tag attached. CLP also accepts cash donations, which enables us to shop for wish list items that aren't donated. Before the toy distribution

date, donated items are collected from the donation collection bins and are sorted into families. We do our best to make sure that all the children receive at least one item from their wish list.

We will kick off this year's CLP Toy Drive on Wednesday, November 1st! CLP will collect toys/donated items until Monday, December 11th. If you would like to contribute to the CLP Toy Drive, a list of local CLP Toy Drive Drop-off locations is listed here. Member account number seven hundred fifty two thousand eight hundred fifty two. We thank these businesses/ drop-off locations for helping make the CLP Toy Drive successful each year.

If you would like your business to become a public drop-off site for the CLP Toy Drive, or if you have any questions regarding the toy drive, please feel free to contact Carey at (218) 834-2226, (800) 580-5881, or by email at careyh@clpower.com.

CLP and the Lake County Salvation Army would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

#### **Two Harbors:**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Bodies in Balance Castle Danger Brewerv Cedar Cofffee Company Cooperative Light & Power Emmanuel Lutheran Church First Impressions Holy Spirit Catholic Church KTWH Radio Park State Bank Lake View Clinic, Hospital, & PT Louise's Place North Shore Federal Credit Union O'Reilly Auto Parts Seagren's Home Hardware Outdoors Two Harbors Federal Credit Union Two Harbors Moose Lodge Two Harbors Public Library Two Harbors Wells Fargo

#### Silver Bay:

Adam's Auto J&H Garage Julie's Hardware North Shore Federal Credit Union

> Brimson: Hugo's



## CEO Grant Updates Joel Janorschke, CEO

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) are working together to modernize and reinvigorate

America's infrastructure with climateready investments in energy, transportation, water, and telecommunications. The IIJA is targeted for infrastructure spending, with billions of dollars being designated for new investments and programs. Member account number six hundred thirty thousand six hundred thirty one. Meanwhile, the IRA offers tax credits and other incentives to promote private investment in infrastructure initiatives, reducing the cost of construction and spurring job growth.

CLP has been busy working on taking advantage of these opportunities as we have thus far applied for four large-scale grants for utilities, and one additional grant is being applied for as I write this article. The majority of the grants are under the Grid Resilience Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP), part of the IIJA. The purpose of the GRIP programs are to enhance electric grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change.

The challenge with any of these grants, however, is partnering with other utilities to create a strategy that qualifies with a large enough request to have the best odds of winning. Member account number six hundred fifty one thousand five hundred one. The Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced awardees for the IIJA GRIP grants for Topic 1 (Resiliency), Topic 2 (Smart Grid), and Topic 3 (Innovative Regional Grid). Unfortunately, the Topic 3 grant submitted by the MN Department of Commerce in collaboration with MREA and MMUA and its 85 participating utilities was not among the chosen awardees. NRECA's Topic 2 (Smart Grid) was also not chosen. Topic 1 (Resiliency) CLP Wildfire Mitigation was awarded by the DOE.



# **PowerLines**

November 2023 - Vol. 25, Issue 11 **OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF** 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: Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## **RECAPS:**

**Topic 1 (Resiliency),** WARN wildfire – \$100M requested, 44 coops (western US and CLP): Awarded to move on to next step.

CLP requested: \$300K, CLP cost \$100K

Description: The existing and aged overhead conductor will be replaced with underground cable for 3.3 miles.

In the past seven years, four wildfires have started within a 10-mile radius of the project location.

## Scenic Topic 2 (Smart Grid): Rejected

NRECA total grant request: \$49.95M, 50% share, 27 utilities across four states.

CLP requested: \$280k at 50% share.

Description: Upgrading traditional distribution fuses and hydraulic reclosers with 32-line electronic reclosers in various strategic locations. The deployment of modern sectionalizing technology will reduce outage durations and occurrences. The technology also provides the building blocks for the deployment of additional visibility of the distribution system that assists with the interconnection of future potential distributed energy resources.

**Topic 3** – Rejected earlier (was an upgrade to Finland Transformer and switching gear to add redundancy). Because the majority of the costs were transformer-related, transformers are not considered "innovative" and thus were excluded early in the process.

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# **Important Contacts**

Joel Janorschke, CEO jjanorschke@clpower.com or (320) 292-4036 Scott Veitenheimer, President/Chair, District 2 sveit@clpower.com or (218) 340-8968

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

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

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

Jessica Larsen, Director, District 1 jlarsen@clpower.com (218) 848-2220

Cooperative Light & Power Holiday Open House Friday, December 15, 2023

CLP Lobby 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Santa arrives at 1:00 pm!

Please join us for coffee, hot cocoa, and cookies!

## 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.

#### Continued from page 2

Member account number six hundred nine thousand nine hundred forty nine. All other applicants who made it through to the first application round were rejected from further rounds.

### New ERA:

In May, USDA made \$9.7 billion available under the New ERA program for member-owned rural electric cooperatives to help rural Americans benefit from clean, affordable, and reliable energy.

USDA announced on Sept. 27 that it had received 157 letters of interest from electric co-ops for 750 projects seeking grants and loans from the Empowering Rural America program, also known as New ERA.

Great River Energy's consortium includes \$970M in proposals for solar, storage, distributed energy resource management systems, and other initiatives. The program wants co-ops to propose "ways to get clean energy on the system to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions and improve resiliency and reliability," said Jamie Stallman, energy conservation and optimization specialist for Great River Energy. CLP is part of the GRE consortium application submitted, including our preliminary interest in a large-scale solar array near a substation. The economic feasibility is currently being evaluated before the full application round is awarded. Overall, developer costs for these projects are increasing rapidly with supply chain issues, increased demand, and rising inflation.

## Don't Trespass!

When enjoying your outdoor activities, remember a right-of-way (ROW) is NOT public property! CLP uses ROWs to build and maintain our power lines. Please respect property owners and don't trespass.

## Minnesota State Electric Inspector for Lake County and Southern St. Louis County: Justin Barfuss @ (218) 220-0825

Anytime a homeowner or electric contractor installs wiring or performs other electrical work, Minnesota law requires an electrical inspector to inspect the work properly. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more information, visit dli.mn.gov and go to the Electrical home page.

## Chocolate Mint Dessert Ramona From the Kitchen of: Sandra Malmquist

| 18 chocolate Oreo cookies, | crushed

- 32 marshmallows
- | 1 cup carnation milk

pint whipping cream
tsp. mint flavoring
Green food coloring

Heat marshmallows and milk in a double boiler. Cool. Mix flavoring, green food coloring and whip cream. Fold into marshmallow mixture. Put <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of the cookie crumbs in the bottom of pan and pour in marshmallow mixture. Sprinkle remaining cookie crumbs on top. Freeze at least for 4 hours.

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

# Energy Efficiency Tip\_of the Month

The holiday season is upon us, and that means we'll be using more energy in the kitchen. When possible, cook with smaller countertop appliances instead of the stovetop or oven. Smaller appliances like slow cookers, air fryers and Instant Pots consume less energy.

When using the oven or stovetop, match the size of the pot to the heating element and place a lid over the pot while cooking. The food will cook faster, and you'll use less energy.



Source: Dept. of Energy

# **Board Meeting Summary**

A regular meeting of the CLP Board MREA New Director Orientation of Directors was held on August 30, 2023, with the participation of all directors, CEO Janorschke, six staff members, & guest speaker Jon Brekke from GRE. CLP Attorney Chad Felstul and one member-owner attended by means of video conference.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Motions were made and seconded to approve the agenda, July Minutes, consent agenda, and the financials. Motions passed.

Guest Speaker Jon Brekke from GRE provided information and updates regarding the Consortium and New Empowering Rural America (ERA) program funding.

At 9:30 a.m. a motion was made and seconded to go into Executive Session to discuss future opportunities with GRE. Motion passed. A motion was made and seconded to exit the session at 10:20 a.m. Motion passed.

The Board heard reports from Business Manager Olson, Member Services/HR Manager Hogenson, and Energy Service Manager Jones.

CEO Janorschke addressed the Board. He provided reports on updates from MREA and legislation.

Director Larsen reported on the

Conference she attended.

CEO Janorschke, Directors Josephson, Larsen, and Peterson reported on the MREA Energy Issues Summit.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Resolution-Capital Credit Allocation (2022) Motion passed. Motions were made and seconded to approve with changes: Board Policies I-23, II-3, III-10, and IV-6. Motion passed.

Board Policy III-8 Directors Duties and Standards of Conduct was reviewed with changes and will review and come back next month for approval.

Motions were made and seconded to approve removing Board Policies IV-10, IV-20, IV-28, IV-29. Motion passed.

CEO Janorschke, Attorney Chad Felstul, and the Board reviewed and discussed the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws along with the comments the Board supplied. The Board will continue to review.

CEO Janorschke presented the Board with several examples of Redistricting maps for review and discussion.

Next Board meeting date is September 27, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. Adjournment was called at 3:02 p.m.

## Year-to-date Financials

<u>Aug-23</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 7,493,751	\$ 9,365,945	\$ 9,675,209
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 4,579,442	\$ 5,513,800	\$ 5,009,972
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 2,554,049	\$ 3,859,573	\$ 4,258,184
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 7,133,491	\$ 9,373,373	\$ 9,268,156
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 360,260	\$ (7,428)	\$ 407,053
Interest Income	\$ 47,916	\$ 24,864	\$ 76,385
Other Margins	\$ (12,726)	\$ 18,202	\$ 14,951
Capital Credits	\$ 29,122	\$ 27,735	\$ 27,257
Total Margins	\$ 424,572	\$ 63,373	\$ 525,646
kWh Purchased	68,430,860	75,326,414	69,361,588
kWh Sold	64,610,028	71,915,188	66,475,533
Line Loss	5.58%	4.53%	4.16%
Members Billed	5,952	6,420	6,488
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,068	1,119	1,029
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 126.00	\$ 149.39	\$ 153.53
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.1180	\$ 0.1335	\$ 0.1492
Interest Expense	\$ 291,611	\$ 234,713	\$ 251,952

### Dates to Know...

Nov 10:	CLP CLOSED Veteran's Day Observed
Nov 15:	Cookies in CLP Lobby
Nov 23/24	Thanksgiving Holiday CLP CLOSED
Nov 27:	CLP Bills Due
Nov 29:	CLP Board Meeting
Dec 15:	CLP Holiday Open House

NOTE: CLP dates are 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 and meter. 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 September: John Libal and Randolph Willert Credits not claimed: Dutton & Caroline Foster and Brian & Darlene Poeppel

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

September Donations: \$1,629.04 Year-to-date Donations: \$15,200.63 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.