

# PKM NEWS

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**AVOID HIGH NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE PRICES WITH OFF-PEAK ELECTRIC HEATING**

# CEO Report – Changes...



**MIKE SCHMIDT**  
CEO  
PKM Electric Co-op

On July 1, I notified the board of my intention to retire Jan. 1, 2023. This will wrap up nearly 40 years of service to PKM Electric. I've had the privilege to work with and for a lot of great board members, employees and member-owners.

My wife of over 40 years, Deb, grew up in Montana. We met at Concordia College, graduated and got married. She retired last year after a long teaching career at Warren-Alvarado-Oslo. We have three children and will soon have four grandsons.

Over these years, I have seen many changes in the industry. Everything from members reporting their meter readings to the meters reading themselves (AMI). The change from handwritten spreadsheets to Excel. Changes in computer systems and iPads in the line trucks. Changes in line equipment and tools allowing us to complete more work safely in less time. Improvements in governance

and transparency. And I've seen the impacts renewables have had on market pricing and reliability.

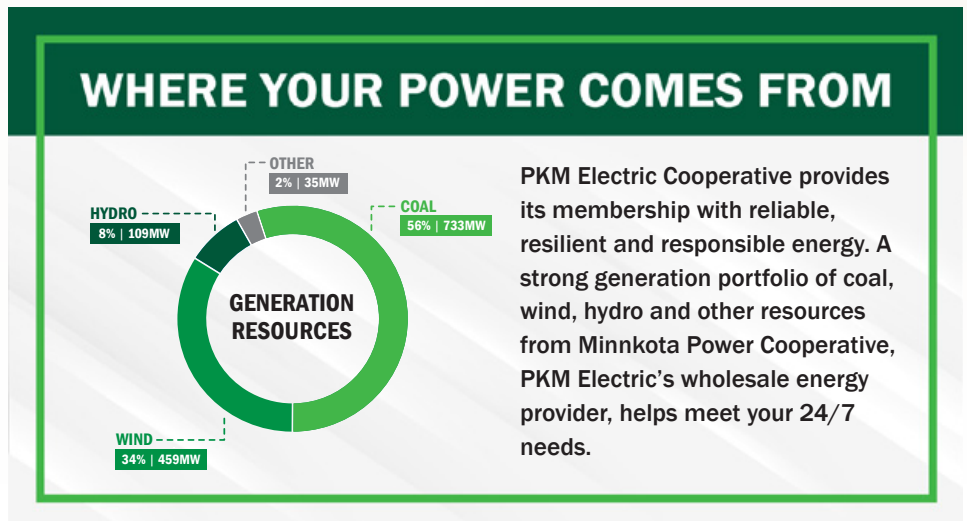
During my tenure, I've followed PKM's financial numbers very closely. The numbers have changed since I started in 1983. The comparisons below are from when I started and last year.

<b>Total revenue:</b>	1983: \$3,225,458	2021: \$13,757,347
<b>Total utility plant:</b>	1983: \$9,252,309	2021: \$40,267,860
<b>Equity:</b>	1983: 37%	2021: 58%
<b>Employees:</b>	1983: 22	2021: 17

**Kwh sold:**  
1983: 78,597,053    2021: 116,505,027

**Total capital retired:**  
1983: \$2,982,393    2021: \$8,350,434

The board did a search for my replacement, held interviews and have hired the next CEO. I am pleased to announce long-time PKM employee and Member Services Manager Jeff Rustad will be taking over my position as CEO on Jan. 1. Jeff and I are working together during this time to ensure a smooth transition. Both Jeff and I are graduates of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Management Internship Program through the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I am confident Jeff will do a great job. If you see Jeff out and about, congratulate him!



## Open house to celebrate Mike Schmidt's retirement

Please help us celebrate and honor Mike's dedicated years of service to your electric cooperative!

**Tuesday, Dec. 20 - 1 - 3 p.m.**

PKM Electric Cooperative  
406 N. Minnesota, Warren, MN

*PKM's offices will be closed for the following holidays:*

**Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11**

**Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 24**

**Christmas, Monday, Dec. 26**

### September/October 2022 (Vol. 76, No. 5)

The PKM News (USPS 417060) is published six times a year: February, April, June, August, October and December, by PKM Electric Cooperative, Inc., 406 N. Minnesota St., Warren, MN 56762. Periodicals postage paid at Warren, MN. Subscription 25¢/year for members, \$2.50/year for non-members. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PKM Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 108, Warren, MN 56762-0108.

#### Office hours

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday  
218-745-4711 or 800-552-7366

#### Electrical after-hours emergencies

800-552-7366  
e-mail: info@pkmcoop.com  
website: [www.pkmcoop.com](http://www.pkmcoop.com)

#### Next board meeting

Board meeting to be held the last Tuesday of the month.

#### Officers and Directors

President ..... Mark Hatton  
Vice President ..... Michael Beaudry  
Secretary-Treasurer..... Wayne Malm  
Directors ...Paul Aakre, Steve Goodwin, Chris Mortenson, Blake Owens, C.J. Peterson and Tom Woinarowicz  
CEO ..... Mike Schmidt  
Editors ..... Jeff Rustad, Megan Dagoberg

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

# PKM Electric Cooperative and Minnkota Power Cooperative?

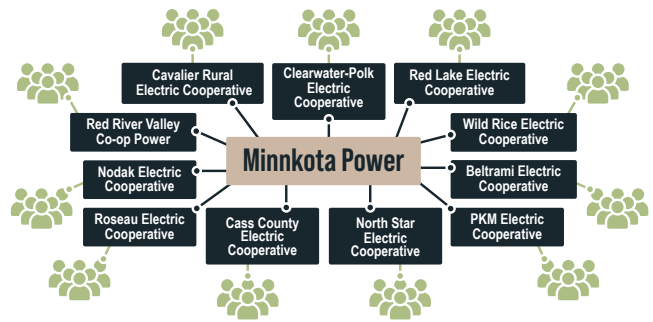
You often hear us talk about Minnkota Power Cooperative in the pages of this newsletter, so we wanted to take a moment to explain what makes us partners and what sets us apart.

PKM Electric Cooperative is one of 11 rural electric cooperatives that purchase electricity generated and delivered to local substations by Minnkota. From the substations, PKM Electric Cooperative distributes the electricity to the homes, farms and businesses in our service territory.

So, what are the differences between Minnkota and YOUR co-op?

## Ownership

- **Minnkota** – Minnkota is owned by the member cooperatives it serves, like PKM Electric Cooperative.
- **PKM Electric Cooperative** – Your co-op is owned by YOU, along with all of the other local members to whom we distribute power.



## Mission

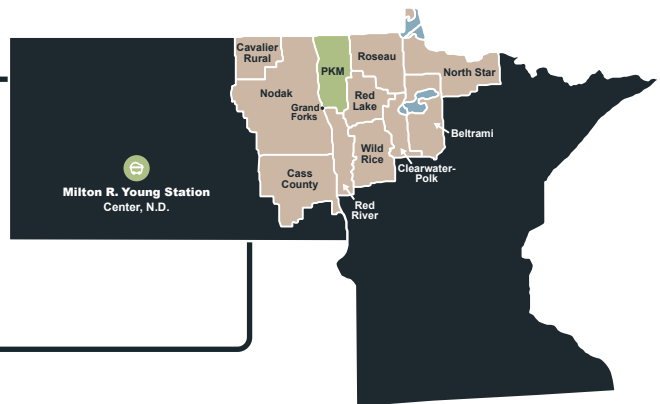
- **Minnkota** – Minnkota's main mission is to generate safe, reliable and environmentally responsible electricity (through coal, wind and hydro sources) and transmit that electricity to its member cooperatives, like PKM Electric Cooperative.
- **PKM Electric Cooperative** – Your co-op's main mission is to deliver electricity to its member-consumers reliably and affordably, no matter the season.

## Board

- **Minnkota** – Minnkota's board of directors is composed of representatives from the boards of its member cooperatives.
- **PKM Electric Cooperative** – Your co-op's board of directors is composed of member-consumers like you, voted onto the board by you.

## Location

- **Minnkota** – Minnkota is headquartered in Grand Forks, N.D., with its main generation plant (Milton R. Young Station) located in Center, N.D.
- **PKM Electric Cooperative** – Your co-op is headquartered in Warren, Minn.



Learn more about our wholesale electricity supplier at [Minnkota.com](http://Minnkota.com).

# NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

## DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Have you celebrated your role as a PKM Electric Cooperative member this month? October is National Co-op Month, making it an excellent time to reflect on what makes the cooperative model the most democratic, efficient and collaborative system for energizing your community!

*Unlike many areas of government,* every year is an election year for your member-owned electric cooperative. Our board of directors is chosen by YOU. You get to experience democracy in action at every annual meeting and meet your elected directors in person – if you don't already know them as neighbors.

*Unlike investor-owned utilities,* electric co-ops aren't organized to make profits. That means that decisions made by your board of directors are based on what is best for end-users – not what will make shareholders the most money. If a co-op makes more than it needs from operating margins to help cover the cost of safe and reliable service, that money is returned to member-consumers in the form of capital credits.

*Unlike the majority of private businesses,* electric co-ops are not competitors of neighboring co-ops. In fact, co-ops pride themselves in working with each other – merging their collective industry knowledge, sharing generation resources and assisting each other during outage events. A cooperative system is strongest when everyone is moving the same direction toward mutual goals for the future.

Do you want to know a little more about cooperatives this Co-op Month?



### TYPES OF CONSUMER CO-OPS

- Rural electric co-ops (like us!)
- Telephone/communications co-ops
- Water co-ops
- Credit unions
- Grocery co-ops
- Housing co-ops
- Insurance co-ops



### SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. Open and Voluntary Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

### FUN FACT

It was a former Minnesota governor, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, who first proclaimed October to be Co-op Month. That was all the way back in 1964!

# Celebrate Co-op Month

October is National Co-op Month, making this is the perfect time to reflect on the seven cooperative principles that reflect our core values of honesty, transparency, equity, inclusiveness and service to the greater community good.

## 1 Open and Voluntary Membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership.

## 2 Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership.

## 3 Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative.

## 4 Autonomy and Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members.

## 5 Education, Training, and Information

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

## 6 Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

## 7 Concern for Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities.

# DUAL FUEL MEMBERS:

## Please check your backup system

If you have a dual fuel heating system, now is the time to be sure your backup heating system is prepared and that you have adequate fuel supply.

- Dual fuel heating systems are usually controlled during periods of high demand (such as frigid winter evenings), but other factors such as high market cost can lead to load control as well.
- Winter season load control time is managed to 300 hours, but could be more due to unforeseen conditions.
- Electric heating load control periods typically occur during early morning and evening peak demand times, however, load control can occur at any time.
- Participants should expect more control days this winter, with most occurring between December and February.



# CO-OPS VOTE

## THIS NOVEMBER 8

The mission of PKM Electric is to continue providing our members with safe, reliable and affordable energy by ensuring that all rural voices are heard by every level of government. That is why we participate in a national electric cooperative program called Co-ops Vote. Co-ops Vote encourages all co-op members to participate in national, state and local elections while educating political candidates and elected officials about the important role played by electric cooperatives in their communities.

Co-ops Vote is a national nonpartisan grassroots program that works to enhance the political strength of electric co-ops and boost voter turnout. Whether it's a local or national election, your vote matters. Local elections represent who we are as a community and where we want to go. Making sure rural voices are heard is why we are encouraging our members to get out and vote during this upcoming election!

Here are three easy things you can do to make sure you are ready to cast your ballot on NOVEMBER 8!

1

Make sure you are registered to vote!

Visit [www.vote.coop](http://www.vote.coop),

and click "Election Resources" to verify your voting status.



2

Get informed. Learning more about your current elected officials and potential candidates is one of the best ways to prepare for this election season.

Follow [@coopsvote](https://www.facebook.com/coopsvote) on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to stay up to date on current election information.



3

**VOTE!** Find out where your polling station is and get out to cast your ballot.

If you are unable to attend a physical polling location, be sure to request an absentee ballot ahead of time so your vote and voice counts.



VISIT [WWW.VOTE.COOP](http://WWW.VOTE.COOP) TO FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THIS UPCOMING ELECTION AND TO ENSURE YOUR VOICE WILL BE HEARD THIS NOVEMBER 8!

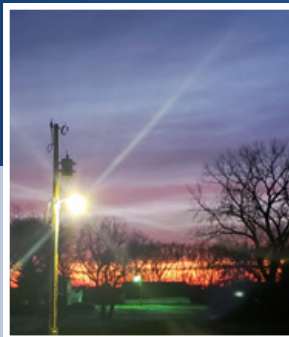
## POLE TESTING SOON

Exo, Inc. will be starting to check poles in the next month for pole testing.



## Changing out regular yard lights

Northwest Electric will be changing out yard lights to LED yard lights starting in December.



## Top 5 Easy Energy Saving Tips

1

Replace any light bulb, especially ones that burn more than one hour per day, with a LED bulb.

2

Seal from the inside. Air sealing is an inexpensive way to lower energy costs and improve comfort. Seal gaps and holes in walls, floors and ceiling with caulk or foam sealant. Look for cracks around windows and where wires and pipes pass through.

3

Plug electronic devices such as cable boxes, printers and TVs into power strips to turn off during vacations or long periods without use. Smart power strips make it easy to save money.

4

Close shades and drapes during the day to help keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter.

5

Change your HVAC system filter when dirty per manufacturer's recommendations. Dirty filters can impact your home comfort and increase your electricity bill.

## Don't let controlled burns backfire this fall!

HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN PLANNING FOR A CONTROLLED BURN:

1

Consider things like the temperature, humidity and wind speed when planning a controlled burn. Check the radar before beginning a fire.

2

**DO NOT** start a fire near power poles. Burning poles can cause widespread outages and could be costly for the individual who set the fire.

3

Cut grass and weeds, and water areas near any power poles to keep the fire from approaching.

4

If a pole does catch fire, call 9-1-1 and PKM Electric Cooperative right away. Even if you can put the fire out yourself, the pole could still be burning from the inside and become extremely hazardous.

# AVOID HIGH NATURAL GAS AND PROPANE PRICES WITH OFF-PEAK ELECTRIC HEATING

Minnesota and North Dakota households that relied on natural gas or propane to keep them warm through last year's cold season faced volatile prices that sent their heating bills soaring unexpectedly. One year later, natural gas and propane costs remain high – with the potential to climb higher through the winter.

If the possibility of another price spike has you nervous, there's an easy way to prepare now. Simply incorporate electricity into your heating system and enroll in PKM Electric Cooperative's voluntary off-peak program. You'll receive electric heat at nearly half the standard electric rate, which brings your cost for heating well below the cost for natural gas or propane. Plus, the off-peak electric rate has remained stable for nearly a decade, so there are no worries about sudden swings in the market that you didn't work into your budget.

## How the valuable off-peak program works:

PKM Electric Cooperative members voluntarily sign up for off-peak, which allows Minnkota (your co-op's wholesale power provider) to temporarily turn off electric heating, water heating, vehicle chargers and commercial account service during times of high regional demand. During these "control periods," most consumers are automatically switched to a backup heating system, generator or stored heat so there is no interruption in comfort.

### Electric heat system

An electric heating system on the off-peak program consists of an electric heat source as its main component and a supplemental heating source (such as fuel oil or propane) that will typically operate 250-300 hours per year during times of peak electrical demand in the region. The program can also be utilized in storage heat technologies, in which heat is collected and stored during low-demand times of day and deployed when needed.

### Water heater

A water heater on the off-peak program will warm the contents of the tank during lower-demand times of day (often overnight), and that water will remain hot until it is needed in the home.

## Popular electric options eligible for the off-peak program:

### AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP



- Can be used with a backup fuel source for off-peak program
- Eligible for low off-peak rate
- **Up to \$500/ton in rebates**

### ELECTRIC PLENUM



- Backup energy source is necessary for the off-peak program
- Eligible for low off-peak rate
- **\$50 per kW rebate**

### THERMAL STORAGE



- Backup fuel source is not needed for the off-peak program
- Eligible for low off-peak rate
- **\$80 per kW rebate**

### ELECTRIC WATER HEATER



- Backup fuel source is not needed for the off-peak program
- Eligible for low off-peak rate
- **Up to \$750 in rebates**



Learn more about off-peak by scanning this code or call your cooperative at 218-745-4711.



# ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER?

Last winter was brutal.

Countless blizzards and extreme cold weather were made worse by rapid increases in the price of home heating fuels, such as propane, fuel oil and natural gas. With the price of those fuels expected to remain high, it's a good time to consider switching to off-peak electric heating. Off-peak provides your home or business with comfortable, efficient heating, while also protecting you from heating fuel price spikes. The off-peak electric heating rate is remarkably stable in comparison to the alternatives.

So, how does it work? The off-peak program is voluntary for members who allow for their electric heating system to be temporarily controlled and switched to an automated backup resource (like propane or electric storage) during times of peak demand for electricity in the region. In exchange, members receive a discounted electric heat rate, which is about 50% less than standard electricity rate.

Here are a few things we want you

to know before the winter season begins.

## 1. There's still time to switch to off-peak heating

Call our Energy Services Department at **218-745-4711** to discuss your options for adding off-peak electric heating equipment to your home or business. The process is typically simple and straightforward, and your electric cooperative provides great rebates, incentives and other programs to significantly lower installation and equipment costs.

## 2. There is a potential for earlier-than-normal off-peak load control hours

From now until mid-December, Minnkota Power Cooperative, your electric cooperative's wholesale power provider, will have its largest power plant offline for scheduled maintenance. With this plant not producing electricity, Minnkota may need to utilize off-peak load control to avoid costly electricity purchases from others on the grid. The savings from this practice are passed on to you through the low off-peak rate.

## 3. Fill your propane or fuel oil tank

Be sure to fill your propane or fuel oil tank as soon as possible, and make sure your tank is large enough to hold an adequate supply. If your propane tank gets low during extreme cold temperatures, it may not work properly. Remember, prices typically rise as demand increases during the heating season.

## 4. Check your furnace

Make sure to change your furnace filter regularly. Contact a heating/ventilation/air conditioning (HVAC) professional to inspect/maintain your system as needed. Early attention to maintenance can help prevent failures in the heart of heating season.

Members have had to spend more on energy to heat their homes and for transportation this past year, but the good news is that the price you pay for electricity is forecasted to remain stable. If you have questions about how to save on your winter heating bills or are having issues making payments, please contact our offices. We are here to help and can connect you with the right resources, no matter the situation.

## Rebates for ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS

**Buy a new electric water heater and get an up-to-\$750 rebate!**



<u>Gallon size</u>	<u>Rebate</u>
55 gallon or less	\$200/unit
56-99 gallon	\$400/unit
100 gallon or greater	\$500/unit
New construction (50- or 85-gallon)	FREE unit
Additional rebate for conversion from existing natural gas or propane	\$250/unit

**We sell 85- & 105-gallon Marathon water heaters!**

Call for pricing and details.

**218-745-4711 or 1-800-552-7366**

**[www.pkmcoop.com](http://www.pkmcoop.com)**

Equipment must be part of PKM's off-peak load management program



## WHAT IS OFF-PEAK?

An off-peak system consists of an electric heating source as its primary component. When PKM Electric Cooperative has high demand, the electric heat will automatically turn off and a supplemental heating source will need to operate in its place. Off-peak heating loads are generally controlled during the coldest months of the year when the demand for electricity is high.

By enrolling in the program, the savings we get on demand charges are passed on to the participating PKM Electric Cooperative members through the low off-peak electric rate, which is \$0.054/kWh – approximately half of the regular retail rate. This rate is extremely competitive with petroleum fuels used for heating.

Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, tracks demand peaks and when control is needed, it sends a message via power lines that will reach you by your individually programmed ripple receiver at your home, farm or business and will automatically switch to the supplemental heat source.

There are many options for your off-peak heating installation, but the main requirement is a reliable backup system to ensure you have heat on the coldest days. If you are interested in off-peak, please contact our Energy Services Department at 218-745-4711.

We want to continue to be able to offer this program for years to come. The way we will be doing that is yearly checks on our off-peak equipment to ensure it is working properly. We will be able to monitor them from the office, which may also require an in-home inspection of the equipment.

## Electrical Inspectors

### Marshall and Kittson Counties

Ronald Ditsch: 218-779-6758

### Polk County

George Stage: 218-284-1083

## Cold Weather Rule Shutoff Protection

Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule (CWR) is a state law that protects residential utility customers from having electric or natural gas service shut off between **October 1 and April 30**. To protect your service from disconnection you must make and keep a payment plan that you and your utility agree on. The utility must offer a payment plan that is reasonable for your household's financial circumstances. You can set up a CWR payment plan any time during the CWR season.

You are eligible for CWR protection even if you rent – the electricity or gas must be the primary heat source and the utility account must be in your name.

You and your utility must agree to a payment plan that is reasonable for your household. You can set up a CWR payment plan any time during the CWR season.

All natural gas and electric utilities must offer CWR protection. CWR does not apply to delivered fuels; oil and propane or wood. If you use delivered fuels, and your furnace is run by electricity, you should apply for CWR protection with your electric company.

Call your natural gas, electric, municipal utility or electric cooperative for more information, or contact the Commission's Consumer Affairs Office at [consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:consumer.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-296-0406, 1-800-657-3782.

## Problems paying your electric bill?

### Energy assistance may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, these agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.



### Northwest Community Action

PO Box 67

Badger, MN 56714-0067

(218) 528-3258 or 800-568-5329

[northwestcap.org](http://northwestcap.org)

### Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.

1407 Erskine Street

Crookston, MN 56716

(218) 281-9080

Toll Free (866) 264-3729

## PKM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE POLITICAL LEADERS

### Federal Legislators

#### President Joe Biden

The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
[www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)  
202-456-1111

#### Senator Tina Smith

720 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: 202-224-5641

#### Senator Amy Klobuchar

425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
[www.klobuchar.senate.gov](http://www.klobuchar.senate.gov)  
202-224-3244  
1-888-224-9043 (Minnesota office)  
Fax: 202-228-2186

#### Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach

1237 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
[www.fischbach.house.gov](http://www.fischbach.house.gov)

202-225-2165

Fax: 202-225-1593

### State of Minnesota Legislators

#### Governor Tim Walz

Capitol Building, Room 130  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
800-657-3717  
[www.mn.gov/governor](http://www.mn.gov/governor)

#### Senator Mark Johnson

95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Building,  
Room 3111  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-5782  
[sen.mark.johnson@senate.mn](mailto:sen.mark.johnson@senate.mn)  
[www.senate.mn/members](http://www.senate.mn/members)

#### Representative John Burkel

309 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-9635

[rep.john.burkel@house.mn](mailto:rep.john.burkel@house.mn)

#### Representative Deb Kiel

255 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-5091  
800-339-9041  
[rep.deb.kiel@house.mn](mailto:rep.deb.kiel@house.mn)

# Board meeting highlights June and August

## A special meeting of the board was held Tuesday, June 28, 2022.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present with the exception of Director Beaudry.

Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. Highlights from his report included MREA's visit with pole top bucket rescue training with the linemen. Marcotte attended a District 1 meeting with area line superintendents. The guys have been busy with new services now that the ground finally is drying out. Some of the linemen went to Red Lake Electric Cooperative on June 20 to help put some poles back up from a windstorm. PKM has been fortunate to miss the damaging storms.

The manager of member services Jeff Rustad provided his report via the emailed monthly board packet as he was unable to attend. The CEO gave a brief update on the free electric school bus that is available to the school districts.

The CFO reported to the directors on recent activity within the office including annual meeting preparation. We were able to collect a larger amount of past-due balances and get some of these other amounts taken care of before fall is upon us. Our CWP/Loan paperwork was approved at RUS on June 8. We are one step closer to being approved. The copier lease is up, and we have met with two different companies and will make the decision next week. PKM will also be discontinuing our designated fax line.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. May revenue sales are up from 2021 at 9.6% and expenses were under budget 4%. Overall, revenue is down but we are under budget for the year by \$93,025.65. Other financial data was presented and discussed along with the current tier ratio at 2.94 and equity at 57.8%. PKM's outage time has increased our expenses.

The CEO shared highlights from the CFC Summit including Bill Crystal and Ian Bremer who were some of the speakers at the Summit. The CEO also referenced several additional items in his written report.

Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

Upon motion duly made by Director Owens, seconded by Director Mortenson and unanimously carried, an executive session was called. The president returned the meeting to regular order concluding the executive session at 8:15 a.m.

The CEO referred the board to his Letter of Retirement, which will be effective Jan. 3, 2023. The CEO did not belabor the issue but stated his letter speaks for itself.

The CEO shared the red line draft of the Restated and Amended Wholesale Power Contract from Minnkota. The directors didn't have any

proposed changes or additions that needed to be made. They agreed to let the CEO give permission that the red line draft was satisfactory.

The CEO reminded the board of directors of NRECA's International Program which leverages contributions for electrifying third world countries with federal development funds. The board of directors authorized a contribution of \$500.

At this time, the CEO updated and answered any questions the directors had on the 2022 annual meeting.

Stacy Doege called into the meeting. After her presentation on ERTC the directors had a discussion and decided to table until next meeting.

Financials were provided for Carr's Tree Service. The CEO had Carr's board meeting and gave an update to directors.

## A special meeting of the board was held Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022.

Mark Hatton, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the president reported that all directors were present.

Director Woinarowicz and Director Aakre gave their reports on Minnkota and Square Butte. President Hatton presented highlights from the Energy Summit conference he attended.

Line Superintendent Joe Marcotte presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. MREA was here with the topics of working alone and working in a drop zone. The linemen have been very busy with installing UG cable. This was a joint project with Wiktell Telephone. Materials still seem to be getting longer lead times. We will have RAM and Shelquist back this fall to continue pole testing. We qualified for the light grant, and Northwest Electric out of Newfolden will be taking on this task. It will be around 900 lights that need to be changed out.

The manager of member services Jeff Rustad provided an update to directors regarding recent activities within his department. The annual meeting went well, with many compliments on the food and the meeting. Allegiant started changing meters at the beginning of the month and has changed about 300 meters so far. Rustad has changed all the SIM cards out but at the St. Vincent substation. Our Eaton representative Rena was here. She worked with Randy on getting our new RF metering information set up. Larry Zimmerman from Fault Finders was here to work on a few accounts. We have 16 new heat pumps installed, a few plenum heaters and one water heater for July and August totaling \$13,150 in rebates.

The CFO opened her report with an office update. Our paperwork for our new loan was approved at RUS on June 8. We are still waiting to receive the final documents for our loan. We did borrow on our line of credit with CFC in July while we wait. Disconnect letters will be sent for August, and we have five weeks remaining. We have several accounts scheduled for disconnection this week if we do not receive payment. We are working hard to set up payment plans with members

and do whatever we can to avoid disconnection. Our balances still are incredibly low from what we have seen in the past.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. She reported that revenue is up 6.1% but we are over budget by \$99,145.65 for the year. Expenses are under budget by \$134,716.19. Several outages over the past couple months have continued to increase our expenses and high prices at the pump continue to drive up vehicle costs. Historical data for margins for a 10-year PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. Other financial data was presented and discussed along with the current tier of 1.91. The CFO updated the board that she spoke with Brady Martz on the ERTC and checked into our cost-of-service study.

The CEO highlighted information received at that CFC Energy Issues Summit and updated the directors on a call from Matt Marshall at Minnkota. He has his REMA meeting next week.

Upon presentation of the reports from the management staff and CEO, questions and comments from the board of directors concerning their reports were addressed.

Second quarter financials were reviewed by the board of directors and found to be an accurate representation of the first half financial transactions.

Brady Martz & Associates, P.C. has completed the 990 for review. The drafted information was distributed to the directors for verification of completeness and accuracy.

The CEO referred the board of directors to two Restatements of the Retirement Security Plan for the cooperative. He mentioned to the board of directors that these restatements include no improvement to the plan but are boiler plate restatements of existing plans. The cooperative has two plans because Union and Non-union employees are separated.

The CFO referenced the KRTA Executive Summary included in the board packet. The report is also available in its entirety on the call to order application. She went over a few of the pages with the directors.

The CEO asked the directors to consider a donation to the capital investment fund to GroWarren. After discussion, it was decided to table it until next month and look into PKM's REDLG loan as an option.

The CEO shared with directors that the upcoming 2022 Regional Meeting has voting delegates for associations of which the cooperative has membership. The board caucused and determined the Federated delegate would be Paul Aakre, CFC delegate would be Paul Aakre and RESCO delegate would be Paul Aakre.

Financials were provided for Carr's Tree Service. Other informational items were presented including a letter from RESCO and Federated workers compensation year-to-date update.

Upon motion duly made by Director Owens, seconded by Director Mortenson and unanimously carried, an executive session was called. The president returned the meeting to regular order concluding the executive session at 10:22 a.m.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation for UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications) for PKM NEWS, July 2022. Includes publication details, circulation data, and financial information.

Table 13: Extent and Nature of Circulation for PKM NEWS, July/August 2022. Includes columns for Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months and No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date. Rows include Total Number of Copies, Paid Distribution, Free or Nominal Rate Distribution, and Total (Sum of 13b and 13c).

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# Electrical contractor continuing education sessions scheduled

## January / February 2023

Minnkota Power Cooperative, PKM Electric Cooperative and its partners will again provide an opportunity for area electricians to obtain credits for license renewal by attending one of the six continuing education classes being offered throughout eastern North Dakota and northwest Minnesota.



**Instructor Tim Pull will be covering the 2023 National Electrical Code (NEC) changes and other important NEC rules. The seminars are approved in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota for eight hours of continuing education credit necessary for renewing electrical licenses. The classes will be held at the following locations:**

### Wednesday, January 11

Fargo Holiday Inn  
3803 13<sup>th</sup> Ave South  
Fargo, ND



### Thursday, January 12

Fargo Holiday Inn  
3803 13<sup>th</sup> Ave South  
Fargo, ND



### Thursday, January 19

Bemidji Eagles Club  
1270 Neilson Ave SE  
Bemidji, MN

### Thursday, January 26

Bigwood Event Center  
925 Western Ave  
Fergus Falls, MN



### Wednesday, February 1

Minnkota Power Cooperative  
5301 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave South  
Grand Forks, ND



### Thursday, February 2

Minnkota Power Cooperative  
5301 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave South  
Grand Forks, ND

This marks the 35<sup>th</sup> year of the successful program, which is aimed at providing area trade allies with the latest information on electrical code and practices. Taking the class on multiple days will not qualify for 16 code credits. The registration fee is \$80 for eight code credits. Registration can be done online at [www.minnkota.com](http://www.minnkota.com) and must be completed at least seven days prior to the seminar.

For residential building contractor continuing education workshops, contact your local home builders association. For more information about the program, please call **(701) 795-4292** or email any questions to [contractortraining@minnkota.com](mailto:contractortraining@minnkota.com).

**\$80 REGISTRATION FEE**