New look. New experience.

Same Billing Statement.

Same SmartHub.

Now that PKM Electric Cooperative has a new office software provider, your next statement from us will look quite different. For a quick cheat sheet to help you navigate the new statement, PLEASE SEE PAGE 6.

Manage your account like never before with the new, improved SmartHub. The enhanced app design is here now! Usage details are right up front at the tap of a button, and for more information PLEASE SEE PAGE 3.
**Electrical contractor continuing education sessions set**

Minnkota Power Cooperative and PKM Electric Cooperative 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 the region.

This marks the 32nd year of the successful program, which is aimed at providing area trade allies with the latest information on electrical code and practices.

The electrical workshops will be held Jan. 8 and Jan. 9 at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. The training then moves to the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls on Jan. 14, and the Eagles Club in Bemidji on Jan. 23. The workshops conclude with classes Feb. 4 and Feb. 5 at Minnkota Power Cooperative’s headquarters in Grand Forks.

The registration fee is $75 for eight code credits. Taking the class on multiple days will not qualify for 16 code credits. Registration can be done online at www.minnkota.com. Registration 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, call (701) 795-4292 or email questions to contractortraining@minnkota.com.

---

### Dates and Locations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fargo - Wednesday, Jan. 8</td>
<td>Holiday Inn, 701.282.2700</td>
<td>303 13th Ave South</td>
<td>925 Western Ave Fergus Falls, MN 56537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fargo - Thursday, Jan. 9</td>
<td>Holiday Inn, 701.282.2700</td>
<td>303 13th Ave South</td>
<td>925 Western Ave Fergus Falls, MN 56537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fergus Falls - Tuesday, Jan. 14</td>
<td>Bigwood Event Center, 218.739.2211</td>
<td>925 Western Ave</td>
<td>925 Western Ave Fergus Falls, MN 56537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bemidji - Thursday, Jan. 23</td>
<td>Eagles Club, 218.751.9985</td>
<td>1270 Neilson Ave SE</td>
<td>1270 Neilson Ave SE Bemidji, MN 56601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Forks - Tuesday, Feb. 4</td>
<td>Minnkota Power Cooperative, 701.795.4292</td>
<td>5301 32nd Ave South</td>
<td>5301 32nd Ave South Grand Forks, ND 58201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Forks - Wednesday, Feb. 5</td>
<td>Minnkota Power Cooperative, 701.795.4292</td>
<td>5301 32nd Ave South</td>
<td>5301 32nd Ave South Grand Forks, ND 58201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Electrical Inspectors

**Marshall and Polk Counties**

Wayne Bergstrom  
701-520-9771

Ronald Ditsch  
218-779-6758

George Stage  
218-284-1083

**Kittson County**

Wayne Bergstrom  
701-520-9771

---

**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

---

**Next board meeting**

Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2020

---

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
PKM Electric Cooperative’s SmartHub mobile app provides many features that help you manage your account, from billing and payment info to detailed usage analysis. It’s a great tool to help you access your account information on the go.

This past month, PKM rolled out a new upgrade for the SmartHub mobile application that will help you get to the features you need quickly and efficiently.

First, you’ll notice the mobile app will have a fresh, new look. When you open the app, you’ll be able to see your usage analysis right up front, or you can contact us with the click of a button right from the home screen.

Member alerts will also be displayed right on the home screen, making it easy for us to communicate important information to you. Billing, payment and other features are available with one click of a button in a new condensed menu.

Simply log on to your existing SmartHub app for the upgrade, or if you are interested in accessing SmartHub, download it from your favorite app store.

We hope these app updates will help provide a more user-friendly and efficient experience. All of the features you love about SmartHub now will still be available, just with a refreshed look and an enhanced user experience.

We are excited about the new changes and hope you check out the app soon! New look. New experience. Same SmartHub.

SmartHub Mobile 3.0 will automatically occur on your mobile devices using at least Android 5.0 or iOS 9.0. Users with a lower version will stay on the current SmartHub mobile version 2.42.

Payment scheduling available in SmartHub.

Paying your monthly electric bill is even more convenient on the mobile app! Cooperative members can now schedule their payment in SmartHub. This feature allows users to select one or more days to make a non-recurring payment.

Step by Step Guide:
1. Log in to SmartHub.
2. Click on the ‘Pay’ icon.
3. On the ‘Payment Details’ page as shown, in the ‘Choose Payment Date’ section, click in the field labeled ‘Other.’
4. Choose your payment date on the calendar that appears. The amount you enter in ‘Payment Amount’ field will be applied on the selected date.

Users may also continue with option to choose same day or specified due date for payment.

If you have any questions concerning this new feature or the app, please give our member service representatives a call at 218-745-4711 or 1-800-552-7366.
Paul Blomquist is about to let the horse out of the stable. The Roseau County Ford and C&M Ford (Hallock) dealership owner is charged up about the recent Nov. 17 unveiling of the Ford Mustang Mach-E, the electric vehicle (EV) northern Minnesota drivers have been waiting for – an SUV with all-wheel drive capabilities and a range that can get them to the lake and back without a plug-in.

The automobile marks the first time Ford has used the Mustang name for an SUV. And this time, there’s no revving engine or gas tank to fill. The extended-range battery makes a 300-mile trip without a charge. And, of course…

“Zero to 60 in under 4 seconds,” Blomquist said. “There are just so many things about what this product can do – it’s really exciting.”

The new Mach-E is set to hit the road in November 2020. At that time, Roseau County Ford will welcome to its lot one of five styles – the First Edition, Select, Premium, California RT.1 Edition or GT. The dealership plans to work hand-in-hand with local electric cooperatives like PKM to show local drivers how easy and beneficial owning an EV can be.

Ford will offer an affordable at-home charger that will work well with PKM Electric’s off-peak program, which will reduce the cost of charging an EV by approximately half. Members can also receive an additional rebate on their home charging station.

Blomquist recognizes that winter driving is a concern for potential EV adoptees, but he also knows the Mach-E will show skeptics that the cold-weather challenges are often exaggerated.

“To me, the all-wheel drive is most exciting aspect, no question, because of our winter situation,” Blomquist said. “We’re going to dispel a lot of the myths around EVs.”

Roseau County Ford is one of 2,100 EV-certified dealerships out of Ford’s 3,800 dealerships nationwide, and one of the few in the region (C&M is not currently EV certified). The addition of the Mach-E to the Roseau sales lot is just one piece of Blomquist’s investment and commitment to supporting electric vehicle adoption in the area. In the coming year, his shop will buy new equipment to service EVs, complete the necessary service training and install two Level 2 EV chargers (240-volt) at the dealership.

His updates are just the beginning of the buzz. Blomquist said he has already heard local curiosity in how public charging opportunities may continue to grow. “With an announcement like this, there is going to be a lot more interest in communities and/or gas stations to install fast charging stations,” he said.

By working together with area co-ops and Minnkota Power Cooperative (PKM’s wholesale power provider), Roseau County Ford will find many ways to spread the word about the power of EVs – through special events, test drives, print and digital communication and more.

“This is the right time with the right product,” Blomquist said. “It’s not going to be for everyone, but there’s no question that the message is out there and the interest is out there.”

Nationwide reservations for the Mustang Mach-E are first come, first served and are pouring in fast. In fact, the First Edition model sold out in just nine days. Those interested in getting a Mach-E of their own can put down a fully refundable $500 deposit to add their names to the reservation list. Prospective buyers can come see Blomquist at the Roseau County Ford dealership to ask questions and make a deposit, or they can simply visit the Ford website to complete a reservation (https://www.ford.com/suvs/mach-e/2021/).

To learn more about electric vehicles and cooperative charging rebates and incentives, visit EnergizeYourDrive.com.
The headlines are everywhere – Sales of electric vehicles rose 81% in 2018; General Motors is teaming up with EV charging networks; Electric Ford F-150 is in the works….

Many in our region are taking a “wait and see” approach to electric vehicles as the technology matures. Yet, billions of dollars are being invested by many companies into research and development, so it may be only a matter of time before electric vehicles start making serious inroads.

Here is some basic information to help members interested in research coming trends in electric vehicles:

**Can save money**

At the standard electric rate, most electric vehicles can be fully recharged for about $3. If your 240 level 2 charger is hooked up to an off-peak program, it costs about 65 cents to drive an electric vehicle the same distance that an average car can go on a gallon of gasoline. Plus, rebates of $50/kw are available if put on off-peak.

**Less maintenance**

Electric vehicles don’t require oil changes, because no oil is used to run the engines. They don’t require air filters, spark plugs, timing belts or many other parts that need occasional replacement in a gasoline car.

**A smooth ride**

Electric vehicles are known for their silent motor and smooth acceleration. Gas engines vibrate and get louder as they rev up, and transmissions add noise as well. With electric, those elements aren’t involved, leaving a quiet ride.

**Back to those headlines**

- U.S. electric vehicle sales in 2018 – 361,307
- Electric bikes are gaining in popularity; both Fargo and Grand Forks have authorized dealers for electric bikes which allow you to either use your body power or engage an electric motor to further your biking enjoyment. The batteries are plug-in rechargeable.
- Ford has announced an all-electric F-150 pickup coming and recently teased this truck by having it pull a train.
- $90 billion – estimated investments in electric vehicles worldwide according to Reuters.
**NEW & IMPROVED BILL DESIGN**

1. **Payment Due**: Payments are due by the 15th of each month.

2. **Account Number**: You can reference this number to report an outage, for questions about your account or to register for SmartHub.

3. **Payment Amount Due**: Please pay this amount by due date. Other references include: “Total Amount Due,” “BANK DRAFT – Do Not Pay,” “CREDIT BALANCE – Do Not Pay” or “Budget Payment Due.” A “CR” following the amount printed represents a credit balance. Also, if the amount is printed in RED, your account is delinquent. Please reference 12.

4. **Meter information and usage.** Our meters are electronic and no longer require manually entered readings unless it is an “Estimated” bill. Please reference 6.

5. **A member may designate a personalized description here.** For example: McCrea Township Section 16 or Bin Site.

6. **Bill Type**: May state “Regular Bill,” “Budget Bill” or “Estimated.” If the Bill Type states “Estimated,” please be sure to contact the office with the meter reading(s) for an adjustment.

7. **Explanation of how bill was calculated.** For further description inquiries, please reference the backside of the bill.

8. Please retain the top portion of the bill and return the bottom portion with payment to the office.

9. Please provide an updated phone number if there are any inaccuracies printed.

10. Access SmartHub for billing, payment and usage information online or on your mobile device.

11. Please check this box if you would like to participate in the Operation RoundUp program. See backside for additional details.

12. **Message from PKM**: will state delinquent information or important information from the cooperative.
Minnkota Power Cooperative, PKM Electric’s wholesale power provider, is ready to take the next step forward with Project Tundra thanks to grant funding provided by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The cooperative received $9.8 million from the DOE, which then provided access to $15 million from the state of North Dakota’s Lignite Research Fund. The funding will be used to conduct a Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) study on Project Tundra’s proposed carbon capture system at the Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D.

“Project Tundra is a unique opportunity for North Dakota to lead the world in the advancement of carbon capture technologies,” said Mac McLennan, Minnkota president & CEO. “This Department of Energy grant will assist us in completing advanced research and engineering design on the project – one of the final steps before deciding whether to move forward and begin construction.”

The vision for Project Tundra is to equip Unit 2 at the coal-based Milton R. Young Station with technologies that will capture more than 90% of the CO₂ emissions. The CO₂ would then be permanently stored in a deep geologic formation more than a mile underground. The FEED study will support advanced design work, engineering and evaluation of project economics.

U.S. Sen. John Hoeven was instrumental in helping to prioritize the funding opportunity within the federal budget. Furthermore, Hoeven brought DOE leaders to Grand Forks on Aug. 20 to learn more about efforts in the state to advance carbon capture technology development.

“North Dakota is leading the way in developing carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) technologies and these funds will help to advance these efforts, including enabling the completion Project Tundra’s engineering and design study,” Hoeven said. “Completion of this study will enable the implementation of the technology at the Milton R. Young Station, allowing more than 90% of CO₂ emissions to be captured from the station’s Unit 2 generator. Developing and deploying this technology is a win both for consumers, who will continue to have access to affordable energy, and for environmental stewardship.”

In addition to research on the CO₂ capture system, Minnkota is also conducting significant research on deep geologic storage of CO₂ near the Young Station. In September and October 2019, a geophysical survey will be completed near Center, N.D., to gather valuable information about rock layers in the deep subsurface. Minnkota engaged with landowners and local leaders and received state permits prior to beginning this research.

Project Tundra is estimated to cost $1 billion. The project is currently seeking financial partners to help utilize existing 45Q federal tax credits, which are currently $50 per ton of CO₂ that is captured and stored in a geologic formation deep underground.

Visit ProjectTundraND.com to learn more about the project.
Win a Trip of a Lifetime!

Go on a Power Trip - June 20-25, 2020

Students may apply now to attend the 56th annual Washington, D.C. Youth Tour. Students on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour will participate in leadership training, engage in one-on-one conversations with elected officials and tour Washington, D.C.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a junior or senior in high school. The essay topic is: “What are the biggest challenges facing electric cooperatives today? How can cooperatives effectively meet those challenges?”
- You and your parent(s) or guardian must be served by PKM Electric Cooperative.
- The essay is not to exceed two standard 8.5- by 11-inch, typewritten and double-spaced pages.
- A cover page must be included with the essay submission. The cover page should include: 1) your full name and date of birth, 2) name of your high school and what grade you're currently enrolled in, 3) parents’ or guardians’ names, physical mailing address and phone number.
- **Deadline is March 10, 2020.** Emailed entries should be directed to cdavey@pkmcoop.com and hard-copy entries mailed to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, PKM Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 108, Warren, MN 56762.
- If you have a question, please contact Chelsy Davey, PKM Electric, at the email address listed to the left, or call **218-745-4711** during regular business hours.

**ESSAY QUESTION:** What are the biggest challenges facing electric cooperatives today? How can cooperatives effectively meet those challenges?
Use your space heater safely

If you use plug-in electric space heaters, please keep safety in mind since space heaters are responsible for 32% of house fires, according to the National Fire Protection Association. If you plan to use a space heater in your home this winter, review these tips to keep you, your family and your property safe.

Materials – What are the components of your space heater made of? Parts like metal grating can be hot to the touch and may burn anyone who gets too close. Make sure you purchase a heater that is cool to the touch and has guards over the coils just in case little fingers get too close.

Placement – While it can be tempting to place a small heater on a shelf so it is not in the way of pets and children, it is safest to leave the heater on a level floor on a nonflammable surface. Keeping the space heater on the floor can keep it from falling over, preventing fire hazards. Also, remember that space heaters and bathrooms are not a good combination, unless the heater is designed for bathroom use. Moisture can damage the heater.

The most important rule about space heater placement is the 3-foot rule. Whether you are using the heater in the bedroom, living room or kitchen, space heaters should always be kept 3 feet away from flammable materials and out of the way of children and pets.

Special features – Does your space heater have an auto shutoff function if tipped over? Auto shutoff can be a lifesaver. If you currently own a space heater without auto shutoff, consider purchasing a heater with this important safety feature.

Cords – You should never use an extension cord when plugging in a space heater as it can cause overheating. The space heater should be plugged directly into a wall outlet, and it should be the only thing plugged into the outlet. Also make sure cords aren’t in a high-traffic area so they are not a tripping hazard.

Use – Never leave a heater unattended while in use. If you are leaving your home or going to bed, make sure to unplug the heater.

Nominating Committee appointed

At their December meeting, the board of directors of PKM appointed a nominating committee to nominate candidates for the board of directors, to be voted on by the members at the annual meeting on April 7, 2020.

The nominating committee will meet in February or March. Please watch for the date in the next issue of the PKM News and in your local newspapers. Members who may have an interest in being a candidate for the board of directors should inform the committee of your interest.

The bylaws of the cooperative provide for an additional method to become a candidate for the board of directors. If it is felt a potential candidate was not given due consideration by the committee, or did not contact the committee prior to its meeting, a member can become a candidate by having 15 or more members place his/her name in nomination by petition and delivering same to the cooperative 20 days prior to the annual meeting.

Members appointed to the committee are:

James Folz, Angus
Jason Steer, Euclid
Brian Kasprick, Angus
James Sollund, Karlstad

Charles Hayek, Halma
Kyle Folland, Karlstad
Ron Iverson, Alvarado
Pat Osowski, Alvarado

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH

Are you using your fireplace efficiently? Remember to turn down the thermostat when burning a fire, and close the damper when a fire is not burning.

Source: energy.gov

Our October Cooperative Month winners:

$250 Energy Credit - Frank Brda
Euclid, Minn.

$100 Energy Credit - John Schmidt
Argyle, Minn.

Nintendo Switch (child prize drawing)
- Justin Lindgren (parents: Bruce and Lynette Lindgren) Euclid, Minn.
A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2019. Tom Woianorwicz, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present with the exception of Directors Folland and Hatton. Director Hatton is currently attending the MREA Legislative Visit in Washington, D.C.

The president provided highlights from MREA and requested the CEO provide elaborated details to the directors. Discussion continues within the statewide and Minnesota cooperatives regarding strengthening MREA’s communication and grassroots roles as there is a need to communicate the energy sector cooperative message in response to opposing renewable energy groups. The MREA proposed dues rate increase was also discussed, noting it is a well-planned, laid out structure incorporating feedback from the CEOs and their respective cooperatives.

The CEO provided an update to the directors regarding recent Minnkota Power Cooperative business activities on behalf of Director Folland. He reviewed highlights from the recent manager’s advisory committee meeting. The next scheduled board meeting is on Sept. 26, 2019.

Director Aaker shared recent Square Butte Cooperative news with the directors. Young 2 had 100% reliability in August but is currently down for a scheduled outage. Reported average power cost was 4.7 cents per kilowatt-hour. The next scheduled Square Butte board meeting is on Oct. 11, 2019.

Line Superintendent Joe Manzocco presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. Highlights from his report included continued maintenance, pole replacements, cable faults and replacements, service improvements and installation of a few new services. There were 3,905 connected members reported for the end of August, representing a net gain of 26 from the same period last year.

The manager of member services shared recent activities within his department. With the cooler weather arriving, there has been numerous heating system upgrade inquiries and replacements. Contractors have been busy installing hot pumps and plenum heaters, resulting in multiple member loans and rebates. Work continues with RF Pilot project along Highway 220, with hopes of picking up meters that have previously not read back to the office due to interference. He reminded the directors of the upcoming open house for National Cooperative Month on Oct. 10, 2019, and also informed them that PKM is participating in the CHS Ag Safety Day with the electrical safety demonstrations to WAO and Stephen/Argyle second- and third-grade students.

The CFO provided an office and administrative update to the directors highlighting the recent capital credit run, estate processing, continued implementation of the NISC modules and the pending disconnections for non-payment of the Cold Weather Rule is nearing an end. On Oct. 15, 2019, annual renewals for Federal, NRECA, Health Partners and the Fiduciary Services Agreement with Alerus Financial have been completed. There was also a brief discussion on the significant savings on premiums as a result of the lower Workers Comp rating.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the cooperative. She highlighted details displayed on the 10-year historical trends provided for reference, noting the higher revenue sales over the last month and last year at this same reporting period. The cooperative saw the largest increases in residential and large commercial, and sales continue to be ahead of budgeted projections. 2019 expenses are higher but are comparable to 2015 and 2016 reported expenses. The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent meetings he has attended and detailed information for discussion at a few upcoming scheduled meetings. He also reminded directors of an upcoming legislative lunch fundraiser featuring Kiel, Fabian and Johnson on Sept. 25, 2019, in Thief River Falls.

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

The CEO shared with the directors a letter received from legal counsel Rob Leach announcing his departure from Rolke, Aandal & Associates. The directors will interview prospective replacement when announced.

The policy bulletin review committee presented their recommendations to the directors for discussion. A number of policies are outdated with their contents no longer applying standard operating practices to the cooperative business model. The policy bulletin committee requested feedback from management when evaluating and reviewing each bulletin.

The board rescinded Policy Bulletins 16-1.1: Meter Testing – Disposition of Consumer Request for Meter Check; 17-1.1: Headquarters – Public Use of Conference Room & Demo Kitchen; 19-1: Electric Furnace Loads – Installation Restrictions; and, 21-1.1: Energy Conservation MN Conservation Improvement Program (CIP). The policy bulletin committee addressed numerous, minor verbiage changes to existing bulletins. The recommended changes include management title change from General Manager to CEO, replacing “He/Him” with gender neutral references “He/She or Him/Her,” replace all member references “patron, customer, consumer, member or owner” to “member/owner.” Adding applicable phrases, current cost of living factors and updated standard operating practices and procedures, including outlining business operation hours and acceptance of payment to existing policies were also items addressed during review. There were no recommended changes to any rates outlined in the discussed bulletins.


The board approved and adopted the policy bulletin recommendations outlined by the policy bulletin review committee with the use of a blanket resolution effective Sept. 24, 2019, and a copy of these policy bulletins be appended to the official minutes of this meeting.

Subsidy financials were shared with in-depth discussion regarding Karian-Peterson. There will be a Karian-Peterson board meeting via phone conference held on Sept. 27, 2019. The CEO will disturb details to the directors following the scheduled meeting.

The CEO concluded the meeting with miscellaneous information including adjusted staff salaries effective Oct. 1, 2019, Project Tundra and an update provided by Mac McLennan at Minnkota Power Cooperative regarding generation for the joint system.

A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019. Tom Woianorwicz, president who presided, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors.
PKM News • November/December 2019
11

were present with the exception of Directors Goodwin and Beaudry.

The president provided highlights from MREA. He discussed the proposed MREA’s rates in 2020 and changes in the volatility of the directors as there will be a ratification vote at the upcoming MREA annual meeting.

The CFO provided an update to the directors regarding recent Minnkota Power Cooperative business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included continued Project Tundra discussion and the deferred revenue and expense plans requiring RUS approval. The next Minnkota board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 31, 2019.

Director Akre shared recent Square Butte Cooperative news with the directors. Bradyz Martz was selected as the auditor. Mac elaborated on the recent Project Tundra status and future goals of the project. The associated costs for long-term plant planning were also discussed. There will be five planned boiler installations in 2020. Discussions were held with the directors that Young 2 reported 100% compliance. The next scheduled Square Butte board meeting is on Dec. 13, 2019.

Director Hatton shared highlights from his recent attendance at the NRECA 80th in Washington, DC. The CFO referenced his written report outlining recent NISC module implementations, specifically NISC Document Vault. This will be a useful tool as it allows for easy access and compliance with required records retention policies. Disconnects for non-payment are being finalized by the end of this month. Redg report, quarterly filings and several other reports have been submitted.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2018. Current equity ratio remains strong at 54.41%. Additionally, September 2019 represented in residential sales. There will be a ratification vote at the upcoming MREA annual meeting.

The president reminded the directors that 2020 ACRE and REPAC contributions are now being accepted. Please submit to the executive assistant for processing.

The CFO presented to the directors for consideration and execution for the service agreement with OtterTail Power Company. This agreement is exclusive to the named account. PKM consents to OTP serving the named account and both parties will update the coop territory map service improvement.

The president reminded the directors that 2020 ACRE and REPAC contributions are now being accepted. Please submit to the executive assistant for processing.

A regular meeting of the board was held Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019.

Tom Wnorowicz, president, who presented, asked for roll call. Upon calling the roll, the secretary reported that all directors were present.

The president provided highlights from MREA mentioning preparation for the next legislative session is underway. There have been numerous meetings held with Darrick Moe, the NREA lobbyists, state representatives and committee chairs.

The CFO provided an update to the directors regarding recent Minnkota Power Cooperative business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included a recap of the planned outage of Young 2, long-term operation planning of the BNI coal field and coal plants and discussion of purchasing a replacement drug line.

Director Akre shared recent Square Butte Cooperative news with the directors. He distributed a document with in-depth business highlights. He also commented on the planned outage that was originally planned for 6 weeks but needed 8 weeks instead. Reported financials are projecting a good net margin to complete 2019. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 13, 2019.

Line Superintendent John Martz presented the monthly safety and operations report, indicating no accidents and no lost time. MREA was 100% on time and again on Oct. 24 to administer chassis safety and crew observations. Wet conditions have delayed a UDR tie line project between Lancaster and Hallock sub scheduled for construction this season. He also recapped the outage impacts from Sept. 10-12. There were 936 connected members reported for the end of September, representing a net gain of 15 from the same period last year.

The manager of member services shared recent activities within his department including his attendance at the Cannon AMM meeting in Minneapolis. He will be requesting a quote for server replacement costs and necessary software updates. Cannon’s Cooper sent the Spring study for review of the pilot project and its future implementation as additional substation equipment.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included the final draft of the new bill redesign which demonstrated how our government works and what the electric cooperative perspective will look like.

The CFO, presented an overview of the 2020 capital requirements budget which will be presented for action at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It will be presented for action at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It includes a variety of features and will require training for all employees, but will aid in business efficiency when fully implemented. 2020 budget preparations continue with the capital requirements budget included for discussion later in the meeting and the operating budget requirements in the annual report and year-end reported data for more accuracy. An update to the scheduled cost of service study and 10-year financial forecast was also discussed.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2019 for a 10-15 PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. October had a 6% increase for revenue sales, which was 16% above the budgeted margin. Other reported numbers for October 2019 compared to the same year included: Service revenue is above the original revenue projections. The 10-year winter storms and outages this month, a 20% decrease in vehicle costs per mile and accounts receivable (other) balances are down 13% in October with a year-end projection. Proposed items for 2020 were also included for long-term planning consideration. The board approved the 2019 Capital Budget.

The CEO presented to the directors the finalized Karian Peterson document concerning the Youth Tour program. The Youth Tour program continues to demonstrate how our government works and what the electric cooperative perspective will look like.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included the final draft of the new bill redesign which was approved by the board at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It includes a variety of features and will require training for all employees, but will aid in business efficiency when fully implemented. 2020 budget preparations continue with the capital requirements budget included for discussion later in the meeting and the operating budget requirements in the annual report and year-end reported data for more accuracy. An update to the scheduled cost of service study and 10-year financial forecast was also discussed.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2020 for a 10-15 PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. October had a 6% increase for revenue sales, which was 16% above the budgeted margin. Other reported numbers for October 2019 compared to the same year included: Service revenue is above the original revenue projections. The 10-year winter storms and outages this month, a 20% decrease in vehicle costs per mile and accounts receivable (other) balances are down 13% in October with a year-end projection. Proposed items for 2020 were also included for long-term planning consideration. The board approved the 2019 Capital Budget.

The CEO presented to the directors the finalized Karian Peterson document concerning the Youth Tour program. The Youth Tour program continues to demonstrate how our government works and what the electric cooperative perspective will look like.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included the final draft of the new bill redesign which was approved by the board at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It includes a variety of features and will require training for all employees, but will aid in business efficiency when fully implemented. 2020 budget preparations continue with the capital requirements budget included for discussion later in the meeting and the operating budget requirements in the annual report and year-end reported data for more accuracy. An update to the scheduled cost of service study and 10-year financial forecast was also discussed.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2020 for a 10-15 PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. October had a 6% increase for revenue sales, which was 16% above the budgeted margin. Other reported numbers for October 2019 compared to the same year included: Service revenue is above the original revenue projections. The 10-year winter storms and outages this month, a 20% decrease in vehicle costs per mile and accounts receivable (other) balances are down 13% in October with a year-end projection. Proposed items for 2020 were also included for long-term planning consideration. The board approved the 2019 Capital Budget.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included the final draft of the new bill redesign which was approved by the board at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It includes a variety of features and will require training for all employees, but will aid in business efficiency when fully implemented. 2020 budget preparations continue with the capital requirements budget included for discussion later in the meeting and the operating budget requirements in the annual report and year-end reported data for more accuracy. An update to the scheduled cost of service study and 10-year financial forecast was also discussed.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2020 for a 10-15 PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. October had a 6% increase for revenue sales, which was 16% above the budgeted margin. Other reported numbers for October 2019 compared to the same year included: Service revenue is above the original revenue projections. The 10-year winter storms and outages this month, a 20% decrease in vehicle costs per mile and accounts receivable (other) balances are down 13% in October with a year-end projection. Proposed items for 2020 were also included for long-term planning consideration. The board approved the 2019 Capital Budget.

The CEO referenced his written report outlining recent business activities on behalf of Director Folland. His highlights included the final draft of the new bill redesign which was approved by the board at the April 3, 2020, annual meeting. It includes a variety of features and will require training for all employees, but will aid in business efficiency when fully implemented. 2020 budget preparations continue with the capital requirements budget included for discussion later in the meeting and the operating budget requirements in the annual report and year-end reported data for more accuracy. An update to the scheduled cost of service study and 10-year financial forecast was also discussed.

The CFO continued with the presentation of the Operating and Financial report for the rate-making period in 2020 for a 10-15 PTD and YTD comparison were provided and discussed. October had a 6% increase for revenue sales, which was 16% above the budgeted margin. Other reported numbers for October 2019 compared to the same year included: Service revenue is above the original revenue projections. The 10-year winter storms and outages this month, a 20% decrease in vehicle costs per mile and accounts receivable (other) balances are down 13% in October with a year-end projection. Proposed items for 2020 were also included for long-term planning consideration. The board approved the 2019 Capital Budget.
As the nights grow longer, our lives are brightened and our hearts warmed by the lights of Christmas.

The celebration of Christmas is surrounded by lights – colored lights twinkling on the tree, lights shining throughout the countryside and children’s faces lit with a joy that is reflected in their parents’ eyes.

Electricity helps make your holidays merry and bright by providing you with the gift of light – a powerful value, each and every day.

**RIDE WITH CAUTION**

**BEWARE OF GUY WIRES**

Watch for guy wires – the cables that anchor power poles. Electrical transformer boxes can also be hidden by snow. Driving at a safe speed will help you identify and avoid them before it’s too late. If you see damaged electrical equipment, stay away and call us immediately.

**We make your holidays merry and bright.**