

January 2026 Vol. 10 Issue 1  
A monthly publication for members of  
MiEnergy Cooperative.

# MiNews

90 years  
strong  
& still  
reaching  
new heights

A  
JOURNEY  
DOWN  
MiRoads  
WITH MEAGAN MOELLERS

*What are winter  
peak energy alerts?*

Check out the  
2026 to-do list

Howard County Electric Cooperative employee Larry Coates in 1939.

CELEBRATING NINETY YEARS  
1936 2026  
90  
MIENERGY COOPERATIVE



# Progress, planning and stable rates

As we begin another year, I want to pause and express our appreciation and gratitude to our members. MiEnergy Cooperative was built on the promise of people coming together to improve the quality of life for the people in our region, and that promise continues to guide what we do today.

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Last month, our management team presented the new four-year work plan to our board of directors that totaled nearly \$37 million. The new work plan was developed with extensive planning and research on improving system reliability and identifying our long-range objectives. The work plan involves balancing our financial forecast, electric load growth forecasts and replacements of distribution line and equipment.

The \$37-million-dollar plan will be scheduled to be completed over the next four years. It involves upgrading 10 substation transformers, 4 substations and 75 miles of power line. It also includes replacement of over 1,400 poles and 6,500 meters. As a part of our energy management conversion plan, 10,700 receivers will be replaced. While these are just the highlights, it also includes what we don't know, much like the July 28-29 windstorm that damaged our distribution system in a matter of hours.

Last year marked meaningful progress in strengthening our local distribution system and working with our members, communities, Dairyland Power Cooperative and elected officials at the national and state level.

A key achievement of 2025 was the approval of a revenue deferral plan by MiEnergy's board and the USDA/Rural Utilities Service. This plan is designed to ensure retail rate stability for our members. By carrying margins from strong financial years to support future periods, we manage the natural fluctuations in energy use driven by weather and other factors.

This strategy, which has been successful for over a decade, has helped limit the frequency and size of rate increases for our members. For 2026, as we put final details to our

## Board room highlights | Dec. 30, 2025

- Compliance and Training Coordinator Brad Pecinovsky provided a quarterly safety update.
- CFO Shelly Hove provided the financial report which is tracking to budget, and she received approval from the Rural Utilities Service for MiEnergy's revenue deferral request.
- Management provided updates that included operations, large load opportunities, upcoming retirements and cooperative subsidiaries.
- Reviewed all board policies and approved proposed amendments.
- Appointed the nominating committee for District 1 director elections.
- The board continues to seek additional members to serve on the advisory committee for districts 1, 2, 3 and 5.
- Reviewed and approved the CEO succession timeline.

The next meeting is January 29 at the Rushford office at 9 a.m.

operating budget, we're proud to report that no rate increases are planned. This not only sets us apart from other utilities like Xcel Energy and Alliant Energy but, more importantly, speaks to our commitment to keeping energy costs affordable for members.

For 2026, we see both challenges and opportunities on the horizon. The energy industry is undergoing significant change driven by the rising growth of electricity use - which we have not seen in over a decade. We have new tools, new technologies, and new opportunities as we continue to navigate Iowa, Minnesota and federal energy policies.

The path forward requires innovative planning and member-focused solutions. I am confident that with the dedicated employees of MiEnergy and the governance from our member-elected board of directors, we will be well positioned to adapt and meet the new challenges head-on with a successful outcome.

Thank you and Happy New Year! As always, I welcome your calls, emails and personal visits.

## Stay Safe on Winter Roads



Winter months can bring snow, ice and windy conditions, creating hazards for drivers. It is important to be prepared in case there is an accident.

**Before a winter storm**  
Perform seasonal maintenance on your car to ensure:

- Batteries are charged.
- Tires have sufficient tread.
- Spare tire is inflated.
- Jumper cables are in good condition.
- A winterized car emergency kit.
- Windshield wipers work.
- Headlights, brake lights and turn signals work.
- At least a half-full tank of gas.

**Prevent frostbite & hypothermia**  
If you are stranded in your car after an accident, observe the following precautions:

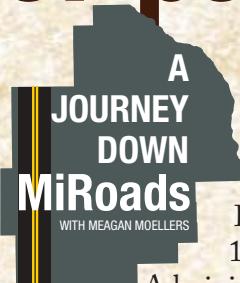
- Do not stay in one position for too long.
- Stay awake.
- Do not overexert yourself to avoid strain on your heart.
- Watch for signs such as a change in skin color, numbness, shivering, slurred speech, loss of coordination or confusion.

**Winter storms and power lines**  
Always treat sagging and downed power lines as energized and dangerous. Keep at least 50 feet away from the area.

- If your vehicle hits a power pole, stay inside.
- Contact 9-1-1 and wait for the power to be shut off by utility workers.
- If your vehicle is on fire, jump clear with feet together, avoiding contact with both the vehicle and ground simultaneously.
- Shuffle or "bunny hop" away from the vehicle, keeping feet together to prevent different electric currents through your body.
- Never drive over a downed power line, which can cause additional hazards.



# Celebrating NINETY YEARS of powering local communities



From our roots as Tri-County Electric and Hawkeye REC to MiEnergy today, we ensure reliable service around the clock – through every storm and season

The initial intent of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order of May 1935 to create the Rural Electrification

Administration had been to stimulate existing utilities (investor-owned utilities) into extending lines into the rural areas. Congressional leaders thought established utilities would leap at the chance to borrow low-interest money to build lines. That was not the case. A special committee of the for-profit utilities studied the rural situation and came up with this interesting conclusion: "There are very few farms requiring electricity for major farm purposes that are not now served."

By December of that year, the local opinion leaders began talking about forming cooperatives, and by 1936, Hawkeye REC (formerly Howard County Electric Cooperative) and Tri-County Electric Cooperative (formerly Fillmore County Electric Cooperative Association) were established. The early leaders of our cooperatives spent those earlier years canvassing the countryside, telling their friends and neighbors about the opportunity for central station electric power, and eventually signing up members. Often these progressive thinkers were met with arguments against the idea. While some folks thought it was a great idea, others were skeptical about the concept, expense or afraid of the liability.

This idea took root. In retrospect, in a short time. Meetings were held, contracts were signed, cooperatives were organized and a great rural campaign began to bring electricity to farms across America. Eighty years later, in 2017, these two co-ops merged to form one cooperative as it is today: Minnesota. Iowa. My electricity, my cooperative. MiEnergy Cooperative.

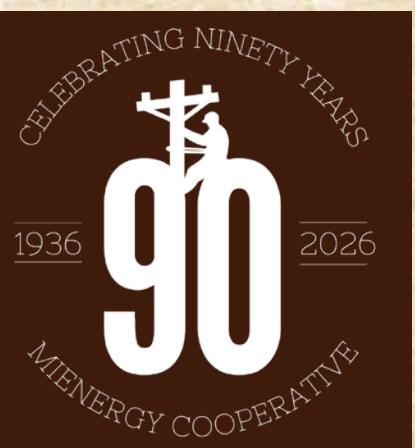
*The creation of your electric cooperative was a huge undertaking and nothing that should be taken lightly as you enjoy your early morning cup of coffee or are entertained by your big screen TV. Electricity is easily taken for granted. Just remember that real people, your neighbors, still go out after hours during unfavorable weather conditions or holidays to make sure you have the power you need at your rural home, business or farm. Mother Nature may not always cooperate, but you can rest assured knowing that your rural electric cooperative staff always has, and always will be looking out for you, our members.*

—Preface from Hawkeye's 75th anniversary book



We look forward to sharing tidbits of historical trivia along with pictures from our archives throughout 2026 with our membership. As many Minnesota members know, Tri-County Electric lost many things due to the flood of 2007, including historic pictures from the co-op's history. But don't worry, we still have lots to share from our storage bins to commemorate the years of existence of the two electric cooperatives.

We are proud to still be a part of our local communities in southeast Minnesota and northeast Iowa, now just the same as we were nine decades ago. Our trucks and buildings may look a little different from the early days, but we remain local. We still take pride in hiring local people who are proud to work for the cooperative that serves our membership and gives back to their local communities. After all, that's the co-op way of doing things. We hope you enjoy the historic trek down MiRoads together with us during our anniversary year.



## CAPITAL CREDITS NOTICE

In October 2025, MiEnergy distributed nearly \$1.8 million in patronage capital credit retirements to current and former members of the cooperative. Current members received an electric bill credit and former members received their refunds as a check. MiEnergy Cooperative's office located at 24049 Highway 9, Cresco, IA 52136 is holding unclaimed patronage dividend checks for the person(s) listed as follows. The owner may claim this property by contacting us at the address listed above, calling 800-432-2285 or emailing [jmadsen@MiEnergy.coop](mailto:jmadsen@MiEnergy.coop). The December MiNews listed person(s) with the last names A-N.

### O

O'Connor, Linda, Spring Valley, MN  
Oldenburg, Tom, Hokah, MN  
Olson, Erik & Hjelle, Ruth, Sister Bay, WI  
Olson, Grant & Anna Marie, Grand Marais, MN

### P

Pavlovec, Robert & Julie, Lime Springs, IA  
Pecinovsky, Ernest, Cresco, IA  
Pedretti, Donald, La Crosse, WI  
Pickar, Brian, New Hampton, IA  
Pinter, Patricia, Cresco, IA  
Powell, Jennifer, Mabel, MN  
Pratt, Alan & Rosemary, Decorah, IA  
Price, Gary, Lime Springs, IA

### Q

Quam, Michael & Rebecca, Prairie du Chien, WI

### R

Radsek, Les & Kris, Rollingstone, MN  
Ramsey, Paula, Mabel, MN  
Ramsey, Ronald, Decorah, IA  
Ranum, Brenda & David, Decorah, IA  
Rasmussen, Dean, Decorah, IA  
Reed, Jessie, Holmen, WI  
Richardson, Debra, Rapid City, SD  
Rodengen, Thomas & Proeschel, Carlye, Billings, MT  
Roeder, Brent & Katreena, Winona, MN  
Rollie, Myron, Spring Valley, MN  
Root, Sarah, Castalia, IA  
Rosendahl Repair, C/O Chad Rosendahl, Houston, MN  
Ruesgen, Wendi, Mauston, WI

### S

Saltou, Charles, Lime Springs, IA  
Schmidt, Brock & Emily, New Hampton, IA  
Schmidt, Kenneth, Grand Meadow, MN  
Schoen, Thomas, Wabasha, MN  
Schossow, Deborah, Plainview, MN  
Schriever, Jennifer, Cresco, IA  
Schroeder, Joan, Chester, IA

Schuldt, Wilbert & Margaret & Lampert, Alta,  
Brownsville, MN  
Schultz, John, Oskaloosa, IA  
Scott, Michael, Winona, MN  
Searles, Todd, Arlington, MN  
Serres, Joel & Sigsworth, Kristine, Brownsville, MN  
Serres, Kiel, Brownsville, MN  
Sharpe, Toni, LaCrescent, MN  
Sherman, David & Daehler, Pamela, Decorah, IA  
Simon, Leo & Marion, Onalaska, WI  
Simpson, Leon, Canton, MN  
Sloan, Neal, Decorah, IA  
Sloan, Shaun & Churchward, Amber, Littleton, CO  
Smith, Charlotte A. Revo Trust, Glendale, AZ  
Smith, Jennifer, Tallahassee, FL  
Smith, Tony & Lisa, La Crescent, MN  
Smith, Wayne, Cresco, IA  
Spaag, Heath & Sarah, Lewiston, MN  
Spry, Dana & Chris, Spring Valley, MN  
Stadtler, Troy, Caledonia, MN  
Steele, Richard, Caledonia, MN  
Stefan, Paula, Houston, MN  
Steffen, Calvin & Jane, Decorah, IA  
Stemcha, David, Sparta, WI  
Steuart Custom Manufacturing, Mabel, MN  
Stevenson, Drew & Jones, Maria, Decorah, IA  
Stoflus, Diane, Lawler, IA  
Stolpa, Kelly, Winona, MN  
Strom, Ronnie, Omaha, AR  
Swenson, Sander Estate or Shirley Swenson,  
Spring Grove, MN

### T

Taylor, Tiffany, Hillsboro, MO  
Thesing, Michael, La Crescent, MN  
Thomas, Colter, Cresco, IA  
Thompson, Mark & Rochelle, Holmen, WI  
Thompson, Paul, Harmony, MN  
Tienter, Roger & Eileen, Ostrander, MN  
Tollefson, Taylor, Decorah, IA  
Toney, Heidi, Cresco, IA  
Total Landscaping & Design, C/O Tracy Donlan,

La Crescent, MN  
Tyree, Chad, Hokah, MN

### U

Upton, LeaAnn, Decorah, IA

### V

VanLoon, Rebecca, Bremerton, WA  
Vermilya, Steven & Amanda, Rochester, MN  
Vetsch, Miranda, Brownsville, MN  
Vigum, Carol, Owatonna, MN

### W

Wallow, Jana, Lewiston, MN  
Weiss, Terry, Lewiston, MN  
Whalen, John Jr. & Corinne, Indianola, IA  
Whetstone, Bruce, Winona, MN  
White, Jim, Ridgeway, IA  
Whiteley, Brad, Emmett, ID  
Wickman, Elmer, New Hampton, IA  
Widell, Nate, Lime Springs, IA  
Wilkins, Henry, Decorah, IA  
Williams, Tiffany, Preston, MN  
Wilson, Carol, Rushford, MN  
Wirt, Denton & Heather, Lewiston, MN  
Wojahn, Carmen, Spring Grove, MN  
Wolfe, Ian David, Greenfield, IN  
Wood, Amber, La Crescent, MN  
Woodard, Paulette & Dagit, Joe, Lawler, IA  
Woodland Estates Home Owners, C/O Sue  
Holan, Winona, MN  
Woxland, Donald, Rushford, MN

### Y

Yohnk, Dalton, Winona, MN

### Z

Zaki, Sandy, Minnesota City, MN  
Zobek, John & Holly, Indianola, IA

## YOUTH TOUR CONTEST IS OPEN!

CO-OP OFFERS FREE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

IOWA YOUTH TOUR JUNE 14-20  
MINNESOTA YOUTH TOUR JUNE 15-20

Two area high school students will be selected by MiEnergy to represent the cooperative as delegates on the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour. They will learn more about electric cooperatives and American history and come home with a greater understanding of their role as citizens. Students will meet with their members of Congress, and take in the sights of D.C. as they visit monuments, museums and historical landmarks. Students who go on Youth Tour often call it the trip of a lifetime!

To be eligible, the student must currently be a high school sophomore or junior and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) must be members of MiEnergy. The co-op will be selecting two students, one from Minnesota and one from Iowa. Past Youth Tour recipients are not eligible to apply.

For more than 65 years, locally owned electric cooperatives have been sending deserving students to D.C. This program is a great opportunity to kickstart one's passion for government affairs or advocacy. Make sure to apply for Youth Tour 2026!

To be considered, students must complete the online exam by **February 23, 2026**. The exam and more information can be found at [www.MiEnergy.coop](http://www.MiEnergy.coop).

BE THE WINNER OF A \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP

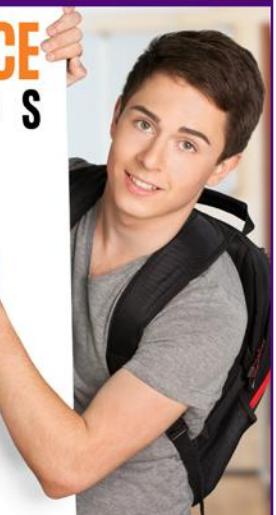
## COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS

MiEnergy is pleased to offer community service scholarships. As a cooperative, MiEnergy has a strong commitment to youth and community. The scholarship program recognizes high school seniors who demonstrate cooperative spirit through service to others.

### SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a high school senior, graduating in 2026.
- Must continue education after high school at an accredited technical school, college or university.
- Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must be a MiEnergy member with an active electric account.
- Must demonstrate community service, according to scholarship instructions.
- Must have at least a "B" grade point average.

Children of MiEnergy Cooperative employees and directors are not eligible. Scholarships are funded with unclaimed capital credit funds that would otherwise be forfeited to the state.



APPLY ONLINE

[www.MiEnergy.coop](http://www.MiEnergy.coop)

Application, cover letter and transcripts must be received by **8 a.m., Monday, March 2**

Questions? Contact Annie at [aholand@MiEnergy.coop](mailto:aholand@MiEnergy.coop) 800-432-2285.

\$80,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE GIVEN AWAY IN 2026

# 2026 Rebates

Rebates help you save up front on the purchase of energy efficient products. Plus, buying products that lower your energy use can reduce your monthly bills, saving you money over the long term.

**2026 rebate forms can be found online at**  
[www.MiEnergy.coop/rebates](http://www.MiEnergy.coop/rebates)

## ENERGY STAR RATED APPLIANCES

Clothes washer/dryer combo .....	\$50
Clothes dryer (electric).....	\$25
Clothes washer .....	\$25
Dehumidifier.....	\$25
Dishwasher .....	\$25
Freezer (≥10 cubic ft.).....	\$25
Inductive Range* .....	\$25
Refrigerator (≥10 cubic ft.).....	\$25
Recycling a working freezer, refrigerator or room air conditioner .....	\$25

## ASSESSMENTS / AUDITS

Energy audit.....	50% up to \$200
Audit recommended improvement.....	up to \$500
Touchstone Energy® New Home Program.....	\$500

## LIGHTING

LED lamp (5 lamp min.).....	50¢
LED exit sign.....	\$5
LED fixture .....	50¢ per 800 lumens
Occupancy sensor (not motion detector fixtures) .....	\$5

## WATER HEATING

Residential high efficiency electric water heater 85 & 105 gallons (purchased at MiEnergy)** .....	\$749-\$1,188
Heat pump water heater.....	\$500

## HEATING & COOLING (HVAC)

New furnace with ECM blower motor .....	\$35
Variable speed motor (not multi-speed) OR Eae ≤ 670 kWh/year.	
Heat Pumps	
Geothermal .....	\$400/ton
Air source & mini-split.....	\$200/ton
SEER2 14.3+, HSPF2 7.5+ OR SEER 15+, HSPF 8.8+	

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

Electric vehicle (EV) charging station.....	\$1,000
Must be enrolled on the co-op's TOU or subscription rate.	

*This is a summary of residential rebates. Rebates are first come, first serve while funds last. Additional terms & conditions are on rebate forms; please read thoroughly before submitting. Ag, commercial, industrial & custom rebates are also available.*

\*All inductive ranges apply.

\*\*Must be on energy management program as defined by cooperative.

## Winter season peak energy alerts

A peak alert indicates that demand for electricity is predicted to be high on the regional grid. While demand may be higher than usual, sufficient generation is still available. When members use less electricity during high-demand periods, it helps keep electric rates affordable.

The regional grid extends beyond the tri-state area, encompassing 15 states and a Canadian province. While electricity demand changes hour by hour, weather within this footprint can drive higher demand.

During winter months, peak alerts can be issued for the morning, the evening, or both. Members enrolled in energy management programs for dual fuel/interruptible heat have their heating system managed from approximately 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. Members enrolled in the cooperative's dairy water heater and grain dryer programs will see systems managed during the evening from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

We encourage members to conserve as much as they can during a peak energy alert because it helps keep electric rates affordable.

For details, visit [www.MiEnergy.coop](http://www.MiEnergy.coop) > Members Services > Ways to Save > Energy Supply Alerts, or call the co-op at 800-432-2285.



**Simple precautions can help you avoid fire hazards and electrical dangers**

### STAY COZY AND SAFE THIS WINTER:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heating equipment like furnaces, radiators, fireplaces, electric or wood stoves and space heaters.
- Maintain a 3-foot kid- and pet-free zone around heating equipment.
- Plug heaters and electric fireplaces directly into wall outlets. Never use extension cords or power strips.
- Plug only one heat-producing appliance into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Unplug heaters when not in use.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Test smoke alarms every month.
- Have your heating system, vents and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.



MiEnergy crews assisted with a shed move on December 1. The shed was relocated from south of Lewiston to Fremont with a distance of approximately six miles. The route crossed under 13 MiEnergy power lines. Thanks Brian Bauer, Tyler Eide, Lucas Gravos, and Justin Svoboda for helping the movers safely get past the power lines to reach its final destination!

**2026  
To-Do List**

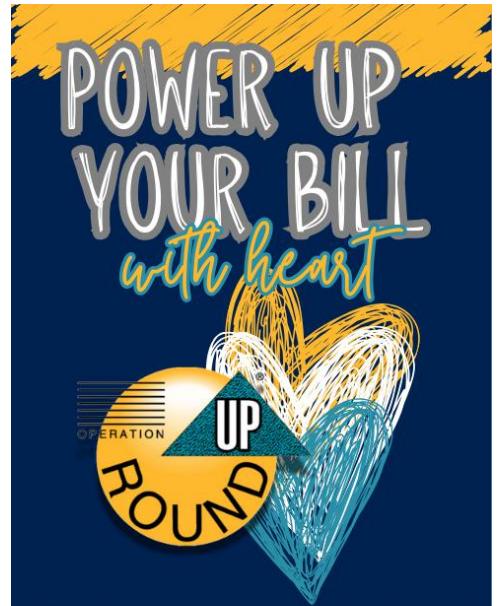
**Update contact information.**  
The co-op does call members if there is a planned outage for maintenance. You want to get those messages!

**Get MiNews via email.**  
Go paperless with the newsletter and get it delivered to your inbox instead of your mailbox.

**Pay electric bill online.**  
You can pay your bill through automatic bank draft, by phone or online to save money on postage and know it is received on time.

**Sign up for text notifications for power outages.**  
Whether you are home or away, know when power is out and when it has returned.

We can help with this to-do list! Call 800-432-2285 or visit [www.MiEnergy.coop](http://www.MiEnergy.coop) for more information about our programs and services.



Thanks to our members who signed up to "power up their bills with heart" during the month of November's Operation Round Up campaign. We now have about \$500 more to grant each year through Operation Round Up because of you!

## CONGRATS TO THE WINNERS!

### NEW SIGN-UP WINNERS

HOWARD STAGGEMEYER, EITZEN  
KEVIN CROW, CRESCO  
WILLIAM OMAR & SARA MOELLERS, DECORAH  
DAVID DUFFY, WINONA

### CURRENT PARTICIPANT WINNERS

JOSHUA & SHANNON MERCHLEWITZ, WINONA  
STEVE & ANDREA ATWOOD, SPRING VALLEY  
CAROL MEEKS, HOUSTON  
DANA & KIMBERLY TURNER, ROBBINSDALE  
DANIEL SCHARMER, HOUSTON  
WAYNE & ANN KINGSBURY, LANESBORO  
ROSE BENKE, WINONA  
MARY BETH MARTIN, RICEVILLE

SOCIAL MEDIA CONTEST WINNER  
RENEE WAGNER, CALEDONIA

## ONE-TIME MATCH!

During December, \$1,315.56 was collected through Operation Round Up. MiEnergy will match December's donations.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

For organizations seeking a grant from Operation Round Up the deadline to apply is February 15. An application and details are available at [www.MiEnergy.coop/operation-round](http://www.MiEnergy.coop/operation-round).



# out & about in your COMMUNITY

## HOLIDAY GIFTS – HOWARD COUNTY

Employees purchased gifts for local families through the CARE (Communities About Reaching Everyone) program, helping to make their holidays a little brighter. Pictured L-R back row: Nancy Franzen, Kim Larson and Janelle Sunnes. Front row: Shelly Hove, Johanna Stayskal and Meagan Moellers.



## HOLIDAY GIFTS – FILLMORE COUNTY

Employees donated money to the annual Christmas in Fillmore County program. This year, \$350 was collected and given to help local families during the holidays. Pictured L-R: Audra Skalet, Dani Gorder, Brenda Tesch, Wendy Jacobson, Heather Larson, Kari Steele, Rhonda Bauer, Cassie Zawislak, June Vitse, Tammy Brown and Adrienne Lofgren.



## STUDENT TOUR – CRESCE

Students from NICC's Environmental Science course through Crestwood High School visited the Cresco office. Dave Wilkes, staking/technology superintendent, and Kent Whitcomb, vice president of member services, presented information to the class and gave a tour of the facility.



## Johnson completes Cooperative Leadership in Iowa Program

Kraig Johnson, MiEnergy's lead line technician, was recognized during a special ceremony at the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperative's (IAEC) Annual Meeting held in December in Des Moines. He was one of 13 graduates of its Cooperative Leadership in Iowa Program for emerging leaders. It is a year-long program covering 90 hours of leadership skills content and training. Congrats, Kraig!

Pictured L-R: Vice President of Engineering and System Planning Mike Walton, Kraig Johnson and president/CEO Brian Krambeer at the IAEC Annual Meeting.



**mienergy™**  
COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

### OFFICE INFORMATION

Open Monday-Thursday 7 a.m.- 4 p.m. Friday by appointment.

**IOWA** 24049 Highway 9, PO Box 90, Cresco, IA 52136

**MINNESOTA** 31110 Cooperative Way, PO Box 626, Rushford, MN 55971

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

### PHONE NUMBERS

**LOCAL** 563-547-3801 (Cresco); 507-864-7783 (Rushford)

**TOLL-FREE & 24/7 OUTAGE REPORTING** 800-432-2285

**PAYMENT LINE 24/7** 855-941-3631

**UNDERGROUND CABLE LOCATING** 811

### ONLINE

**WEBSITE** [www.MiEnergy.coop](http://www.MiEnergy.coop)

**SOCIAL MEDIA** Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DISTRICT 1** Kim Nelson and Dennis Ptacek, secretary

**DISTRICT 2** Dean Nierling, chair and Ron Stevens, vice chair

**DISTRICT 3** Don Petersen, treasurer and Skip Wieser

**DISTRICT 4** Kyle Holthaus and Carl Reicks

**DISTRICT 5** Beth Olson and Jenny Scharmer

### MANAGEMENT STAFF

**BRIAN KRAMBEER** president/chief executive officer

**SHELLY HOVE** chief financial officer

**JILL HUFFMAN** broadband chief operating officer

**STEVE OIAN** vice president of electric operations

**VASSIL VUTOV** vice president of information technology

**MIKE WALTON** vice president of engineering and planning

**KENT WHITCOMB** vice president of member services

### MINEWS STAFF

**MEAGAN MOELLERS** communications specialist, editor

**ANNIE HOILAND** communications specialist

**BRENDA TESCH** marketing and communications manager

### 2026 OFFICES CLOSED

**MAR 5** Employee Development Day

**APR 3** Good Friday

**MAY 25** Memorial Day

**JUN 4** Employee Development Day

**JUL 3** Independence Day Observance

**SEP 7** Labor Day

**SEP 10** Employee Development Day

**NOV 26-27** Thanksgiving Holiday

**DEC 15** Employee Development Day

**DEC 24-25** Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**DEC 31** New Year's Eve, close at 11 a.m.

**JAN 1** New Year's Day



We inadvertently missed recognizing Josh last month for his 10 years of service. Thank you Josh!

# Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Winter weather can cause your home heating system to work overtime. Check for air leaks and drafts around doors and windows, then seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. Close fireplace dampers when not in use, and consider installing insulating curtains to help keep warm air inside. You can also save energy by lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even small adjustments like these can reduce heating costs and improve comfort during the coldest months.

**mienergy**  
COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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MINNESOTA PO Box 626, Rushford, MN 55971

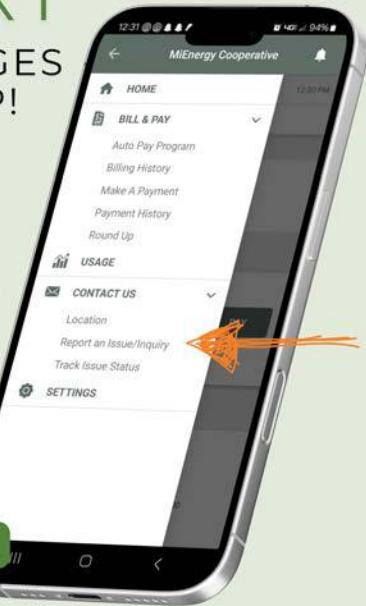
PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
DPC

## REPORT

POWER OUTAGES  
WITH OUR APP!



DOWNLOAD  
MIENERGY'S  
SMARTHUB APP  
TODAY!



- PAY YOUR BILL
- SEE PAST STATEMENTS
- VIEW YOUR ENERGY USE
- AND REPORT A POWER OUTAGE!

**mienergy**  
COOPERATIVE  
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

[WWW.MIENERGY.COOP-SMARTHUB](http://WWW.MIENERGY.COOP-SMARTHUB)

## MiBroadband, Your Connection To The Power Of High-Speed WiFi

*Powered by neighbors you know and trust*

MiBroadband brings high-speed fiber internet, TV, and phone service to rural communities like yours. Built by local cooperatives and staffed by people who live nearby, our network delivers the speed and reliability today's homes, farms, and businesses depend on.



When your internet provider is local, it means faster response, real accountability, and support from people who understand rural life. No call centers. No runaround. Just dependable service backed by neighbors.



Can we serve your address?

Scan the QR code to check availability, visit [mibroadband.com](http://mibroadband.com) or call (507) 886-6422.

MiBroadband WiFi • TV • Phone  
Locally owned by Mabel Cooperative Telephone, MiEnergy Cooperative, and Spring Grove Communications.

35 1st Ave NE, Harmony, MN 55939  
[info@mibroadband.com](mailto:info@mibroadband.com)  
507.886.6422

  
**MiBroadband**