



# CO•OP•ER•A•TIVE

koh-**op**-er-uh-tiv

: an enterprise or organization owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services

**menergy**<sup>™</sup>  
COOPERATIVE  
Your Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative 

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MIENERGY COOPERATIVE

TO ALL MEMBERS:

The annual meeting of the members of MiEnergy Cooperative will be held at the Mabel Community Center, in Mabel, Minn., at 7 p.m. on April 10, 2024, to take action upon the following matters:

- The reports of officers, directors, and committees.
- The election of two directors to be elected from District 2 for a term of three years each.
- The election of two directors to be elected from District 3 for a term of three years each.
- All other business which may legally come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In connection with the election of four directors scheduled for this meeting, the following members have been nominated for director by the nominating committee appointed by the board of directors of the cooperative pursuant to the Bylaws.

District 2: Seat #1 Ron Stevens and Vance Haugen; and Seat #2 Dean Nierling.

District 3: Seat #1 Don Petersen; and Seat #2 Al "Skip" Wieser, III.

You are urged to attend the meeting, hear the reports of the officers, vote for directors, and transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

—Dennis Ptacek, Secretary

## ANNUAL MEETING

Mabel Community Center | 201 South Main St., Mabel, Minn.  
Wednesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

### BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order and Meeting Rules .....	Dean Nierling, chair
Invocation .....	Beth Olson, director
Pledge of Allegiance .....	All attendees
Meeting Notice and Proof of Mailing .....	Dennis Ptacek, secretary
Announcement of Quorum.....	Nierling
Introduction of Board, CEO & Attorney .....	Nierling
Introduction of Guests .....	Jenny Scharmer, director
Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes .....	Nierling
Report of Nominating Committee .....	Kenric Scheevel, committee secretary
Introduction of Director Candidates .....	Carl Reicks, director
Treasurer's Report (Audit).....	Don Petersen, treasurer
Recognition of Retiring Director.....	Nierling and Brian Krambeer, president/CEO
Director Elections .....	Sullivan & Ward, P.C.
President/CEO Report.....	Krambeer
Questions from the Membership .....	Krambeer
Unfinished Business.....	Nierling
New Business .....	Nierling
Adjourn.....	Nierling
Drawing for Prizes .....	Shelly Hove, CFO
	Kent Whitcomb, VP member services

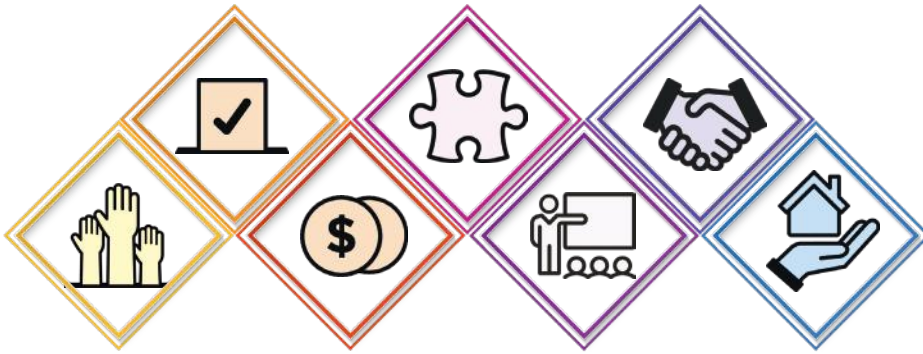
### VIRTUAL MEETING OPTION

The annual meeting will be livestreamed via YouTube. A link and additional information about the annual meeting can be found by visiting: [www.MiEnergy.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.MiEnergy.coop/annual-meeting)

Members watching online can submit questions during the meeting by email to [AnnualMeeting@MiEnergy.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@MiEnergy.coop)

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# CO•OP•ER•A•TIVE

koh-**op**-er-uh-tiv

**:an enterprise or organization owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services**

As a member of MiEnergy Cooperative, it is important to know what exactly a cooperative is. Your electric cooperative is still going strong after 88 years, and it is due to the roots of our fundamentals.

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Cooperative Alliance. These principles are a key reason why America's electric cooperatives, like MiEnergy, operate differently from other electric utilities, putting the needs of our members and their communities first.

Just as our original members found a way to better their lives and future through the formation of a cooperative, we continue to focus on needs of our members instead of profits. Throughout this annual report, we highlight what it means to be a cooperative and what differentiates us from municipal-owned and investor-owned electric utilities.

## OUR MISSION

We take care of members by safely providing reliable, affordable and sustainable services.

## OUR VISION

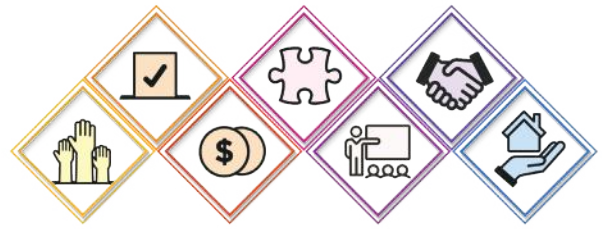
MiEnergy Cooperative is the model of efficiency, innovation and member satisfaction.



## SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. Voluntary, Open 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





## MiEnergy Cooperative THE COOPERATIVE DIFFERENCE

Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order No. 7037, creating the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) on May 11, 1935. He stated, “Electricity is a modern necessity of life and ought to be found in every village, home and every farm in every part of the United States.”

It is important to note the creation of the REA resulted from investor-owned utilities unwilling to extend electric service beyond the more populated towns and cities. Profitability was most important, leaving rural residents without access to electricity.

For 88 years, your electric cooperative has been responsible for keeping the lights on across the countryside by maintaining reliability, affordability and, in recent years, power sustainability.

Our density remains low. We serve less than four members per mile of line. Compare this to investor-owned utilities (IOUs) that average 32 customers per mile of line. Fortunately, our foundation is not built on making a profit but on principles that provide value to members.

The people making the decisions on behalf of the cooperative live here. When you call us, a person answers, not an automated attendant. We support local communities and organizations through sponsorships and economic development loans. You see our employees involved in their communities. We continue to roll out updated programs and services as technology changes and advances. Profits go back

to the members. Those are the benefits of being a member of the cooperative. And while no one wants to pay more for electricity, it remains a good value. In most comparisons, our retail rates are more favorable or, at the very least, comparable to rates of IOUs. As our mission states, we take care of our members.

Today, we serve over 23,000 accounts in northeastern Iowa and southeastern Minnesota using over 5,500 miles of power line. It's some of the most beautiful terrain in Iowa and Minnesota. Still, it is challenging to construct and maintain critical electrical infrastructure. Vegetation management expenses alone regularly exceed \$2 million a year.

We continue to finance electrical improvements through the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) program, formerly called REA, a division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). MiEnergy's average cost of borrowing is less than 5% and involves laddered fixed mortgages over 30 years. Financing is tied to five and 10-year work plans, approved by RUS that require oversight, audits, environmental reviews and approvals, all of which require advanced planning and specialized training.

MiEnergy has received economic development awards totaling over \$4 million through USDA. In 2023, Sunflower Child Development Center, Evans Memorial Home and Decorah Jobs were recipients of our revolving loan funds.

The members are the owners of MiEnergy. Members receive patronage (capital credits) based on business done with your electric cooperative. To date, over \$69.4 million has been returned to the membership in capital credit retirements. In 2023, \$1.9 million was refunded as credits on your electric bill. It's just another benefit of the cooperative business model.

Electric cooperatives are just as relevant today as they were in the 1930s. Today's critical infrastructure is the need for broadband in every home. Broadband is the new electricity, and your cooperative's partnership

to create MiBroadband with Mabel Cooperative Telephone Company and Spring Grove Communications demonstrates the commitment to the betterment of our members and region as we work to deploy broadband across our service territory.

The similarities to 1935 are astounding as you look at a map of our service territory and see the broadband voids in the rural and low-density areas, while pockets of broadband service coverage dot the communities and populated segments of our counties. To date, MiBroadband has been awarded over \$60 million in projects. We have a lot more work to do. We will be aggressively looking at all state and federal programs to capitalize on this vital mission and opportunity to benefit our membership.

2023 was another very successful year. We met all the financial requirements of our financial lenders, met our members' service needs by reinvesting over \$11.5 million in backbone electric infrastructure and maintained our retail electricity costs despite inflation pressures for materials, equipment and borrowing. Our team of employees deserves credit for this success.

Cooperatives are about all things local: local leadership, locally elected governance, and locally driven service from employees who live and work in the community. We continue to focus on listening to our members to meet their needs, planning for the future and doing what is best for members. It is a business model that has worked for 88 years and has a very promising future for decades yet to come.

Thank you for your continued support of MiEnergy, and we look forward to another successful year of meeting member needs in 2024.

**Brian Krambeer, President/CEO**  
**Dean Nierling, Board Chair**





## Dairyland Power Cooperative DIRECTOR REPORT

MiEnergy Cooperative is one of 24 distribution cooperative members of Dairyland Power Cooperative (La Crosse, Wis.). Below is a recap of 2023 highlights.

- Dairyland prioritizes projects that will strengthen reliability, reduce carbon emissions and support more renewable generation. Since 2014, Dairyland has retired 579 megawatts (MW) of coal and is exploring the viability of emerging technologies, including pumped storage hydro, small modular nuclear reactors and long-duration battery storage.
- The Nemadji Trail Energy Center (NTEC) is a proposed 625 MW combined-cycle natural gas plant in Superior, Wis., planned in partnership with Minnesota Power and Basin Electric Power Cooperative. It is a critical-capacity resource that will provide reliable power on-demand in any weather. In December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) issued its second Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for NTEC. Construction is planned to begin in 2024, with operation by 2028.
- There are 161 renewable generation projects dependent upon completing the Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line between Dubuque County, Iowa, and Middleton, Wis. (up from 115 projects last year). Dairyland, ATC and ITC Midwest are co-owners of the project. Last December, the



eastern half of the 102-mile line was energized. The remainder of the project is expected to be in service later this year.

- Dairyland won a competitive bid from the Midcontinent Independent System Operator to develop, own and operate a 345 kV line from the Mississippi River near Alma, Wis., to the Tremval substation (Blair, Wis.). The Alma-Blair Transmission Project will foster the delivery of renewable energy and strengthen regional reliability.
- Dairyland's John P. Madgett (JPM) Station (Alma, Wis.) underwent a 10-week outage in Spring 2023 when employees and more than 200 business partners completed a turbine overhaul and precipitator upgrade. The precipitator collects fly ash, which reduces emissions and is sold as an additive to cement and concrete applications. The precipitator upgrade resulted in twice as much fly ash being collected.
- JPM is critical to regional reliability and financially beneficial to members. The value of always-available baseload generation was demonstrated during an August heat wave when temperatures, humidity and electricity demand were high, and wind resources were low. The Dairyland system set an all-time peak load of 1,177.5 MW on Aug. 23.
- In 2023, the Dairyland system had 28 new projects, totaling 15 MW, and secured more than \$4 million

## MiEnergy Cooperative Annual Meeting of Members April 12, 2023 Minutes

in economic development funding.

- Dairyland was awarded more than \$20 million in grant funding to support middle-mile infrastructure, a microgrid project and long-duration energy storage project.
- The cooperative has earned credit ratings of “A3” with a stable outlook from Moody’s Investors Service and A+ with a stable outlook from Standard and Poor’s (S&P).
- Dairyland’s wholesale electricity rates are among the lowest regionally. The 2024 budget was approved with a one percent average wholesale rate reduction for Dairyland’s member cooperatives.
- Across all 24 member cooperatives, Dairyland returned \$11.9 million in power cost and revenue volatility adjustments, and \$5.1 million in capital credits.

**Jenny Scharmer**  
Dairyland Power Cooperative Board Chair  
MiEnergy Cooperative Board Director

The 7th Annual Meeting of the members of MiEnergy Cooperative was held at the community center in Mabel, Minn., at 7 p.m. on April 12, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Dean Nierling, who presided, and Board Secretary Dennis Ptacek, who kept the minutes thereof.

Nierling welcomed the members and special guests in attendance and those viewing the livestream.

An invocation was offered by Board Vice Chair Ronald Stevens. Nierling then led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nierling introduced Ptacek, who noted that the notice of annual meeting had been mailed to all members and was printed in the annual report.

Nierling reported that the members present in person had been checked, and that a sufficient number of members were present to constitute a quorum.

Nierling introduced the board directors, CEO Brian Krambeer, and Attorney Dennis Puckett.

Director Jenny Scharmer introduced guests who were in attendance, including representatives of neighboring cooperatives, the statewide Association, and key local business leaders.

Nierling noted that the minutes of the annual meeting held April 13, 2022, were mailed to the members in the annual report. He recommended that the reading of the minutes be waived, and they be accepted as printed. A motion was made, seconded, and carried, to waive the reading of said minutes, and they were approved and were ordered to be filed in the records of the cooperative.

Nierling then introduced Dan Solberg, chair of the nominating committee, who identified the members of the committee as Kim Nelson, Joe Thraenert and Solberg and read the report, nominating the following candidates:

District 1: Seat #1 Dennis Ptacek. Seat #2 Jeffrey Redalen.

Director Beth Olson introduced each of the director candidates.

Nierling introduced Board Treasurer Don Petersen who reviewed the financial statements for MiEnergy Cooperative for 2022. The annual report included a summary statement of revenue and expense and balance sheet information and Treasurer Petersen reviewed some of the key figures. He indicated that total assets increased by \$12 million, and liabilities increased by \$10 million. Total equity at the end of 2022 was \$77.3 million. 2022 margins were \$4.6 million. \$2.2 million in capital credits were retired in 2022. The financial statements were audited by the Eide Bailly CPA firm.

Nierling introduced Puckett and asked that he present the results of the director election and the bylaw amendment.

Puckett noted that the board of directors had recommended a change in the cooperative’s bylaws and explained the proposed amendments. The full text of the amendments was provided to the members with the ballot package and the annual report.

He noted that a vote was conducted primarily by mail and electronic voting, with all ballots submitted to Survey and Ballot Systems.

The certified election results were delivered to Puckett, and he presented the same, noting that the following members, having received the highest number of the votes cast, had been duly elected as directors of the cooperative to hold office for the term specified, and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. District 1 Seat #1 Dennis Ptacek and Seat #2 Jeffrey Redalen.

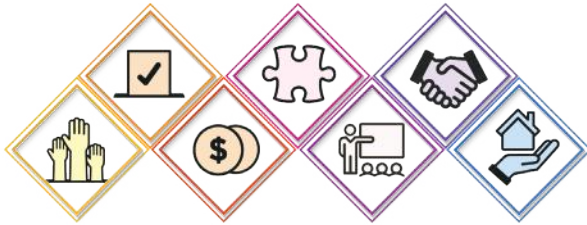
The certified balloting results on the bylaw amendments was also delivered to Puckett and he presented the same, indicating that 91.1% of the members voting had voted in favor of the amendments. It was declared that the amendments had received the requisite support for adoption and the cooperative bylaws would therefore be amended as proposed.

The certificate of the election results provided by Survey and Ballot Systems was directed to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Krambeer was introduced, and he presented the CEO’s Report. He reviewed some basic statistics concerning the cooperative. He also reviewed the cooperative’s mission statement. He reviewed some economic development activity and things the cooperative does to support the communities it serves. Krambeer also noted challenges facing the cooperative, including supply chain issues, and rising costs. He discussed rate classes and the cost-of-service study. He reviewed information about Dairyland Power Cooperative, generation resources, system reliability, the transformation of the electric industry, customer-owned generation, renewable generation projects, and the new outpost in Preston. He thanked the members for their support and answered questions from the members.

Nierling next noted that there was no unfinished business from the last member meeting and called for any new business. There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Nierling declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

A drawing was held for door prizes and the members in attendance were provided an attendance gift as they left the meeting.



## MiEnergy Cooperative DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



Ron Stevens



Vance Haugen



Dean Nierling

**Seat #1:** Ron Stevens, Incumbent versus Vance Haugen, Challenger. **Seat #2:** Dean Nierling, Incumbent, is running unopposed as no other director applications were submitted.

### Ron Stevens, Incumbent 30987 Harvest Dr., Preston, Minn.

Ron Stevens is a retiree of Qwest Communications. He currently raises beef cattle, works part-time for Harmony Transit and F&M Community Bank and has been a cooperative member for 44 years. Stevens has served on MiEnergy's board since 2007 and is currently the vice chair. He also represents MiEnergy on MiBroadband's board and as secretary for the Minnesota Rural Electric Association Board of Directors. Stevens also serves on the Preston Township Board.

Stevens says renewable energy and electric vehicles are two important issues moving forward. "How to treat

members fairly regarding renewable energy is a challenge. The primary concern is allowing members to install renewable energy without it negatively affecting the other members. We are also continuing to install charging stations as needed for electric vehicles as they become more common," Stevens said.

When asked why he would like to continue serving on the board, he stated, "Our electric co-op continues to evolve as technology advances, and I find it interesting as we adjust to keep up with all the changes."

### Vance Haugen, Challenger 12620 Deer Rd., Canton, Minn.

Vance Haugen is a retired University of Wisconsin Extension Agent and a semi-retired farmer who has been a cooperative member for 30 years. He currently serves as the Canton Township Supervisor, as a director on the GrassWorks board and as a coordinator/facilitator for Great Rivers Graziers. In the past, he has served as chair of the Canton Township Land Use Planning Study Committee, University of Wisconsin Extension Liaison to GrassWorks board, department head of the University of Wisconsin Extension Department - Crawford County, Department of Agriculture Extension Educators Committee Chair and a member of Tri-County Electric Cooperative's Advisory Committee.

Haugen earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture mechanization and a master's in biogas energy production from North Dakota State University. He also completed seven assignments for the United States Agency for International Development's Farmer-to-Farmer program in Nicaragua, Zambia and Guyana.

He says a few important issues for the board are "maintaining the distribution infrastructure with the increasing extreme weather events, managing the changing load demands based on anticipated electric vehicle charging requirements, working with evolving battery technology to integrate battery systems for both residential and commercial members for backup electrical service and the computerized implementation of those same battery systems to help shave peaks and store green energy."

When asked why he would like to serve on the board, he said, "I'm interested in helping facilitate positive change. Our electric cooperative has been and is a positive force



for the people and communities it serves. With the adaptation of even more electric options (electric vehicles, long-term onsite storage batteries), these will be exciting times. I would like to be part of helping guide our cooperative through these exciting and rapidly changing times so that the core tenets of this electric cooperative are maintained.”

## Dean Nierling, Incumbent 2537 County Rd. A-14, Decorah, Iowa

Dean Nierling is a self-employed farmer who has been a cooperative member for 53 years. He’s served on MiEnergy’s board since 1999 and is currently the chair. Nierling also serves on the board for MiBroadband (vice chair) and Mabel Cooperative Telephone Company (president).

Having served on the MiEnergy board before the merger, he states, “I have experienced firsthand the efficiencies the merger has made possible. My connection with Mabel Cooperative has benefited in the MiBroadband startup, which will be very valuable to MiEnergy and Mabel Cooperative for years to come.”

Nierling says “keeping reliable and affordable electric service for all members has been and will continue to be the top priority and must be done as fairly as possible for all member classes. Reliable high-speed internet access is also critical for all members to give them information and tools to help them make good decisions in their future and give them the quality of life everyone deserves.”

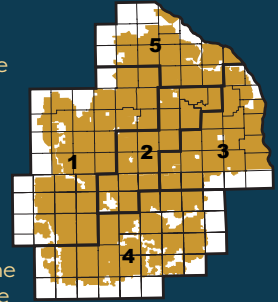
When asked why he would like to continue to serve on the board, he stated, “Having served on the electric and the telecommunications boards, I have a lot to offer as a director to help make the right decisions to keep this cooperative moving into the future. With the fast-changing industry, we must be open-minded and make good policies that are fair to all members.”

## OUR LEADERS ARE MEMBERS

MiEnergy Cooperative has 11 directors representing the five districts of its service territory. Members vote for candidates that live in and represent their district. Being elected to the board is a paid position that comes with responsibilities.

The election process begins with an article in the November MiNews informing members which districts are up for election and the deadline for candidate applications. The cooperative also seeks members to serve on the Nominating Committee at that same time. The Nominating Committee is made up of members who live in the district up for election. MiEnergy’s attorney reviews the director applications, along with the committee who selects which applicants are placed on the ballot.

Information about MiEnergy’s board of directors is available online at [www.MiEnergy.coop/board-directors](http://www.MiEnergy.coop/board-directors).



## FUTURE ELECTION SCHEDULE

Board directors are elected to three-year terms. The election schedule is as follows:

Districts 2 & 3, 2024 | Districts 4 & 5, 2025 | District 1, 2026

Members who live in a district up for election were mailed a ballot package with information on how to cast a ballot by mail, online or in person. This year, members in districts 2 and 3 received a yellow ballot package mailed to them on March 10.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Back row (l-r): Dean Nierling, chair, Decorah, district 2; Ron Stevens, vice chair, Preston, district 2; Carl Reicks, New Hampton, district 4; Skip Wieser, La Crescent, district 3; and Dennis Young, Decorah, district 3. Front row (l-r): Don Petersen, Hokah, treasurer, district 3; Kyle Holthaus, Waukon, district 4; Jenny Scharmer, Winona, district 5; Beth Olson, Lewiston, district 5; Dennis Ptacek, secretary, Elma, district 1; and Jeff Redalen, Fountain, district 1.



## MiEnergy Cooperative DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



Don Petersen



Skip Wieser

Seat #1: Don Petersen, Incumbent

Seat #2: Al “Skip” Wieser, III, Incumbent

Both are running unopposed as no other director applications were submitted

### Don Petersen, incumbent 9873 Ridgeview Rd, Hokah, Minn.

Don Petersen is a self-employed livestock and crop farmer who has been a cooperative member for 39 years. He’s served on MiEnergy’s board since 2011 and currently serves as treasurer. He also serves as secretary/treasurer for the Hokah Cooperative Oil Association Board and is a trustee on the Minnesota Rural Electric Political Action Committee. He earned his Credentialed Cooperative Certificate for Directors Duties and Liabilities and a Director Gold Credential for the board leadership certificate program through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

He states, “While running a cow-calf, feedlot and crop operation for the past 40-plus years, I have become a true believer in the cooperative business model. Self-employment has taught me all the aspects of running a

prosperous business, including financials, time management and marketing.”

Petersen says a few important issues for the board are “how to keep a rate policy that ensures everyone pays their fair share with no cross-subsidization, which is an ongoing issue, especially with the increased development of renewable energy. Also, the most important issue is to continue to supply safe, reliable and affordable electricity.”

When asked why he would like to continue to serve on the board, he stated, “I believe that energy has been and always will be one of the most expensive inputs in all aspects of business, and by serving on the board, I can do my part to keep rates in line.”

Petersen has been married to his wife, Sandy, for 37 years and has three children and three grandchildren.

### Al “Skip” Wieser, III, incumbent 1985 County Hwy. 6, La Crescent, Minn.

Skip Wieser is an attorney at Wieser Law Office, P.C. and has been a cooperative member for 20 years. He’s served on MiEnergy’s board since 2013, is a member of the La Crescent Chamber, volunteers at various city events and is a former director for the La Crescent Community Foundation.

He states, “As the electric distribution industry continues to evolve and change, I have the background, experience and insight to address day-to-day issues that arise to a board level and stay focused on long-term issues facing the cooperative. Since joining the board, I have earned my Credentialed Cooperative Director certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. I’ve also demonstrated leadership in rate stability, member participation in renewable energy and the long-term stability of the cooperative.”

Wieser says a few important issues for the board are “proactively looking for economic growth and development opportunities both within and outside MiEnergy’s service territory to provide long-term stability. Continuing to work with state and federal legislators regarding issues that impact MiEnergy. And creatively addressing issues related to distributed generation to allow member participation, while maintaining the stability of the cooperative. Continuing to work on all the above will provide the best chance for the future of MiEnergy.”

When asked why he would like to continue serving on the board, he stated, “I have embraced and enjoyed the challenges of serving on the board during dynamic industry times. I believe I can continue to contribute positively for the benefit of the cooperative.”

## BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	2022	2023
<b>ELECTRIC PLANT</b>		
In service	\$212,548,475	\$223,368,506
Under construction	3,651,491	1,328,565
Total electric plant	\$216,199,966	\$224,697,071
Less accumulated depreciation	65,912,318	69,040,171
<b>Net Electric Plant</b>	<b>\$150,287,648</b>	<b>\$155,656,900</b>
<b>OTHER PROPERTY &amp; INVESTMENTS</b>		
Investments in associated companies	\$38,768,950	\$41,329,001
Restricted investments	2,093,174	3,896,469
Special funds - revenue deferral	4,000,000	3,500,000
Other investments	317,957	397,220
<b>Total Other Property &amp; Investments</b>	<b>\$45,180,081</b>	<b>\$49,122,690</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,957,657	\$1,136,875
Restricted cash	908,793	929,938
Accounts receivable – net	8,734,621	8,140,147
FEMA receivable	0	500,502
Note receivable	0	300,000
Materials and supplies	7,507,465	9,342,655
Other assets	330,431	324,575
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$19,438,967</b>	<b>\$20,674,692</b>
<b>DEFERRED DEBITS</b>	<b>\$702,476</b>	<b>\$558,684</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$215,609,172</b>	<b>\$226,012,966</b>
<b>EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>EQUITIES</b>		
Patronage capital	\$62,596,379	\$66,087,013
Other equities	14,712,498	15,232,786
<b>Total Equities</b>	<b>\$77,308,877</b>	<b>\$81,319,799</b>
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT, Less Current Maturities</b>	<b>\$112,645,756</b>	<b>118,698,621</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$4,761,000	\$5,643,000
Line-of-Credit	3,500,000	3,700,000
Accounts payable	5,456,161	5,078,389
Customer deposits	145,653	133,396
Other current and accrued liabilities	3,659,036	3,877,240
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$17,521,850</b>	<b>\$18,432,025</b>
<b>DEFERRED CREDITS</b>	<b>\$8,132,689</b>	<b>\$7,562,521</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$215,609,172</b>	<b>\$226,012,966</b>

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE

	2022	2023
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$78,600,830</b>	<b>\$79,302,755</b>
Cost of purchased power	49,759,590	48,712,578
Distribution – operations	4,415,399	4,076,916
Distribution – maintenance	5,092,944	5,227,812
Consumer account	870,024	877,474
Customer service and informational	1,085,941	1,083,547
Administrative and general	3,930,105	4,281,077
Depreciation	6,721,445	7,161,102
Taxes	790,346	773,762
Interest	3,609,870	3,797,192
Other	68,935	508,554
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>\$76,344,599</b>	<b>\$76,500,014</b>
<b>OPERATING MARGINS</b>	<b>\$2,256,231</b>	<b>\$2,802,741</b>
<b>G &amp; T &amp; OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$2,023,133</b>	<b>\$2,541,927</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING MARGINS</b>	<b>\$416,503</b>	<b>\$665,912</b>
<b>NET MARGIN</b>	<b>\$4,695,867</b>	<b>\$6,010,580</b>

## ELECTRIC BILL BREAKDOWN

BASED ON A \$100 BILL



PURCHASED WHOLESALE POWER.....	\$64
OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE.....	\$12
DEPRECIATION.....	\$9
TAXES/INTEREST/OTHER.....	\$7
ADMINISTRATION/GENERAL.....	\$5
MEMBER ACCOUNTS/SERVICES.....	\$3



# 7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



## PRINCIPLE 1: VOLUNTARY & OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Membership in a cooperative is open to all people who can reasonably use its services and stand willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, regardless of race, religion, gender or economic circumstances.



## PRINCIPLE 2: DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. Representatives (directors) are elected among members and are accountable to them. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote); cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.



## PRINCIPLE 3: MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital remains the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative; setting up reserves; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.



## PRINCIPLE 4: AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control as well as their unique identity.



## PRINCIPLE 5: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Education and training for members, elected representatives (directors), CEOs and employees help them effectively contribute to the development of their cooperatives. Communications about the nature and benefits of cooperatives, particularly with the general public and opinion leaders, help boost cooperative understanding.



## PRINCIPLE 6: COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

By working together through local, national, regional and international structures, cooperatives improve services, bolster local economies and deal more effectively with social and community needs.

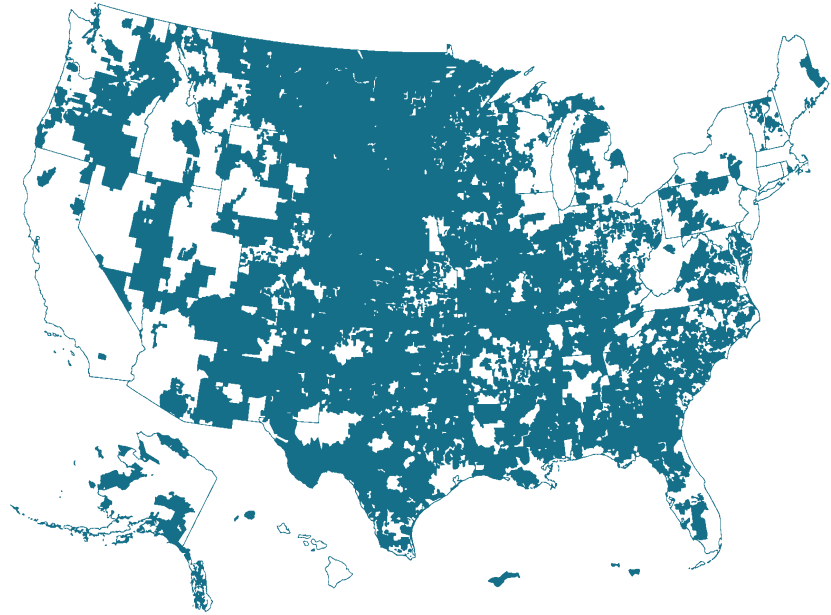


## PRINCIPLE 7: CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies supported by the membership.

# THESE ARE THE WORDS WE LIVE BY

Cooperatives  
power  
**56%**  
of the nation's  
landmass



## Leveraging infrastructure funds to support rural communities

Electric cooperatives have decades of experience supporting local communities by accessing public and private funding. These efforts include:

- Advance **electric vehicle** charging networks.
- Deploy new **cybersecurity** tools.
- Expand rural **broadband** access.
- Develop rural **microgrids**.
- Promote **clean energy** research, development and deployment.
- Enhance **grid resiliency** and modernization efforts.

## Meeting tomorrow's needs by investing in the future of communities



**BROADBAND:** More than 250 co-ops deployed or are planning to deploy broadband service to their members, giving them access to telehealth services, online learning, remote work and new possibilities for local businesses.



**SMART METERS:** Electric cooperatives lead the industry in smart meter deployment, with an 81% use of AMI meters, compared to 67% for the rest of the industry.



**ENERGY STORAGE:** Cooperatives have developed more than 75 energy storage projects, ranging from residential batteries to large utility-scale projects paired with renewable generation. Storage is an important element of microgrids, including on military installations.

# 2023 AT-A-GLANCE

**19,223**

Members

**23,469**

Meters

**76**

Employees

Total miles of  
power lines:

**5,579**

Overhead line: **4,632**

Underground line: **947**

Annual  
revenue:

**\$79M**

kWh  
sold:

**649M**

Cost of  
power:

**\$49M**

Capital credits returned:

**\$1,919,396**

Energy efficiency rebates to members:

**\$446,615**

Average monthly residential kWh use:

**983**

Member-owned generation systems added:

**116**





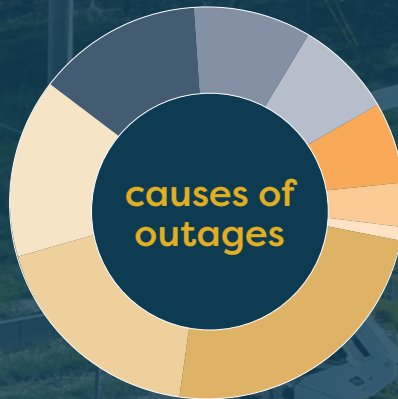
**Breakdown of kWh purchases:**

- 607M Dairyland Power Cooperative
- 47M Southern Minnesota Energy Cooperative
- 16M Utility-Scale Solar Contracts
- 9M Member-Owned Generation/Community Solar

**\$12,315**  
Operation Round Up grants

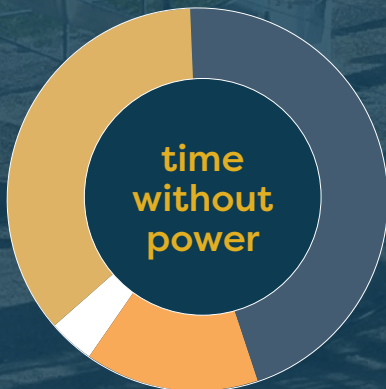
**Breakdown of outage causes in 2023:**

- 256 Unknown
- 191 Small Animal/Bird
- 154 Trees
- 142 Planned
- 104 Material/Equipment Failure
- 82 Customer/Public
- 71 Weather
- 37 Uncategorized
- 11 Power Supply



**\$20,819**  
Donations/sponsorships

**\$14,740**  
RECare distribution for electric bill assistance




**Breakdown of outage durations in 2023:**

- 60 Minutes or Less - 408
- 61-120 Minutes - 514
- 121-240 Minutes - 166
- 241 Minutes or More - 44

**\$70,000**  
Post-secondary scholarships

**menergy**<sup>TM</sup>  
COOPERATIVE

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



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MINNESOTA PO Box 626, Rushford, MN 55971

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**Bring this registration card to the annual meeting for your chance to win a prize.**

Card must be turned in by 7 p.m. to be eligible for the prize drawing. Must be present to win.



# ANNUAL MEETING

## MiEnergy Cooperative Annual Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Mabel Community Center  
210 South Main St., Mabel, Minn.

Registration 6:30 p.m.  
Business Meeting 7 p.m.

Unable to attend in person? The annual meeting will be livestreamed via YouTube.  
A link with additional information about the annual meeting can be found by visiting: [www.MiEnergy.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.MiEnergy.coop/annual-meeting).  
Members watching online can submit questions during the meeting by email to [AnnualMeeting@MiEnergy.coop](mailto:AnnualMeeting@MiEnergy.coop).