



CURRENT CONNECTION

A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 

Monthly Publication of Crow Wing Power

April 2022 Volume 74 Number 4

Mark Your Calendars – Member Appreciation Events Scheduled >>>

Two member appreciation events have been scheduled separately from the annual business meeting this year.

Pancakes anyone? Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 23 for an entertaining pancake breakfast to be held at the Curling Club building at the Crow Wing County Fairgrounds. Chris Cakes will be flipping and tossing pancakes.



Lions and Tigers and Bears – Oh My!

We are working with Safari North Wildlife Park owners Kevin and Kelly Vogel to give members the opportunity to visit the zoo free of charge.



That family fun event is scheduled for the weekend of September 17 and 18.

Watch for more event details at cwpower.com and in future newsletters.



Annual Business Meeting – RSVP Required >>>

Similar to last summer, this year's annual meeting will once again be strictly a business meeting. It's scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, June 11 at Arrowwood Lodge in Baxter.

Prior to last year, the annual business meeting had been combined with a member appreciation event. Covid changed that, but allowed us to look at other possibilities. This year, member events are scheduled separately. The business meeting culminates the Board of Directors' election. Results will be announced at the meeting. Agenda items include updates from the Board Chair and CEO.

Filing to run for an open director position closes April 12. Ballots will be mailed in mid-May and need to be returned by June 11. This year we've added the option of electronic voting. When you receive your

ballot in the mail, you'll have the option to mail it back in a return envelope or be directed to vote online.

To attend the business meeting members must RSVP either on our website at cwpower.com or by calling 218-829-2827. Member confirmation tickets will be issued to those registered. Please RSVP by June 6 so we can adequately prepare for the number attending. If registering online, the confirmation ticket will be sent electronically.

Online registered members must present a printed or electronic RSVP confirmation (on a cell phone or tablet) at the time of check-in. Members that call in their RSVP will have their tickets available when we check members in, like a will call process.



Board Authorizes \$2.4 Million Capital Credit Distribution >>>

Bob Kangas, Board President

There are many benefits that come with co-op membership, but perhaps one of the best is capital credits – your payback for being a member and customer of a not-for-profit cooperative. Margins over and above operating expenses get

allocated to cooperative members.

The Board of Directors conducted a year-end financial review and determined we were in a position to retire, or distribute, another round of capital credits. Therefore, capital credit checks totaling approximately \$2.4 million will be mailed to 24,095 cooperative members in May. The checks will be distributed for Crow Wing Power's portion of allocations that were made to members for the electricity they used for the years 2003 and 2004. Approximately \$50 million will have been returned to our cooperative members in the past 25 years.

What are capital credits? As a member of Crow Wing Power you invest in the efficient operation of your cooperative. We are a not-for-profit cooperative – we're not out to make money, but to provide a service to our members – reliable quality service at the lowest possible cost. Annually, the Board of Directors has the fiduciary responsibility to review the cooperative's operating margin. If there are excess margins, they are then allocated to each member based on the amount of electricity purchased during that particular year.

What's the difference between allocated and retired capital credits?

Allocated capital credits are the amounts assigned to each member who paid for service during a year in which margins were earned. The capital credits assigned to members are retained by the cooperative for a period of time and are invested back into the cooperative, mostly in infrastructure, which helps the cooperative remain financially sound, thereby ensuring a stable, reliable electric service for the benefit of the members we serve.

When the financial condition of the Cooperative allows, the Board makes the decision to retire or distribute previously earned capital credits in the form of a check.

Board Meeting Highlights

Crow Wing Power's Board of Directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Thursday, February 17, 2022. A quorum of directors was present.

President Bob Kangas opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following reports were given:

- CEO report
- Finance Committee report

The following actions were taken:

The Board approved:

- February Consent Agenda
- Cogeneration and Small Power Production Report
- Qualifying Facilities Report
- Community Solar Project Phase III
- General Retirement of Capital Credits
- Cooperative Network Annual Dues
- Minutes of the January 20, 2022 regular board meeting
- Director expense reports for January 2022

Members can review detailed minutes at cwwpower.com/board-and-meetings or by logging into their SmartHub account. Log in is located on the homepage of our website. March minutes will be published after approval in April. The next board meeting is April 21, 2022.

As a Member of Crow Wing Power, YOU Get the Credit

Thank You for Your Membership!



When you signed up to receive electric service from Crow Wing Power, YOU became a member-owner of a cooperative. As a not-for-profit cooperative, we return capital credits to YOU, our members.



Depending upon the amount of electricity you used, if you had electric service in 2003 and 2004, you may get a capital credit check in May's mail.

Outage Texting Coming...Do We Have Your Current Mobile Phone Number? >>>

The ability to text information about power outages is coming soon! We've been working with a robust software program that will integrate mobile phone texting with our outage management system to allow two-way texting concerning power outages.

Make sure we have your current mobile phone number in our system so you'll be able to text about power outages.

The easiest way to verify your mobile phone numbers is to log onto your SmartHub account

- Go to My Profile;
- Click on My information and;
- Update my contact information.

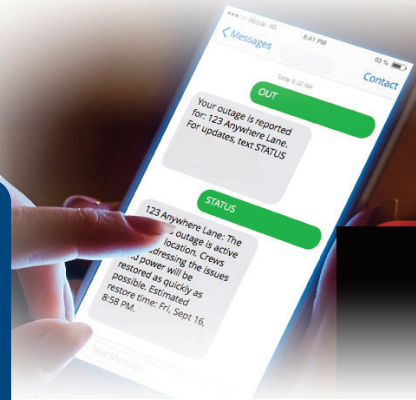
If you are not registered in SmartHub simply go to our website at www.cwpower.com and register so you'll be able to manage your account.

We are testing the Text Power program internally.

When we launch Text Power, we'll send out a text message introducing you to the program. You will be able to text us when your power is out and we'll be able to text you when we have it restored.

Details and answers to your questions will be shared when the program is ready.

Notice: When we launch the program, we will send an introduction text to all members that have a mobile phone number in our system.



Three Area Students Headed to National Washington Youth Tour >>>

The nationwide Washington Youth Tour is back! After two years hiatus, we're now able to send three high school juniors to Washington D.C.

Amber Gardner from Backus, Bryce Tennier from Jenkins and Emily Holtti from Pine River are this year's essay winners.

They will join approximately 900 other students in Washington D.C. from June 14-19, 2022.

Amber, Bryce and Emily will join high school students from across the nation for an incredible week visiting the historic sights, developing their leadership and team building skills and networking with other civic-minded students.

The Washington Youth Tour is sponsored nationally by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, local cooperatives and in this state the Minnesota Rural Electric Association.



>> Amber Gardner



>> Bryce Tennier



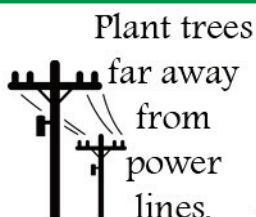
>> Emily Holtti

Legal Notice: Notice of Cogeneration & Small Power Production >>>

In compliance with Minnesota adopted Rules Regulating Cogeneration and Small Power Production Chapter 7835, Crow Wing Cooperative Power & Light Company is required to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers which satisfy the conditions of a Qualifying Facility.

Crow Wing Cooperative Power & Light Company has available and will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An application for interconnection is required for a Qualifying Facility to interconnect and operate in parallel with the Cooperative's distribution system and is subject to approval by the Cooperative.

Any disputes over interconnection, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Cooperative. Members interested in further information should contact the office of Luke Christiansen, Key Account Representative/Generation Interconnection Coordinator, Crow Wing Cooperative Power & Light Company, P.O. Box 507, Brainerd, MN 56401; or call 218-829-2827 or 1-800-648-9401.



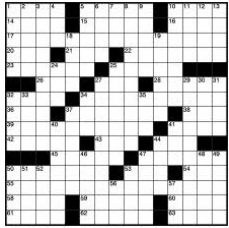
Plan the Plant



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



To Our
Heroes in Hard Hats
 We Thank You!
 Celebrating
Linemen
 Appreciation
 Day April 11



Switching It Up!
 For the next puzzle issue (June) we'll try a Crossword Puzzle.

Win \$25 off your electric bill >>>

Complete the bi-monthly word find puzzle below, clip and send entire coupon back to us by May 15. We've sized it to fit in your billing payment, so you can save a stamp. If you'd rather, you can send it separately to Crow Wing Power, PO Box 507, Brainerd, MN 56401. Attn: Puzzle or scan and email to info@cwpower.com. The winning entry will be drawn on May 15.

Our winner for the last puzzle: Donald and Judith Knutson, Becker

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
 The power of human connections

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 Crow Wing Power,
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 218-829-2827
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 www.cwpower.com

Editor: Char Kinzer

Board meetings are held the third
 Thursday of each month beginning at
 9:30 a.m.

Directors. Here to Help!

Following is a list of directors and their telephone numbers:

- Bob Kangas218-587-4453
- Paul Koering.....218-851-9954
- Ric Larson218-546-5781
- Gordon Martin.....218-746-3971
- Bryan McCulloch218-821-8390
- Doris Mezzenga218-692-1004
- LuAnn Nelson612-400-4627
- Gert Roggenkamp218-562-4566
- Dwight Thiesse.....218-831-8605

1. _____ capital credits are the amounts assigned to members.
2. Members who had _____ between 2003 and 2007 may receive a check.
3. April 11 is _____ Appreciation Day.
4. Soon you can _____ that your power is out.
5. Easy way to verify mobile phone numbers. Go to _____ account.
6. Member event in September is at Safari North _____ Park.
7. Chris Cakes is in the _____ world record book.
8. Members attending the annual business meeting need to _____.
9. Filing for a _____ position closes April 12.
10. The Board President always opens board meetings with the Pledge of _____.
11. The Board determined we were in a position to _____ capital credits.
12. The Washington Youth Tour is four days in _____.

February Puzzle Answers:



Mini, Four, Tripled, Nontraditional, One, Students, Rain, Online, Bimonthly, Share, Two