

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**Annual Meeting**  
NORTHERN PLAINS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022**

North Dakota Farmers  
Union headquarters,  
Jamestown

REGISTRATION/MEAL  
5-6 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING  
6 p.m.

**NORTHERN  
PLAINS** *Electric Cooperative*

**2022**  
**Annual Report**

# Message to our members

BY GENERAL MANAGER SETH SYVERSON AND PRESIDENT TRACY BOE



*General Manager Seth Syverson, left, and President Tracy Boe.*

**A**s COVID-19 endured during the past year, we've adapted the cooperative's operations to ensure we provide a safe working environment for our employees and serve our members with reliable power. We were able to hold our annual meeting in-person, while also continuing to utilize mail-in ballots first implemented in 2019. The mail-in ballots have been a positive change, with increased membership participation and by allowing everyone to have a voice in their cooperative.

The cooperative growth in new services continued at the same rate as recent years, increasing at a rate of 0.7%, for a year-end total of 11,813 active services. The majority of growth was in our residential accounts, but 140 new services were established in 2021 overall.

Although we experienced growth, the cooperative did not see an increase in total energy sales (kilowatt-hours). The cooperative ended the year with 395.9 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) sold, but this was an 11% reduction in energy, in comparison to 2020. Multiple factors attributed to the decrease in sales, but the primary factors were less heat sales due to a warmer winter and a reduction in grain drying due to a dry fall.

The cooperative was successful in keeping our operating expenses down to help offset the reduced revenue from kWh sales. Total operation and maintenance expenses were 11.3% lower than budgeted for the year. The financial targets and covenants of our

lenders were successfully met, with the cooperative ending the year with an equity level of 40.7%, and margins of \$3,168,386 will be allocated back to the membership. In part of the cooperative's patronage retirement, the board of directors approved the retirement of \$564,739 in capital credits to the members of the cooperative. This now totals \$4,527,760 in the past five years which the cooperative has returned to its members.

Safe and reliable power is a top priority of the cooperative and a strong maintenance program is required for the 6,682 miles of distribution lines throughout our service territory. The cooperative is continuing with the annual pole inspection program, planning to inspect over 8,000 poles. We are also continuing the replacement of electric meters, with plans of changing out over 4,000 meters. The deployment of the meters helps us improve our outage management system and reduces outage duration times.

Our transmission provider, Central Power Electric Cooperative, continues to focus on reliability and redundancy with the completion of a rebuild of 21 miles of transmission line in the Pingree service area and 15 miles of new transmission that will provide a loop between the Jamestown and Carrington service territories. Central Power's maintenance of the distribution substations and transmission facilities aid the cooperative's high reliability of power being on 99.988% of the time.

The residential rates remained stable throughout 2021 and we aim to keep rates firm throughout 2022. Overall electric rates have been stable, with the last increase taking place in 2018, when the monthly facility charge increased slightly. Our wholesale power costs are feeling upward rate pressure, but our power supplier is being diligent to keep rates stable in the near term. Forecasts into the future hold more uncertainties in regard to viable generation supply and impacts from a carbon-constrained environment. Our power supplier, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, is taking an all-of-the-above approach to ensuring the needs of its members are met now and in the future. Basin Electric Power Cooperative is considering all options and available technologies that will help reduce our carbon footprint and maintain rates.

With 2022 in full swing, the cooperative has been able to adjust to supply chain issues that have had a major impact throughout our industry. Prices and lead times have increased dramatically in the electric industry, which has caused us to reconsider inventory levels and investments into plant. We strive to make responsible investments into the system and ensure they bring the most value to the membership.

Let us look toward a bright future for Northern Plains Electric Cooperative and all of our communities. We encourage you to share your thoughts and suggestions

with your cooperative, as this is your organization and your involvement is critical to its success

We want to thank all of the cooperative's employees for their dedication and commitment throughout the past year. Each and every employee is essential for ensuring the cooperative provides safe, reliable and affordable power.

Please mark your calendar for the annual meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, in Jamestown. We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your continued support. ■

## Board of directors



**Tracy Boe**  
President



**Curtis Wiesz**  
Vice President



**Randall Simon**  
Secretary/Treasurer



**David Teigen**  
Assistant Secretary/  
Treasurer



**Mark Brehm**



**Judy Geier**



**Curtis Hanson**



**Bruce Olsen**



**Lori Carlson**

## 2021 Staff



**Seth Syverson**  
General Manager



**Ashton Dewald**  
Engineering/  
Operations Manager



**Cheryl Belle**  
Business Manager



**Scott Buchholtz**  
Manager of  
Information  
Technology

# 2020-2021 OPERATIONS STATEMENT & BALANCE SHEET

## Balance sheet

As of Dec. 31, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
<b>ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS</b>		
Total Utility Plant	\$ 148,662,204	\$ 144,063,954
Accumulated Depreciation & Amortization	\$ -62,501,688	\$ -60,611,112
Net Utility Plant	\$ 86,160,516	\$ 83,452,842
Total Other Property & Investments	\$ 33,916,055	\$ 33,318,766
Cash & Temporary Investments	\$ 10,399,034	\$ 16,219,121
Material, Accounts Receivable		
Notes Receivable and Other Assets	\$ 6,891,627	\$ 5,573,853
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 137,367,232</b>	<b>\$ 138,564,582</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS</b>		
Long-term Debt	\$ 70,428,036	\$ 75,010,661
Other Liabilities (Accounts Payable, Deposits, Regulatory, Taxes)	\$ 10,875,582	\$ 10,852,720
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 81,303,618</b>	<b>\$ 85,863,381</b>
<b>MEMBER EQUITY</b>		
Patronage Capital	\$ 40,003,761	\$ 37,238,922
Total Margins for the Year	\$ 4,240,188	\$ 3,882,605
Other Equities	\$ 11,819,665	\$ 11,579,674
<b>Total Net Worth</b>	<b>\$ 56,063,614</b>	<b>\$ 52,701,201</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 137,367,232</b>	<b>\$ 138,564,582</b>

## Statement of operations

As of Dec. 31, 2021 and 2020

	2021	2020
<b>INCOME</b>		
Electrical Sales	\$ 39,311,980	\$ 42,982,811
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Purchased Power Cost	\$ 24,398,091	\$ 28,222,284
Distribution Operations	\$ 1,404,220	\$ 1,743,932
Distribution Maintenance	\$ 2,036,381	\$ 1,929,714
Customer Accounts Expense	\$ 480,742	\$ 464,424
Customer Service & Sales	\$ 209,800	\$ 200,388
Administrative & General	\$ 2,081,950	\$ 2,064,543
Depreciation Expense	\$ 4,480,367	\$ 4,189,925
Tax Expense	\$ 295,690	\$ 337,750
Interest Expense	\$ 2,215,385	\$ 2,463,300
Other Expense & Deductions	\$ 42,158	\$ 38,305
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 37,644,784</b>	<b>\$ 41,656,565</b>
<b>MARGINS</b>		
Operating Margins	\$ 1,667,196	\$ 1,326,246
Interest Income	\$ 352,680	\$ 665,813
Other Nonoperating Margins	\$ 1,219,121	\$ 22,181
G&T/Other Capital Credits	\$ 1,501,191	\$ 1,868,365
<b>TOTAL MARGINS</b>	<b>\$ 4,740,188</b>	<b>\$ 3,882,605</b>

# Operation Round Up

**O**peration Round Up is a program that rounds participating members' monthly electric bills to the next whole dollar and places the funds in a trust. Northern Plains Electric Cooperative (NPEC) contributes a small number of resources each year to administer the program. A five-member board of directors from across the service area meets quarterly to review applications and disburse the funds to worthy individuals/families and organizations throughout the NPEC service area.

Operation Round Up awards funds to applicants based on individuals or families in crisis, food pantries, local ambulance and fire departments or nonprofit organizations that need funding for specific projects within the NPEC service area.

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program with roughly 80% of the 8,185 members participating. Since the program started in 1998, the trust has disbursed \$862,162 to 1,205 causes. This year, Operation Round Up awarded \$37,800 to help 58 individuals/families and organizations. ■

**2021 ORU Board of Directors** - President **Cara Wagner**, Pettibone; Vice President **Julie McDougall**, Rolla; Secretary/Treasurer **Angie Freund**, Cando; **Robin Arnold**, Esmond; **Joan Copenhaver**, Carrington



## 2021 ORU financial report

<b>Beginning Balance (Jan. 1, 2021)</b> .....	<b>\$4,614.67</b>
<i>Income:</i>	
Operation Round Up contributions .....	\$37,452.42
Operation Round Up donations .....	\$0.00
<b>Total Income</b> .....	<b>\$37,452.42</b>
<i>Expenses:</i>	
Grants given in 2021 .....	\$37,800
<b>Ending balance (Dec. 31, 2021)</b> .....	<b>\$4,267.09</b>

## 2021 Recipients

### ORGANIZATIONS

- Benson County Social Services
- Bio Girls Inc., Carrington
- Cando Area Food Pantry
- Carrington Daily Bread
- Cathay Fire Protection District
- Community Action, Jamestown
- Dakota Prairie Community Action, Rolla
- Esmond Rural Fire Department
- Fessenden Fire Protection District
- Grandfield Lutheran Church
- Harvey Kiwanis Club
- Harvey Volunteer Fire Department
- Hungry Free Food Pantry, New Rockford
- Jamestown Regional Entrepreneur Center
- Kidder County Food Pantry
- Leeds Community Food Pantry
- Little Bobcats Daycare

- Mt. Pleasant School, Rolla
- New Rockford Park District
- Pierce County Fair Association
- Pierce County Food Pantry
- Pingree Lutheran Church
- Robinson Lions Club
- SMP Health-Ave Maria, Jamestown
- The Bread of Life Food Pantry, Cooperstown
- The Hope Center, Devils Lake
- Townner County Historical Society
- Wells County Social Services
- Woodworth Fire Department
- Woodworth First Responders

### INDIVIDUAL/FAMILIES

- Edith Armev
- Eunice A. Baker

- Janelle Carnahan
- Dee DeArton
- Tiffney Dick
- Terri Farbo
- Conner George (Brooke)
- Jack Geske
- Cheryl Hager
- Kerry Haugen
- Anton Korb
- Ron Lunde
- Sylvia Martin
- Dave Moe
- Mark Paulson
- Lori Stahl
- Irene Steckler
- Brock Thomas

# Capital credits

## What are capital credits?

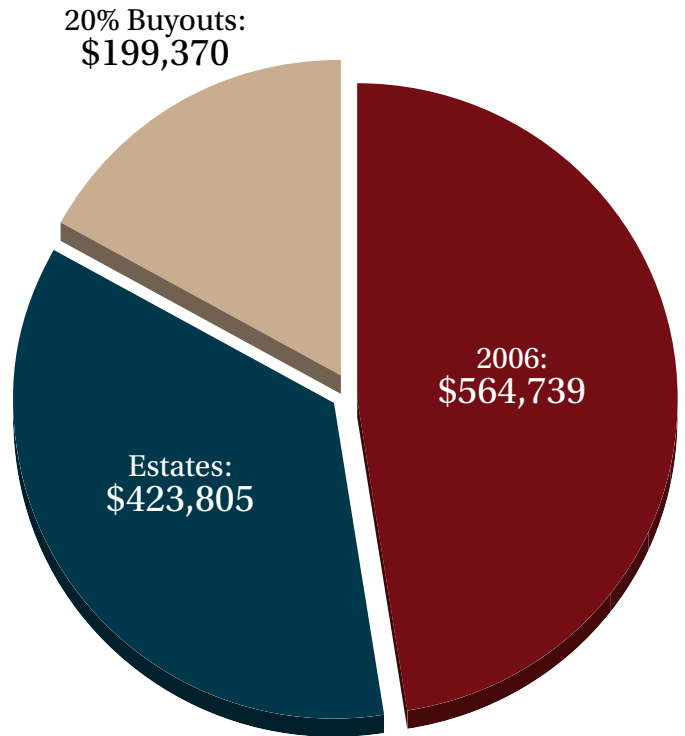
Northern Plains Electric Cooperative is owned by its members. That means the co-op doesn't earn profits. If the co-op earns more revenue than it needs to do business, the co-op returns that money to its members.

## Who receives capital credits?

This year's capital credit checks were paid to members who purchased electricity from the co-op in 2006. The amount of the check depends on how much electricity the member purchased.

## 2021 capital credits paid

60% of 2006.....	\$564,739
Estates.....	\$423,805
20% buyouts.....	\$199,370
<b>Total retired.....</b>	<b>\$1,187,914</b>



# 2021 Co-op Facts

**Members served:** 8,185

**Meters served:** 11,813

**Miles of distribution line:** 6,682

**Kilowatt-hours (kWh) sold:**  
395,994,897

**Poles:** 74,000

**Substations:** 42

**Full-time employees:** 42

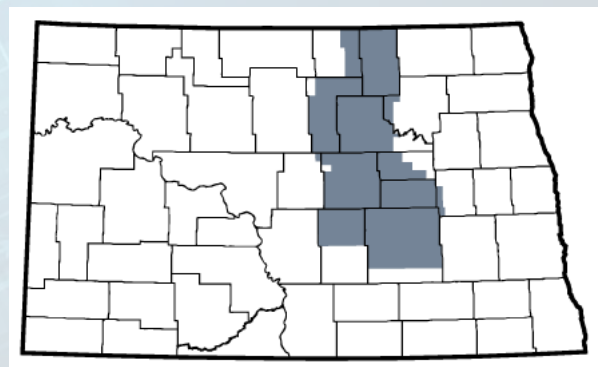
**New services:** 140

## Power supplier:

Central Power Electric Cooperative Inc.

## Counties served:

Benson, Eddy, Foster, Griggs, Kidder, Pierce, Stutsman, Wells, Ramsey, Towner and Rolette



# Candidates for board of directors

Northern Plains Electric Cooperative (NPEC) held an open call for three open seats on the board of directors, as the current seat holders' terms were coming to an end. The cooperative received five petitions by the following candidates.

## District 1

Incumbent **Mark Brehm** was first elected to the NPEC board of directors in 2007 and also serves as secretary/treasurer on the Central Power Electric Cooperative board. Mark lives in Cando with his wife, Darla, where they own and operate D&M Electric Motor and Supply. The electrician technician holds an Associate of Applied Science degree from North Dakota State College of Science.



**Mark Brehm**  
unopposed

Mark serves as a director on the Economic Development Committee in Cando, as a volunteer for Cando Fire and Rescue and is a former mayor of Cando.

Mark and Darla have four children and eight grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing.

As a candidate, Mark says, "I have an interest in the co-op philosophy and have spent my career in the electrical industry, making me a good fit for NPEC."

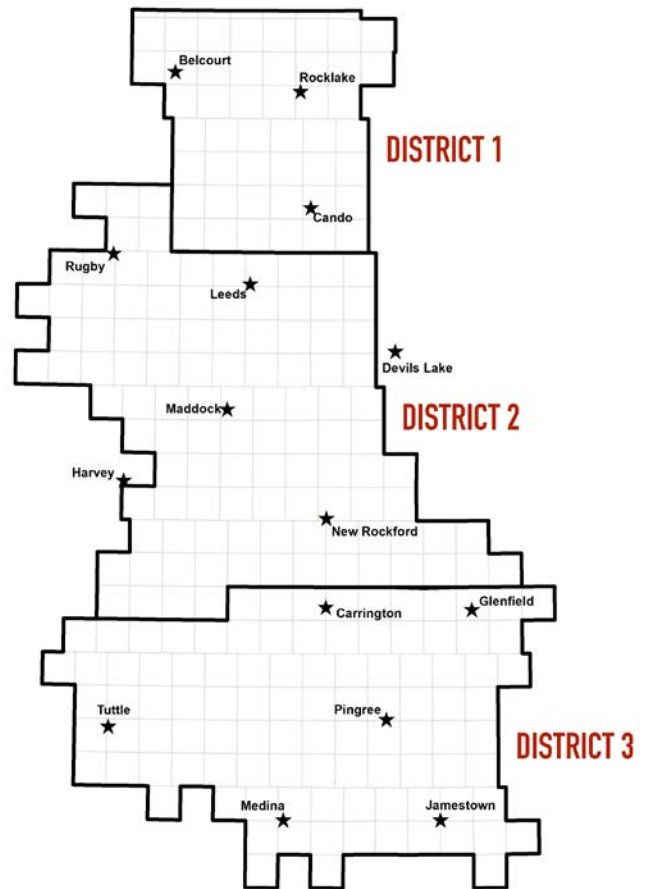
## District 2

Incumbent **David Teigen** was first elected to the NPEC board of directors in 2009 and serves as assistant secretary/treasurer. David lives and farms near Rugby, where he and his wife, Jennifer, raise four children. The North Dakota State University graduate holds a Bachelor of Science degree in crop and weed science.



**David Teigen**  
unopposed

David serves as a director on the Rugby Rural Fire District board and the Pierce County Farmers Union



board. He is a volunteer air rifle instructor for the Pierce County 4-H shooting sports. David enjoys reading, tinkering in the shop and attending his kids' activities.

In response to why David is running for the NPEC board, he says, "I've learned a lot in my time on the board and I enjoy being part of the conversation determining the future trajectory of the cooperative."

## District 3

New to the Carrington area, candidate **William S. Dillingham** became an NPEC member in September 2021. He works as an economist and holds a master's degree in economics. William is involved in various activities associated with faith, family and friends and likes to spend time on the land. He and his wife, Stefanie, have two children.



**William Dillingham**  
District 3

William says he is interested in running for the NPEC

board because he cares about his community and the continued access to reliable and affordable power.

“I have a strong background in commodity markets and production operations, which I believe would enable me to continue the good work of previous boards in keeping the lights on in the NPEC community,” he says.

Incumbent **Curtis Hanson** has served on the NPEC board of directors since 2010. The Pettibone farmer, who specializes in soybean, corn and wheat crops, has been an NPEC member for over 40 years. He and his wife, Zannetta “Zee,” have six adult children and 16 grandchildren.



**Curtis Hanson**  
District 3

Curtis holds two degrees, a Bachelor of Arts in education from Devils Lake Community College and a Bachelor of Science from Mayville State University. For the past 20-plus years, he has served as president on both his township and his church board of directors.

Curtis enjoys hunting, fishing, playing cards and conducting research on his computer. In response to why Curtis is running for the NPEC board, he says, “I’ve been on the Northern Plains board for over eight years, and I find it very interesting and challenging. Thank you for your past support as well as your continued support.”

Candidate **Larry Nohrenberg**, of Jamestown, has been an NPEC member for 14 years. He is a North Dakota State University graduate and holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Bachelor of Architecture degree. Larry is a retired project manager with the former Western Gear of Jamestown and a lifetime farmer in the Pingree area.



**Larry Nohrenberg**  
District 3

He serves as a director in the position of president on the Central North Dakota Steam Threshers Reunion board and is a classic car enthusiast. Larry and his wife, Judy, have four children and 10 grandchildren.

In response to why Larry is running for the NPEC board, he says, “Energy sources and systems are changing and evolving. I want to be a part of this future with NPEC, continuing to focus on reliability at the lowest possible cost.” ■

**NORTHERN PLAINS** Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

*An equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**CANDO OFFICE:**  
609 4th Ave.  
Cando, ND 58324

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday-Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**CARRINGTON OFFICE:**  
1515 West Main  
Carrington, ND 58421

www.nplains.com  
justask@nplains.com  
800-882-2500

**BOARD & MANAGEMENT:**

President .....	Tracy Boe, Mylo
Vice president.....	Curtis Wiesz, Heaton
Secretary/treasurer .....	Randall Simon, Oberon
Assistant secretary/treasurer.....	Dave Teigen, Rugby
District 1 .....	Mark Brehm, Cando
District 1 .....	Bruce Olsen, Cando
District 3.....	Lori Carlson, Jamestown
District 3.....	Judy Geier, Heaton
District 3.....	Curtis Hanson, Pettibone
General Manager .....	Seth Syverson
Manager of Engineering .....	Ashten Dewald
Manager of Operations .....	Josh Cabler
IT Manager .....	Scott Buchholtz
Business Manager .....	Cheryl Belle
Northern Notes Editor .....	Brittnee Wilson