

# COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS



## Hooked on Fishing

**South Dakota Fish  
Hatcheries**

Pages 8-9

**Methods of  
Moving Structures**

Pages 12-13

*Photo Credit:  
Markus Erk*

# Board Elections- An opportunity to serve your community

This month I will be focusing on updates from the nominating committee and reminders about upcoming meetings.

## Member Account Updates

I would like to start with a reminder on updating your account information with the cooperative when you have a phone number or address change. It is important that we have the most up to date information for your account for a number of reasons. An up-to-date address allows us to make sure that we send your monthly bill and other cooperative correspondence to the right address, and you get it in a timely manner.

An up-to-date phone number (landline or cell) is important when calling in an outage after hours. Dispatchers at the Cooperative Response Center (CRC), our afterhours call center, use your phone number to bring up your account(s) to dispatch crews to repair an outage at the location associated with that phone number. We have had several large storms come through the area in the past year and we want to make sure that we get to the right outage location when you call into report any outages.

We use your phone number to call when we are planning on maintenance activities that would require us to shut off the line. We do our best to reach out and let our members know when this is happening in their area and how long it may take.

To update your account information, you can use the change of address box located at bottom left of your monthly bill, email changes to email@llec.coop or by giving us a call at 800-927-6276.



**Tim O'Leary**  
General Manager

## DISTRICT MEETING DATES

- District 1 – Monday, April 10th at 7:00 pm  
Tyler – Lyon-Lincoln Electric Headquarters
- District 2 – Tuesday, April 11th at 7:00 pm  
Russell – Russell Community Center
- District 3 – Thursday, April 13th at 7:00 pm  
Porter – Bethel Lutheran Church

## Nominating Committee

The nominating committee met for the second time on March 7th and nominated the following candidates in their prospective districts:

District 1 – Scott Johnson and Kelly Sik

District 2 – Galen Grant for a three year term and Joel Buyck for a 1 year term

District 3 – Dale Fier

***“There is still an opportunity for those interested in becoming a candidate in their district through the petition process. The petition process allows a member to collect the signatures of 10 other members in the district to become a director candidate. Please let us know if you would like a petition form or if you would like to learn more about the petition process.”***

If you would like to serve on the nominating committee in the future or would like your name to be considered as a future candidate, please let us know so we can contact you in the future.

## District Meetings

Members will vote on the director candidates at the upcoming District meetings. The candidate that receives the most votes at the district meeting will be listed first on the annual meeting ballot for each district.

Each of the meetings will start at 7 pm and are scheduled at the following locations:

District 1 – Lyon-Lincoln Headquarters building in Tyler on Monday, April 10th

District 2 – Russell Community Center in Russell on Tuesday, April 11th

District 3 – Bethel Lutheran Church in Porter on Thursday, April 13th

Please join us for your district meeting to learn more about what is going on at your electric cooperative and to participate in the election process by voting on candidate(s) to represent your district on the annual meeting ballot.

## COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

### LYON-LINCOLN ELECTRIC

(ISSN 1540-6989)

#### Board of Directors

Sandy Ludeman, Tracy – President  
Dale Fier, Taunton – Vice President  
Kathleen Schreurs, Tyler – Sec./Treas.  
Jared Dritz, Porter  
Galen Grant, Russell  
Mary Gunnink, Lake Benton  
Scott Johnson, Tyler  
Mike Longtin, Taunton  
James Rokeh, Minnesota

#### Staff and Personnel

Tim O'Leary – General Manager  
Lyle Lamote – Line Superintendent  
Kristi Jensen - Finance Manager  
Brian Jeremiason – Manager of  
Marketing & External Relations  
Rochelle Borresen – Accountant  
Lisa Hauswedell – Billing Clerk  
Jessica Gums – Executive Assistant

#### Staff and Personnel

Journeyman Linemen:  
Ross Birath  
Dan Tutt  
Tyler Blomme  
Tyler Sand  
Nathan Pavek  
Trent Skjefte – Apprentice Lineman  
Sam Rohde – Apprentice Lineman  
Wade Thooft – Operations Staff  
Assistant  
Alan Fischer – Warehouse  
Coordinator/Work Order Clerk

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

Lyon-Lincoln Electric hours are:  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Mon. thru Fri.

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Jessica Gums, Editor

# The Cooperative Model:

## How One Distributor is Helping Lyon-Lincoln Address its Supply Chain Challenges- Part 1



**Matt Brandrup**

President & CEO,  
RESCO

For many Minnesota residents, the equipment needed to power our homes, farms, and businesses is an afterthought. We simply flip a switch or press a button, and we have power, without thinking of the power grid and labor needed to deliver it. And without the necessary materials to ensure that delivery, routine maintenance, emergency work (especially during storm seasons), and new utility-related projects could come to a standstill.

Having an adequate inventory of power cable, transformers, utility pole hardware and other products is vital, especially in these times of supply chain disruptions and inflationary challenges. That's why electric cooperatives in Minnesota are members of another cooperative to help ensure that equipment and materials they need are readily available, regardless of the circumstances.

Founded in 1936 in response to the challenge rural electric cooperatives faced in acquiring equipment and materials, Rural Electric Supply Cooperative (RESCO) is a member-owned, not-for-profit electrical wholesaling organization whose members are rural electric cooperatives in the Upper Midwest, extending from Michigan to Montana. Angie Lovre - 1467200. It operates under a not-for-profit, membership model, similar to that of the cooperatives they serve. This enables RESCO to work with its manufacturer partners to deliver extremely competitive prices, which in turn enables its cooperative members to stay within their expense budgets and, ultimately, passing these savings down to their own members. And just like electric cooperatives, any "profits" are returned to its members in the form of patronage credits.

In addition to cost-savings, RESCO's cooperative model helps to ensure that electrical equipment damaged during storms and other weather-related emergencies is addressed and repaired in a timely manner, thereby reducing the impact on the delivery of electricity. For its Minnesota members, it operates warehouses in Moorhead, MN and the surrounding states, for quick distribution of products and materials, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Addressing the Impact of Supply Chain Disruptions, Long Lead Times, and Inflation

No industry sector has been immune from the disruptions caused by ongoing supply chain issues, especially concerning longer lead times (for delivery of purchased products) caused by a supply/demand imbalance. For electric cooperatives, the impact could delay the start of new projects or force a postponement of scheduled maintenance.

High inflation rates have also contributed to operational challenges, stretching budgets and potentially requiring cooperatives to pass some of these increases on to their customers. In 2021, the inflation rate on all products RESCO distributes was approximately 14%; in 2022, the number rose to 18%.

Despite these challenges, RESCO continues to focus on ways to assist our cooperative members in procuring the materials, products, and equipment needed to maintain and grow their operations.

*We will continue this discussion next month with Part 2 where Matt discusses what RESCO is doing to lessen the supply chain disruption for their member-owners.*

# Practicing Electrical Safety Inside and Outside the Home

Electricity is a vital resource South Dakotans depend on daily, but when used unsafely, the consequences can be costly and sometimes even deadly.

Many tragedies involve common items such as power outlets, appliances, power cords, power equipment and extension cords. Sadly, most of these deaths and injuries are preventable.

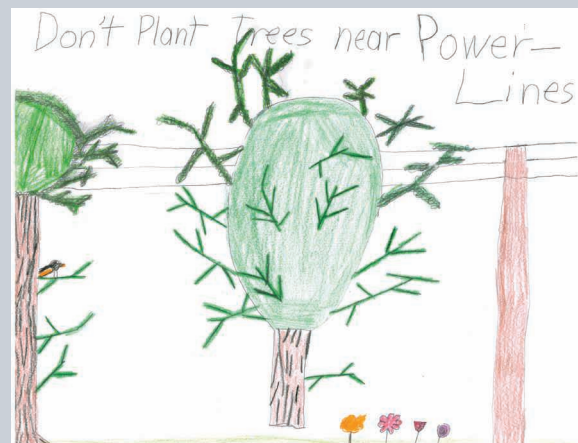
To help reduce electric safety casualties and injuries, South Dakota's electric cooperatives are dedicated to raising awareness of electric safety information to educate people of all ages on the dangers of electricity.

### Inside the Home:

- Inspect electrical cords often for broken connectors or fraying. Throw away any worn cords to eliminate the possibility of shock, short circuit or fire.
- Don't overload power outlets.
- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- When trying to unplug something from an outlet, pull on the plug, not the cord.
- Keep in mind that turned off appliances are still connected to electricity until they are unplugged. Always unplug appliances before cleaning or repairing.
- Use extension cords only for short-term purposes, and make sure the cord is adequately suited for the amount of electricity it will be transferring.
- Turn off and unplug all portable electrical appliances, like hairdryers, irons and shavers, when you're finished using them.
- Be familiar with the location of your breaker box and make sure the switches are clearly labeled so you can shut off electricity quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Teach children never to put their fingers in electrical outlets and appliances.
- Keep appliances and cords away from children and use plug covers in outlets.

### Outside the Home:

- If there is a downed power line nearby, leave the area immediately and notify your cooperative or call 911. If others are around, let them know that they need to stay away.
- Teach children to stay away from power lines and substations and make sure they can recognize "Danger-High Voltage" signs.
- Never use electrical equipment near any wet areas, such as pools or ponds.
- Remember, electricity looks for the shortest, most direct path to ground. A ladder, pole or even a wet kite string touching a power line will give electricity a new, shorter path and if you are holding one of these items, you could become a part of that path.
- "Call Before You Dig." Dial 811 before starting a digging project, and workers will be sent to your home to mark utility lines in your yard. This service is free, and it has the potential to save your life.



### Power Line Safety

#### Annette Tschetter, age 9

Annette Tschetter, age 9, offers a great safety tip for power lines. Planting trees near power lines can be dangerous and problematic. Annette is the daughter of Ryan and Elaine Tschetter, members of Whetstone Valley Electric based in Milbank, S.D.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

# SMOOTHIE SENSATION



## WAKE UP COFFEE SMOOTHIE

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup milk
- 1/8-1/4 cup instant coffee granules
- 1 envelope chocolate or vanilla instant breakfast drink mix
- 3 cups ice cubes

### METHOD

In a blender, combine all the ingredients except the ice. Blend until well mixed. Add the ice and blend until well mixed and slushy.

**Catherine Peterson**  
Viborg, S.D.

## STRAWBERRY SMOOTHIE

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups fresh strawberries, stemmed and halved
- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup ice cubes or chips
- 1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
- 1/4 tsp. ginger

### METHOD

In a blender, combine all of the ingredients. Blend on high speed until it has a smoothie texture. Makes two 12 ounce glasses.

**Dar Duncan**  
Milbank, S.D.

## MINT CHOCOLATE BREAKFAST SMOOTHIE

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup ice
- 1/2 medium avocado, peeled, pitted and chopped
- 1/2 cup frozen sliced banana
- 1/2 cup packed baby spinach leaves
- 1/2 cup reduced fat milk
- 1 tablespoon agave nectar
- 1/2 teaspoon Pure Vanilla Extract
- 1/4 teaspoon Pure Peppermint Extract
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped chocolate

### METHOD

Place all ingredients except chocolate in blender container; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Stir in chocolate. Serve immediately.

[mccormick.com](http://mccormick.com)

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

# January Board Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative was held on Monday, January 23, 2023. Directors present were James Rokeh, Kathy Schreurs, Jared Dritz, Galen Grant, Mary Gunnink, Sandy Ludeman, Dale Fier, and Mike Longtin. Absent was Scott Johnson. Also present at the meeting were General Manager, Timothy O'Leary, Finance Manager, Kristi Jensen, and Attorney, Michael W. Cable.

The Board and others in attendance stood and gave the Pledge of Allegiance. President Ludeman then called the meeting to order and routine business was conducted including approval of the December 19, 2022 meeting minutes, a review of the check schedule, applications for memberships, and shares to be cancelled.

Lyle Lamote, Line Superintendent, advised the Board on outages for the month of December, 2022. He also indicated that Nate Oines, East River's Substation Tech, did a walk thru of the new Mable Substation with the operations crew during the December Safety Report. Mr. Lamote indicated that the linemen were repairing electric lines and performing maintenance and line patrol. Mr. Lamote also advised that the new bucket truck is here.

Brian Jeremiason, Manager of Marketing and External Relations, reviewed his report with the board, some of the items reviewed were as follows: Mr. Jeremiason provided information on the new East Riv-

er rebate database that will allow Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. to track information on rebates, deemed energy savings, to modify programs and more. The Cooperative looked at a few options for an EV Home Charging Pilot Project. Mr. Jeremiason also advised the Board that he started working with the MERIT Center in Marshall along with Safety and Security Consultation Specialists (SASCS) to bring some firefighter training on Electric Vehicles to the region.

Kristi Jensen, Finance Manager, gave the Financial and Statistical Report for the period ending November 30, 2022. The Board reviewed the Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Weighted Cost of Capital for 2023 and reviewed a Memorandum that had been received from Jeff Rud, Power Supply Specialist for East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., concerning the subject of Environmental Attributes Sale Proceeds Distribution. The board also reviewed the Cost of Service Study presented electronically by Brian Adams, the Senior Rate and Business Consultant, for Utility Pricing, Policy and Analytics for the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC). Amanda Seger, Regional Vice-President for the CFC, and Kristi Jensen, Finance Manager, then reviewed the 2021 Key Ratio Trend Analysis information that had been compiled CFC.

General Manager Timothy O'Leary then gave his manager's report; some of the items reviewed were as follows: The Board reviewed the December

power bill and sales to members and compared those figures to budgeted amounts, looked at line loss for the system, and reported on East River's MAC meeting that he attended. Mr. O'Leary then reviewed with the board upcoming meetings, events, and notices.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:59 A.M. and reconvened at 12:30 P.M. During the lunch recess the Board viewed the East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. video report which included the Basin Summary.

The Board then reviewed the December Cyber Security Program Report, directors reported on training sessions and meetings attended, and reviewed and discussed upcoming meetings and educational workshops to be held. There was also general discussion concerning the Nominating Committee for 2023.

President, Sandy Ludeman, presented a letter to the Board indicating that he would be resigning from the Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board effective February 25, 2023. The resignation was given because he would no longer reside in the Cooperative's service territory after that date and pursuant to the Bylaws he would not be eligible to be on the Board. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to have worked with them and wished the Board the best in the future.

With there being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made and carried to adjourn at 2:36 P.M.

# LUDEMAN RETIRES FROM LLEC BOARD

A CALL TO SERVE FOR LYON-LYNCOLN  
ELECTRIC CO-OP



Sander “Sandy” Ludeman V served on the cooperative’s board of directors since 2009 and, for the last 11 years, guided the monthly board meetings as its Board President/Chair. Sandy lived in rural Tracy on the family farm and represented District 2 during his 14 years on the board.

Sandy wasn’t the first Ludeman to serve on the board for District 2 as his father, Sander IV, served on the board 21 years earlier. Sandy was a “Legacy” director and got his first taste of LLEC Board duties and responsibilities from his father when he served on the board. Sandy’s opportunity to serve on the board came when long term board member Dayle Swift was ready to retire in 2009. Dayle talked to Sandy about running for the board to continue that family tradition, but Sandy was serving on several other boards at the time. After some time to think about it, Sandy determined that it seemed to be the right time to become a candidate to serve on the cooperative board. Sandy said, “I originally ran for the LLEC board because I understand what an important link it is in preserving and growing our rural way of life in this area. Without the reasonable and affordable power that LLEC provides, farmers and rural residents would face difficult choices in moving forward with their businesses and homes. Electricity is something we depend on every day to keep our businesses and homes functioning.”

The first several years on the board for Sandy was a learning exercise and he credits his neighboring cooperative directors for providing insights as to how they solved or dealt with problems at their electric cooperatives. Sandy believed in education, and he feels that our statewide and national organizations, MREA and NRECA, have an excellent series of classes that help new directors get “up to speed”. As Sandy recalled, “When I first got on the board, we got 40 or 50 printed pages for each monthly meeting but eventually the board transitioned to iPads which made it easier to communicate and handle information. It was “fun” to see how that change took place, not always real smooth but with each other’s help, it worked.” As chairman, Sandy’s good listening skills and patience have served him well. Sandy guided the board through its monthly meetings and looked for input from each member of the board.

Sandy said about his time on the board, “I have enjoyed working on the board because we respect each other’s opinion, openly discuss alternatives, and usually reach a consensus on issues. It doesn’t mean that we agree on everything, but healthy debate usually brings a solution to the forefront, and we move on.”

When asked about his board experiences, Sandy is keen to share his memories about certain meetings and directors. On the top of the list includes: a Nashville ice storm with Glen Sorenson where travel was a slippery situation, a Basin annual meeting in Bismarck, ND that marked → the first time all nine directors were on a trip together which involved 7 hours of driving one way, the discovery of what a Smash Burger was and where they narrowly avoided an auto accident on the interstate. Sandy also included a time when Mary Gunnink, Donna Stone and himself had to crawl out of the Twin Cities in a snowstorm by taking some driving shortcuts which worked out in their favor. Sandy listed Galen Grant and Merv Anderson as his mentors on the board and as members that also served with his father during his time on the board. Sandy reflected on how the board has served as a surrogate family to him and said, “You get to know each other’s families and care about what is going on with each of them.”

Sandy and Peggy, his wife and key supporter of 53 years, have made the choice to move to Bloomington, MN to be closer to their family. Sandy indicated that his retirement from the board came a little quicker than he had planned but it is the right thing for him and Peggy to do at this time. Sandy plans on enjoying his time by reading more books, watching his grandkids in their sport activities (football, cross-country, basketball, track), and by spending more time during the summer at their cabin on Lake Shetek. Peggy has let Sandy know that it is ok to say “NO” to new opportunities, so he will try harder to do that in the future. Sandy told us, “It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the member-owners of Lyon Lincoln Electric Co-op.”

We wish Sandy all the best as he moves on from his Chairman/Director position and into the next chapter of life.

## A Director’s key to success

Mike Longtin, Lyon-Lincoln District 3 Board Member, was recognized at the January Board meeting by Board Chairman Sandy Ludeman for earning his CCD Certificate. The first part of NRECA’s three-part Director Education Program, the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program consists of five courses that focus on basic governance knowledge and the essential skills required of cooperative directors.

The CCD prepares directors to fulfill their fiduciary duty as elected officials serving on behalf of their membership. Upon completion of all five CCD courses, directors are awarded the Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate by NRECA. Congratulations and thank you, Mike!



Pictured: Director, Mike Longtin, receives CCD Certificate from Chair, Sandy Ludeman



# HOOKED ON FISHING

A Game, Fish and Parks employee consolidates fish in a raceway at McNenny State Fish Hatchery for loading and stocking.

## South Dakota Fish Hatcheries Meet Growing Demand

**Frank Turner**

frank.turner@sdrea.coop

Fishing guide Dave Spaid, of Pierre, has a passion for helping anglers pull fish out of South Dakota waters. When a customer catches a memorable monster along the banks of the Missouri River, Spaid knows he has had a successful day.

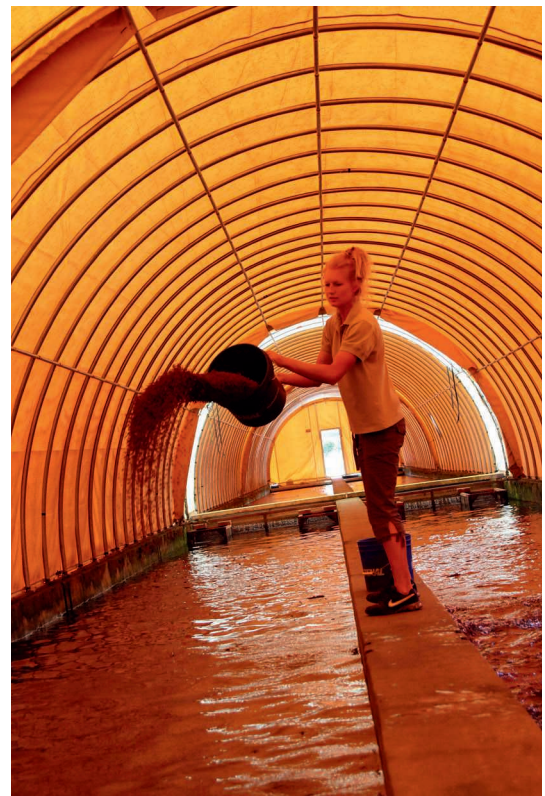
“I basically enjoy watching other people catch fish,” said Spaid, who has been a guide for fishermen from across the Midwest for more than 37 years.

Over the course of his long-standing career, Spaid says he observed more anglers on the water and improved fishing technologies and capabilities, yet fewer sizable fish. “There’s a growing amount of people out there that are fishing every day and having success,” said Spaid. “It puts a detrimental dent in our fishery and sometimes the fish just don’t have a

chance to grow to those bigger sizes.”

According to data from Game, Fish and Parks (GFP), fishing continues to be an important part of South Dakota’s outdoor heritage, confirming Spaid’s suspicions. And while fishing guides, like Spaid, have earned a living by taking fish out of the water, managers of fish hatcheries have taken on the responsibility of putting new fish back in.

Fish Hatcheries administrator Mike Barnes said GFP is being proactive in the development of its three hatchery locations to meet the needs of South Dakota’s anglers. Recent improvements to South Dakota’s three hatcheries located in



Regular feedings help bolster fish before their introduction to South Dakota lakes and rivers.



Spearfish, Rapid City and Waubay have significantly improved the state's abilities to produce and rear mass quantities of fish – everything from walleye to rainbow trout to largemouth bass – for stocking across the state.

The fish produced at these state hatcheries can even bolster South Dakota's larger fisheries, and without them, there would be significantly fewer fish to catch. In 2022, GFP and other entities stocked a total of 66 million fish, including 19 different species, in 138 lakes and streams in South Dakota. Over 60% of the walleye fisheries in South Dakota depend on stocking, and walleye stocking is increasing in Lake Oahe, South Dakota's largest reservoir. Other fisheries, like those for Chinook salmon, rainbow trout, and paddlefish, only exist because of hatcheries.

So how does the state manage to raise millions of fish? When raising walleye, hatcheries collect and fertilize fish eggs collected during the spawning season in the spring. The eggs incubate in upwelling jars, which circulate fresh water and gently roll the eggs. When the eggs hatch,

the small fry are either stocked directly into lakes or kept for further growth in ponds or newly installed re-circulating aquaculture system (RAS) tanks.

Due to the recent addition of RAS technology in 2019, Barnes said it is now possible to grow more fish and different species of fish to sizes never before possible. "Anglers are going to feel a huge impact from what we have done with these new systems, even as soon as this summer," said Barnes. "We are increasing small walleye production, and will be stocking bass at 10 inches or bigger, bluegills at eight inches, and muskies at 16 inches or longer – we've never had the opportunity to grow and stock these species of fish at these sizes before. This is all happening at the same time as increased numbers of walleyes returning from traditional rearing ponds and trout production at record levels. I'm extremely proud of the people I am privileged to supervise."

Rearing fish in RAS is complex, and Barnes compares the process to a factory. The scale of production is massive and energy intensive. Barnes is also the

manager of McNenny Hatchery in rural Lawrence County. As a co-op member of Butte Electric, Barnes said the McNenny hatchery in Spearfish has had consistent support from its local co-op to keep the operation rolling.

"There is no way we could do what we do without reliable electricity," said Barnes. "It's just a tremendous blessing for us to have Butte Electric as our provider. They are just so good to work with and so responsive and helpful."

The state is keen on keeping the momentum rolling. In fact, GFP has plans for a new hatchery facility on SDSU's campus. Increasing production, increasing rearing efficiencies, saving money, developing student interns, and enhancing fisheries education, are all reasons for the new facility. Barnes estimates that the project could be completed within the next three years.

"Keep an eye out for new projects because they are happening and underway," he said. "And at the end of the day, it's all about maximizing the satisfaction of our customers, South Dakota's anglers."



Game, Fish and Parks uses trucks equipped with livewells to stock fish directly into South Dakota fisheries across the state.

# Keeping the lights on



When people flip a light switch, they may not give much thought to why or how the light comes on.

Electric lineworkers provide an essential service: They work hard to install and maintain overhead and underground power lines that keep electricity flowing. These specialized workers are on call 24/7 in case severe storms or other circumstances cause the power to go out.

Lineworkers work with high-voltage electricity, often at great heights, in all kinds of weather conditions, such as snow, wind, rain, ice and extreme heat and cold. The work required to maintain the power grid is physically demanding. To become proficient, lineworkers must go through a technical training program as well as learn on the job as apprentices under the careful eye of seasoned lineworkers who have earned journeyman status.

Electric power line installers and repairers held approximately 126,600 jobs in 2021, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Nearly half of these employees worked for electric power generation, transmission, and distribution utilities.

When a problem is reported, lineworkers must identify the cause and fix it. This usually involves diagnostic testing using specialized equipment and repair work. To work on poles, they usually use bucket trucks to raise themselves to the top of the structure, although all lineworkers must be adept at climbing poles and towers when necessary. Workers use specialized safety equipment to keep them from falling when climbing utility poles and towers.

Storms and other natural disasters can cause extensive damage to power lines. When power is lost, line repairers must work quickly to restore service to customers. Matthew Millner - 1410900

## Safety comes first

Lineworkers spend numerous hours in safety training each year and must understand and apply crucial safety regulations.

Protective clothing is required to shield lineworkers since they work around high voltages. Collectively, gear components can weigh up to 45 pounds.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, electric power line installers and repairers typically:

- Install, maintain or repair the power lines that move electricity.
- Identify defective devices, voltage regulators, transformers and switches.
- Inspect and test power lines and auxiliary equipment.
- String (install) power lines between poles, towers and buildings.
- Climb poles and transmission towers and use truck-mounted buckets to get to equipment.
- Operate power equipment when installing and repairing poles, towers and lines.
- Drive work vehicles to job sites.
- Know and implement safety standards and procedures.

Although everyone at Lyon-Lincoln Electric works hard to provide reliable service, we salute our lineworkers who work around the clock to keep the power on.

# Thank a Lineman



America's electric cooperatives have designated the second Monday of April as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

On April 10, Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. will honor the dedicated men and women who often work in challenging conditions to keep the lights on. We proudly recognize all electric linemen for the services they perform around the clock in dangerous conditions to keep power flowing and protect the public's safety.

"Our lineworkers are the first responders of our electric distribution system, and they work around the clock on high-voltage lines," said Tim O'Leary, General Manager. "Conditions can be dangerous, but they power through to ensure reliable service for our members."

Seven men maintain 1,670 miles of line in Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative Inc.'s service territory. Their safety, as well as yours, is our top priority.

Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. invites members to take a moment and thank a lineman for the work they do. Use #thankalineman to show your support for the men and women who light our lives.



## Win Money

### Find Your Name & Member Number and Win \$

The tradition of listing member names and numbers in the newsletter continues in the Cooperative Connections. If you find your name and member number, call the office and let us know and you will receive a \$20 energy credit.

In last month's Cooperative Connections, George Lyall & Wayne & Sheri Hesse spotted their names and will receive an energy credit. Once again, there are two new names and numbers hidden in this issue. Good Luck!

## Energy Saving Tip

This planting season, include energy efficiency in your landscaping plans. Adding shade trees around your home can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 6 degrees. To block heat from the sun, plant deciduous trees around the south side of your home. Deciduous trees provide excellent shade during the summer and lose their leaves in the fall and winter months, allowing sunlight to warm your home.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



# MOVING STRUCTURES

A home is moved in Fargo, N.D., due to flooding.

## Reasons to Move and Methods to Get it Done

**Jocelyn Johnson**

[jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop](mailto:jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop)

You found your dreamhouse. It's affordable and everything you ever wanted. The catch? You must move it across town.

It's not an easy thing to do, but moving a complete structure from the past to its future home can be done and is done for the right reasons.

Milbank House Movers, Inc., located in Milbank, S.D., has been in business since 1965 and serves all of South Dakota, North Dakota, and the Mid-Western parts of Minnesota.

Josh Wendland from Milbank House Movers said, "The demand for moving structures remains high across all of our service area...we have multiple crews, that, at times, move multiple houses every week."

A house, sentimental barn or historical

church are all structures that people have moved in South Dakota. Sentiment, safety, time, cost, convenience, and restructuring could all be reasons why this occurs.

Throughout the United States,

intimidating structures are moved regularly – lighthouses, hotels, movie theatres, airport terminals, barges, ships, bridges, grain elevators, houses, libraries, transformers, draglines, and viaducts are a few examples.

"Relocating structures is the world's oldest and largest recycling industry," Wendland stated. "Why people move structures varies greatly, but a few of the most common reasons occur in a



Two buildings are moved from Augustana University campus due to expansion of the college athletics complexes.

vast state like South Dakota. People that would like a home built may have difficulty finding builders that will work in their parts of the state, or the local builders are simply booked out and cannot help in the timeframe that works for them.”

In these circumstances, ready-built companies offer pre-built homes that could be moved to the customer’s site and set it on their basement as if it were built there all along.

A homeowner wanting to upgrade homes in their current location while also wanting to make a profit over the home they currently live in, is another example to move a home. Out with the old and in with the new! This philosophy can be true with barns, buildings, garages, and other types of structures that are in the way of new opportunities, but still hold value.

Flooding is an additional reason why some in the Midwest may want to move their homes to higher ground. Wendland observed that structural movers have seen an increase in the number of requests to elevate houses permanently, so owners

would not have to pay for expensive flood insurance. This move would elevate the long-term value on their home.

“We also work with numerous historical societies to help preserve historic structures, trains, churches, hotels, and schoolhouses by moving them to historical society grounds where they can be saved for future generations to learn from and enjoy,” Wendland stated. “We like to say, Moving the Past to the Present for the Future!”

## Things to Consider When Moving a House

Despite professionals making it look somewhat easy, getting from Point A to Point B may not be that simple. It requires constructive planning and forethought. The following are just a few considerations to take before any structure is moved.

1. Size – the bigger the house, the more expensive it is to move.
2. Obstacles – trees, overhead utility lines, bridge weight limitations, traffic signals, and railroad crossings should be considered

with every route taken.

3. Price of moving the house
4. Distance of the move
5. Cost of the new lot
6. Cost to purchase the house or building
7. Fees associated with moving overhead utilities, tree trimming, and any permits or inspections required to move and place the house
8. Fees associated with disconnecting all of the current utilities, HVAC, and electrical and plumbing systems
9. Remodeling costs
10. Financing costs

Moving a structure can be an exciting process if done correctly. It’s saving a piece of history from destruction or putting in something new without the headache of waiting. Whatever the reason behind the move, the ability to do it is astounding. Homes can be saved, history can be preserved, and future options are made more available.



A home is moved due to flooding near Waubay, S.D.



National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 17–21, 2023, is a good time to learn more about work zone safety.

However, work zone safety should be observed 365 days a year to save lives.

Cars or trucks that speed through a work zone not only endanger workers on the ground. Driving too fast or too close to a work truck can also put an elevated worker in danger by causing their raised bucket to move or sway.

Streets and highways are lined with power poles and electrical equipment, and narrow roadways often require crews like ours to place their equipment in or near traffic lanes. Be alert to utility and other work zone crews for their safety and yours. Besides our crews, you might encounter road workers, other utility crews, tree trimmers or first responders working in or on the side of the road.

According to the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, 774 fatal crashes and 857 deaths occurred in work zone crashes in 2020 (at the writing of this article, data was not available for 2021). Many other work zone crashes result in injuries. In 2020, 102,000 work zone crashes occurred. Remember, slow down when approaching a work zone and move over for first responders and work crews. Do your part to help everyone return home safely at the end of the day.

## To help keep roadside crews safe:

-  Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment and workers.
-  Be patient. Traffic delays are sometimes unavoidable, so allow time for unexpected setbacks.
-  Obey all signs and road crew flag instructions.
-  Merge early and be courteous to other drivers.
-  Use your headlights at dusk and during inclement weather.
-  Minimize distractions. Avoid activities such as texting, operating a radio, applying makeup or eating.

## WHAT'S THE ORANGE SIGN FOR?



### It's not a suggestion. It's the law.

Speeding through a work zone is not worth losing your life or taking someone else's.

National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 17-21, 2023, is a good time to learn more about work zone safety. However, work zones should be observed every day of the year to save lives.

### 2020 Work Zone Statistics\*

#### Crashes and Injuries



Estimated total crashes  
**102,000**



Estimated injuries  
**44,000**

#### Fatalities



**857**  
Total fatalities



**244** Fatalities involving commercial motor vehicles

#### Pedestrian Fatalities in Work Zones



**105** Pedestrians (non-workers)



**51** Pedestrian workers

Do your part to help everyone return home safely. The orange sign is not meant for everyone else; it is meant for everyone.



\*most recent data available

Sources: National Work Zone Awareness Week (nwzaw.org), National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, American Traffic Safety Services Association



## YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISON

	Dec.- 2021	Dec.- 2022
Total Revenue	\$10,497,188	\$10,712,797
Cost of Power	\$6,052,346	\$5,961,395
Operating Expenses	\$4,065,958	\$4,456,548
Operating Margins	\$378,884	\$294,854
KWH's Purchased	97,112,714	103,420,530
Services in Place	4,130	4,123
Miles of Line	1,671	1,670
Revenue per Mile	\$6,282	\$6,415

## January Outage Report

(10 or more consumers)

1/21/23- 13 consumers were off 1 hour 20 minutes in Shaokatan Township. The cause was a broken pole from frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 18 consumers were off 1 hour 20 minutes in Marshfield Township. The cause was a burndown from the frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 19 consumers were off 1 hour 30 minutes in Diamond Lake Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 28 consumers were off 3 hours 50 minutes in Rock Lake and Shelburne Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 12 consumers were off 3 hours 45 minutes in Diamond Lake Township. The cause was broken poles from frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 14 consumers were off 1 hour 35 minutes in Rock Lake and Shelburne Townships. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/21/23- 27 consumers were off 6 hours in Lake Stay and Marshfield Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 72 consumers were off 1 hour 5 minutes in the Township off Coon Creek and Island Lake. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 19 consumers were off 1 hour in Fortier Township. The cause was a Burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 20 consumers were off 1 hour 55 minutes in Marble and Norman Townships. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 18 consumers were off 2 hours 45 minutes in Hansonville and Fortier Townships. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 11 consumers were off 3 hours 35 minutes in Hendricks Township. The cause was from frost on the lines that opened Ocr.

1/23/23- 12 consumers were off 4 hours 20 minutes in Hendricks Township. The cause was from frost on the lines that opened Ocr.

1/23/23- 46 consumers were off 4 hours 30 minutes in Shaokatan Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 12 consumers were off 6 hours 35 minutes in Lake Stay Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 31 consumers were off 6 hours 55 minutes in Coon Creek and Lyons Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 12 consumers were off 1 hour 15 minutes in Diamond Lake Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 27 consumers were off 8 hours 10 minutes in Rock Lake and Shelburne Township. The cause was wrapped wires from frost on the lines.

1/23/23- 18 consumers were off 8 hours 40 minutes in the Township's of Marshfield and Lake Stay. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 15 consumers were off 8 hours in Coon Creek Township. The cause was from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 142 consumers were off 2 hours 15 minutes in Hope, Lake Benton and Marshfield Townships. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 46 consumers were off 9 hours 45 minutes in Shaokatan Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 25 consumers were off 2 hours 15 minutes in Hansonville Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 66 consumers were off 1 hour 45 minutes in Rock Lake and Shelburne Townships. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 20 consumers were off 3 hours 45 minutes in Lake Stay Township. The cause was a burndown from frost on the lines.

1/24/23- 18 consumers were off 3 hours 45 minutes in Lake Benton and Verdi Townships. The cause was from frost on the lines that opened OCR.

1/24/23- 14 consumers were off 40 minutes Shaokatan Township. The cause was wrapped wires from frost.

1/25/23- 14 consumers were off 1 hour 20 minutes in Drammen Township. The cause a burndown from frost on the lines.



**April 22, 2023**  
**RiverRat Run**  
 Gavins Point Recreation Area  
 Yankton, SD  
 605-660-9483

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

**MARCH 31-APRIL 2**  
**70th Annual Hayes Play: Trouble in Tumbleweed**  
 Hayes Community Hall  
 Hayes, SD  
 605-280-6556

**APRIL 1**  
**Hill City Easter Egg Hunt**  
 9:45 a.m.  
 Visitor Information Center  
 Hill City, SD  
 605-574-2368

**APRIL 1**  
**Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt**  
 10 a.m.  
 City Park  
 Groton, SD  
 605-397-8422

**APRIL 1**  
**East Dakota Chapter NWTf 30th Banquet**  
 Sioux Falls, SD  
 605-940-0702

**APRIL 2-4**  
**"The Psychic-a Murder Mystery of Sorts" Community Theater Performance**  
 Town Players Theater  
 Watertown, SD  
 605-280-6556

**APRIL 8**  
**East Dakota Chapter NWTf 30th Banquet**  
 Sioux Falls, SD  
 605-940-0702

**APRIL 8**  
**Easter Egg Hunt for Helping with Horsepower**  
 2 p.m.  
 Reclamation Ranch  
 Mitchell, SD

**APRIL 21**  
**Museum After Dark**  
 7 p.m.  
 Children's Museum of South Dakota  
 Brookings, SD

**APRIL 21-22**  
**Junkin' Market Days, Spring Market**  
 W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds  
 Expo Building  
 Sioux Falls, SD  
 605-941-4958

**APRIL 22**  
**RiverRat Run**  
 8 a.m.  
 Gavins Point Recreation Area  
 Yankton, SD  
 (605) 660-9483

**MAY 6**  
**Cinco de Mayo Fiesta**  
 Lake Farley Park  
 Milbank, SD  
 605-432-6656

**MAY 17**  
**Norwegian Independence Day**  
 6 p.m.  
 Vivian, SD  
 605-222-3296

**MAY 20**  
**Buggy Museum Open House**  
 10 a.m.  
 Stockholm, SD  
 605-938-4192

**MAY 25**  
**Wine Walk**  
 5 p.m.  
 Downtown Businesses  
 Aberdeen, SD  
 605-226-3441

**MAY 27**  
**Back When They Bucked All-Day Rodeo**  
 9 a.m.  
 Days of '76 Event Complex  
 Deadwood, SD  
 605-717-7642

**Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.**