

COOPERATIVE CELEBRATION DAY

You're Invited!

◆ Thursday, September 18, 2025

◆ 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

◆ 502 N Main St, Mahnomen



Come watch our crews in action with a live **pole and bucket rescue demonstration starting at 12:45 pm**

Enjoy a mid-day break with food, EV rides, prizes, and the chance to learn more about the services and benefits of your cooperative membership.

We can't wait to celebrate with **you!**

THURSDAY
**SEPT
18**



Follow us
Wild Rice
Electric
Cooperative



**Lunch
begins
at 11 am**



STAFF COMMENTS

Director of Member Services
and Communications

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

by Tommy Houdek



At Wild Rice Electric, safety is more than a prior-

ity—it's part of our culture. Creating and maintaining a strong safety culture takes ongoing training, discipline, and teamwork. That's true for our employees, and we encourage our members to embrace the same mindset. As harvest season ramps up, the risks around farms and fields increase. Power lines, grain bins, and large machinery can all pose hazards if we're not careful. A few extra moments spent planning, slowing down, and looking up before moving equipment can prevent dangerous and costly accidents. Safety doesn't just protect you; it protects your family, your neighbors, and the reliability of our system.



As a new school year begins, let's all do our part to keep

kids safe on their way to and from school. Watch for school buses on your commute, slow down in

school zones, and always stop when buses are loading or unloading passengers. Those few extra seconds of caution can make all the difference in protecting a child's life and keeping our communities safe.



While safety comes first, we also value celebrating the power of

community. We invite you to join us for Co-op Celebration Day on Thursday, September 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at our Mahanomen office (502 N. Main St.). Enjoy games, prizes, and a light lunch while connecting with fellow members. This year's event includes a ride-and-drive opportunity with Minnkota Power's all-electric Ford F-150 Lightning! Our Operations team will also perform a live safety demonstration, showing how we work to keep safe every day.



Supporting the communities we serve is another priority of our cooperative. Through

Operation Round Up® members can make a meaningful impact simply by rounding up their monthly bill to the nearest dollar. Those small contributions add up to thousands of dollars in grants for local organizations improving lives right here at home. If you know a group or organization that could benefit, applications are available at www.wildriceelectric.com, where members can also find easy instructions to enroll in the program.

Finally, we're proud to highlight the leadership of our board. Director David Hamre recently earned the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) certificate, presented by Board Chair Jim Kaiser at the July meeting. This achievement reflects Hamre's commitment to learning and leadership, helping guide Wild Rice Electric into the future.

Together, through safety, service, and shared purpose, we're building a stronger cooperative. Have a safe and wonderful fall!

Highlights from the Board Room:

The Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on June 24, 2025. During the meeting, the Board was introduced to the new Electrical Engineer, heard a presentation on Director Fiduciary Responsibilities by the Cooperative Attorney, and discussed the potential transfer of a portion of service territory to the City of Fosston.

A quorum of directors was present and the following actions were taken:

- **Approved** the board minutes and financial reports and statements for May 2025
 - **Authorized** the pre-order of a bucket truck to expedite delivery
 - **Approved** the appointment of a new member couple to the Member Advisory Group representing District 2
 - **Approved** the proposed bylaw amendments for the Operation Round Up Trust Board
 - **Approved** proposed changes to the terms and conditions of the Application for Membership Form
 - **Approved** the monthly Cooperative policy review
 - **Accepted** the management department reports
 - **Accepted** the Minnkota Power report
 - **Accepted** the Square Butte report
 - **Accepted** the MREA report
- The September regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 30, 2025.

**SAFETY
TIP**

Modern energy, modern challenges.

A drone recently hit a power line near Mahanomen. Keep drones and other flying devices away from electrical equipment—for your safety, our crews' safety, and reliable power for all.



Harvest Safety Tips

Start each day with safety in mind:

Hold a daily safety meeting to review operations, powerline, and pole locations.

Maintain safe distances: Keep augers, machinery, and all loading/unloading activities well away from overhead power lines, including when accessing grain bins

Know what to do in an emergency:

If equipment contacts a power line, stay in the cab, call 9-1-1, and alert the utility company to deenergize the line.

Be mindful around powerlines:

Never store hay, equipment, or materials beneath powerlines.

Stay aware of your surroundings:

Know your equipment height and turning radius to avoid striking lines or poles, and always stay alert to prevent accidents.



Think Safe • Work Safe • Be Safe

Ads

For Sale

US Stove company model 6041 pellet stove, \$300, (218) 849-5002.

International tractor, very good, low hours, 140 hp, newly painted, clean cab, (218) 289-3774.

Int. 403 combine parts- Loader w/ snow bucket fits WD Alis, (218) 841-0073.

Generator, Coleman 5000 Powermate, 10 hp. \$200, (218) 849-9317.

Car dolly good shape, \$600 obo (218) 790-0969 lv message.

Fish house/camper, V-front, 6'x10' aluminum frame under carriage, tongue & groove interior, wired for lights & outlets, 4-hole w/covers & sleeves. \$2,900 (218) 847-6802 or (218) 234-7981.

225-70R -19.5 Good year tires, like new, \$100 pair. 14.5 tires & wheels, \$35. 5-ton port-a power kit, \$100, Huth portable-tubing expander, air-over-hyd, \$200, call days (218) 935-5110.

Homemade trailer from GMC or Chevy pickup. Reinforce axle w/ heavy duty springs, asking \$300, (218) 280-1749 evening calls.

Allis Chalmers WD-45 tractor with wide front, almost new rear tires, converted to 12 Volt, with Allis Chalmers mounted mower, \$5,000, (218) 849-9317.

Skid Steer attachments heavy duty both new & used. Brush mowers, assorted grapples, dirt & rock buckets, hay & pallet forks 4 ft & 6 ft, post & tree pullers, and more (701) 261-3574.

14x20 wooden granary w/ steel roof to be moved by mid-October, best offer, (218) 261-1249.

XXXL SportPet Design Dog Kennel 48"L x 32"W x 36"H new in box, \$275. Fuel oil tank used for gasoline, \$50. Metal Tree Stand w/6 screw in steps, \$30. Craftsman Tractor Scoop, \$250. WonderWash portable manual washer, \$30. Bonaire Litter box w/electric air filter, \$50. Competition shooting targets 80 for \$20. Strawberry Lake area (612) 278-1967 lv mess.

Cleaning out the Grove: 3 Gleaner combines: F3-ran when parked, F3 parts combine, Gleaner C-ran, IH pull type, 1949 Case SC, 2 wagons, header trailer. 2 sheds of antiques from farm auctions: crosscut saws, T augers, trunks, leg vise, tools. Seed Equipment: clipper mill, screen racks, fans, unloading blower. Some horse drawn equipment. Plus; 600 pounds (#s) of Native Prairie Seed-free to a good home. (218) 204-0062 (leave message) or woodlandprairiesllc@arvig.net

Shore Master aluminum boat lift. 1200-pound capacity. Lightweight & easy to move. Lift has wooden bunks so will work with jet ski or fishing boat. \$300.00
14-foot aluminum fishing boat. \$250.00. (320) 420-6353

1990 Lund Rebel, trailer 25hp Evinrud. Rebuilt 2022 with new wood, carpet, seats, aerator pump, water pump, lower unit seals, wheels & tires. \$3800, (651) 644-6114 lv mess.

4' Rotary cut mower with PTO. Used for 10 hours to mow pasture. \$1,200 cash. Also have a 5' box blade with 5 tines. Used for 3-hour, \$900 cash. Both are County Line brand. Call or text (701) 840 1041.

2018 Honda 8 hp short shaft outboard motor, like new, (701) 306-8143.

1999 Chevrolet Silverado 1500, V-8, 4-wheel dr, 141,000 easy miles, new tires, excellent, \$7,000, (218) 356-8626.

2- Kobota disc mowers 2109 7' model DM1022 new blades, \$6,000. 2019 10' 6" DM2032, \$9,000, both clean - field ready. 2007 Diamond utility boom mower model river 2019 excellent, (218) 841-1667.

Free standing air conditioner model 416710, 120 v, 12,000 btus, \$150 or offer, (701) 660-9468.

2003 chevy 4 whl 1500 hd extended cab pickup 6.0 engine 160k miles; transmission rebuilt 148k uses no oil, some rust \$5,500, call (218) 686-6592.

1996 Buick LeSabre. 145,000 miles. 3800 engine. Needs wire harness. Leaky brake line. Body is good. Very minimal rust. \$500. 2002 Silverado. Sell for parts. Official NFL Viking jersey. Stitched letters and numbers. 50th anniversary patch. New never worn. (701) 715-2837. No Friday night or Saturday calls.

2 propane brooder stoves w/ steel tin for rising chicks, used lumber & apartment size refridgerator, (218) 596-8383 or (218) 227-9034.

1984 Lincoln MK7 - 2 door, \$2,000. 1985 GMC K105, 4 wheel dr, 350 motor, \$2,000. 1976 Olds Delta 88 350 motor, 59,000 miles no rust, 4 door, new starter & battery, \$3,000, (218) 841-9355.

John Deere 24T baler; 3 point 6' Ford sickle: \$800, (218) 849-0216.

Headers for 350 Chev brand new in box, \$120. 1982 Yamah Maxium 750 need little work, \$250. 8'x6' flatbed 6" channel fram w/ steel bed, \$350. Wet tile table saw, used once, \$50, text only (701) 405-4991.

2011 Jayco Eagle FKS 32 bumper pull aluminum frame, 2 slides, electric awning. Winter package -under insulation, brand new Coleman air conditioner. Equalizer hitch, electric stabilizing jack. New tires and king size mattress, pristine condition, \$13,00 or best offer, (218) 234-7194.

Our Ad Policy

- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

You can submit your ad by mail, email, or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.

- Email ads to: info@wildriceelectric.com

- Mail ads to:
Wild Rice Electric
Cooperative
PO Box 438
Mahnomon, MN 56557

Small cute bantam call ducks various colors (218) 935-2471 lv message.

16" 1980 Lund, blue, w/ trailer 4 stroke 2013 Yamaha motor & depth finder, \$2,000, (218) 849-9829.

Wanted

Looking to buy an Ithaca Mag 10-gauge shotgun, (218) 849-3564.

Year old black angus heifer. Rider lawn mower. Older 4x4 pick up. Tractor mechanic, (218) 584-4603.

Used CD player in working order, (218) 287-2243.

Lund 16 ft boat w/ trailer, (218) 687-3707 or (218) 277-0190 cell.

White or buff bearded silkier roaster, (218) 935-2471 lv message.

Apply now for Operation Round Up® funds!

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is accepting grant applications from local non-profit organizations for Operation Round Up (ORU)! ORU is funded by Wild Rice Electric Cooperative members who opt in to round up their electric bill to the next dollar, with the change going to support local organizations and charities. The ORU Trust board members meet two times a year to evaluate funding requests and distribute grants. Eligible programs must demonstrate a need that benefits the overall community. If you or your organization are interested in applying for a donation, please send in your application by **November 14, 2025**.

For more information, please visit
wildriceelectric.com/billing-information/operation-round-up

COLD WEATHER RULE

216B.097 COLD WEATHER RULE: COOPERATIVE OR MUNICIPAL UTILITY

Subdivision 1. Application; notice to residential customer. (a) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a residential customer during the period between October 1 and April 30 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all the following conditions are met:

- (1) The household income of the customer is at or below 50 percent of the state median household income. A municipal utility or cooperative electric association utility may (i) verify income on forms it provides or (ii) obtain verification of income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer is deemed to meet the income requirements of this clause if the customer receives any form of public assistance, including energy assistance, that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50 percent of the state median household income.
- (2) A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers that financial resources of the household.
- (3) A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills.
- (b) A municipal utility or cooperative electric association must, between August 15 and October 1 each year, notify, all residential customers of the provisions of this section.

Subdivision 2. Notice to residential customer facing disconnection.

- (a) Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the period between October 1 and April 30, a municipal utility or cooperative electric association must provide the following information to a customer:
- (1) A notice of proposed disconnection;
 - (2) A statement explaining the customer's rights and responsibilities;
 - (3) A list of local energy assistance providers;
 - (4) Forms on which to declare inability to pay; and
 - (5) A statement explaining available time payment plans and other opportunities to secure continue utility service.
- (b) At the same time that notice is given under paragraph (a), the utility must also give written or electronic notice of the proposed disconnection to the local energy

assistance provider and the department.

Subdivision 3. Restriction if disconnection necessary

- (a) If a residential customer must be involuntarily disconnected remotely using advanced metering infrastructure or physically at the property being disconnected between October 1 and April 30 for failure to comply with subdivision 1, the disconnection must not occur:
- (1) On a Friday, unless the customer declines to enter into a payment agreement offered that day in person or via personal contact by telephone by a municipal utility or cooperative electric association;
 - (2) On a weekend, holiday or day before a holiday;
 - (3) When utility offices are closed; or
 - (4) After the close of business on a day when disconnection is permitted, unless a field representative of a municipal utility or cooperative electric association who is authorized to enter into a payment agreement, accept payment, and continue service, offers a payment agreement to the customer.

Further, the disconnection must not occur until at least 30 days after the notice required in subdivision 2 has been mailed to the customer or 15 days after the notice has been personally delivered to the customer.

- (b) The customer must not be disconnected until the utility attempts to confirm whether the residential unit is actually occupied which the utility may accomplish by:
- (1) Visiting the residential unit; or
 - (2) Examining energy usage data obtained through advanced metering infrastructure to determine whether there is energy usage over at least a 24-hour period that indicates occupancy
- (c) A utility may not disconnect a residential customer who is compliance with section 216B.098 subdivision 5.
- (d) If, prior to disconnection, a customer appeals a notice of involuntary disconnection, as provided by the utility's established appeal procedure, the utility must not disconnect until the appeal is resolved.
- (e) For the purposes of this section, "advanced metering infrastructure" means an integrated system of smart meters, communication networks and data management systems that enables two-way communication between a utility and its customers.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which helps low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. These are the income guidelines for the FFY 25 program year, which is October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2026.

Household Size	Annual Income	1 Month Max Guidelines
1	\$35,799	\$2,983
2	\$46,814	\$3,901
3	\$57,829	\$4,819
4	\$68,845	\$5,737
5	\$79,860	\$6,655
6	\$90,875	\$7,572
7	\$92,940	\$7,745
8	\$95,006	\$7,917

To learn more about the EAP program or to apply for assistance:

- Visit the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Assistance website, <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>, for more details and to access the application portal.
- Contact your county EAP service provider for additional information and assistance.

Mahube Community Council
PO Box 76
Mahnomen, MN 56557
(218) 935-5022

Mahube Community Council
PO Box 747
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502
(218) 847-1385

Energy Assistance Program
3303 US Hwy 59/ PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591
(218) 473-2711 or
(888) 458-1385

West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.
715 11th St N Suite100
Moorhead, MN 56560
(800) 492-4805/ (218) 685-4486

Inter County Community Council
PO Box 189
Oklee, MN 56742
(218) 796-5144/ (888) 778-4008

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
102 N Broadway/ PO Box 607
Crookston, MN 56716
(218) 281-5832/ (800) 584-7020

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and do not qualify for either of these programs, please contact us immediately to work out a mutually agreeable payment plan.



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Email: info@wildriceelectric.com

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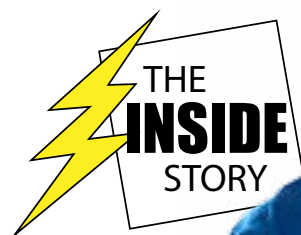
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Paula Okeson

President & CEO Mike Wade

*This Institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*



Hamre Earns Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Board Director David Hamre (left) was recently recognized for completing the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program. Board Chair Jim Kaiser (right) presented the certificate to Hamre at the July board meeting.

The CCD program equips directors with essential knowledge in five core areas: director duties and liabilities, understanding the electric business, board operations, strategic planning, and financial decision-making. Congratulations to Director Hamre on this achievement!