

VOLTS & VIEWS

JANUARY 2026



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 







SMART WAYS TO **SAVE** AND **STAY WARM** THIS WINTER

When the temperature drops, the urge to crank the heat jumps. If your home isn't outfitted with energy efficiency solutions, you could really see a spike in your energy bill. The good news? A few steps – big and small – can make all the difference when it comes to saving AND staying warm all winter long.




Looking for more ways to save? Visit **ValueofElectricity.com** and see all the ways electric technology can help you save on your energy bill!



SMALL STEPS

-  Move any rugs, furniture or curtains that may be blocking your vents.
-  On bright days, keep curtains open to let the natural light heat your space. Just remember to close them in the evening!
-  Replace your furnace filter every one to three months to keep your system running more efficiently.
-  Make sure to seal any pesky drafts around windows and doors with weatherstripping or simple draft stoppers.

BIGGER STEPS

-  **Schedule a tuneup for your HVAC**
Having your HVAC system serviced can significantly reduce your energy bill. A technician will clean out the parts to restore efficiency, while also detecting any issues (like loose electrical connections) that can force your system to run more often or inefficiently.
-  **Invest in smart thermostats**
A smart thermostat learns your routine and adjusts temperatures automatically, lowering the heat when you're asleep or away and warming things up before you get home. Many models are controlled using a simple phone app!
-  **Add or upgrade an off-peak electric heating system**
Stay warm and save money all winter long with off-peak electric heating. If you already heat with propane or natural gas, you can boost your comfort and efficiency by adding an electric plenum heater. You can also choose from standard or ductless air-source heat pumps, which are both excellent options for year-round comfort and lower energy costs. Whatever your space or budget, there's an electric heating solution designed to fit your home or business.

If you install a qualifying off-peak electric heating system in your home or business, you can take advantage of Roseau Electric Cooperative's off-peak electric rate (around HALF the standard rate)! You are also eligible for great rebates following installation!

**ADDED
BONUS!**

VOLTS & VIEWS

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Secretary-Treasurer Mike Wahl
Directors Jim Christianson, Shawn Gust,
Kermit Jensen, Ron Storey,
Joe Tesarek, Bob Tuttle
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MINNESOTA STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. (Mon. thru Fri.)

Northwest Angle, Kittson, Marshall,
Pennington and Roseau counties
and parts of Beltrami County:
Ronald Ditsch – 651-368-2195

Lake of the Woods County:
Curt Collier – 218-966-5070

Inspector list is subject to change at any time.

The State of Minnesota has high wiring standards, which are in the best interest of you and your family or business. Improper wiring can damage your home, your property and equipment, and injure or kill the people you love. Currently, the state does allow homeowners to do their own residential wiring; however, it is critical that the current electrical code is followed. Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. For more information visit dli.mn.gov and go to the electrical page.

Gopher State One Call
1-800-252-1166 or 811
www.gopherstateonecall.org



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electrical lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Roseau Electric Cooperative is committed to providing its member-owners low-cost, high-quality, safe and reliable electricity with friendly, efficient and knowledgeable service.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Retirement Celebration!

Please join us to help celebrate Tracey Stoll, who is retiring after a long and successful career at the cooperative. Cake and coffee will be served.

January 30, 2026 | 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

2025 RECOGNITION BANQUET HONOREES

This year at Roseau Electric's 2025 Banquet, we recognized two employees for their years of service to the cooperative. We are deeply grateful to have such hardworking and dedicated employees whose commitment contributes to our cooperative's success and strengthens the communities we serve.



MIKE MILLNER

Line Superintendent

Retirement after 35 years



CASSY ANDERSON

Customer Service Representative

10 years



LOOKING AHEAD INTO 2026

RYAN SEVERSON, GENERAL MANAGER

Leadership appointments in 2026

Roseau Electric Cooperative is happy to announce the following leadership appointments effective in 2026.

Mary Preteau has been appointed Member Service Director. In this role, Mary will be responsible for overseeing member service operations and advancing initiatives focused on member communication and engagement.

Madison Strand has been appointed Finance Manager. Madison will oversee the cooperative's financial operations, including financial planning, reporting and fiscal oversight, to support our continued financial stability.

Roseau Electric Cooperative looks forward to the leadership and expertise each will bring to their respective roles in service to our members.

Budget & rate adjustments in 2026

The board of directors has approved the capital and operating budgets for 2026, including the 2026-2029 work plan. Minnkota Power Cooperative (our wholesale power provider) has worked hard to keep its electric rates stable and unchanged throughout the volatility of the pandemic and the years that followed. In fact, prior to 2025, Minnkota had not adjusted its rates since April 2017. However, with inflationary pressures, supply chain challenges and the pace of industry change continuing to grow, Minnkota has made the difficult decision of increasing its average wholesale power rate this April. Understandably, Minnkota's rate increase adds pressure to Roseau Electric Cooperative's rates. As a result, there will be a rate increase from Roseau Electric, which includes:

- **\$1 increase on the facilities charge**
- **\$0.01 increase on the main rate** for Classes 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8
- **\$0.004 per kWh increase on the off-peak rate** for all classes

As a not-for-profit cooperative, Roseau Electric only raises rates when neces-

sary to cover expenses and maintain an operating margin required by lenders. These operating margins are returned to members as capital credits, typically over an approximate 15-year payback period, helping ensure financial stability while returning value to members. Our team will carefully manage this change to continue providing the reliable service our members expect and deserve.

Strategic planning in 2026

In May 2026, our board of directors and staff will participate in a comprehensive strategic planning session. This session supports the board and cooperative leadership in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to provide effective strategic direction and oversight.

The goal of the session is to achieve consensus on the cooperative's strategic goals for the next three years and to develop an implementation plan to guide that work. Topics of discussion will include:

- Financial planning, including equity and rate considerations
- Member engagement, with a focus on communications and service
- Operations and system reliability
- Succession planning
- Distributed generation and the environmental impacts of renewables
- Technology initiatives, including NorthStream Fiber
- Regulatory requirements and mandates

This planning process helps ensure the cooperative remains financially sound, operationally reliable, and responsive to our member's needs as we plan for the future.

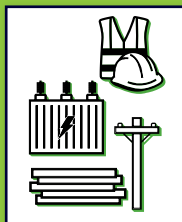
Well wishes for the New Year

Wishing everyone a safe and happy New Year. Thank you to our membership for a successful 2025, and we look forward to the challenges and opportunities of 2026.

Facility Charge vs. kWh Rate

What does each component accomplish?

Your residential electric bill has two major parts – a facility charge and an energy charge (kWh).



Facility Charge

The facility charge is designed to cover the costs to deliver and maintain power to a service regardless of the amount of energy used. Fixed costs to deliver power to a service include poles, wires, transformers, meters, labor and other services associated with providing electric service.

kWh Rate

The energy rate represents the cost associated with wholesale power including energy, transmission, substation, environmental controls and capacity charges.



Currently, some of our fixed costs are being recovered through the energy rate, which is very common. However, it is likely that members will see an increased emphasis on the facility charge going forward.

SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY IN 2026 WITH ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES!

Energy efficiency rebates for members remain in effect for 2026. Please see the chart for a sample of incentives.

SAMPLE 2026 ELECTRIC REBATES FOR MEMBERS

EQUIPMENT	SPECIFICATIONS	REBATES
LED recessed downlight	Energy Star recommended	50% of the purchase price Up to \$4/fixture
LED outdoor fixture	Dusk-to-dawn operation required, DesignLights Consortium or Energy Star recommended	50% of the purchase price Up to \$10/fixture
Air-source heat pump or mini-split ductless heat pump	≥ 14.3 SEER2 and HSPF2 ≥ 7.5 ≥ 16.0 SEER2 and HSPF2 ≥ 8.0	\$500/ton \$800/ton
Ground-source heat pump	Closed or open loop	\$500-\$700/ton
Supplemental heating source for ASHP	Must modulate to allow Energy Star-rated ASHP to operate down to 5°F and be on off-peak program	\$500/unit
Electric water heater	Must be on off-peak program: 55 gallon or less 56-99 gallon 100 gallon or larger	\$375/unit \$600/unit \$900/unit
Off-peak electric heat (plenum, baseboard, hanging heater, etc.)	Must be resistance electric on off-peak program	\$50/kW
Electric boiler, brick storage, slab storage	Must be on off-peak program	\$90/kW
Programmable thermostat		50% of the purchase price Up to \$25
Smart thermostat	Must be Energy Star approved and have Wi-Fi connectivity	50% of the purchase price Up to \$50
Appliances (refrigerator, freezer, clothes washer, electric clothes dryer)	Must be Energy Star approved	\$25/unit
Recycling of old refrigerator or freezer	Recycling receipt form required	\$50/unit
Electric vehicle (EV) charger	240V-rated Level 2 or Level 3 charger on off-peak program	\$100/kW
Advanced Power Strip	Must be an Advanced Power Strip Tier 1 – Tier 7 as defined by ENERGY STAR or equivalent standard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must have automatic control features such as occupancy sensing, master-controlled outlets or load sensing technology Basic or conventional power strips, simple surge protectors or strips without control features are not eligible 	\$5/strip

These rebate amounts include rebates from Power Savers, Minnkota Power Cooperative and Roseau Electric Cooperative.

Total rebate not to exceed 50% of the project cost.

2026 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

PETITION DEADLINE TUESDAY, JAN. 27, 2026

Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., is organized as a cooperative and is owned by its members. The membership elects a board of directors to represent them in the operation of the cooperative.

Three directors will be elected at the 2026 Annual Meeting scheduled for March 28 at the Roseau School Theater. The directors whose terms expire in 2026 are: Kermit Jensen, District 3 (3-year term); Brian Grafstrom, District 4 (3-year term); and Mike Wahl, District 7 (3-year term).

NOMINATION BY PETITION

No nominating committee will be used. All nominations will be done by petition, including the incumbents.

Any 10 or more members who reside in Districts 3, 4 or 7 may nominate an eligible member for a director position in that district. No member may be elected to a director position unless nominated in this manner. No write-in ballots shall be accepted.

PETITION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE

Director candidates must pick up a petition and a director packet at Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc., in Roseau. The packet contains

additional forms that must be signed and turned in before the deadline.

PETITION DEADLINE

The cooperative must receive the completed petition **no later than the close of business at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2026.**

Roseau Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Your Tomorrow. Energy. Today.

Petition for Nomination

The following members wish to nominate (insert name) _____, for the three-year (insert "Districts 3, 4 or 7") _____ director position, and to place such name on the ballot for the March 28, 2026 election at the annual meeting of the Cooperative, in accordance with Article III, Section 5, of the bylaws.

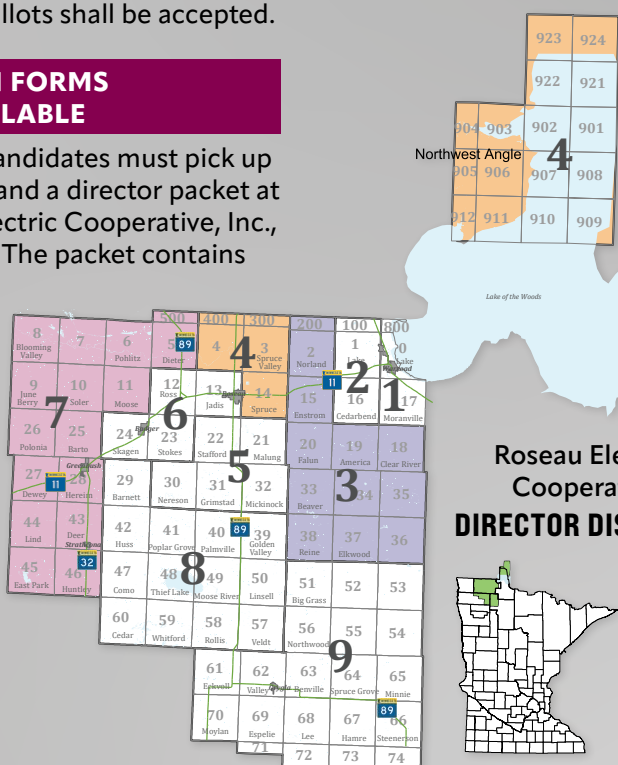
PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	CUSTOMER NO.
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____
16. _____	_____	_____
17. _____	_____	_____
18. _____	_____	_____
19. _____	_____	_____
20. _____	_____	_____

The Cooperative must receive the completed petition no later than the close of business Tuesday, January 27, 2026. At the Annual Meeting scheduled for March 28, 2026, elections will be held for a three-year term for one director in District 3, one director in District 4 and one director in District 7.

The directors whose terms expire in 2026 are as follows:

DISTRICT 3 3-year Term	DISTRICT 4 3-year Term	DISTRICT 7 3-year Term
Kermit Jensen	Brian Grafstrom	Mike Wahl

Any 10 or more members who reside in District 3, 4 or 7 may nominate an eligible member for a director position in that district. No member may be elected to a director position unless nominated in this manner. In the event of joint membership, only the signature of one joint member shall be acceptable.



Roseau Electric Cooperative
DIRECTOR DISTRICTS

SO, YOU WANT TO BE A DIRECTOR

Three directors will be elected at the 2026 Annual Meeting scheduled for March 28. Directors whose terms expire in 2026 are: Kermit Jensen, District 3; Brian Grafstrom, District 4; and Mike Wahl, District 7.

OBJECTIVES:


- To establish relationships between the board, the membership and the manager
- Define principles and practices
- Delegate authority
- Analyze operations

MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Monthly board meetings:**
Board meetings are held 12 times per year, usually the fourth Wednesday of the month, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Other meetings:**
Roseau Electric annual meeting; Minnkota annual meeting; MREA district meetings; other meetings to learn policies and procedures of the electric industry. Expect 5 - 12 extra days per year.


DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Report to the membership.
- Hire and delegate authority to the manager.
- Maintain legal entity and practices.
- Review and update bylaws.
- Require a continuous member and public relations program.
- Keep informed and grow in skills of the program.
- See that members are informed of operations.
- See that accurate minutes are prepared and maintained.
- Consider and adopt plans for objectives and goals.
- Review and update policies.
- Examine and approve annual budget and cash flow.
- Review and approve a sound financial plan.
- Establish policies and programs for good employee relationships.
- Assist in planning meetings.
- Establish special or standing committees.
- Review responsibilities of board and manager.
- Approve the selection of consultants and attorney.
- Establish measures and controls to determine effectiveness of management.
- Authorize and review annual financial audit.
- Implementation and enforcement of this position description is the responsibility of the board of directors.



WHAT EXPERTS ARE SAYING

“ You can’t get around the fact that you’re going to need **tens of thousands of miles of new transmission lines if you want to build the hundreds of gigawatts of wind and solar and batteries that many of us predict are needed to achieve overall decarbonization goals. We’re not on pace to build 50,000 miles of high-voltage lines in the next six years. ”**



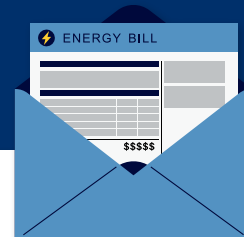
DR. ERNEST MONIZ
former Department of Energy Secretary
Photo courtesy of Department of Energy

REAL POWER NOW

There’s no energy future without energy today.

REALPOWERNOW.COM

NEED HELP PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?



Energy assistance may be available!

If you are receiving a low income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall, the following agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION

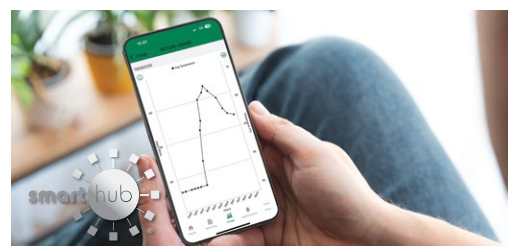
PO Box 67, Badger, MN 56714-0067
218-528-3258 or 800-568-5329
nwcaa.org

BI-COUNTY CAP, INC.

6603 Bemidji Ave. N,
Bemidji, MN 56601-8669
218-751-4631



YOU CAN ALSO APPLY ONLINE:
<https://energy-assistance.web.commerce.state.mn.us>



USE SMARTHUB 24/7 TO:

- Review your account
- Access energy usage graphs
- Make a payment securely
- Review billing and payment history
- Sign up to receive email and text alert notifications



SIGN UP TODAY!

roseauelectric.coop/account-management/smarthub

member connection

ENERGY TIP

Winter weather can cause your home heating system to work overtime. Check for air leaks and drafts around doors and windows, then seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. Close fireplace dampers when not in use, and consider installing insulating curtains to help keep warm air inside. You can also save energy by lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even small adjustments like these can reduce heating costs and improve comfort during the coldest months.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 21
Electric bill due

March 28
2026 Annual Meeting;
Districts 3, 4, & 7 are up
for director elections

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Phone: 218-463-1543

AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE NUMBER

Toll-Free: 1-888-847-8840
(main outage call center)

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

1-800-252-1166 or 811

PAY BY PHONE

1-877-999-3412

SMARTHUB

<https://roseauelectric.smarthub.coop/>

WEBSITE

roseauelectric.coop



LIKE US ON **FACEBOOK**
TO STAY UP TO DATE!

@RoseauElectricCooperativeInc

With **10 cents** of electricity, you can binge watch a full season of your favorite show.

For **6 cents** more, you can microwave a bag of popcorn to go along with it.

A perfect Sunday night.

THAT'S THE  VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

*Based on average household energy usage

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE

FEB. 28, 2026



To be considered at the March 2026 meeting, grant applications must be received by **Feb. 28, 2026**.

Grant applications are available at the REC office or by visiting our website at roseauelectric.com.

OPERATING STATISTICS

	Monthly		Year to Date	
	November 2024	November 2025	November 2024	November 2025
Members	6,727	6,741	6,727	6,741
kWh purchased	13,192,348	14,161,478	132,150,831	134,758,974
% change		7.35%		1.97%
Revenue	1,655,840	1,930,378	17,079,759	18,523,764
Cost of power	986,061	1,118,802	10,150,452	10,811,111
Other expenses	476,174	642,023	6,496,112	6,851,155
Operating margins	193,605	169,553	433,195	861,498
Non-operating margins	(101,361)	2,149	63,385	33,193
Patronage dividends	-	-	147,394	153,034
Total margins	92,244	171,702	643,974	1,047,725

The cloud is on the ground

Why the digital world depends on electricity

Ask someone where their photos, videos, emails, and apps live, and they'll likely say, "In the cloud." While most people don't know exactly how it works, the "magical" cloud always seems to have the data we need.

But here's the not-so-secret truth: The cloud is very much on the ground. And it's powered by something incredibly real, incredibly physical and incredibly important: the electric grid.

Every swipe, every click and every text relies on electricity flowing from power plants through substations, transmission lines and distribution systems 24 hours a day. Behind every moment of digital convenience is a massive network of electrical infrastructure, quietly humming along to keep modern life running.

When most people imagine "the cloud," they picture something soft and floating. In reality, it's rows and rows of servers inside sprawling data centers. These machines don't take coffee breaks. They're always on processing, calculating, storing and sending information every second of the day.

And because they're on 24/7, the electricity feeding them must also be available 24/7.

That's where the grid comes in.

The electric grid is one of the most complex machines ever built yet people rarely think about it. It stretches across thousands of miles, linking homes, businesses, farms, hospitals and the digital backbone of the economy. Keeping it balanced requires constant attention. That's why utilities operate control centers staffed around the clock, with operators monitoring power flows in real time.

Coal, natural gas and nuclear energy provide the steady, always-available foundation the grid needs. They're the power sources operators rely on when the wind calms down or clouds cover solar panels.

The digital world may feel fast and futuristic, but it's grounded in physical reality. Transformers, conductors, generators and dispatchable power plants make the entire system possible.

So the next time you FaceTime a friend, scroll through TikTok, check your bank balance or ask a smart speaker to play your favorite song, remember the cloud is working because the electric grid is working.

**REAL
POWER
NOW**

