

*The Nodak Neighbor*  
presents the  
*2011 Annual Report*

**72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**March 31, 2012**





## Co-op Facts

### Total miles of line:

Overhead 4,197  
Underground 3,735

### Counties served:

Cavalier, Pembina, Walsh,  
Benson, Ramsey, Nelson,  
Grand Forks, Eddy, Griggs,  
Steele, Traill, Barnes and  
Cass

Square miles: 8,280

Metered services: 17,880

Number of employees: 70

### Board meeting:

First Tuesday of each month

### Date first energized:

Dec. 23, 1939

### Power supplier:

Minnkota Power  
Cooperative, Inc.

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## On the Cover

*On the Cover: Maurus  
Karboviak, journeyman  
lineman for the Finley crew,  
shows how easy it is to  
search Nodak's mapping  
system with his iPad.*

# Notice of Annual Meeting

*To the members of Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc.:*

You are hereby notified that the 72<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Nodak Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 31, 2012, at the Alerus Center, 1200 42<sup>nd</sup> Street South in Grand Forks, beginning at 10:30 a.m., for the following purposes:

**1. To pass upon reports covering the previous fiscal year, including acting upon reports of directors.**

**2. To elect three directors:**

The Committee on Nominations, appointed by the board of directors, present the following candidates for election to the board of directors:

### District 1

*(one 3-year term)*

**Paul Sigurdson**  
Edinburg

### District 2

*(one 3-year term)*

**David Hagert**  
Emerado

### District 3

*(one 3-year term)*

**Doug Lund**  
Aneta

**3. To transact business that may come before the meeting.**

**Voting by mail.** The board of directors has authorized mailing, for the election of directors, each member an absentee ballot. Since the election this year is uncontested, we will not be mailing ballots and return envelopes for the election. You are entitled to vote by mail, and if you wish to vote, we will honor that right. Please feel free to call our office at 1-800-732-4373 and ask for an absentee ballot, and one will be sent to your address. If the completed ballot is received by 4:30 p.m. on March 30, 2012, it shall be counted as a vote of the absent member.



Donna Grotte  
Secretary/Treasurer

March 9, 2012

Volume 62, No. 2  
March-April 2012

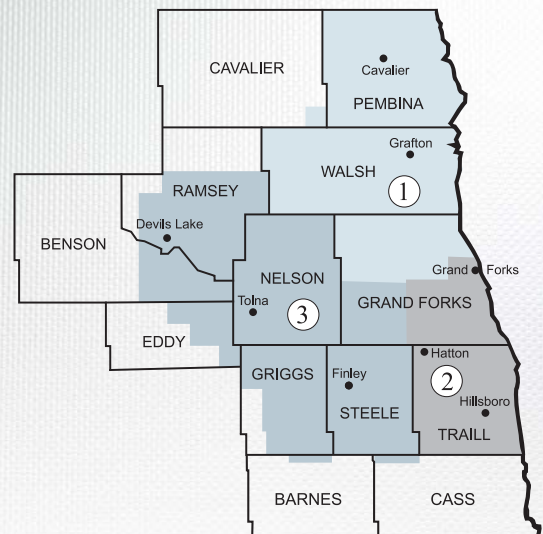
## Nodak Neighbor

Official Publication of  
Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The Nodak Neighbor (USPS 391-200) is published six times a year, February, April, June, August, October and December for \$1 per year by Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc., 4000 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave. S., Grand Forks, N.D. 58201-5944. Periodicals postage paid at Grand Forks, N.D., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NODAK ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., P.O. Box 13000, Grand Forks, N.D. 58208-3000.

746-4461 or 800-732-4373 • [www.nodakelectric.com](http://www.nodakelectric.com)

# Nominees for Board of Directors



**Paul Sigurdson**

*District 1*

Paul Sigurdson has served on Nodak's board for District 1 since 1991. He currently serves as president of the Square Butte Electric Cooperative board. He has completed the director courses offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to become a credentialed cooperative director and completed the board leadership program. Paul served as chairman of Pembina County Farmers Union and still serves as a director. He is currently chairman of the board of directors of Edinburg Farmers Elevator, and a member of Pembina Hills Lutheran Church. Paul and his wife, Ina, live on a farm near Gardar, N.D. He and his brother grow wheat, soybeans and edible beans. They have four grown daughters and six grandchildren.



**David Hagert**

*District 2*

David Hagert has been a member of the board of directors for Nodak Electric Cooperative since 1991 and has held numerous offices, including chairman. He has completed the required courses to receive the credentialed cooperative director certificate. He currently serves on the Grand Forks County Planning and Zoning Commission and the North Dakota Atmospheric Resource board. He has served on the Emerado school board, the Emerado-Arvilla Lions Club, the Northwood Jaycees, the Grand Forks County Crop Improvement Association, Grand Forks County Farm Bureau and was past treasurer of Pleasant View Township. David and his wife, Karen, and their family live near Emerado where he farmed for 24 years in a family partnership. He currently owns and operates AgriData, Inc., a Web-based mapping software company that serves farmers, ranchers and agri-businesses on a national basis.



**Doug Lund**

*District 3*

Doug Lund became a member of the board of directors for Sheyenne Valley Electric Cooperative in 1990 and Nodak Electric since the merger on Jan. 1, 2001. He earned a business education degree from Mayville State University and taught school in Richardton and Prior Lake, Minn., before moving northwest of Sharon to farm. Doug currently serves on the Mid-West Electric Consumers board, and the North Dakota Statewide board. In the past, he has served on the Finley-Sharon school board, the Trinity Lutheran Church board, the Sharon Elevator board, the Sharon Township board and the Steele County Crop Improvement Association. Doug and his wife, Carol, farm wheat, barley, flax and soybeans. They have three grown children and three grandchildren.





**David Kent**  
Chairman

**Mylo Einarson**  
President & CEO

our environment, we have some of the cleanest air in the United States, yet EPA wanted Minnkota to spend \$500 million on technology that would provide no perceptible improvement in visibility. So we stood shoulder-to-shoulder with our congressional delegation, Gov. Jack Dalrymple, state regulators and industry experts to tell the EPA that its one-size-fits-all approach isn't good for North Dakota. We also asked our members to join us in sharing their comments on this issue at [www.stopEPAnd.com](http://www.stopEPAnd.com).

The EPA announced in September that it would supersede the portion of North Dakota's State Implementation Plan (SIP) that deals with haze partially caused by NO<sub>x</sub> emissions. Good news came early in 2012 when the EPA approved the North Dakota SIP regarding NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for Units 1 and 2 at the Young Station. That was a key victory.

In the meantime, energy sales proved to be a challenge throughout the middle and end of 2011. A

wet beginning to the growing season lessened the need for irrigation. A dry harvest reduced much of the need to dry newly harvested grain, and a rather balmy winter dramatically slowed home heating sales. Although weather patterns like this can provide quite a challenge for an electric cooperative, we had load

growth in other areas that helped offset lagging sales. In some respects, this is the best of both worlds – increased total kilowatt-hour (kWh) sales for the cooperative and lower total usage per member. That helps keep the dollars where they belong – in the pockets of our member-owners.

We closed the year by reaching a milestone of having just more than one billion kWh of energy purchases from our power provider, Minnkota. This translates into just more than 976 million kWh in sales to our member-owners. This new record in kWh sales helped to provide much of the needed revenue to offset the large wholesale rate increase we started the year with and helped us finish the year with a positive margin.

We encourage you to review the company financial reports, along with the report from Secretary-Treasurer Donna Grotte. We hope you will agree that Nodak ended 2011 in sound financial position and that we fulfilled our mission throughout 2011 by efficiently providing you with quality electric service while keeping you, the member-owner, in the highest regard.

On behalf of the entire board of directors and all the employees at Nodak, we want to thank you for your patronage in 2011 and for the opportunity to serve you. We hope to see you at our annual meeting at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks on Saturday, March 31, 2012.

## Message to our Members

*A*s we look back on 2011, it's important to ask ourselves if we are meeting our members' expectations. Did we fulfill our mission of being "an efficient provider of quality electric service with leadership that demonstrates the highest regard for its member-owners?"

The year began with a series of member information meetings and *Nodak Neighbor* articles explaining the rapid escalation of the cost to generate electricity. Our power supplier, Minnkota Power Cooperative, in the wake of investing hundreds of millions of dollars on environmental upgrades, announced a rate increase of nearly 30 percent. This increase was projected to add an additional \$9.5 million to our 2011 cost of power. While we were able to offset some of the additional cost with load growth, it was necessary to increase our retail rates by 17 percent. This rate adjustment was projected to bring in \$8.6 million of the additional revenue needed. The balance would have to come from load growth and other efficiencies.

Midyear, we called upon all cooperative members to join forces and oppose the EPA's plan to take over the state of North Dakota's regional haze program. That program is intended to improve visibility in areas such as Theodore Roosevelt National Park in western North Dakota, which is an admirable cause. Where the heartburn comes from is that because North Dakotans are already good stewards of



# Board of Directors



*From left: Gerad Paul, Grand Forks, legal counsel; Donna Grotte, Finley; Doug Lund, Aneta; Bruce Fagerholt, Hoople; Paul Sigurdson, Edinburg; Mylo Einarson, president & CEO; David Kent, Hatton; David Hagert, Emerado; Lee McLaughlin, Lankin; Roger Diehl, Hillsboro; and Steven R. Smaaladen, Aneta.*

# Staff



*Pictured from left: Blaine Rekken, customer/energy services manager; Steven Breidenbach, engineering manager; Tom A. Edwards, accounting/finance manager; Mylo Einarson, president & CEO; Dan Schaefer, line superintendent; and Kim Soper, executive assistant.*

*Our Mission:* Nodak Electric Cooperative is proud to serve as your local electric provider. We believe that working together toward a common vision is the cooperative difference. We do this by operating on a not-for-profit, cost-of-service basis. Margins are given back to the members in the form of capital credits to reduce their electric costs. Co-ops put consumers first. These core business principles that have supported your local cooperative and all cooperatives for years are still alive and very strong today. Nodak's mission is based on the following statement: "Nodak Electric Cooperative is dedicated to be an efficient provider of quality electric service with leadership that demonstrates the highest regard for its member-owners."



# Adding to the toolbox

*iPads help Nodak to better serve members*



*Glenn Korynta of the construction crew uses the tracker digger to help Jeff Sloan, lead lineman, and Chris Hovland, journeyman lineman, of the Finley crew to install swamp anchors.*

**“By implementing iPads, we’re able to improve efficiency in several areas. Our metering technicians now have the ability to troubleshoot the metering system from the field and our line crews have up-to-date mapping capabilities and customer contact information on hand.”**

– Steve Breidenbach, Engineering Manager

**T**ake the hundreds of system maps needed for each Nodak crew member. Add in the growing number of work orders and forms that travel between the field and headquarters. Soon enough, you have an intimidating stack of paperwork.

But that’s no longer the case at Nodak. Line workers, metering technicians and engineers are using iPads. The new touchscreen tablets help employees stay up to date with the co-op’s ever-changing electric system and reduce the reliance on outdated print documents.

“By implementing iPads, we’re able to improve efficiency in several areas,” said Engineering Manager Steve Breidenbach. “Our metering technicians now have the ability to troubleshoot the metering system from the field and our line crews have up-to-date mapping capabilities and customer contact information on hand.”

The co-op began the transition to iPads by converting its entire mapping system to a digital format – a move that essentially replaces its hefty, old map books. The initial results have been so positive that Nodak plans to gradually expand the use of iPads throughout the year.

Ten iPads were distributed to select crews in January 2012 during a pilot test period. Although they’ve only been in the field a short time, the device is providing immediate benefits to the employees and the membership.

“For the crews, it’s easy to use,” said Line Superintendent Dan Schaefer. “They have given great feedback on the use of the mapping system and suggested a more time-efficient method for line patrol by going paperless.”

The iPads add several new tools to the toolbox. With the combined usage of

advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), geographic information system (GIS) and the outage management system (OMS), crews have an upper hand in providing information on the extent and probable location of an outage right from the truck. Additional information was loaded onto the iPads for easy access to the crews, including Nodak safety manuals, building clearance codes, technical data manuals and material safety data sheets (MSDS).

### Navigating Nodak

With a simple touch of the screen, crew members can navigate through every inch of Nodak’s 8,200-plus square-mile service area. The maps are comprised of multiple layers of linked data, creating a seamless path to view different areas of the system. The zooming feature is a welcome addition for crew members who are used to squinting at more detailed maps. Users can also make personal notes, draw lines and access member account information.

“By using iPads in the field, our workforce has the best information available to serve our members,” said Lucas Kindseth, information systems coordinator. “We believe a connected and enabled workforce can more effectively serve our members.”

Nodak also uses standard applications, such as a compass, topography and elevation maps, and the camera features. There’s even an app that records the GPS coordinates when a picture is taken.



*David Brag, Finley crew foreman, uses the iPad to add line patrol information to the Nodak mapping system.*



“One of the primary reasons we went with the iPad versus other tablets was due to the availability of apps,” Kindseth said. “The apps that would suit our needs were inexpensive, easy to maintain and very intuitive.”

Nodak has an extremely secure system, where all files are stored on a safe online server, and critical information is password-protected.

## Enhancing efficiency

In the past, Nodak has typically distributed more than 100 new map books every two years. Each book costs several hundred dollars to print and bind.

“They could be outdated before the ink dries,” said Breidenbach. “With the iPad, the updating process is so much faster and easier. If we have a major change, we can get that information out right away.”

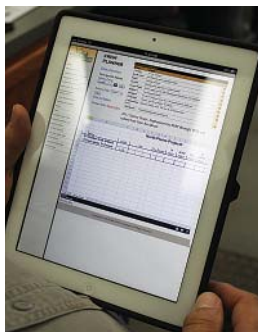
Breidenbach has noticed significant improvement in how information flows from the field back to the offices. Prior to the iPad, adding or changing out meters and updating data from line inspections took several steps. Printing, writing, scanning, emailing and rekeying data back into the system were all required. Now that job requires one step: simply entering the data into



*Steve Breidenbach quickly maneuvers through Nodak's mapping system.*



*Jeff Sloan, lead lineman of the Finley crew, searches for a member's contact information.*



*Linemen have access to the crews' daily planner.*



*Dale Dahlen, apparatus technician I, checks signal strength at substations from his iPad.*

the iPad, which is linked directly to Nodak's system.

Breidenbach said the tablet has also been helpful when communicating with members.

“When we visit with a member about a new electric service, they can sign the required documents on the iPad,” Breidenbach said. “We can take pictures of complex projects or devices and link those directly to our maps. We can view existing sketches of the work that has been done and tie in work that needs to be done.”

Considering the cost savings of printing map books, the effectiveness of up-to-date information in the field and reduced errors in paperwork, the upfront investment in the iPads will benefit the members in better customer service.

“I believe the reason this project is successful is because of the valuable input from our staking engineer, electrical engineers, dispatch and our metering department,” Breidenbach said. “This was truly a team effort, our IT/IS personnel provided great support to facilitate the processes we needed to automate.”

The co-op's commitment to improving efficiency through the use of new technology wouldn't be possible without strong support from the board of directors.

“By making this investment, the board is showing it has trust and confidence that we will use this technology to improve efficiency and, ultimately, better serve our members,” Breidenbach said.





**Donna Grotte**  
*secretary/treasurer*

largely dependent on the equipment that we operate each day to provide reliable electric service and everyone knows how much more it costs to fill fuel tanks in 2011 and continuing into 2012. With 90 service-related pieces of equipment that require fuel from the pump on a regular basis, you can better understand how our operating expenses proportionately increase each time fuel prices escalate.

Fixed expenses, which include depreciation, interest and tax expense, amounted to \$6.38 million in 2011 as compared to \$6.17 million in 2010. Despite approximately \$2.0 million of new debt in 2011, interest expense decreased slightly due to favorable long-term interest rates and timely use of short-term borrowing.

Nonoperating margins include interest income on monthly cash reserves along with losses attributed to our night light repair program. G&T and other capital credits represent margins received from Minnkota Power, CoBank, Federated Insurance and several other cooperative-type businesses that provide us services during the year. Collectively, the nonoperating margins and capital credit allocations amounted to \$402,356 in 2011 as compared to \$338,243 in 2010.

Mirroring the financial year 2010, 2011 also provided challenges in relationship to year-end margins compared to the historical pattern of annual margins in the \$2 to \$2.5 million range. The 2011 margins amounted to \$1,171,350 as compared to 2010 margin levels of \$726,283. In April 2011, our power supplier, Minnkota Power Cooperative, enacted a 29.8 percent wholesale power cost increase to the distribution cooperatives. A portion of that power cost increase was absorbed within our existing retail rate structure; however a retail rate increase amounting to an average of 17 percent was passed along to our membership on the April 2011 power billing. Growth in kWh sales largely due to the TransCanada pipeline load shouldered some of the additional retail rate increases that would have been necessary in 2011. With more than 80 percent of our total cost of electric service relating to purchased power, any type of increase in power costs during the year significantly affects our ending margins. In total, power costs rose to \$62.42 million last year, which is a 38.6 percent increase from the previous year level of \$45.05 million.

Revenue from electric sales measured \$76.82 million as compared to \$58.63 million in 2010. With the increases in power costs outpacing the increases in electric revenue during the year, margins again took a turn downward due to that disparity. Wholesale power costs will stabilize in 2012, which is good news for our membership. Additionally, we are fortunate to maintain growth within our distribution system, which helps spread all cost increases among more energy sales.

In 2011, operating expenses, which are inclusive of operations, maintenance, customer service, accounting and administrative functions, ended the year with a balance of \$5.1 million as compared to \$5.0 million in 2010, which amounts to a 2.0 percent overall increase. Along with every other American consumer, we are faced with the same inflationary price pressures on our expenses. We feel that the increase in operating expenses that we incurred last year were within an acceptable range when factoring in inflation. Our list of expenses each year is lengthy; one of the largest is fuel costs. Similar to emergency response departments, we are

## *Treasurer's Report*

Balance sheet changes occurring in 2011 were normal. A capital credit retirement occurred in March of last year, amounting to \$1.55 million. In addition to this general retirement, estate retirements amounted to \$98,000 in 2011. Due to a reduced 2011 margin, consistent capital credit retirements and increased total debt, member equity or ownership of the cooperative fell by 1.31 percent to a level of 38.3 percent. Net additions to distribution plant amounted to \$4.15 million. This is consistent with the previous year's plant growth and is a very positive trend.

To summarize 2011, changes in the wholesale cost of power presented the biggest challenge. That challenge resulted in increases in retail energy rates, but we are hopeful that this rising power cost trend has leveled to more of a manageable, inflationary level. Our board of directors and each employee of Nodak Electric is committed to find new and better ways to be more efficient so as to offset any of our increases in expenses.

If you have any further questions regarding the finances of Nodak Electric Cooperative, please feel free to stop by, give us a call or visit our website at [www.nodakelectric.com](http://www.nodakelectric.com). Thank you for your patronage in 2011. We sincerely hope you will continue to find good value in your electric service with Nodak Electric Cooperative, and we look forward to your continued support in 2012.



# Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010

<i>Assets</i>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
ELECTRIC PLANT		
Electric Plant in Service	\$ 127,026,931	\$ 122,224,768
Construction Work in Progress	2,551,963	3,202,639
	<u>\$ 129,578,894</u>	<u>\$ 125,427,407</u>
Less: Accumulated Provisions for Depreciation	(41,731,736)	(39,948,188)
	<u>\$ 87,847,158</u>	<u>\$ 85,479,219</u>
OTHER ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS		
Investments in Associated Companies	\$ 3,430,720	\$ 3,235,105
Other Investments	983,002	920,696
	<u>\$ 4,413,722</u>	<u>\$ 4,155,801</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 680,108	\$ 683,218
Accounts Receivable (Less Accumulated Provision for Uncollectible Accounts 2011 – \$31,978; 2010 – \$31,836)	8,760,734	8,585,444
Material and Supplies	2,109,098	2,134,064
Other Current and Accrued Assets	115,543	123,090
	<u>\$ 11,665,483</u>	<u>\$ 11,525,816</u>
DEFERRED DEBITS	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 63,274</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 103,926,363</u>	<u>\$ 101,224,110</u>
<i>Liabilities and Members' Equity</i>		
EQUITIES		
Memberships	\$ 56,155	\$ 56,155
Patronage Capital	29,267,173	29,653,995
Other Equities	10,515,451	10,416,739
	<u>\$ 39,838,779</u>	<u>\$ 40,126,889</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT		
Long-Term Debt (Net of Current Portion)	<u>\$ 46,520,046</u>	<u>\$ 47,012,018</u>
OTHER NONCURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 1,180,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,000</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	\$ 4,941,095	\$ 2,488,929
Line of Credit	3,000,000	3,500,000
Accounts Payable – Purchased Power	6,138,257	4,716,584
Accounts Payable – Other	366,188	321,559
Customer Deposits	266,000	231,699
Accrued Taxes	929,402	923,956
Other Current and Accrued Liabilities	459,817	460,897
	<u>\$ 16,100,759</u>	<u>\$ 12,643,624</u>
DEFERRED CREDITS	<u>\$ 286,779</u>	<u>\$ 261,579</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 103,926,363</u>	<u>\$ 101,224,110</u>



# Income Statement

As of December 31, 2011 and 2010

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
OPERATING REVENUE:		
Electric Revenue	\$ 76,824,738	\$ 58,634,327
Other	62,297	51,894
Total	<u>\$ 76,887,035</u>	<u>\$ 58,686,221</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Cost of power	\$ 62,428,492	\$ 45,052,471
Distribution – Operations	2,310,425	2,224,481
Distribution – Maintenance	2,050,264	2,082,244
Consumer Accounts	903,664	870,151
Consumer Service and Information	302,525	279,574
Administrative and General	1,738,043	1,617,969
Depreciation	3,298,969	3,151,882
Taxes	878,214	874,324
Total	<u>\$ 73,910,596</u>	<u>\$ 56,153,096</u>
OPERATING MARGINS BEFORE FIXED CHARGES	\$ 2,976,439	\$ 2,533,125
FIXED CHARGES:		
Interest on Long-Term Debt	\$ 2,039,975	\$ 1,914,739
Other Interest	167,470	230,346
Total	<u>\$ 2,207,445</u>	<u>\$ 2,145,085</u>
OPERATING MARGINS AFTER FIXED CHARGES	\$ 768,994	\$ 388,040
G&T AND OTHER CAPITAL CREDITS	<u>410,628</u>	<u>253,290</u>
NET OPERATING MARGINS	<u>\$ 1,179,622</u>	<u>\$ 641,330</u>
NONOPERATING MARGINS:		
Interest Income	\$ 14,869	\$ 93,885
Other Nonoperating Margins	(23,141)	(8,932)
Total	<u>\$ (8,272)</u>	<u>\$ 84,953</u>
NET MARGINS	<u>\$ 1,171,350</u>	<u>\$ 726,283</u>



## 2011 Recipients

Aneta Fire Protection District	\$500
Garrett Barclay	\$1,000
Ali Borgen	\$2,500
Feed My Starving Children	\$500
Hamilton Civil Club	\$500
Hope Early Learning Center	\$500
Danielle Kovarik	\$500
Richard & Arlene McSorley	\$300
Brandon O'Halloran	\$2,500
Altru Ambulance Service	\$100
Aneta Ambulance Service	\$100
Binford Ambulance Service	\$100
Cooperstown Ambulance Service	\$100
Drayton Ambulance Service	\$100
Finley Ambulance Service	\$100
Fordville Ambulance Service	\$100
Hillsboro Ambulance Service	\$100
Hoople Ambulance Service	\$100
Hope Ambulance Service	\$100
Lake Region Ambulance Service	\$100
Lakota Ambulance Service	\$100
Larimore Ambulance Service	\$100
McVile Ambulance Service	\$100
Michigan Ambulance Service	\$100
Northwood Ambulance Service	\$100
Pembina County Ambulance Service	\$100
St. Ansgar Hospital Ambulance Service	\$100
Valley Ambulance & Rescue Squad	\$100
West Traill Ambulance Service	\$100
Adams-Edmore Post Prom Party	\$50
Grand Forks Central Post Prom Party	\$50
Hatton-Northwood Post Prom Party	\$50
Hope-Page Post Prom Party	\$50
Larimore Post Prom Party	\$50
Lakota Post Prom Party	\$50
May-Port CG Post Prom Party	\$50
Devils Lake Post Prom Party	\$50
Griggs County Central Post Prom Party	\$50
North Border Post Prom Party	\$50
Fordville-Lankin Post Prom Party	\$50
Central-Valley Post Prom Party	\$50
Valley-Edinburg Post Prom Party	\$50
Minto Post Prom Party	\$50
Red River Post Prom Party	\$50
Alden Brooks	\$1,000
Mitch French	\$1,000
Bridgette Jehlicka	\$2,000
Wallace Lafferty	\$1,000
Eleanor Laumb	\$500
Addison Lessard	\$1,000
Northlands Rescue Mission	\$500
Clarence Wangsnes	\$1,000
Doug Wessels	\$1,000
Gary Adams	\$1,500
Christi Carlson	\$2,000
Crystal Fire Department	\$1,000
Francine McClendon	\$500
Pembina County Emergency Food Pantry	\$500
Pembina County Social Services	\$500
Bonnie & Stanley Ouhl	\$2,000
Community Violence Intervention Center	\$1,000
Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, Inc.	\$1,000
Domestic Violence & Abuse Center	\$1,000
Kirsten Ferguson	\$700
Fordville Park Board	\$500
Dennis Haugen	\$400
Nicholas Jones	\$1,500
Bethany Novak	\$700
Red River Valley Habitat for Humanity	\$1,000
Safe Alternatives for Abused Families	\$1,000
Simple Freedoms, Inc.	\$1,000
Joy Stricklin	\$1,000
Valley Memorial Foundation	\$1,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,550</b>



*Strength  
in Numbers*

*Thanks to you, it's working!*

Operation Round Up® is a program that rounds up members' monthly electric bills to the next whole dollar amount. The resulting funds are put into a special account to assist others in need. The funds collected through Operation Round Up are used for a variety of projects, programs and items throughout the Nodak service area.

The Round Up board meets quarterly and considers each application that has been received since the previous meeting. It awards funds to the applicants based on how well the application fits the original funding guidelines: 1. Individuals or families in crisis; 2. Services – ambulance and fire; 3. Community youth needs with emphasis on permanent benefit; 4. Scholarships with emphasis on re-education of displaced agricultural people; and 5. Senior needs with emphasis on permanent benefit.

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program with roughly 60 percent of the 13,482 members participating. Since the program started, a total of \$563,150 has been distributed to individuals and organizations throughout the Nodak Electric service area.

## Operation Round Up 2011 Board of Directors



Bruce Ellertson



Sheryl Kjelland



Maynard Messer



Pat Osland



Janice Sauer



Harvey Puppe



Roger Windjue



# Employees

**Amundson, Becky I.**, Customer Account Representative  
**Baker, Russell G.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Bjornstad, James O.**, Lead Lineman  
**Brag, David M.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Breidenbach, Steven C.**, Engineering Manager  
**Chaput, Damus E.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Charbonneau, Brian D.**, Lead Lineman  
**Dahlen, Dale O.**, Apparatus Technician I  
**Dahlen, Kevin J.**, Meter Technician I  
**Dalbey, Victoria J.**, Receptionist  
**Danielson, Steven C.**, Energy Management Coordinator  
**Dubuque, Vernon C.**, Engineering Representative  
**Edwards, Tom A.**, Accounting & Finance Manager  
**Einarson, Mylo R.**, President & CEO  
**Ferguson, Thomas C.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Ford, Guy M.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Gierszewski, Connie M.**, Billing Supervisor  
**Haman, Wade A.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Hansen, Casey**, Electrical Engineer  
**Hanson, Jeffrey B.**, Lead Lineman  
**Herz, Todd**, Engineering Representative  
**Hjelmstad, Eric**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Honek, Chad R.**, Electrical Technician II  
**Hoveland, Gregory A.**, Underground Crew Foreman  
**Hovland, Christopher**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Johnson, Cole J.**, Electrical Engineer  
**Juntunen, Steven R.**, Lead Lineman  
**Karboviak, Maurus J.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Kelley, Kurt A.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Kiemele, Timothy B.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Kindseth, Lucas**, Information Systems Coordinator  
**Korynta, Glenn F.**, Electrical Equipment Operator  
**Lamb, Jake T.**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Lider, Jeffrey C.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Lommen, Todd**, Apprentice Apparatus Technician  
**Lorenz, Nathan D.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Markuson, Michelle R.**, Accountant II  
**McKelvey, Cory L.**, Lead Lineman



## Accounting Department

(Left to right) **Michelle Markuson**, Accountant II; **Tom Edwards**, Accounting and Finance Manager; and **Marilyn Strand**, Accountant I.

**Midstokke, Scott K.**, Lead Lineman  
**Mohn, Gordon A.**, Tech Crew Foreman  
**Mosher, Dwight L.**, Electrical Equipment Operator  
**Mozinski, David H.**, Energy Management Coordinator  
**Nagel, Melvin M.**, District Crew Foreman  
**Nipstad, Mark A.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Nowacki, Loren M.**, Information Technologist  
**Peterson, Lois D.**, Customer Account Representative  
**Poehls, Bret D.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Raymond, Jason F.**, Assistant Line Superintendent/Safety Coordinator  
**Reed, Dale W.**, Lead Lineman  
**Rekken, Blaine A.**, Customer/Energy Services Manager  
**Rocksvold, Wayne P.**, Warehouseman  
**Schaefer, Daniel J.**, Line Superintendent  
**Schlieve, Flint**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Schmaltz, Gretchen R.**, Energy Services Advisor/Analyst  
**Schmaltz, Ryan L.**, Energy Services Specialist  
**Sloan, Jeff J.**, Lead Lineman  
**Slominski, Mark S.**, Lead Lineman  
**Solem, Carol D.**, Customer Account Representative  
**Sondreal, Derek W.**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Soper, Kim M.**, Executive Assistant  
**Stadstad, Jared L.**, Apprentice Lineman  
**Steinhaus, Jeremy A.**, Journeyman Lineman  
**Strand, Marilyn J.**, Accountant I  
**Traiser, Charles M.**, Cable Locator

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting

# Agenda

## March 31, 2012

- 9:30 a.m.** – Doors open and registration begins at the Alerus Center, Grand Forks
- Entertainment by Downtown Horns
- 10:30 a.m.** – Call to order of the 72<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting  
*David Kent, chairman, presiding*
- Reading of Notice
  - Declaration of Quorum
  - Nominating Committee Report
  - Election
  - Nodak business report  
*David Kent and Mylo Einarson*
  - Guest Speaker  
*Mac McLennan, Minnkota Power Cooperative*
  - Question and answer period
  - Old and new business
  - Drawing for grand prize
  - Adjournment
  - Complimentary meal

*Entertainment by Downtown Horns*

### Guest Speaker



**Mac McLennan**  
*President & CEO  
Minnkota Power  
Cooperative*

Robert “Mac” McLennan is the president & CEO of Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale energy provider.

McLennan has spent his career serving the rural electric cooperative industry. Prior to joining Minnkota in 2011, he was employed by Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association, an electric generation and transmission cooperative based in Colorado, as senior vice president of external affairs & member relations. McLennan has also worked for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) as director of environmental affairs and was an assistant to the chief of staff for retired Sen. Byron Dorgan.

A native of Lander, Wyo., McLennan earned his bachelor’s degree from Jamestown (N.D.) College. He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Grand Forks, N.D.

**Cash prizes!**



*The first 250 registered voters will receive a free LED flashlight!*