



**Capital  
Electric**  
COOPERATIVE

**AUGUST 2023**

Smiling co-op members are greeted by Capital Electric Cooperative staff at this year's annual meeting. The meeting is more than business, as people and information make it worthwhile.



## Capital Electric Cooperative's 77th annual meeting not dampened by rain and hail

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Board member **David Straley** discusses board topics and listens to feedback from co-op members. We thank David for his service on the board of directors.

## Dedicated co-op members and guests enjoy annual meeting festivities

BY WES ENGBRECHT

Every June, we ask ourselves, “What is an electric cooperative and what is its purpose?” Capital Electric Cooperative’s employees would say it’s a vitally important enterprise with the sole purpose of providing necessary and consistent power to our members. What would our members say? If I had to guess, most would say they appreciate being viewed as owners of this dedicated organization that keeps their daily lives humming.

One important way we reflect our solidarity in the cooperative’s purpose is to convene at our annual meeting. This meeting is the one event that brings us together to renew the relationship and participate in the co-op’s business that is necessary to distinguish us from other electric providers.

While rain and hail pelted the Bismarck Event Center, smiling co-op members were welcomed to Capital Electric’s 77th annual meeting. The dining hall was complete with a tasty and filling meal, entertaining

music by country singer and star, Savannah Benz, tables consisting of important information and a kid-oriented corner complete with inflatables, treats and toys.

The side tables were collecting scholarship applications, providing information on rate changes and demonstrating a robot designed and created by Roboticus Maximus. This group of talented high school students impressed attendees with their intelligence, creativity and their outgoing personalities as a bonus. Director Dave Charles called on his engineering background to assess their abilities, “Those guys were amazing. I enjoyed hearing about how the robot was built!”

Staff members utilized four-seat golf carts to transport those in the parking lot who either needed or wanted a ride to the event. One member mentioned through a smile, “I wanted a ride because I have never been on one of these carts!” Operations Manager Rick



*Golf carts were a welcome addition to this year's meeting. Capital Electric Cooperative employees offered rides for members who would normally make the trek on the hot pavement from the parking lots.*

Dressler also noted this service was a great addition.

Reports from each of the co-op's department managers, along with the president and manager's report, were highlighted during the business meeting, which followed the social side of the meeting. As always, the annual financial results were provided to members, as well as the end-of-year financial condition of the co-op. An explanation of rate changes which occurred in 2023 were included in this portion of the meeting.

One of the primary purposes of the business meeting is the election of three board members for three-year terms, one from each cooperative district. This year, Dave Charles was reelected in District 1, Kyle Tschosik earned another District 3 win and newcomer Bret Weiland was elected for his inaugural term in District 2. Congratulations to these directors. We look forward to your involvement in the cooperative's future.

We were extremely pleased to welcome Sister Kathleen Atkinson to deliver this year's invocation. She is involved with providing services to recently released prison inmates in the Ministry on the Margins organization.

Another important aspect of this year's business meeting included the voting and subsequent approval of various cooperative bylaw changes. Visit the bylaws section of our website for more detailed information.



*Kyle Tschosik, left, and Dave Charles, right, were reelected to the board of directors for another three-year term. Newly elected Bret Weiland, center, will serve his first term as the District 2 representative on the board.*

Prize drawings provided exciting moments, as each member waited to hear a winning number being drawn. We congratulate Savannah Benz for being awarded a \$500 scholarship during the meeting!

Capital Electric thanks all who participated in this year's annual meeting. Cooperative membership is cooperative ownership, and member participation is a key element to the co-op's success. By participating in the annual meeting, Capital Electric's member-owners hold the co-op accountable for decisions and help the co-op serve its members to the best of its ability. We hope to see you again next year! ☺



Bobcat joined the party to showcase its electric compact track loader.

## EV Tailgate Party continues to be a popular community event

BY WES ENGBRECHT

Capital Electric Cooperative and the N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT) once again teamed up to bring a variety of electric vehicles (EVs) and other equipment together for a June 29 event at the state Capitol. The event is known as the EV Tailgate Party and has been held annually for the past four years.

"We're extremely happy with the growth of the event. Our first year hosting this event, we primarily relied on private owners to bring the EVs they had special ordered. Now, the local dealers have many new, impressive models available and their willingness to join us at this event has been incredible. We hope to continue to provide these awareness opportunities for the community and look forward to the new vehicles and outdoor equipment at next year's tailgate event," said Capital Electric's Energy Services Manager Josh Schaffner.

This year's featured vehicles were the Ford Lightning, Hyundai Ioniq 5 and 6, Nissan Ariya, Cadillac Lyriq, Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid, Jeep Cherokee Hybrid, Subaru Solterra and the new Bobcat electric wheeled loader.

During the event, Border States grilled hamburgers, brats and hot dogs, which were free for attendees. Attendees also received a discount coupon for treats from Mo's Snow Shack, which was a very popular feature of the event.

Event sponsors included 701 Cycle and Sport, ACME Tools, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bird, Bismarck Motor Company, Bobcat, Border States Electric, Dakota Supply Group, Eide Automotive Group, Irby, Lignite Energy Council, North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, Pro Kartz, Puklich Chevrolet, Subaru of Mandan and Wesco. ©



Century High School's **Grace Larson**, center, represented Capital Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., in June. She is shown here with **Mara Smith**, left, from Fargo Davies High School and **Nicole Lawler**, right, from Linton Public School.

## Larson enjoys learning experience in Washington, D.C.

BY WES ENGBRECHT

In today's ever-changing and challenging world, it's rewarding to meet students with a vision for a brighter future for themselves and our country. The Electric Cooperative Youth Tour program attracts those types of students.

Each year, the Youth Tour brings together students from across the country to participate in a weeklong adventure in Washington, D.C. Participants learn about their co-op and gain a personal understanding of American history and their role as a citizen.

This year, Capital Electric Cooperative's Youth Tour essay contest winner was Grace Larson from Bismarck. Grace, who will begin her senior year at Century High School this fall, was wowed by her trip to our nation's capital in June.

"Everyone there had the same values and goals, and I found that I had a lot in common with them," Grace shared. "We visited many historic sites and monuments, and we learned why it's important to be grateful to live in this great country."

One of Grace's favorite stops on the tour was the Smithsonian museums, as there was so much to see and learn about natural history. Her favorite monument was the Korean War Veterans Memorial, as her great-grandfather served in the U.S. Army during

that conflict.

"There were so many great statues representing those brave soldiers. We were humbled to read the names of the many soldiers who lost their lives," she reflected.

While in our nation's capital, the Youth Tour students met with U.S. Sen. John Hoeven and U.S. Rep. Kelly Armstrong. They also had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Kevin Cramer's staff, who provided a tour of the U.S. Capitol.

"I was impressed how they made us feel that our opinion mattered, and we could make an impact on the future," Grace gratefully acknowledged.

This summer, Grace is working at a summer camp at the Gateway to Science. She finds her work with first- to third-grade students very fun and interesting, as well as great experience to prepare her for a planned career in elementary education.

"I am grateful to my co-op for this experience and believe it will impact my future in a positive way," she said. Grace, we thank you for your involvement in the Youth Tour and wish you the very best in your future!

For more information on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, visit [www.ndyouthtour.com](http://www.ndyouthtour.com) or email Wes Engbrecht, [wese@capitalelec.com](mailto:wese@capitalelec.com). ☺

# Capital credit claims Notice of redemption by Capital Electric Cooperative Inc.

Listed below are names of former Capital Electric Cooperative Inc. members who had capital credit checks mailed to them in June 2017. These checks have been returned to Capital Electric by the postal service, because it could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by Capital Electric personnel has not turned up their whereabouts.

If you received electrical service from Capital Electric any time during 2000 and your name is on this list, please contact our office. If you know of the whereabouts of members on this list who received electrical service from

Capital Electric any time during the year 2000, please have them contact our office at 701-223-1513.

Please keep in mind not all of the capital credit amounts are large. However, we desire to get the money due to those who earned it and clear our records.

We will redeem capital credits for those members on the following list who notify us prior to Dec. 1, 2023. Notice is hereby given that any of the aforementioned unclaimed capital credits outstanding after Dec. 1, 2023, will be forfeited pursuant to Section 10-15-34.1 and 10-15-23 of the North Dakota Century Code.

- |                          |                         |                       |                        |                       |
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| A-1 WHOLESAL             | BIUS, BETTY             | DILLAN, BETTY         | GARCIA, RICARDO        | HOERNER, JESSICA      |
| ABBATE, ANNE             | BJORK, DAVID            | DILTS, ROY            | GARRISON, GRANT        | HOERNER, JOHN         |
| ABBATE, SAMUEL           | BLANDFORD, EMMA         | DINYER, JUDITH L.     | GARRISON, LANETTE      | HOFF, DONOVAN         |
| AGRILIANCE               | BOECKEL, JODY           | DOCKTER, DONIA        | GEDROSE, WILLIAM       | HOFFER, RICHARD       |
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| ALKIRE, PAM              | BRANDVOLD, JASON        | DORSCHER, VIANNA      | GERVING, BRIAN         | HOPFAUF, CHRIS        |
| ALL PRO SPORTSWEAR       | BRAZIL, ANDRE           | DORSCHER'S            | GERVING, SHELLY        | HORNBAKER, BRIAN LEE  |
| ALLARD, KATHERINE E.     | BRECKLEY, ALYCE         | SANDBLASTING          | GHORBANI, DAPHNE       | HUBER, JASON          |
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| ARNOLD, MICHELLE         | BROWNING, JENNIFER      | DYNNESON, SUZANNE     | GLASSER, HOLLY         | GLASSER, AMBERS       |
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SPARLING, JERRY L.  
SPARLING, ANNE O.  
SPRINGER, PAUL V.  
STAHLBERG, DOYLE  
STATE FARM INSURANCE  
STECKLER, COREY E.  
STEEN, JAY E.  
STEINMETZ, DANNY  
STEINMETZ, KACY  
STEVENSON, SANDY  
STEVENSON, CATHY  
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STOCK, JEFFREY D.  
STOCKERT, GARY  
STRODE, DOREEN  
SWANSON, JANELLE  
SYVERSON, CRYSTAL  
TAYLOR, MARGIE  
TAYLOR, WAYNE D.  
TECHAKITIRO J,  
CHULALUCK  
TERGEN, ALYSON  
TERGEN, BRAD  
TESKE, MELINDA  
THEIL, LACEY R.  
THEIL, GC  
THINNES, DONNA  
THINNES, TODD A.  
THOMAS, MICHAEL L.  
THOMPSON, RONALD  
THOMPSON, LISA  
TIETZ, CHRIS  
TIMOKHINA, TATYANA  
TIMOKHIN, VIKTOR  
TIPTON, AMY  
TODD, ALLISON K.  
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SALES  
TREIB, FRANK  
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TRIELOFF, RACHELLE  
TRIELOFF, TOM  
TRIPLETT, CANDY  
TTIMW TRUCKING  
UNDERDAHL, DANIELLE L.  
UNSER, TED  
UNTERSEHER, JUNE  
UNVERZAGT, JANNABELLE  
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UPTON, JULIANNE K.  
USSELMANN, STACY  
VALLEY HONEY LLC  
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VALNES, TINA  
VANDEBERG, BRIAN  
VANDEBERG, STEPHANIE  
VASSAU, CHARLOTTE  
VERHOEVEN, GENE  
VETTER, DONALD  
VETTER, THERESA  
VIVIER, JUDY K.  
VIVIER, DALE M.  
VIVIER, MAIDA C.  
VOEGELE, COREY  
VOELLER, KERRI  
VOLK, MARY C.  
VOLLER, CHAD T.  
VOLLMER, CHERI  
VOLLMER, JAMES  
VOSSLER, JAMES A.  
VOSSLER, KRISTIN L.  
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VOTH, JULIET  
WAGNER, RACHEL  
WAGY, CECILIA  
WAHL, COLLEEN  
WALFORD, BRIAN R.  
WALTERS, STEVE  
WARD, ROY  
WATSON, MARK D.  
WATTS, AMY  
WATTS, KENNETH  
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WEHNER, REBECCA  
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WELLS, JAMES  
WHIPPLE, KIMBERLY  
WHIPPLE, STEVEN  
WHITE EYES, LUCY  
WHITETAIL, BRENDA M.  
WILKINSON, GLORIA M.  
WILLS, BETTY LOU  
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WILSON, MARK  
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WILSON, CHENOA  
WILSON, SHELLEY  
WINBAUER, JOE  
WINDSHIELD EXPRESS INC.  
WINDSOR PROPERTIES INC.  
WINGERTER, SUSAN  
WOLF, JAMES  
WOOD, BRADLEY  
WOODS, MISTY S.  
WUNDER, JOHN  
WWC HOLDING CO. INC.  
YANKTON, RHONDA R.  
YOUNG, SCHONNA L.  
YOUNG, STACEY  
ZACHMEIER, NANCY  
ZELLER, IRENE  
ZENTZ, MALINDA J.  
ZINS MOBILE HOMES,  
ZUCK, JOSEPH A.

# Board minute excerpts JUNE 23

The regular meeting of the board of directors of Capital Electric Cooperative was held on Friday, June 23, at Capital Electric, 7401 Yukon Drive, Bismarck, pursuant to due notice to all directors. All directors were present at that time.

**Also present were:** Manager Paul Fitterer, Business Manager Luke Steen, Operations Manager Rick Dressler, Energy Services Manager Josh Schaffner, Manager of Communications and IT Wes Engbrecht and Attorney Zachary Pelham of Pearce Durick PLLC, who acted as recording secretary.

**Financial Review:** Prior to the board meeting, Directors Dwight Wrangham and Lyndon Anderson reviewed the May check register and expenditures. They advised all checks and expenditures were in order. The financial review was approved as presented.

**Management Reports (Business Department, Operations Department, Engineering Services, Energy Services, and Communications/IT):**

**Business Department Report:** Steen presented the May financial and statistical report to the board.

Revenue was ahead of budget for May, as \$3,531,780 was generated, in comparison with the budgeted figure of \$3,225,258 (favorable variance of \$306,522 or 9.5%).

Capital Electric's May load factor was behind budget by 40%.

The operating margin for May was -\$168,387, behind the budgeted amount of \$174,528. The total margin for May was \$-123,547, which was behind the budgeted \$189,812.

Capital Electric began billing 33 new services in May, bringing our active services to 22,067 versus 21,720 at this time last year, or a net increase of 347 accounts over the last 12 months.

Cash flows, monthly power cost, and accounts receivable balances as of June 22 were reviewed.

**Estate Retirements:** Following review of the financial condition of the cooperative and recommendation by management, payment of capital credits to 11 member estates totaling \$9,999.67 was authorized.

**Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Update:** A resolution required by RUS authorizing the manager, president and secretary/treasurer to execute RUS Form 595 was approved.

**Member Comments:** Steen reported five member concerns regarding the rate increase and one concern regarding the inability to retire capital credits early.

**Operations Report:** Dressler reviewed the written report from the operations department. Dressler reported an electric vehicle (EV) charging site at a local auto dealership was energized, crews responded to an outage at the Circle K substation and the new bucket truck was delivered.

**Safety Report:** There were no lost-time accidents in June. The North Dakota Association of Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) safety instructor, Mike Koenig, held a safety meeting on voltage regulator troubleshooting, fall arrest and annual harness inspections. The safety report was approved.

**Engineering Services Report:** Dressler reviewed the written report from engineering services. Sixteen work orders were completed in May. Dressler reported on ongoing and upcoming projects.

**Property Update:** Fitterer reported on ongoing efforts to satisfy zoning contingencies for the sale of the former administrative headquarters building.

**Energy Services:** Schaffner reviewed the energy services report. Fifteen service orders were completed in May. Schaffner reported on continued efforts to assist members with the rate change, repair of the headquarter generator gas line and the EV Tailgate Event.

**Communications and IT:** Engbrecht reviewed the communications and IT report and the 2023 annual meeting.

**Board Conduct Committee:** After discussion, a directors' code of conduct policy was approved.

**Strategic Planning:** Fitterer reported on the upcoming strategic planning meeting on Aug. 25.

**Basin Electric Power Cooperative:** Fitterer reported on Basin Electric matters.

**Western Area Power Administration (WAPA):** Fitterer reported that no additional increase in the drought adder is anticipated in 2023 and major updates to facilities and infrastructure are likely.

**Central Power Electric Cooperative (CPEC):** Fitterer reported on the June board meeting. Director Dave Charles was elected as the cooperative's director to the CPEC board and Director Kayla Pulvermacher was elected as the cooperative's alternative director to the CPEC board.

**Industry Update:** Fitterer reviewed materials related to power markets and general cooperative news.

**NDAREC:** Vilhauer reported on the June board meeting.

**National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Regional 5 and 6:** Fitterer updated on the upcoming NRECA Regional Meeting set for Sept. 12-14. Pulvermacher was selected as a delegate and Sara Vollmer was selected as an alternate.

**National Information Solutions Cooperative:** Anderson was selected as a delegate and Kyle Tschosik was selected as an alternate.

**Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC):** Dave Charles was selected as a delegate and Vollmer was selected as an alternate.

**Federated:** Charles was selected as a delegate and Anderson was selected as an alternate.

**RESCO:** Tschosik was selected as a delegate and Charles was selected as an alternate.

**RESCO Election:** Fitterer reported on the director election.

**CFC Election:** Fitterer reported on the District 6 director election.

**CoBank Election:** Fitterer reported on the 2023 director elections and noted our district did not have an election this year.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. ☺

## CAPITAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Deon Vilhauer, Pres. ....	Bismarck
Dave Charles, V. Pres. ....	Bismarck
Kyle Tschosik, Sec.-Treas. ....	Bismarck
Lyndon Anderson, Asst. Sec.-Treas. ....	Baldwin
Rex Hollenbeck .....	McClusky
Dwight Wrangham .....	Bismarck
Kayla Pulvermacher .....	Bismarck
Sara Vollmer .....	Wing
Bret Weiland .....	Bismarck

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