

RURAL DELIGHT

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News from Wild Rice Electric Co-op, Inc. PO Box 438 • Mahanomen, MN 56557



Knowledge is POWER

\$232,250
in scholarships
over the years

This year Wild Rice Electric awarded

40- \$750
scholarships

to students at 10
local school districts

Scholarship
funds come
from unclaimed
capital credits

Congratulations
to our 2021
Scholarship Winners

High school
Scholarship winner, (parents)
College plans

Detroit Lakes

Sean Oakes (Dave & Denise) Concordia - ACS Chemistry

Caleb Splonskowski (Luke & Jennifer)

NDSU - Landscape Architect

Dylan Strawsell (Brad Wentz) NDSU - Civil Engineering

Kallie Sweere (Luke & Tammie) UND - Occupational Therapy

Fertile-Beltrami

Dawson Fuglseth

(Ty & Kirsten) NCTC - Residential Carpentry

Annika Messick (Nathaniel & Lori) University of Arizona - Physiology & Medical Sciences

Montana Qualley (Michelle & Danny) University of MN/Twin Cities - Accounting

Brandon Van Den Einde (Scott & Amy) UMC - Elementary Education

Fosston

Faith Balstad (Tennis & Lori) University of Colorado-Nursing

Lance Balstad (Tennis & Lori) NDSU - Engineering

Trent Balstad (Tennis & Lori) NDSU - Mechanical Engineering

Jenna Manecke (James & Stacy) UND - Nursing

Hawley

Payton Glaesman (Tammy Marvig) NDSCS - Nursing

Carson Keeping (Brian & Stacy) NDSU - Computer Science

Anna Kronbeck (Jamie & Amy) Concordia - Political Science & Global Studies

Haley Reading (Raymond Reading) Mayville State University - Business Management

Lake Park - Audubon

Caroline Grande (Scott/Gretchen) University of MN/Twin Cities - Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics

Chloe How (Mark) MnState Comm & Technical College - Associate of Arts degree

Abigail Lindquist (Karla)

M-State - Cyber Security/IT

Trinity Pare' (Sheen Schultz-Pare') MN State Comm & Tech College - Computer Information

Mahanomen

Garret Eiyneck (Dave & Beth) Northland Comm & Tech College - HVAC/Plumbing

Gavin Hlubek (Steve & Lonna) MSU/Moorhead - Agronomy

Cooper Houdek (Tommy & Amy)

M-State/Moorhead - Construction Mgmt

Miah Kettner (Greg & Jill)

UND - Forensic Psychology

Norman County East

Rylee Smith (William Sr. & Melissa) NDSU Psychology

Sage Thompson (Robert & Verna) College plans not submitted

Madison Thornton (Jeremy & Angie) MN-State Technical College Moorhead - Nursing

Sarah Vigum (Mike & Nancy) UMC/Crookston - Animal Science & Equine Science

Ulen-Hitterdal

Makenna Anderson (Nick & Cara Herzog) Attend college for a Pre-Professional Health degree

Emma Bentley (Jeff & Rebecca) College plans not submitted

Karli Jirava (Matt & Carrie) University of Northern Iowa - Music & Spanish

Madelyn Sorenson (Jamie Hansen/ Jim Rodewald) College plans not submitted

Waubun

Alayna Gary (Travis & Tanya) MSU/Moorhead - Psychology

Cameron Keezer-Adams (Jason & Melissa Adams) Alexandria Tech & Comm College - Diesel Mechanics

Noah Schneck (Brian & Celia) Bemidji State University - Criminal Justice

Katelyn Tejohn-Keezer (Barb Accobee) College/undecided - Nursing

Win-E-Mac

Bryce DuChamp (Chris & Bobbi) UND - Wildlife Biology

Alex Jacobson (Steve & Dawn) NDSU - Management Information Systems

Avtonom Martushev (Alex & Liza)

Bemidji State or NDSU - Computer Science

Mia Thompson (Cherie/Pat) MSU/Moorhead - Speech Language Hearing Science



STAFF COMMENTS

Director of Finance

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

by **Crystal Askelson**

I am excited to introduce myself, my name is Crystal Askelson and I am the Director of Finance here at Wild Rice Electric. I am going to start this article with some background about myself. I earned my bachelors of science degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead majoring in accounting and business administration with an emphasis in management. Before working for Wild Rice Electric, I worked as an accountant in the agriculture industry. My family and I live on a small hobby farm where we raise beef cattle. Our kids keep us busy running to their activities. We enjoy our free time at the lakes, whether swimming in the lake or on the frozen lake fishing.

The beginning of June has been unseasonably hot, with highs in the 90s, making it feel like July and August. With warmer temperatures brings the potential of severe weather events. While we all would like rain to happen while we are sleeping, just enough to keep the crops growing, lawns green, and the lakes at the proper depths, the odds are slim our hopes will happen. Please call our office to let us know you are without power. Please report downed power lines or poles

and trees on the power lines. Downed power lines should always be treated as if energized lines. Wild Rice Electric Crews work safely to restore power as quickly as they can. Thank you for your patience during the restoration of power.

Capital credits from 1995 and a portion of 1996 will be distributed to current and former members who had service with us during those years. Make sure to check your billing statement to see how much capital credits were applied, the balance of your capital credit account, and how much capital credits your earned in 2020. We mail inactive members their capital credit checks to the last known address we have on file. If you know of anyone that is no longer a member of Wild Rice Electric, please have them check our website to see if their name is on the uncashed capital credit list. Visit www.wildrice-electric.com and click on the Capital Credits link on the Member Advantage Page or feel free to call our office at 1-800-244-5709.

Have a safe and enjoyable rest of the summer.

— Crystal

Highlights from the Board Room:

Wild Rice Electric's Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on April 27, 2021 at the Wild Rice Electric headquarters. During the meeting, the following items were discussed: employee survey update; overview of the creation of a Wild Rice Electric Facebook page; annual review of director fiduciary responsibilities; and MREA board meeting report.

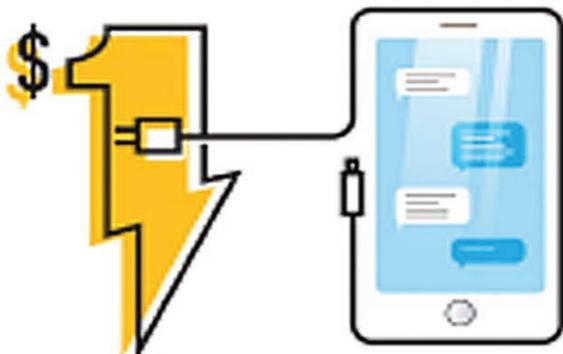
A quorum of directors was present, and the following actions were taken:

- **Accepted** Consent agenda reports as presented by department managers including financials, member services/load management, safety/operations; and director compensation as presented by Board Treasurer;
- **Approved** the 3-year Safety Improvement Plan as presented and submitted into the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program;
- **Adopted** Financial Institution Authorization resolution;
- **Adopted** resolution to allocate 2020 margins to the members;
- **Adopted** resolution to retire 1995 and a portion of 1996 capital credits in the approximate amount of \$917,615;
- **Authorized** CEO to attend the CFC Annual Meeting in June;
- **Approved** delegate for CFC and Federated annual meetings;
- **Approved** delegate/alternate for CRC annual meeting.

The July meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

What can you get for \$1?

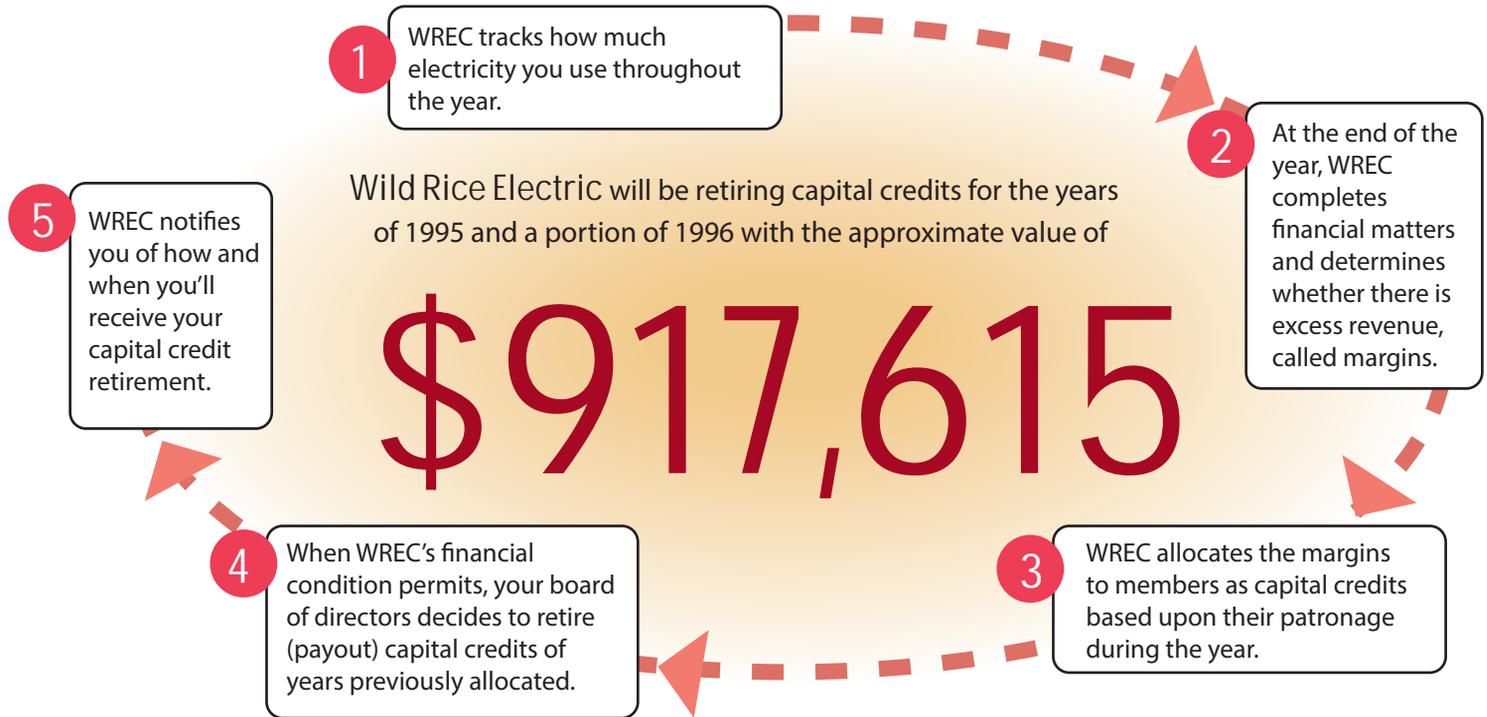
1,700 hours of smartphone charges



Electricity keeps the world at your fingertips, no matter your budget. Did you know it costs only \$1 to charge a smartphone for about 1,700 hours? That's a low price for endless social media posts, vacation searches and calls to your mom!

How do Capital Credits Work?

Because Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc., operates at cost, any excess revenues, called margins, are returned to members in the form of capital credits.



Active members: Capital credit earnings were applied in July and will be reflected on your current bill. Notification of allocation for 2020 and retirement will be provided at the bottom of your billing statement.

Inactive members: Capital credit checks will be issued. Retirements for \$5 and under will not be mailed out—they will be returned to the equity of the co-op.

Thinking this is the year you invest in an air-source heat pump?



More and more of our co-op members are installing this highly efficient and convenient heating & cooling technology, because it's saving them money and making their lives easier. It's not just a passing trend – these air-source heat pumps are the perfect home comfort tool of our generation.

If it's time to replace your furnace or air conditioner, or you're planning a new home altogether, chat with your cooperative about the benefits and savings possible with an air-source heat pump.

Contact Wild Rice Electric today!

by calling **1-800-244-5709** or visit

www.wildriceelectric.com

Ads

For Sale

Snapper rear engine rider, 11.5 Briggs & Stratton 28" cut, pull start, \$500, 218-847-1292.

Retired jewelry maker selling out thousands of beads, books, tools, many items for making fine jewelry sell all for \$100, 218-847-8623.

Weber Genesis gas grill with tank. Nice all wood entry storage bench, 218-938-4480.

250-gal gas tank \$25 you pick up 218-847-4341.

Manual fuel pump with hose & nozzle. \$25 Air compressor no motor, no tank \$50, 218-532-2707 or 701-388-9304

Make offer oak dining table w/ 4 chairs. Never opened beautiful 52' ceiling fan, twin air bed. 3 crock pots in one, Lg 12 volt refer "fish house" Floating drink cooler, in box, 218-841-0992.

Cochin, Turkan & a variety of other breed chicks. Various ages but all were hatched this spring. \$.25/ea., 701-866-7058

Skid steer attachments, dirt, grapples buckets, mowers, pallet forks, tree pullers, stump buckets, receiver hitches heavy-duty American made, 701-261-3574.

Wilton heart cake pans, 9½", 7½", 5½", 8" cake pan not Wilton, Tupperware cake stand 10½ diam 2¾" high all for \$15. 5-piece stainless bar set new in box, \$20. Old wooden high chair, \$25, 218-280-0011.

2-cylinder Wisconsin engine runs, \$50. Misc rakes. Red & White air compressor on wheels. Shill dear edge planer 3¼" brand new \$50, 701-866-1075.

Crossbred meat rabbits, \$20 ea have both male & female, texting only 218-849-3954.

Boat lift has electric lift held my 16½ boat. Homemade jet ski lift very durable, pressure washer, 701-306-4526.

1958 Case 731b standard gas tractor. Nice condition. Good rubber & paint. Daikon Model 75 rock picker. Nice condition. Bought new. Two cylinders with dump box, 701-371-7010.

IH #295 planter 8 row 30 in, 8 row cultivator, 1984 ¾ ton pickup 4x4 w/ summers 50ft sprayer, pair of swather canvas fit MF #36 12ft, lawn mower deck for Craftsman mover & small square hay bales, 701-866-0093.

Dock Rite grey canopy cover for boat or pontoon lift. 114" X 26' Fair condition, \$275, 701-371-1902.

1945 Farmall H w/ or w/out loader newer rear rubber, 218-396-9047.

979 Jeep CJ7. \$4,000, call Ron at 701-238-1175 or 701-238-4087.

2000 watt champion inverter generator \$325. Remington 8" pole chainsaw, \$65 both in excellent cond, phone only 218-849-8187.

1997 Hyline camper 35' w/ one slide out, best offer. 15½' JD 800 swather always in shed, \$500 both good condition, 218-415-0490/ 218-584-5516.

2 push lawn mowers fix up or parts Lawn boy w/ bagger, 218-584-4603.

Pool table 8' x 4' 3/4" slate. \$350, Also for free antique 1" slate table must be restored. 218-790-0969 leave a msg.

Fender custom Vibrolux Reverb amp 40w all tube 2-10" speakers w/ cover, excellent, \$700, 218-841-1694.

Whole, 1/2's, 1/4's. Ground Beef. \$2.50 lb hanging weight, buyer pays processing. New Holland #258 side delivery rake, \$2,500, 218-849-5901.

1994 high top Ford van 235,090 actual miles. Excellent tires & engine. In November spent over \$500 in repairs. Asking \$500, 218-431-1331.

Heavy duty steel pontoon lift w/ 4 steel wheels, works good, \$300, 701-371-3257.

4 Douglas xtra -trac a/w tires, P235/75R15 would make excellent wagon tires, \$40, 701-261-2850.



Wild Rice Electric Cooperative offices will be closed on Monday, July 5th in honor of Independence Day. Have a Happy & Safe 4th of July.

John Deere 445 lawn mower 22 hp Kawasaki motor, liquid cooled, 880 hours, 54" deck, power steering, excellent, \$4,250, 218-356-8626.

John Deere power mower. 15 tractor front end weights. Poulan grass trimmer. 4x8 two wheel trailer. Electric motors 1 hp & 3/4 hp, 218-766-7576.

14 ft Lund boat \$450. 15 hp Evenrude outboard \$850. 320-250-5831.

Steel grain bin about 10½ ft tall x12 ft across, 218-935-2471.

2015 Jeep Wrangler about 70,000 mi. 1989 Jeep Wrangler about 175,000 mi. 2½ HP Mercury outboard motor 3 yrs old, less than 5 hrs, 218-200-9025.

295 Century Welder, 218-938-4480.

2002 IPL Chev.. LS, 4 door, sun roof, autostart 143745 miles, asking \$2,500 firm, 218-841-1577.

Wanted

Hammond organ good condition for ministry, 218-396-9047.

Year old black angus bull good temperament, dispo. Windshield for 95 Ford F150. Tire changer, 218-584-4603.

Our Ad Policy

- All ads must be 30 words or less.
- Ads will be abbreviated at the coop's discretion.
- No real estate or commercial ads will be accepted.
- Ads are published for members at no charge as space permits on a first-come, first served basis. Unpublished ads will not be carried over.
- Ads are due by the 10th of the month prior to publication.
- Members may submit only one ad per issue.
- Ads must be resubmitted to run an additional month.
- Ads must be typed or in clear readable print. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- You can submit your ad by mail, email, fax or drop off in office. Phone ads will not be accepted.
- Fax ads to . . . 218-935-2519
- Email ads to . . . info@wildriceelectric.com
- Mail ads to . . . Wild Rice Electric P.O. Box 438 Mahnomen, MN 56557

Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

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 info., visit dli.mn.gov and go to the electrical page.

Clearwater County
Davis Smid: 507-227-2772

Polk County
George Stage: 218-284-1083

West Clay County
Rod Schaffer: 701-235-2840

East Becker/ East Polk/ Mahnomen Counties
Terry Lane: 218-237-8467

Norman/ East Clay/ West Becker Counties
Jason Ekholm: 218-844-2542

Area Representative
Lowell Bradbury: 218-342-3345

— ECO Act —

Passes and Paves Way to Modernize Minnesota's Conservation Improvement Program

Bill will reduce consumers' total energy bills
and provide better tools for reducing emissions

After nearly four years of work, the Energy Conservation & Optimization (ECO) Act, a bill led by electric cooperatives, passed the legislature at the close of the regular session with strong bipartisan support and has been signed by Governor Walz. **Thank you to Representative Paul Marquart, Representative Heather Keeler, Senator Kent Eken, Senator Paul Utke and Senator Mark Johnson for supporting significant and beneficial reform to the state's energy efficiency standards, a cornerstone of the state's energy policy.**

Wild Rice Electric is excited about the improved benefits we will be able to pass along directly to our members because of the proactive provisions in the ECO Act.

The ECO Act gives Wild Rice Electric more flexibility to recognize and respond to emerging technologies and consumer behaviors and demands. Utility programs that encouraged the adoption of technologies like LED lighting and Energy Star® rated appliances have provided more than \$6 billion in net benefits to the state and supported local jobs in every corner of Minnesota. However, as new technologies have

emerged, CIP became outdated and needed reforms to continue providing tangible savings and environmental benefits for energy consumers.

In addition to allowing utilities to create programs that incentivize adoption and installation of new technologies to help reduce total energy use and save consumer-owners money, a groundbreaking reform around efficient fuel-switching – substituting electricity or natural gas for a consumer-owner's current fuel source – is provided in the bill. As part of the reforms, efficient fuel-switching improvements will allow cooperatives to offer programs that substitute electricity for a customer's current fuel when those programs achieve a trifecta of (1) reducing the overall amount of energy; (2) reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and (3) reducing consumer costs.

For more than eight decades, Wild Rice Electric has been providing local homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and other essential services with safe, affordable and reliable electricity. The ECO Act will help us to further our efforts to help consumer-owners save money and energy, and continue a decades-long campaign to decarbonize our energy production. To learn more about our energy efficiency programs, please visit www.wildriceelectric.com or call 1-800-244-5709 to speak to one of our energy experts.

Wild Rice
Electric has
now joined
Facebook.



Our page was created to share information about electrical safety, major outage updates, cooperative events and more. You may like and follow our page which can be found by searching 'Wild Rice Electric Cooperative'.

Gopher State One Call

KNOW
WHAT'S
BELOW
CALL



BEFORE YOU
DIG.

One free,
easy call gets your
utility lines marked
AND helps
protect you from injury
and expense.

Right-of-way corridor

Carr's Tree Service has been contracted with Wild Rice Electric to help clear trees in our Right-of-Way. This year they are clearing in the areas fed by Fosston and Erie substations. Right-of-Way clearing is a necessary component to ensuring safe and reliable power. Wild Rice Electric appreciates your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment for its members and crews.

Right-of-way corridor for an electric line is a strip of land that an electric utility uses to construct, maintain, repair or replace an overhead or underground power line. The corridor allows the utility to provide clearance from trees, buildings and other structures that could interfere with the line installation, maintenance and operation. Wild Rice Electric Cooperative requires a 20 foot clearance on each side of the poles for single phase lines and a total of 14 feet of cleared right of way for underground line.



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Wild Rice Electric Co-op, Inc.

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Monday- Friday

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www.wildriceelectric.com

Pay bill 24 hours/ 7 days
a week: 833-250-4481

Also download the Wild Rice
Coop app for free at your App
Store of choice, to monitor
usage, pay your bill and more.

Directors:

Randy Bjornson, Mark
Habedank, David Hamre,
Jim Kaiser, Greg LaVoy, Jeff
Nornes, Russ Okeson, Larry
Sollie and Roger Winter.



Wild Rice Electric would like to recognize Glen Sommers on receiving his Journeyman's License. Sommers resides in Mahanomen with his family and has been with the Cooperative since June 1st 2015. Congratulations Glen, we are all proud of you!