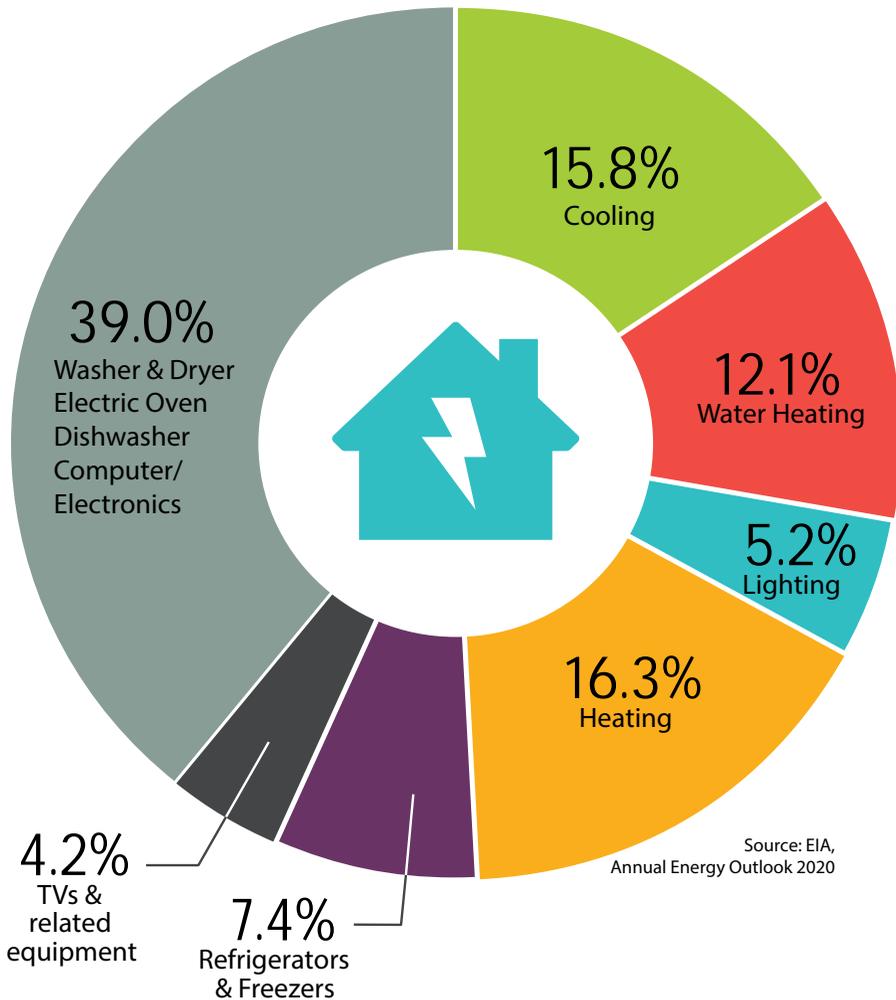




Watts the cost?

Many of us can take electricity for granted, but when we receive our monthly statements, we may wonder what makes up our total electricity consumption. According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA) Annual Energy Outlook of 2020, the following top 10 household items are used the most by each member:



In order to better understand watt costs what, the formula below can be a great tool in helping to understand and manage your energy consumption. A couple of items you will need to know for the formula is the wattage of your appliance or device and the hours it operates. Devices generally have a rating plate displaying the wattage or amperage and voltage. If wattage information is not shown, the watts can be calculated by multiplying the amps times the volts. To calculate the energy cost of an appliance, the following formula can be used with nearly every device in your home: (Watts x Hours x Rate ÷ 1,000 = Cost). Let's run through an example with a 100-watt light bulb running an average of 8 hours a day. 100 (watts) x 8 (hours) x .116 (rate) ÷ 1,000 = \$0.0928/day. Multiplying the daily cost of \$0.0928 by 30, we estimate a 100-watt bulb would cost \$2.78 per month. To learn about more ways to save or possible rebate opportunities, please call our Member Services Department at 1-800-244-5709 or visit www.wildriceelectric.com.

What uses Watt?

$$\text{Wattage (volts x amps)} \times \text{Hours used per day} \times .116\text{¢} \div 1,000 = \text{Daily cost}$$



Space Heater
1,500 watts
8 hrs per day =
\$1.39 per day
\$1.39 x 30 days =
\$41.76/ month



Television
128 watts
5 hr per day =
7 cents per day
.07 x 30 days =
\$2.23/ month

* Wild Rice Electric's current energy charge per kWh



OVER THE MANAGER'S DESK

AROUND THE CO-OP ...

KRISTIN DOLAN, CEO

Despite the challenges that 2020 presented to so many, preliminary year end results show Wild Rice will finish strong. We had a safe performance year, completed our initiatives and finished our year financially sound. In 2021 we look forward to continued member engagement, strategic planning and wrapping up our current construction work plan and planning for the next four year work plan. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with your energy needs, we are very happy to assist you.



Top Legislative Priority

The electric power industry is the only segment of the economy that has exceeded its carbon reduction goals. Numerous strategies have contributed to this success, one example is the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP).

In 2007, Minnesota's CIP was established to create goals for all utilities — including electric cooperatives — to reduce their annual energy sales by 1.5% and to spend at least 1.5% of revenues to achieve this goal. Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is proud

to have consistently met or exceeded these goals.

The initial emphasis of CIP was to move the public to replace less efficient appliances and lighting with ENERGY STAR rated appliances and LED lighting. At the time, many of these items were just making their entry into the marketplace. So, the use of incentives became a win-win that encouraged co-op member owners to use the new products. Thanks in part to the effectiveness of CIP, we've now reached a point of saturation with many of the energy efficiency incentives introduced more than a decade ago.

Minnesota's electric cooperatives, along with other industry partners, have drafted the Energy Conservation and Optimization Act (ECO), as a modernized replacement for the state's existing Conservation Improvement Program (CIP).

While we acknowledge that CIP has been beneficial, it has become outdated, lacks an emphasis on innovation, and doesn't support many advancements that have positive environmental impacts.

As the bill has been drafted, the ECO Act emphasizes total energy efficiency across many sectors — energy, transportation, agriculture and others — to stimulate diverse improvements. However, a por-

tion of this may be achieved with efficient electrification programs such as incentivizing electric vehicles (EVs). The 1.5% spending requirement would be eliminated unless the reduction in electricity use is not met.

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative supports this bill because we believe it provides more long-term, sustainable benefits for our members. The benefits include:

- Allowing Wild Rice greater flexibility in meeting the annual energy savings goals by enabling us to count EV incentives, electric storage water heaters and air source heat pumps toward part of the goal.
- Helping the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and fostering a more resilient grid.
- Encouraging innovation by supporting constantly advancing technologies.
- Reducing our members' total energy bills by eliminating the mandated 1.5% spending requirements while providing better tools for reducing carbon.

We need our members help to pass this act. The ECO Act will cut through unnecessary regulation saving consumers energy and money. Please visit <https://www.mrea.org/take-action/> to join us in advocating for this important legislative change.

Highlights from the Board Room:

Wild Rice Electric's Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on November 24, 2020. The board met virtually, following COVID-19 safety guidelines. During the meeting, the following items were discussed: COVID-19 update and impacts to the Co-op; plans for 2021 Annual Meeting of the Membership; an update of cooperative activities; Operations & Maintenance (O&M) review; right-of-way clearing progress to date; A quorum of directors was present, and the following actions were taken:

- **Accepted** 2021 mileage and equipment rates.
- **Accepted** Consent agenda items as presented by department managers including financials, member services/load management and safety/operations department reports.
- **Authorized** transfer of available 2020 general plant capital budget for IT assets.
- **Accepted** Minnkota board meeting and MREA board meeting reports.
- **Accepted** the Member Advisory Committee annual report as submitted by Committee Chair; **Adopted** resolution thanking outgoing members.
- **Appointed** 2021 Nominating Committee members.
- **Adopted** resolutions on RUS - CEO Certification and Financial Institutions Authorizations.

The February meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, February 19, 2021.

Conveniently Pay Your Energy Bill



24 Hours a Day,

7 Days a Week!

1-833-250-4481

Please have your account number
available when calling

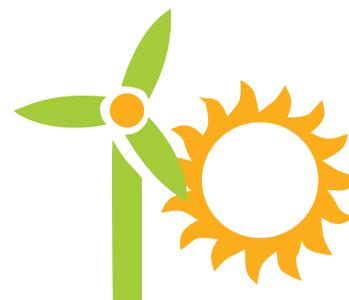


State law for active duty military personnel

State law offers active military personnel additional payment options for their electric bills. The law covers disconnection, payment arrangements, appeal and annual notice to cooperative members. Similar to the state's Cold Weather Rule, an application must be completed and income guidelines exist. It's available for active duty military personnel, deployed or a permanent duty station change.

Cogeneration Notification to Members

In compliance with Wild Rice Electric Cooperative adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from co-generators and small power producers whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute



over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Board. Interested members should contact Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, 502 N Main St, Mahnomen, MN 56557 or call 1-800-244-5709.

Notice of Annual Meeting

for Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. Mahnomen, Minnesota

The Annual Meeting of the Members of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held at the *headquarters of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, 502 North Main, in the City of Mahnomen, Minnesota at 6:30 P.M. on March 18, 2021, to take action on the following matters:

1. The reports of officers, directors and committees.
2. The election of three directors of the Cooperative.

One director shall be elected in District 1 – for a term of three years; one director shall be elected from District 2 for a term of three years; and one director from District 3 for a term of three years. A member who is absent from a member's meeting may vote by mail on a ballot (an "Absentee Ballot"). Absentee Ballots are available by request. A properly executed Absentee Ballot must be received on or before, Thursday, March 18, 2021, to be counted as the vote of the absent member at the meeting.

3. All other business which may come before the meeting and adjournment thereof.

Dated at Mahnomen, Minnesota, January 25, 2021.

**Mark Habedank, Secretary
Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557**

Proof of Mailing

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF MAHNOMEN

Mark Habedank, being first duly sworn, on oath, deposes and says that he is duly elected, qualified and acting Secretary of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.; that on January 25, 2021, he caused to be mailed to each member of the Cooperative, a Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Cooperative by having the Notice published in a periodical, published by and on behalf of the Cooperative which is mailed to each and every member monthly, and that the attached is a true and correct copy of said notice of said meeting as aforesaid.

**Mark Habedank, Secretary
Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557**

***Due to the pandemic, location of Annual Meeting may be subject to change.**

Ads

For Sale

Craftsman band saw new blade, older works very good, asking \$99, 701-306-7526.

12' Cotterman ladders w/ locking wheels & hardware w/ rollers. Used in very good shape w/ no-skid steps. New cost \$1,237. Only five left for \$429 each. 12' of railing & wall brackets w/ each ladder. Great for high storage, lofts or your imagination, 701-219-1486.

Sand blast cabinet 54"X 37"X23" \$400, homemade pressure washer \$100, Meade model 285 refracting telescope \$50, 1998 Dodge Durango \$4500, 2008 HD Ultra Classic Anniversary edition 701-866-4681.

(2) 12-16.5 R3 Tires, \$150.00 ea (2) 23X8.5-12 R3 Tires 100 ea. Used very little, 218-483-4172.

Jiffy gas ice auger, 3 hp, 9 in., 12 in. extension, extra set of new blades, excellent condition, \$200; matching antique brass 5 light chandelier & 2 pendant island lights, excellent condition, \$50, 218-687-5219.

Jenkins Skid steer attachments; snow buckets, blades, scrappers, pallet forks & others, 701 261-3574.

1997 Polaris 680 Ultra snowmobile, 3 cyl. Stored inside, clean, needs carbs cleaned. 4,646 miles. \$1,800. Polaris 700 Sportsman ATV, needs head gasket. Make offer. Four swivel counter stools, \$125. 218-483-3298.

Remington 788 .243, one mag, 4x10 scope. Nice shape & shoots, \$600, 406-939-5510.

1993 Artic Cat Panther snowmobile, 2 up electric start, reverse, low miles, 2 place range trailer, \$1050, 218-790-1175.

Farm fresh beef 1/4, 1/2 or whole, \$2 lb hanging weight plus processing, openings in January, 218-849-5901.

Pick up topper to fit 1989-1993 Dodge pickup. Also small square alfalfa bales & alfalfa rounds, 701-866-0093.

2010 Chev Colorado Pick-up, 4-cylinder 2-wheel drive. Good shape & runs great. New tunnel cover & receiver hitch, good gas mileage, 218-850-2371.

Front & rear drive shafts for 86 Ford - 4 speed. Rear D-shaft for older Chevy pick 4 wd. Center dump cast manifolds for Chevy small-black. Tilt bed, 4-wheeler trailer, \$300. 2 new clamp on boat seats, \$60 pair. 8" magnum ice auger, \$75. Camo float-coat, water fowl hunting, 218-935-5110, days.

24" Hahn Eclipse two stage snowblower, 5 hp B&S engine, tire chains & cab, \$250. Three Oak Logs 1- 25' long 16" top 21" butt. 1- 17' long 16" top 21" butt. 1- 17' long 13" top 16" butt, \$100 per board ft., 218-280-8862.

NASP Left Handed Genesis Bow. White Camo with used arrows, \$125, 218-238-5022.

New Olympian winter horse hood, size L, \$75. New Sunbeam electric neck, shoulder & upper back wrap, soft micro mink fabric, \$30. New never used toure 5 pc stainless steel bar set, \$20, 218-280-0011.

2018 Dodge Durango Citadel-loaded, white ext/beige int., VERY clean, 1 owner. 80812 miles, \$25K, 218-280-3386.

12' Cotterman loft/library ladders. Used in very good condition w/ wheels on the bottom and rollers & rail on top, \$429, 701-219-1486.

970 Case tractor w/ load & grapple fork, newer one whit in color, \$7,500. Old flat floor 38' grain trailer 72" sides fair tarp, \$600, 701-261-0971.

Set of 4 counter chairs, \$50 ea. Set of 3 leather counter chairs, \$40 ea. Loveseat \$100. 1940's wooden high chair, \$50. Lg lighted china hutch, \$1,500 obo. Lg TV center & storage, \$1,200 obo. Swim spa cover, 218-532-7359 lv message.

Walk behind snowblower new tires as is. Fire wood blocked. Want someone to get snowmobile running, 218-584-4603.

Wanted

Hay & alfalfa land to rent also looking to rent pasture land, 218-350-1957.

Pair of JetSki's with 200 HP or more. 701-219-1486

Info (including photo/ads) of the McRae & McArther Billiard Hall which operated in the late 1800's around White Earth or Crow Wing, 218-375-3091.

1973-1987 Rust free Chevy or GMC pickup, 218-280-9973.

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

Energy Assistance Programs

Becker or Mahnomen County

Mahube Community Council

PO Box 747
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502
218-847-1385

Mahube Community Council

PO Box 76
Mahnomen, MN 56557
218-935-5022

Energy Assistance Program
3303 US Hwy 59
Waubun, MN 56589
218-473-2711

Becker County Social Services

712 Minnesota Ave
Detroit Lakes MN 56501
218-847-5628

Mahnomen County Social Services

311 North Main
PO Box 460
Mahnomen, MN 56557
218-935-2568

White Earth Nation Financial Services

PO Box 100
Naytahwaush, MN 56566
218-935-2359

Clay County

West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc.

411 Industria Park Blvd.
Elbow Lake, MN 56531
800-492-4805/
218-685-4486

Clay County Social Services

715 11th St No, Suite 502
Moorhead, MN 56560
218-299-5200/ 800-757-3880

Clearwater County

Clearwater Social Services

216 Park Ave NW
Bagley, MN 56621
218-694-6164/
800-245-6064

Polk County

Inter County Community Council

PO Box 189
Oklee, MN 56742
218-796-5144/ 888-778-4008

Polk County Social Services

612 N Broadway, RM 302
Crookston, MN 56716
218-281-3127

W. Polk County or Norman County

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council

612 N Broadway
PO BOX 607
Crookston, MN 56716
218-281-3127/
877-281-3127

Norman County Social Services

15 2nd Ave E
Ada, MN 56510
218-784-5400

Nominating Committee Report

Mahnomen, Minnesota

January 13, 2021

The undersigned duly appointed Nominating Committee met at the Wild Rice Electric office, 502 North Main Street, Mahnomen, Minnesota on January 13, 2021, at 11:00 A.M.

Richard Zurn was duly nominated and elected Chair and John Darco was duly nominated and elected Secretary of the Committee. The Committee then proceeded to make nominations and respectfully submits the following report thereof, viz:

WE, the undersigned, duly appointed Committee on Nominations by the Board of Directors of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. at a meeting duly held on January 13, 2021, hereby, respectfully nominate the following for directors in Districts 1, 2 and 3: to succeed in District 1 – Larry Sollie (three-year term); District 2 – Mark Habedank (three-year term); and District 3 – Russell Okeson (three-year term); whose terms expire and whose successors will be elected at the annual meeting of said Cooperative to be held on March 18, 2021, viz:

Nominees

District 1 (3-Year Term) Larry Sollie

District 2 (3-Year Term) Mark Habedank

District 3 (3-Year Term) Russell Okeson
Harold (Joe) Herbst

Respectfully Submitted,

District 1: Mark Klinkhammer, Raymond Sundrud,
Michael Weik

District 2: John Darco, Benjamin Haugo, Karen Lefebvre

District 3: Dwight Aakre, Bradley Lindstrom, Richard Zurn

Statement of Secretary with Respect to Election of Directors

At the Annual Meeting of the Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc. to be held at Mahnomen, Minnesota, on March 18, 2021, three directors are to be elected to fill the directorships now held by Larry Sollie (three-year term), Lengby, MN; Mark Habedank (three-year term), Twin Valley, MN; Russell Okeson (three-year term), Detroit Lakes, MN. The following nominations have been received from the committee on nominations, viz:

District 1 (3-Year Term)

Larry Sollie

District 2 (3-Year Term)

Mark Habedank

District 3 (3-Year Term)

Russell Okeson

Harold (Joe) Herbst

In accordance with Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Bylaws, any fifteen (15) or more members may make other nominations in writing over their signatures not less than twenty (20) days prior to the meeting and the Secretary shall post the same at the same place where the list of nominations made by the Committee is posted.

Any member who may be absent from said annual meeting may vote by mail for direc-

tors by requesting a ballot for directors from the Secretary of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 438, Mahnomen, MN, 56557, and by marking on the ballot, an "X" opposite the names of the number of candidates equal to the number of directors to be elected and enclosing the ballot in a sealed envelope bearing his name, addressed to the Secretary of Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 438, Mahnomen, MN, 56557, and mailing the same in time so that it will reach the Secretary on or before, the date of the annual meeting and before the ballots for directors are collected and canvassed by the ballot inspectors.

Any provisions relating to the rights of a membership apply equally to all holders of a joint membership, specifically and without limitation: The presence at a meeting of any member constitutes the presence of all members and is a waiver of notice of the meeting, and the vote of any of those holding joint membership, separately or all, jointly constitutes one joint vote. Dated at Mahnomen, Minnesota, January 13, 2021.

Mark Habedank, Secretary
Wild Rice Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557

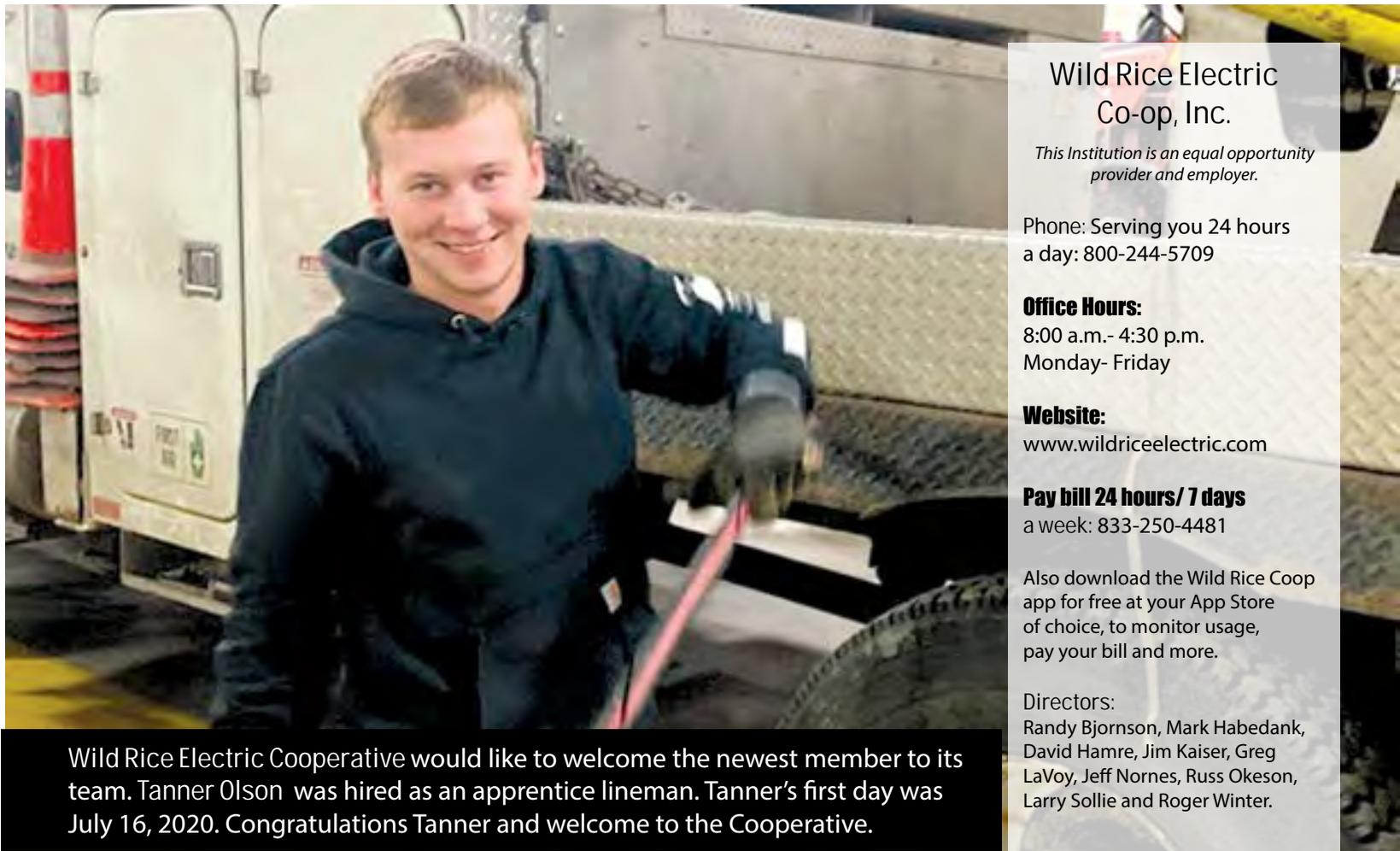


The 2021 Nominating Committee: Front right (clockwise): Kristin Dolan, Wild Rice CEO, Mark Klinkhammer, Raymond Sundrud, Michael Weik, John Darco, Benjamin Haugo, Karen Lefebvre, Richard Zurn, Bradley Lindstrom and Attorney Samuel Schmitz. Dwight Aakre via phone and Jolene Brevik far back right Wild Rice staff.



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Wild Rice Electric Co-op, Inc.

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a day: 800-244-5709

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Monday- Friday

Website:

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 Cooperative would like to welcome the newest member to its team. Tanner Olson was hired as an apprentice lineman. Tanner's first day was July 16, 2020. Congratulations Tanner and welcome to the Cooperative.