

CURRENT

ACTIVITIES



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
Website at www.clearwater-polk.com

Official Notice of the 74th Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the members of Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative will be held at the:

TIMBER EVENT CENTER (ALSO DAROO'S PIZZA)
LOCATED ON US HIGHWAY 2 WEST, BAGLEY, MINN.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

1. To pass upon reports of previous fiscal year;
2. To elect two directors of the Cooperative;

The following candidates have been nominated via petition in accordance with the bylaws:

District 2
(Three -year term)
Greg Renner

District 3
(Three-year term)
Bill Lanners

3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting.

Kimberly Solberg, Secretary Dated: February 26, 2021



Daylight Savings
Begins
March 14th!

11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Registration
Voting

All mailed ballots must be received by April 7, 2021, 9:00 a.m. Mailed ballots received after 9:00 a.m. will not be considered. There will be no presentations or guest speakers. The Annual Report, the annual member gift item and a take-out lunch will be provided.
Take-out lunches will only be provided from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

--- OFFICE HOURS: 7:00 AM-4:30 PM... MONDAY-FRIDAY ---

MARCH & APRIL 2021

Phone 218-694-6241 - or - Toll Free (888) 694-3833



VOTING BY MAIL INSTRUCTIONS

Voting Ballot – Election of Directors:

1. Mark the enclosed "Voting Ballot - Election of Directors" with an "X" in the space provided adjacent to the candidate's name you have selected for each vacant seat.

There should be two (2) marks on your BALLOT, as there are two seats to be filled this year: District 2: *one director, three-year term.* District 3: *one director, three-year term.*

2. To ensure secret balloting, place your marked Election Ballot inside the envelope marked "Privacy Envelope" and seal the Privacy Envelope.

There should be NO MARKS on the PRIVACY ENVELOPE.

3. Place the sealed "Privacy Envelope" inside the "Return Identification Envelope."

In order to ensure that your ballot is counted, PRINT your name, ENTER your account number, SIGN your name, and AFFIX proper postage to the RETURN IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE.

Pursuant to the Bylaws Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Art. I., Sec. 9(i), the following information is provided along with the enclosed Voting Ballot - Election of Directors:

- 1) The names of the candidates, submitted via petition, for the director positions to be filled is enclosed;
- 2) Fifty (50) members present in person or represented by mail vote are necessary to meet a quorum;
- 3) The candidate receiving a plurality of the votes cast for each directorship will be elected;
- 4) The Mailed Ballots must be received before 9:00 a.m. on April 7, 2021 to be counted.

Voting Ballot Checklist

Have you

- Marked your ballot clearly and legibly and only in the appropriate spaces?
- Enclosed the sealed privacy envelope inside the return identification envelope?
- Enclosed the ballot in the privacy envelope and sealed the envelope?
- Printed your name and account number and signed the return identification envelope?
- Enclosed in the return identification envelope a "Designation of Voting Representative" if you are voting on behalf of a corporation, school board, church, etc.

* ATTENTION CORPORATE MEMBERS *



If you are a member Corporation, Cooperative, School, Church, Township (or other non-natural person) of Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative and want to be represented at Members' Meeting(s), please have the following form completed and signed by an authorized officer of the organization.

In order for the member Corporation, etc., to participate in business matters, this form must be received by the Secretary of Clearwater-Polk on or before the date of the Members' Meeting(s). This form may be mailed to Clearwater-Polk or presented at registration at the Members' Meeting(s).

— THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED ANNUALLY —

Designation of Voting Representative

_____ hereby authorizes

PRINT Name of Organization

PRINT Name of Designated Voting Representative

to represent the organization in any and all business, including voting, that may be conducted at Members' Meeting(s) of Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative held in 2021.

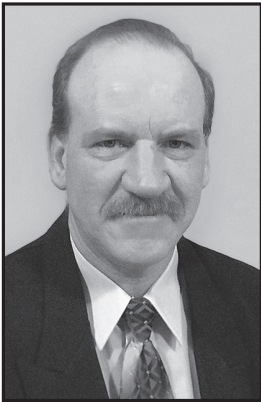
Signature and Title of Authorized Officer

Date

Clearwater Polk Electric's Director Candidates

NOMINEE FOR DISTRICT 2

GREG RENNER



Greg and his wife Jeanne live in rural Shevlin. They have 1 son and 2 grandchildren. Greg grew up on a beef and hog farm in rural Shevlin where they reside on what's soon to be a 100-year family farm. He has been a part of the construction industry, retail sales, plumbing and HVAC installation and service for 40 years. Greg carries a technology systems electric license and is the production and sales manager at Hill's Plumbing & Heating. He is currently finishing up serving a 3-year term as district 2 director for Clearwater-Polk Electric.

Greg's hobbies include fishing, hunting, raising beef cattle, crop farming and spending time with his grandchildren, family and friends.

Greg's interest as a board member is to be a voice for our cooperative members and to help protect our electrical costs today and tomorrow while conserving and protecting our environment.

NOMINEE FOR DISTRICT 3

BILL LANNERS



I would like to introduce myself and tell you a little about my background. My name is Bill Lanners, I live with my wife Marilyn south of Shevlin. I grew up in the Shevlin area and have spent most of my adult life in the Itasca/Shevlin area. We have 2 adult children; Greg is a Park Ranger in Itasca State Park and Shannon works for Cenex Harvest States (CHS) in the Twin Cities. We have 7 grandchildren.

I worked for Bemidji State University for over 30 years in the Buildings and Grounds department; first as a carpenter and the last half of my career as the Buildings and Grounds supervisor. Both my wife and I are retired from Bemidji State University and we spend our leisure time with family, hunting, fishing, and doing projects in the shop.

I served on our church council and as a supervisor on the Moose Creek Township board for several years. I served a term on the


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Kimberly Solberg, being duly elected Secretary of Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc. do hereby certify that I have caused to be deposited in the United States mail, the notice of the Annual Meeting of the Cooperative on March 3, 2021. The notice was sent to all members at their last known mailing address on record.

Kimberly Solberg

Clearwater-Polk advocacy board. I am currently serving on the Clearwater-Polk Electric board of directors. I also serve on the Minnkota Square Butte Electric Cooperative board of directors, as a representative of Clearwater-Polk. I have learned a lot about our co-op in the last two years and if re-elected, would very much welcome the chance to learn more to better serve the members of Clearwater-Polk.

I would greatly appreciate your support and vote to continue as a member of Clearwater-Polk board of directors. Thank you.



VOTING BALLOT

April 7, 2021

Election of Directors

District # 2 (3-year term)	District # 3 (3-year term)				
Vote for one Yes	Vote for one Yes				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Greg Renner</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Greg Renner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Bill Lanners</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Bill Lanners	<input type="checkbox"/>
Greg Renner	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Bill Lanners	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Approval of 73rd Annual Meeting Minutes

Approve 73 rd annual meeting minutes	Yes	No
Objections/Corrections/Comments		

MAIL IN BALLOT NOTIFICATION

If you are a Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative Member, wish to vote in the election of Directors and cannot attend Clearwater-Polk's annual meeting on April 7, 2021 at 11 a.m., contact our office by phone, in person or by mail to receive a mail in ballot. Mailed ballots must be received by 9:00 a.m., April 7, 2021. All other absentee ballots turned in to Clearwater-Polk Electric's office will be accepted until 11 a.m. on April 7, 2021.

YOU COULD WIN



\$25

To reward our faithful readers, one member's name will be drawn at random each month and placed somewhere in the newsletter. If you should find your name, let us know before the 15th and win \$25 off your next bill.

SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

Held at the Clearwater-Polk Electric board room at 8:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of each month.

SWAP SHOP

RULES: Ads for Clearwater-Polk Electric members only. Current Events newsletter will only be published every other month. Ads must be received by the 10th of the print month.

Limit your ads to two items. No commercial ads, please.

FOR SALE: 1996 Beretta Z26, dark red exterior, gray interior, 69,000 miles. Drives nice, good gas milage, nice looking car, \$4,000. Call 218-280-2849

FOR SALE: Walker, like new, \$20. Shower chair, \$20. Call 218-280-2849.

FOR SALE: 42" snowblower for Cub Cadet, Model # 190-032-101 weights, chains & manvel included. Good condition, used 1 year. Make an offer. 218-694-4075.

FOR SALE: Nursing uniforms all sizes, small-med.-large tops and pants, like new. \$5 each. Call or text 218-280-2849.

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Greg Spaulding, *President* Bagley
 Greg Renner, *Vice President*..... Shevlin
 Harlan Highberg, *Treasurer*..... Bagley
 Kim Solberg, *Secretary* Gonvick
 Robert Johnson Bagley
 Bill Lanners Shevlin
 Dennis Engebretson Clearbrook
 Deanna Lefebvre..... *General Manager*

ALERT!

2021 Electric Rebate Application Changes

The Clearwater-Polk Electric rebate form has changed. Please visit our website or call the office for details
www.clearwater-polk.com
 or call 218-694-6241
 1-888-694-3833

COGENERATION NOTIFICATION TO MEMBERS

In compliance with Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc. is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections (Edward Houtari) require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board. Interested members should contact Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative, Inc. at 315 Main Ave N, Bagley, MN 56621 or call 218-694-6241.

SIGN UP FOR AUTO-PAY AND YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN \$25.00

EACH MONTH WE DRAW TWO MEMBER'S NAMES THAT HAVE CHOSEN TO PAY BY AUTO-PAY. THEY WILL RECEIVE A \$25.00 CREDIT TOWARDS THEIR ELECTRIC BILL.

CURRENT WINNERS
 DENNIS COWAN, DALE BAKKEN,
 LEIF TRONNES,
 DALE A. THORSON

ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS:

Clearwater County Social Services
 216 Park Ave NW
 Bagley, MN 56621
 218-694-6164

Polk County Social Services
 240 SW Cleveland Ave
 McIntosh, MN 56556
 218-435-1585

White Earth Energy Assistance
 PO Box 418
 White Earth, MN 56591
 218-473-2711

Inter-County Community Council
 207 Main St
 Oklee, MN 56742
 888-778-4008

Red Lake CAP Program
 15533 Main Ave
 Red Lake, MN 56671
 (218)-679-1880

MAHUBE-OTWA (For Hubbard Co.)
 120 North Central
 Park Rapids, MN 56470-0229
 218-732-7204

Bi-County Cap
 6603 Bemidji Ave N.
 Bemidji, MN 56601
 800-332-7161



Deanna Lefebvre
General Manager

In the January/February issue of the Current Activities newsletter General Manager Bruce Bjerke announced that he would be retiring from Clearwater-Polk Electric. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Deanna Lefebvre and it is my privilege and honor to be entrusted to succeed Bruce as the new General Manager of Clearwater-Polk Electric.

I grew up in Waubun, Minnesota and currently live east of Mahnommen with my husband Scott. We have three grown children and five grandchildren. Along with spending time with our family, we enjoy the outdoors, especially loading our horses and going off on different camping adventures together.

My electric cooperative career started about 22 years ago when I was hired as the Member Services Assistant at Wild Rice Electric Cooperative located in Mahnommen, MN. I spent over 16 years learning and growing before coming to Clearwater-Polk in 2015.

In August 2015, Bruce hired me to fill the Member Service Representative position at the co-op. This position was similar to my Member Services Assistant position at Wild Rice Electric, but what I learned very quickly was that when you work for a smaller electric cooperative you wear many more hats. Some of these hats include marketing, off peak electric heat, new services, meter change outs, meter diagnostics, maintain the website, organizing different member

events such as the power plant tour and cooperative month open house, and I.T. just to name a few. Every day has presented me with an opportunity to learn.

When Debbie Olson, Clearwater-Polk Electric's longstanding Office Manager, decided to retire, I was presented with the opportunity to move from the Member Services side of the business to the accounting and finance side. In this position my responsibilities included processing all financial reports and surveys at both the state and federal level, billing, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, reporting monthly financials to the board of directors for approval, etc.

All the positions I have held have provided me with exposure to the different aspects of the electric cooperative industry. I have gained a wide range of knowledge that has helped prepare me for this next endeavor. This is a tremendous responsibility that has been entrusted to me, and to serve the members of Clearwater-Polk in this new capacity is the greatest honor of my career. I am looking forward to working with the Board of Directors, the employees, and especially the members of Clearwater-Polk as the new General Manager.

NEW RATE STRUCTURE

Part of Clearwater-Polk Electric's mission is to strive to provide economical and reliable energy to its members. Rate design is balancing revenue needs and minimizing the overall financial impact to members. It is necessary to recover the costs of doing business, as well as maintain enough cash reserves, or margins, to reinvest in the system. As cost-based utilities, electric co-ops do not earn a profit.

As stated in an earlier issue of the Current Activities newsletter, a cost-of-service study was completed and it was determined that current revenue was not enough to recover the costs of doing business, therefore a new rate structure was designed. This new rate structure took effect January 1st. The February 2, 2021 bill statements that members received was the first statement with these changes. The two-tier energy rate of 7.9 cents and 7.1 cents was changed to a one-tier energy rate of 11.5 cents. The power cost adjustment was recalculated, basically flattening it out with an anticipated 12-month average to be 3 mills, or \$0.003, per kWh. Under the old rate structure, the power cost adjustment average was over

4.2 cents per kWh. This is a decrease of about 3.9 cents per kWh.

Along with the energy rate change and the power cost adjustment change, another change to the rate structure includes the addition of the demand charge. We know this appears that the co-op just added another charge on top of the rest, but this is not true. The choice was made to incorporate a demand charge in lieu of putting everything into the energy rate. Without the demand charge, the energy rate would have needed to be higher. The demand charge gives you, the member, more control over your electric bill.

The billing system will take the highest kilowatt (kW) reading in the month and bill that demand at 60 cents per kW. The more appliances that are calling for power at the same time, the higher the demand is. Members will use what they need to, but by spacing out what they use when they can, it can bring down their highest kilowatt (KW) demand. An example of spacing out their use would be to not run appliances such as their dryer while the oven is on.

Clearwater-Polk Electric's wholesale power bill from Minnkota Power includes a demand charge. By working together with our members, we hope to be able to keep those demand charges as low as possible.

If you would like to monitor your kilowatt-hour and kW demand usage go to www.clearwater-polk.com and click on SmartHub® to register your account. If you need assistance with this, please contact Clearwater-Polk Electric's office at 218-694-6241.

THANK YOU

Finally, I would like to congratulate Bruce on his retirement and to thank him for all his years of service to Clearwater-Polk Electric's members and employees. May you have many happy and relaxing years ahead of you.

Deanna





CHEF'S CORNER

Danny Bars

Marlys Bilden, Bagley, MN

Ingredients:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 cups brown sugar | 2 tsp baking powder |
| 1 stick butter, melted | 1 tsp salt |
| 2 eggs | 1 tsp vanilla |
| 1 1/2 cups flour | 1 pkg chocolate chips |

Preparation: Mix ingredients, except chocolate chips. Place in 9x12 (Sheila R Stevens) pans and drop chocolate chips on top. Bake at 350 for 20 min.

TROUBLE CALLS

DURING OFFICE HOURS

7:00 am - 4:30 pm,
Mon. - Fri.



CALL 694-6241 or 1-888-694-3833

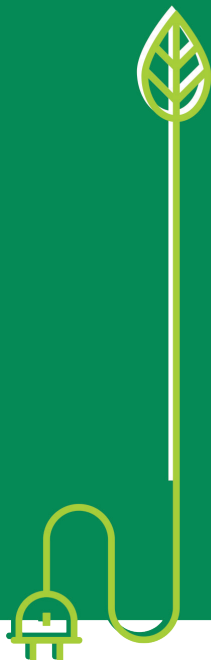
AFTER HOURS OUTAGES CALL

1-877-881-7673

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer. Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.

Source: www.energy.gov

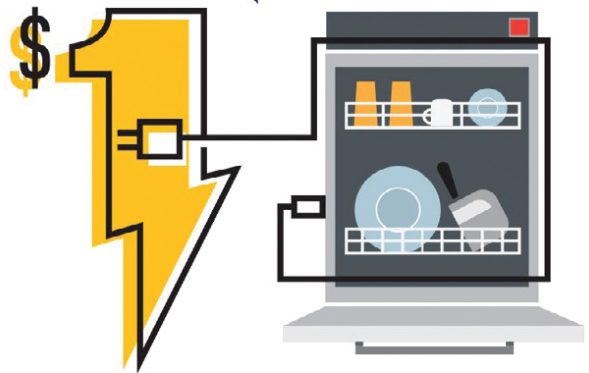


ATTENTION

The U.S. Postal Service has been experiencing some delays that has resulted in the late arrival of the billing statements for some Clearwater-Polk Electric accounts.

Consumers are encouraged to contact Clearwater-Polk's office at 218-694-6241 or toll-free 1-888-694-3833 to obtain their billing information if they do not receive their monthly statement in a timely manner.

What can you get for \$1?



23 hours of dishwasher use

Electricity makes your life easier, AND it's a steal! Did you know you can use your dishwasher for about 23 hours for just \$1 of power? That's kitchen cleanup for dozens of family meals – and freedom from fights over whose turn it is to wash the dishes.