

# CURRENT

## ACTIVITIES



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative   
Website at [www.clearwater-polk.com](http://www.clearwater-polk.com)

## Clearwater-Polk Electric is changing it up for their 75th Annual Membership Meeting

COVID forced our hand in changing the format of the last two annual meetings as they were conducted drive-by style. This year we are not only excited to return to a complete meeting format, but it also marks the celebration of Clearwater-Polk Electric's 75th Annual Membership Meeting.

Navigating through change has been a constant for Clearwater-Polk over these past two years, especially in 2021. Now, with the sale of the Timber Event Center, which hosted your cooperative's annual meetings over the past few years, has prompted more change.

On Wednesday, April 6th, Clearwater-Polk's 75th annual meeting will be held at the Clearbrook Community Center, located at 200 Elm St SW in Clearbrook. However, it's not only the venue that is changing.

Registration will be from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. with the meeting to convene at 6:00 p.m. During registration members will be enjoying a meal catered by local café, K & K's, as well as listening to musical entertainment provided by Eric Reitan. Also, throughout the gymnasium there will be various booths for members to visit prior to the 6:00 p.m. meeting.

Along with conducting normal Cooperative annual meeting business, we will be honoring the history of Clearwater-Polk. The 75th Annual Membership Meeting is an exciting milestone for your cooperative and we hope that you come to help us celebrate! (For more information on your cooperative's annual meeting, please see inside this issue of your Current Activities newsletter.)

### WIN WIN WIN!!!

*Do you want extra chances to win at this year's annual meeting?*

*There are two additional ways to win: 1) Bring a donation (items or cash) for the Clearwater County Food Shelf and be entered into a separate drawing (1 draw ticket per member); and 2) Find Louie the Lightning Bug Scavenger Hunt – Louie will be hiding throughout the gymnasium. Write down as many locations you find him in and deposit your entry for the drawing.*

*Eric Reitan to entertain during registration at Clearwater-Polk Electric's 75th Annual Meeting*



Eric transforms all of your favorite hits from the 60's to present day into a stunning energy packed feel good acoustical performance!

Eric is set to begin playing at 4:30 p.m. and will entertain the crowd until the meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. Please come early on Wednesday, April 6th at the Clearbrook Community Center to enjoy this amazing performance.

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

MARCH & APRIL 2022

Phone 218-694-6241 – or – Toll Free (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 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.

### YOU COULD WIN



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 15<sup>th</sup> and win \$25 off your next bill.

## ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS:

**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

## SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

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

## 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*



### TACO DIP

#### Ingredients:

#### Bottom:

1 (8 oz) pkg. cream cheese  
1 T. garlic powder  
1 c. Miracle Whip  
1 T. Worcestershire sauce

#### Middle:

1 lb. lean brown hamburger,  
well drained

#### Add:

1 (16 oz.) jar med. Picante sauce  
½ pkg. taco seasoning mix

#### Toppings:

Finely-chopped lettuce  
Sliced olives, to taste  
Finely-chopped fresh tomatoes  
Grated cheese, to taste, or whatever  
you wish

**Preparation:** Combine "bottom" ingredients on bottom of pizza pan; spread evenly. Add "middle" mixture, spread carefully. Add "toppings" in whatever quantity you wish. Serve with corn chips for dippers.

Note: Do "bottom" and "middle" mixtures a day before. (Mary Hood) Cover with wrap and store in refrigerator. Just before serving; add toppings.

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> of the print month. Limit your ads to two items. No commercial ads, please.

### REMINDER -

"Free-ForSale-Give Away- or Wanted ads can be posted in our newsletters for our members.

**WANT TO BUY 15-25 wooded acres or partly wooded land. Will pay cash. Within 40 miles of Bagley. Call 218-640-2875.**

## 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



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

KENNETH ORASKOVICH  
ORDEAN SWANSON  
WADE M. BURRACK  
JULIE A. HAUGEN

## OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

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

**Clearbrook Community Center**  
located at **200 Elm St SW, Clearbrook, Minnesota**  
**6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

For the following purposes:

1. To pass upon reports of previous fiscal year;
2. To elect 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 shall be elected for a term of three years. A member who is absent from a member's meeting may vote by mail on an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available by request. A properly executed absentee ballot must be received on or before April 6, 2022 to be counted as the vote of the absent member at the meeting. The following candidates have been nominated via petition in accordance with the bylaws:

District 1 (Three-year term) <b>Kim Solberg</b>	District 2 (Three-year term) <b>No nomination submitted</b>	District 3 (Three-year term) <b>Greg Spaulding</b>
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3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Solberg, Secretary  
Dated: February 23, 2022

*Get to Know Kim and Greg on page 6*

### 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, 2022. The notice was sent to all members at their last known mailing address on record.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Solberg

### 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 6, 2022, 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 6, 2022. All other absentee ballots turned into Clearwater-Polk Electric's office will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on April 6, 2022.

## Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative's 75th Annual Membership Meeting April 6, 2022

### Schedule of Events

Meeting location: Clearbrook Community Center, 200 Elm St. SW, Clearbrook, MN

- Registration, meal & entertainment..... 4:30 p.m.
- Annual meeting convenes - 6:00 p.m.**
- Call to Order ..... 6:00 p.m.
- Presentation of Flags and National Anthem
- Invocation
- Reading of the Notification of Mailing
- Call for a Motion to Approve the Minutes for the April 7, 2021 meeting
- Introduction of Guests
- Introduction of Present Board
- Explanation of the Voting Process
- Introduce Candidates
- Call for Motion to accept Candidates
- Financial Report
- Manager's Report
- President's Report
- Call for Old, New Business or questions
- Adjournment
- Draw Prizes



## VOTING BALLOT April 6, 2022

### Election of Directors

<b>District # 1</b> (3-year term) Vote for one      Yes	<b>District # 2</b> (3-year term) Vote for one      Yes
Kim Solberg <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>District # 3</b> (3-year term) Vote for one      Yes	
Greg Spaulding <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	



### Meet Louie the Lightning Bug!

Louie will be the star of the scavenger hunt. Members will have an opportunity to participate during registration at the Co-op's annual meeting. Look for Louie and enter to win the scavenger hunt prize!



# 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 three (3) marks on your BALLOT, as there are three seats to be filled this year: District 1: one director, three-year term. 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 6, 2022 to be counted.

## Voting Ballot Checklist

Have you ....

- Marked your ballot clearly and legibly and only in the appropriate spaces?
- Enclosed the ballot in the privacy envelope and sealed the envelope?
- Enclosed the sealed privacy envelope inside the return identification 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 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature and Title of Authorized Officer Date

## Managers Message



Deanna Lefebvre  
General Manager

When I begin to write these articles, the first thing I do is save my document, referencing the issue it is to be published in. Although it is February and we are in a winter advisory as I am writing, this article is for the March/April 2022 issue which means spring is just around the corner...right?

### Annual Meeting

Plans are well underway for your cooperative's 75th annual membership meeting that will be held on Wednesday, April 6th at the Community Center in Clearbrook with registration, entertainment and meal beginning at 4:30 p.m. and the meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

The business format of the meeting itself will remain the same (pre-COVID), but this year the meal will be served prior to the meeting. Musical entertainment will be provided by Eric Reitan during registration. Various booths will be on display for members to visit. As this is the 75th annual meeting, there will be a strong emphasis on the history of Clearwater-Polk Electric. If you have a positive story about electricity and/or Clearwater-Polk Electric that you would like to share please mail it to our office at PO Box O, Bagley, or email it to [cpec@clearwater-polk.com](mailto:cpec@clearwater-polk.com). We would love to try and include it with the other collection of information.

As I have reported in previous articles, Concern for Community is one of the 7 Cooperative Principles, and honestly, it is my favorite. While all seven are important, Concern for Community emphasizes humanity. I am extremely proud that the actions of being kind to others, helping to build up our community through

positive actions and making a difference where we can have been so embraced by your electric cooperative employees and members. In the spirit of cooperative principle Concern for Community, this annual meeting Clearwater-Polk will be collecting donations for the Clearwater County Food Shelf. If you would be so kind to bring a donation (items or cash), Clearwater-Polk employees will record the total donation and present it to the food shelf on behalf of our Co-op members. As a thank you, members who bring a donation will be entered into a separate prize drawing.

I have always been an advocate for attendance at your Cooperative's annual meeting. The time change in this year's annual meeting directly relates to our attempt to try and accommodate as many people's schedules as possible. Cooperatives bring people together in a democratic and equal way, and there is strength in numbers. For the strength of your cooperative, I encourage you not to underestimate the importance of your attendance and I hope to see you there.

### Financial Audit

Reporting to members on the Cooperative's financials and sharing financial statements to the membership is important for transparency. Clearwater-Polk staff is currently working with BradyMartz, an independent auditor, to provide their professional opinion on the financial health of the cooperative. Their on-site audit takes place the middle of February and the audited financials will be presented to your board of directors at the March board meeting and will be included in the annual report.

Although the cooperative was faced with many challenges in 2021, the preliminary reports indicate that Clearwater-Polk ended 2021 financially sound and with over 54 percent member equity. In December your board of directors approved the 2022 budget keeping member rates stable with no rate increase.

### Minnkota receives

#### CO2 storage permit from NDIC

*Approval will help advance cooperative's Project Tundra carbon capture initiative*  
The North Dakota Industrial Commission (NDIC) approved a permit on Jan. 21 allowing Minnkota Power Cooperative to safely and permanently store carbon dioxide (CO2) deep underground near Center, N.D. Approval of the Class VI injection well

permit is an important step forward in the development of Project Tundra, which aims to install CO2 capture technology at the Minnkota-operated Milton R. Young Station. About 4 million metric tons of CO2 are planned to be captured annually from the coal-based power plant and stored in geologic formations (Craig Anderson) approximately one mile underground near the plant site. If Project Tundra moves forward into construction, it will be the largest post-combustion CO2 capture project in the world.

North Dakota is one of only two states that has received approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate geologic storage of CO2 (also known as primacy). This is the second Class VI injection well permit that has been issued in the state.

In 2022, Minnkota will work with its partners to further refine Project Tundra's engineering plans and overall project economics. A request has been submitted to the state's Lignite Research Council to provide special grant funding to assist with the final construction-ready engineering plan.

Minnkota anticipates making a decision on whether to move forward with construction of Project Tundra in late 2022. The approximately \$1 billion project would primarily be funded through federal 45Q tax credits. If approved by the cooperative's board of directors, construction could begin near the end of the year with a goal to commence operations in 2026.

To learn more about Project Tundra, visit [ProjectTundraND.com](http://ProjectTundraND.com).

### Spring Projects

With spring just around the corner, I encourage you to think ahead if any of those projects will require the assistance of Clearwater-Polk. Late spring, summer and fall are the busiest times with a full schedule for our crews. Although they are great accommodating the needs of our members, advanced notice is always appreciated.

Also, please keep safety in mind when working around or near power lines. Call 811 before you dig to have a locate done to check for any underground utilities, and always look up and be aware of where the power lines are at.

As always, stay safe, happy & healthy!  
Deanna



**Kim Solberg,  
Incumbent -  
District 1**

Kim Solberg is a RMA/Scheduler at the Enbridge Energy, Clearbrook Terminal. The Clearbrook Terminal serves as a control point and hub facility for crude oil products. Enbridge transports and temporarily stores these products in route to their refining destination. Enbridge plays a critical role in enabling the economic well-being and quality of life of North American society, which depends heavily on the access to energy.

Kim and her husband Jonathan reside east of Gonvick with their two sons, Trever, 16 years old and Gavin, 12 years old. Kim and her family share a love for gardening, growing giant pumpkins, hunting, fishing and spending time with their three Labradors, Jax, Parker & Blanche. In her spare time, Kim is the president of the Gonvick Lions Club. Helping our community thrive is a passion of Kim's and being a part of the Lions Club makes this possible.



**Greg Spaulding,  
Incumbent -  
District 3**

Greg and wife Mary moved to Nora Township over 30 years ago. The Spaulding's selected this community to raise their two daughters and two sons. Greg was employed by the State of Minnesota for 30 years. Much of that time he was a Conservation Officer. Greg is now retired and enjoys ten grandchildren (and another will arrive in September), fishing, hunting, trapping, cross country skiing, biking(bicycle) and wilderness adventures.

Greg has a Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife/Earth Sciences and a Masters Degree in Microbiology and Immunology. Greg is interested in learning more about legislation concerning our rural community's energy needs and its impact on cooperative members.



**Matt Rendahl  
Joins Clearwater-Polk**



Clearwater-Polk would like to welcome new employee Matt Rendahl. Matt is a licensed Master Electrician. His primary responsibilities are working with Co-op members to meet their electric off-peak heating needs, assist with high usage concerns, and help with renewable energy system inquiries, to name a few.

Matt comes with 20+ years of electrical experience. Matt is from Fosston where he grew up. He and wife Desi have two sons, Lincoln who is 8 and Grant who is 7. He enjoys hunting, fishing, and camping in his free time.



*Safe Electricity encourages everyone to be a hero, look up, and stay away from overhead power lines.*

*Failure to notice high voltage power lines can be a deadly oversight.*