



2022


# BELTRAMI ELECTRIC ANNUAL REPORT

Northern Lights, August 2023

*Connecting Communities.  
Powering Life.*



**Beltrami Electric  
Cooperative Inc.**

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

# REPORT TO THE MEMBERS



**John Lund**, Board Chair (left)

**Jared Echternach**, President and CEO (right)

It is our honor to provide an update to our members on their cooperative.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Once again we will conduct our annual meeting in conjunction with the Beltrami County Fair. Beltrami Electric Night at the Fair will take place Wednesday, Aug. 9, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds. The annual business meeting will be held at the Marilyn Shutter Stage beginning at 5 p.m. We will have food vouchers for members, a safety demonstration, bucket rides for kids and musical entertainment. We hope to see you there.

## UPDATED STRATEGY

Your board of directors conducted a strategic planning process in 2022 that incorporated member survey data to help shape the direction of your cooperative. As a result, the board adopted a new three-year strategy that will focus on four core areas, including;

- **Safety** – Grow our passion for safety
- **Communication** – Enhance our ability to connect with members
- **Technology** – Integrate new and existing technologies for the benefit of our members
- **Growth** – Promote growth that provides value to members

## SAFE AND RELIABLE

Your cooperative continues to build on its strong safety culture. At the end of the day, we want all of our employees, members and the general public to go home safely. We're proud to report we had no lost-time injuries in 2022 and our employees continue their commitment to safety. We also have a very reliable distribution system. On average, our members experience about one outage per year and of those who experienced an outage, our average time to restore the outage was 98 minutes – not bad considering we maintain more than 3,500 miles of line within a 3,000-square-mile service area. We did not experience a major storm in 2022 and we continue to be leaders in underground line construction with nearly 75% of our system underground. We are extremely proud of our employees for their commitment to safety and for providing the best possible service to our members.

## CONTINUED GROWTH

2022 was another busy year for your cooperative. We constructed nearly 300 new services and performed nearly 80 service improvements for our membership. Your cooperative continues to grow at a manageable rate. We also completed several major projects, including line replacements near Hillcrest Drive, Sunset Cove, Sunny Beach Road, Wildwood Road and the Power Dam Road.

## STEADY MARGIN

In 2022 we realized an operating margin of \$1.5M and a total margin of \$2.4M. We also returned more than \$1.7M in capital credits to current and former members in 2022. With overall system growth and managing operating expenses, we ended the year with sufficient margins, meeting all of our loan covenants.

## RATE OUTLOOK

Our wholesale power rates remained flat in 2022 and our retail rates have not changed since 2018. This is remarkable when considering cost increases of just about every commodity around us. We are

currently undergoing a cost-of-service study and we will know more by the end of the year and will evaluate if a retail rate increase is necessary in 2024. Approximately 68% of every dollar you pay on your electric bill goes toward the cost of wholesale power. We continue to see significant increases in material costs and longer lead times, and we are certainly not immune to the inflationary pressure of raw materials, fuel and equipment.

## THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER

In closing, we would like to thank you for being a cooperative member and for your continued support. We would also like to thank our board of directors for their leadership, and our team of dedicated employees who work hard, day in and day out, to provide us with safe and reliable electricity.

– John Lund, *Board Chair*  
Jared Echternach, *President and CEO*

# ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES - Aug. 10, 2022

The annual meeting of the members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds in Bemidji, Minn., on Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2022, commencing at 5 p.m. John Lund presided as chair.

The following directors were present:

Mike Monsrud	Charlie Perkins	Sue Kringen
John Lund	Rick Coe	Craig Gaasvig
Sharon Lembke	Bob Wallner	Murl Nord

Chair Lund called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Chair Lund asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation.

Director Sue Kringen gave the invocation.

Chair Lund announced a quorum with 443 registered voting members. Attorney Sam Schmitz was appointed as Parliamentarian.

The reading of the official Notice of the Meeting and Proof of Mailing was dispensed without objection. The minutes of the 2021 annual meeting were approved without objection.

Chair Lund introduced current directors and recognized members who previously served as directors.

Attorney Sam Schmitz introduced the candidates for District 1 (Murl Nord), District 5 (Bob Wallner) and District 8 (Sue Kringen).

Attorney Sam Schmitz called for a motion by voice vote to declare all three uncontested candidates elected to serve their respective districts. A motion was made by voice vote and seconded. Motion carried.

Attorney Sam Schmitz then announced Murl Nord, Bob Wallner and Sue Kringen as directors of Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

Kay Mack, president of the Operation Round Up Trust Board, presented a report to the membership.

Ashley Pirkel, Youth Tour delegate, presented on the recent trip to Washington, D.C.

Director of Finance and Corporate Services Arlene Hogquist presented the annual financial report.

President and CEO Jared Echternach introduced and recognized special guest Rep. Matt Bliss.

President and CEO Jared Echternach addressed the membership, reporting on the past year's performance, strategic planning initiatives, member satisfaction, grid reliability, and the importance of baseload generation and transmission.

Chair Lund called for any unfinished business. There was none. Chair Lund called for any new business. There was none.

Chair Lund declared the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**John Lund**  
Chair  
District 7



**Sue Kringen**  
Vice Chair  
District 8



**Murl Nord**  
Secretary  
District 1  
*Square Butte Director*



**Sharon Lembke**  
Treasurer  
District 9



**Charlie Perkins**  
Director  
District 2



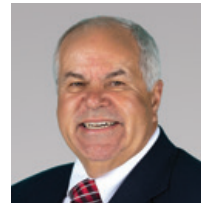
**Mike Monsrud**  
Director  
District 3



**Craig Gaasvig**  
Director  
District 4



**Robert Wallner**  
Director  
District 5

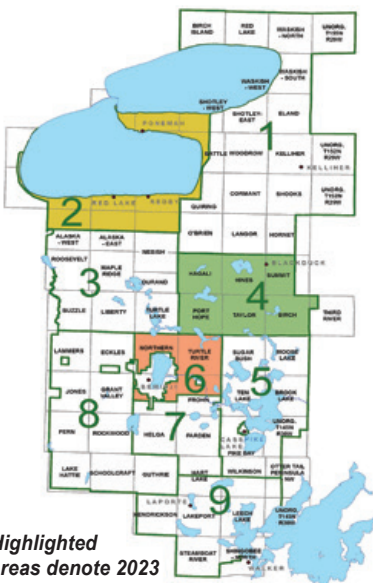


**Rick Coe**  
Director  
District 6  
*Minnkota Director*

## The Mission of Beltrami Electric Cooperative

*“To provide excellent value to our members through the safe delivery of reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices.”*

# DISTRICT MAP AND ELECTION BYLAWS



**Highlighted areas denote 2023 election districts.**

Beltrami Electric Cooperative only received one director nomination at each of the three district meetings held in June. Thus, the nominees listed on page 6 will be elected at the annual meeting scheduled for August 9 by way of voice vote, show of hands or other appropriate means. With that, Beltrami Electric will NOT be sending to its members paper ballots via the U.S. Postal Service, nor electronic web ballots, in 2023. Please see the bylaws below.

### ARTICLE III DIRECTORS

**Section 9. Nominations and Elections.** The areas served by the Cooperative shall be divided by and at the discretion of the Board of Directors into nine (9) director districts, and not less than ten (10) days nor more than fifty (50) days prior to the date of the annual members’ meeting, and in accordance with the mailed notice to each of the members therein affected, district meetings shall be held at which candidates for the office of director from each respective district shall be nominated, and the names of the two (2) candidates receiving the greatest number of votes (including the number of votes cast for each of them) shall be certified to the annual meeting members.

At the annual meeting not more than one candidate from each district shall be elected to the Board of Directors. Election of directors shall be determined on the basis of a plurality of the votes properly cast.

**Notwithstanding anything in these bylaws or applicable procedural rules to the contrary, a candidate who is the only qualified nominee for a seat up for election may be elected at the annual meeting of the members by motion adopted by a voice vote, show of hands or other appropriate means.**

# 2023 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

## District 2: Donald (Charlie) Perkins, Sr. (Incumbent)



Charlie is a resident of Red Lake. He is a maintenance worker at the Red Lake Hospital, where he performs preventative maintenance on HVAC systems, as well as various electrical work on items such as generators, high voltage circuits, power meters, etc. He is a graduate of Red Lake High School and completed the two-year carpentry program at the Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Detroit Lakes, Minn. He also attended Bemidji State University for Industrial Technology. Charlie enjoys spending time with his three children and two grandchildren. He also enjoys hiking, camping and target shooting.

**What qualifications do you possess that would make you a good choice to represent the members of Beltrami Electric on the board of directors?** *"I am proud to continue in my family's footsteps, extending our commitment to the members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative. I have served on the board for six years. My sister, Lea Perkins, served on the board for 12 years, and previously my father served on the board for eight years. I am passionate about my community, family and friends. I am able to use my 33+ years of knowledge and electrical experience to help educate and explain energy usage to our members. I will continue to work hard for the members of the cooperative, providing reliable and affordable electric service to our area."*

---

## District 4: Craig Gaasvig (Incumbent)



Craig has lived in the Bemidji area his entire life, of which the past 23 years have been in Port Hope Township. He has been a sales account manager with North Country Business Products of Bemidji for more than 29 years. Craig is a graduate of Bemidji State University with a bachelor's degree in mathematics, along with a secondary education licensure. He also holds a power limited technician license, which provides another angle on keeping up to date on electrical information. He served as supervisor of the Port Hope Township Board for 12 years. He also serves on the following boards: Headwaters Rural Development Corp. executive board, Cass Lake Rural Fire Association, Blackduck Tri-County Ambulance, Bemidji Airport and JAZB, One Watershed, One Plan and many others. Craig is serving his second 4-year term on the Beltrami County Board, representing District 1. Craig and his wife Karen have two sons, James and Jonathon. He enjoys hunting, fishing, gardening, traveling and playing with their 3-year-old Cockapoo pup, Molly.

**What qualifications do you possess that would make you a good choice to represent the members of Beltrami Electric on the board of directors?** *"I listen to those that I represent, and am accessible by phone, text or email most of the time. I keep myself educated about the issues. I have completed my Credentialed Cooperative Director certification courses, and have the knowledge and experience needed to make informed decisions for our members. I study the material before our meetings and attend all board meetings."*

---

## District 6: Rick Coe (Incumbent)



Rick has lived in the Bemidji Area for 50 years and resides in Northern Township. He has been a member of Beltrami Electric for more than 40 years. Rick retired from Bemidji Public Schools where he was employed as a teacher, counselor and coach. Coe has a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and general science and holds a Master of Science degree in guidance counseling from Bemidji State University. For 31 years he coached all levels of youth hockey and baseball and has also served as a board member with these sports. Rick has been active in various committees within the Bemidji community and at his church. Rick is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and has served on the KC board. He has served District 6 on the Beltrami Electric board since 2008. He and his wife, Mickie, have three grown children and five grandchildren. He enjoys fishing, hunting, playing hockey and woodworking.

**What qualifications do you possess that would make you a good choice to represent the members of Beltrami Electric on the board of directors?** *"I have served as a director of Beltrami Electric for 15 years, and I also serve as a director on the Minnkota Board (our generation and transmission co-op) and the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA – our statewide co-op). I have gained a great deal of knowledge and experience from serving on these boards. I am dedicated to serving the members of our cooperative and really enjoy what I do and look forward to continuing my service to our members."*

# YOUR CO-OP BY THE NUMBERS

Average times a member experienced an outage in 2022



**1.4**

(Average restoration time over our 3,000-square-mile service area was 98 minutes)

Capital credits returned to members in 2022

**\$1.76M**

and \$12.84 M over the last 10 years



New services connected in 2022



**293**

2022 kWh sold

**506.6M**



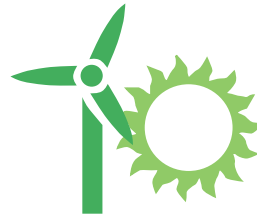
## Member Services

Incoming calls in 2022	32,848
Service transfers in 2022	1,997
New members welcomed in 2022	954
Paperless billing accounts in 2022	3,744



**18,258**

Total members served

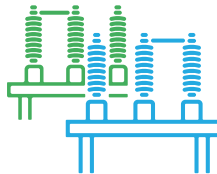


Minnkota electric generation capacity from wind and hydro energy

**42%**

(Minnkota Power Cooperative is a national leader in wind energy)

Total substations in Beltrami Electric's service area



**24**

Outages caused by animals/squirrels:



**266**

Outages caused by weather/trees:

**127**

Beltrami Electric employees

**63**



Meters served in Beltrami Electric's service area (including off-peak)



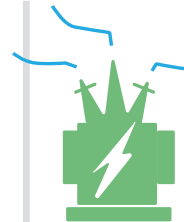
**30,114**

Total poles in Beltrami Electric's service area



**19,197**

Total transformers in Beltrami Electric's service area



**16,878**

Beltrami Electric Cooperative operates **3,576** miles of line (74% underground; 26% overhead)

**6.5** members per mile



# OPERATIONS REPORT



**Lee Pemberton**  
Manager of Operations

As summer continues to go by at a quick pace, your operations team at Beltrami Electric is here to provide our members with a safe and reliable electric service. Whether it's responding to an outage caused by a storm, building a new electric service, or completing a service improvement, we have safe, dedicated crews to heed that call.

## SAFETY

Here at your cooperative safety for our employees and members is our number one priority. One of our main areas of safety is having a good Right of Way (ROW) program. If you are wondering what this means, it is the area or strip of land that is used to construct, maintain, repair or replace an overhead or underground power line. This corridor will allow the utility to provide clearance of trees, buildings and other structures that could interfere with the line installation, maintenance and operation. This also creates a buffer zone for the safety of our members and employees if we see a storm roll through our area.

Another area of safety in which your cooperative achieved a successful rating was RESAP, which stands for Rural Electric Safety and Achievement Program. RESAP is a program started by America's Electric

Cooperatives and works with Minnesota Rural Electric Association, our statewide safety organization. There are several factors that go into play to achieve this rating. Key components include record keeping, building maintenance and housekeeping, right-of-way corridor maintenance, crew visits in the field, as well as fleet vehicle maintenance and upkeep.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Your cooperative will continue to work closely with our engineering department to safely and efficiently build several workplan projects this year. A few bigger projects will be in the Moose Lake area, and in Bemidji along Adams Avenue. In addition to these large projects, we will continue to install new electric services and complete service improvements for our members.



The line crews will be here for you, our members, when outages occur. So, please be patient and rest assured that we will get the lights back on.

As always, have a safe and enjoyable summer and thank you for your membership.

# 2022 COOPERATIVE HIGHLIGHTS



Eight local high school seniors received scholarships from BEC.



BEC employees and events contributed \$24,160 to the United Way of Bemidji Area in 2022.



BEC recognized Great River Rescue of Bemidji as the winner of our annual Touchstone Energy Community Award.



BEC sponsored one student on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June 2022.

In 2022, BEC members received

**\$430,820**

in rebates for energy efficiency and electric heating. Check out the rebates that BEC offers by visiting [www.beltramielcric.com/rebates-and-incentives](http://www.beltramielcric.com/rebates-and-incentives).

## NO RATE INCREASE FOR FIVE YEARS



Your cooperative is focused on keeping rates low while maintaining and operating a reliable electric system. Because of that mission, we have successfully kept rates stable for the last five years!



# REFLECTIONS OF A ROOKIE BUILDER



**Mike Birkeland**  
VP Electrification  
and Member  
Engagement

It was a long time ago. Twenty-eight years to be exact. My wife says she wouldn't do it again – but I would!

To be clear – I'm not referring to our marriage. We're in that for the long haul. And by God's grace, we've been on that journey for more than 30 years.

But 28 years ago this summer, we moved into our dream

home after drawing up plans, setting a budget, clearing a heavily wooded lot, and choosing a builder as well as subcontractors to oversee construction.

That was back in the day when, as a young and ambitious husband, I had the energy to take on the role of general contractor. Whew. That was work. But it was a great experience – at least from my perspective. My wife might (would) beg to differ.

I learned a ton. And we had an awesome builder who – as he no doubt knew – knew it was in his best interest to guide a young, naïve, and inexperienced home builder through the building process.

It was well before I started working for an electric cooperative. And one of the best decisions we made early in the building process was to consult with our local electric utility – not only about the ins and outs of extending service to an empty rural lot, but also for energy efficiency and heating advice.

Just as BEC does, the utility used our blueprints and provided a heat loss calculation. The analysis calculated square footage, insulation values, an assessment of doors and windows, and average heating degree days among other things. The "heat loss calc." also provided helpful ideas about heating options and heating systems.

## DECISIONS, DECISIONS, DECISIONS

The advice from the heat loss analysis helped shape decisions that keep our home, warm, cozy, and

comfortable on a cold winter night and cool when the air is still and dripping with humidity during a mid-July heatwave.

Ultimately, we chose the "dual fuel" program offered by the utility along with compatible heating systems. We also bought an 80-gallon electric water heater at the hardware store and signed up for off-peak water heating.

The dual fuel program provides the ability for us to source the best-priced fuel to keep our home warm and comfortable. Electric off-peak offers similar benefits, but we chose the dual fuel program because it was the best fit for our home.

We've never thought twice about that decision. First, as stated above, we've always been warm and comfortable in the winter. And second, dual fuel provides us with multiple heat source options – and the ability to stay "off the peak," which saves money on our electric bill.

It also means that utilities like BEC can lower peak use at peak times, which means the utility saves on its power bills, which, in turn, benefits other consumers on the system by lowering overall costs.

## TIME-TESTED AND RELIABLE

Electric heating technology is much more advanced than it was "back in the day" when we built. Air-source heat pumps and plenum heaters weren't part of the conversation then, but they are now. These technologies, along with whole-house storage heat, are worth a look and a listen if you're looking to build or remodel.

**BUILDING A NEW HOME? Let our energy experts provide you with a heat loss calc!**

**Contact us to learn more today:  
218-444-2540 or  
800-955-6083**

1. Bring in your detailed house plans
2. Get a detailed report of heating/cooling options for your new home



It was 28 years ago – but in some ways, it feels like yesterday. And now it's time to transfer knowledge gained from previous experience to new projects.

I haven't told my wife yet, but I'm thinking about remodeling our cabin, which is on the BEC system. It helps that I work at Beltrami Electric, but even if I didn't – the first call I'd make is to Bob, Ayla, Festus, or Chris. They are the experts who will help us make wise decisions that will be easy on the pocketbook while keeping our cabin warm, our coffee hot and our ice cream cold.

The experts at BEC can do this for you too. It's a service we provide to all members at no cost.

Who knows ... maybe they'll help convince your spouse (and mine) that it's time for another project that can save you money and make your home more energy efficient, too!



*Festus Rockensock, lead electrician, and Chris Henriksen, electrician, review house plans as part of a heat loss calc for a member.*

A dark blue banner for the EV Car Show. On the left is a circular logo with a power button symbol and the text "GO ELECTRIC!". To the right of the logo, the text "EV Car Show" is written in large, light green letters. Below that, "Thursday, September 28, 2023" is written in orange. On the far right, there is a faint, light blue silhouette of an electric vehicle.

**Join us for an EV Car Show at Beltrami Electric Cooperative this September!**

**4:00 p.m.**

- A variety of EVs will be on display: Chevy Bolt, Ford F-150 Lightning, Ford Mustang Mach-E, various Tesla models and more!
- Visit with EV owners and experts
- Refreshments and appetizers provided

**5:30 p.m.**

- EV Owner Discussion Panel – EV owners will share their experiences owning and driving an electric vehicle in northern Minnesota.



# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2022 & 2021

## ASSETS

	2022	2021
<b>WHAT WE OWN:</b>		
In service	\$163,936,675	\$157,586,417
Under construction	221,968	2,494,976
Total electric plant	164,158,643	160,081,393
Less accumulated depreciation	(55,670,016)	(52,551,416)
Electric plant – net	108,488,627	107,529,977
<b>OTHER PROPERTY AND INVESTMENTS:</b>		
Investments in associated companies	9,118,650	8,182,738
Other investments	3,489,769	3,755,651
Total other property and investments	12,608,419	11,938,389
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash - general	3,666,032	4,452,804
Temporary cash investment	3,000,000	-
Accounts receivable, less allowance for uncollectible accounts (2022 – \$164,652; 2021 – \$159,702)	7,786,146	6,722,901
Materials and supplies	1,748,260	1,171,633
Prepayments	327,784	271,525
Interest receivable	37,479	8,120
Total current assets	16,565,701	12,626,983
<b>DEFERRED DEBITS:</b>		
Deferred debits	495,483	852,793
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$138,158,230</b>	<b>\$132,948,142</b>



%

## EQUITY

Equity is the amount of the cooperative assets the Beltrami Electric Cooperative members own.

- Our members' equity is 37.4% for 2022.
- Equity decreased .8% from 2021.



## ELECTRIC PLANT ADDED

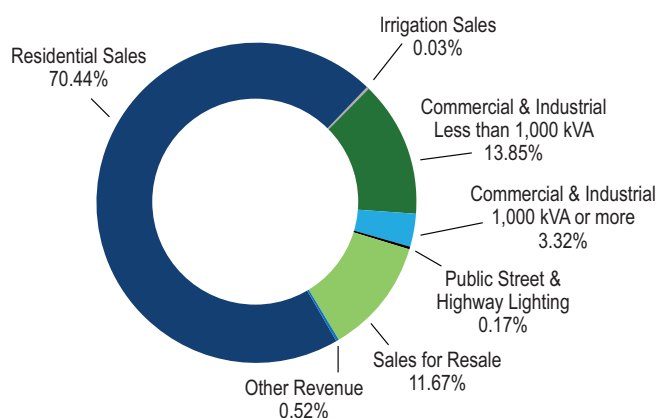
We continue to invest in and maintain the distribution system.

- Several large projects converting over 13 miles of overhead to underground were completed in 2022.
- \$6.3M of plant was added in 2022, with an additional \$222K under construction at the end of the year.
- \$15.8M has been added in plant over the last 5 years.

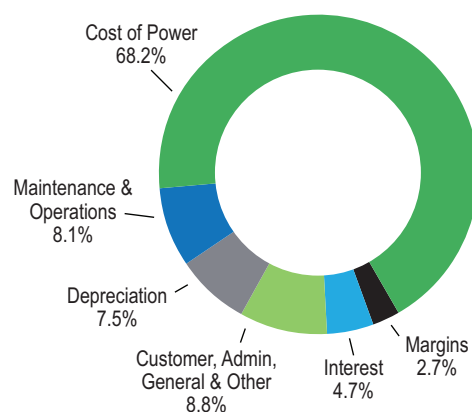
## EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES

	2022	2021
<b>WHAT WE OWE:</b>		
Memberships	\$ 859,050	\$ 850,775
Patronage capital	26,735,838	26,964,984
Other equities	24,029,263	22,976,701
Total equities	51,624,151	50,792,460
Long-term debt, net of current maturities and net of cushion of credit of \$2,630,936 for 2022 and \$5,153,595 for 2021	74,715,424	70,314,691
<b>OTHER NONCURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Postretirement benefits obligation	350,238	404,711
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Current maturities of long-term debt	3,156,447	2,928,098
Current portion of postretirement benefit obligation	75,700	75,000
Accounts payable – general	641,423	1,160,742
Accounts payable to associated company-billed power costs	4,314,876	3,699,182
Customer deposits	702,711	755,895
Taxes accrued	251,606	228,005
Interest accrued	534,143	513,259
Payroll accrued	231,284	213,076
Accrued compensated absences	362,316	363,715
Other accrued	6,904	7,000
Total current liabilities	10,277,410	9,943,972
<b>DEFERRED CREDITS:</b>		
Total deferred credits	1,191,007	1,492,308
<b>TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 138,158,230</b>	<b>\$ 132,948,142</b>

### Where Operating Revenue Came From



### Where Operating Revenue Was Spent





# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2022	2021
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>		
Electric	\$57,762,994	\$55,266,004
Other	305,430	295,469
Total operating revenue	\$58,068,424	\$55,561,473
<b>WHERE IT WENT</b>		
Cost of power	\$39,575,955	\$37,175,921
Distribution – operation	3,002,832	2,844,270
Distribution – maintenance	1,698,576	1,845,260
Customer accounts	1,442,631	1,449,374
Customer service and information	1,237,001	1,062,893
Sales expense	140,683	149,209
Administrative and general	2,242,241	2,072,829
Depreciation	4,378,206	4,271,094
Taxes	1,820	1,800
Interest on long-term debt	2,734,338	2,726,402
Other	66,293	54,917
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$56,520,576</b>	<b>\$53,653,969</b>
<b>NET OPERATING MARGIN</b>	<b>\$ 1,547,848</b>	<b>\$ 1,907,504</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING MARGIN</b>		
Other cooperative capital credits	\$ 1,157,966	\$ 2,174,920
Merchandising, jobbing and contract work, less costs and expenses of (2022 – \$185,828; 2021 – \$185,514)	15,735	8,074
Rent of headquarters second floor, net of costs (2022 – \$134,722; 2021 – \$123,402)	10,712	18,627
Loss on disposition of property	1,987	154
Investment income	145,983	199,042
Cooperative Development LLC (net of income taxes)	(287,309)	388,081
Income tax benefit (expense)	(129,823)	(4,315)
Miscellaneous lease & maintenance income	1,827	1,788
Beltrami Electric Solar, LLC	(5,243)	(6,369)
<b>TOTAL NON-OPERATING MARGIN</b>	<b>\$ 911,835</b>	<b>\$ 2,780,002</b>
<b>NET MARGIN</b>	<b>\$ 2,459,683</b>	<b>\$ 4,687,506</b>



## RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC USE

The average residential account used 1,232 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month in 2022.

- Average electric use increased 5.75% compared to 2021.
- Average electric use has increased .11% annually over last 5 years.



## RESIDENTIAL REVENUE

The average 2022 monthly residential bill was \$167.22.

- Compared to \$164.01 in 2021, an increase of 2%.
- Average residential bill has increased 1.8% annually over last 5 years.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Board of Directors  
Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Subsidiary, Bemidji, Minnesota

## Report on the Consolidated Financial Statements

### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Subsidiary, which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Subsidiary as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Brady Martz & Associates, P.C.*

## Operation Round Up® – Beltrami Electric Co-op Trust



Operation Round Up® is a charitable program designed to give co-op members a means of working together to use their small change to make a big impact in their local communities. Participating members' monthly electric bills are rounded up to the next whole dollar amount, and that change is put into a trust account for Operation Round Up. The Operation Round Up board consists of five co-op members who meet twice per year to review applications received since the previous meeting. Funds are awarded based on how well the application fits into these funding categories: 1) Community Service; 2) Economic Development; 3) Education & Youth; and 4) Environment.

- Contributions are tax deductible and will be shown on your billing statement.
- 100% of member donations go directly to local community nonprofit groups and organizations to improve the quality of life in our region.

Operation Round Up is a voluntary program and members may opt out or opt back into the program by contacting our office. Since Beltrami Electric launched this program in 2016, \$607,324 has been distributed to nonprofit groups and organizations in our communities.

Grants awarded since program inception in 2016: \$607,324







### 2022 BELTRAMI ELECTRIC TRUST BOARD MEMBERS

KAY MACK MIRIAM OSBORN-DOUGHERTY SHARON HADRAVA LEA PERKINS BARB SILER  
(President) (Vice President) (Secretary/Treasurer)

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO SUPPORT  
THE OPERATION ROUND UP PROGRAM...

**YOU are making a**  
*big difference in our communities!*

### 2022 REPORT

-  Average member contribution: \$3.31/yr
-  Member participation: 77%
-  Applications reviewed: 74
-  Applications approved: 64
-  Total funds requested: \$197,174
-  Grants awarded: \$85,778

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the first of the month prior to publication of the next issue.
  - Ads submitted between July 1 and August 1 will be published in September issue.
  - Ads submitted between August 2 and September 1 will be published in October issue.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at [www.beltramelectric.com](http://www.beltramelectric.com). (preferred)
- No real estate, rental, personal or commercial ads will be accepted.
- All ads must be 50 words or less and typed or printed clearly.
- Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- Members may only submit one for sale and one wanted or free ad per issue.
- Ads are published at no charge as space permits on a first-received, first-printed basis, **with no guarantee your ad will appear.**
- Ads are only allowed to be repeated for **three consecutive months** and must be resubmitted each month.
- Include name and Beltrami Electric account number on all submissions.

## For Sale:

14" Laser sailboat, two masts and two sails (regular and a 4.7), travel trailer and launch trailer. \$1,250. Call 218-407-5544.

Firewood, 16"-20" length and some 100" length. Approximately 4 cords. Available for \$50/cord, you haul. Call 218-760-8266.

Chrome brush guard from 2010 Dodge Ram 2500 complete, good condition, slight peeling on lower corner, \$250. 15-inch chrome rim, excellent – like new condition, \$300. Would trade for a new condition 8 ft bed for a 4x4 2500 Dodge ram pickup with no rust. Text 218-209-1863.

Northwood Pine single bed frame \$50 firm. Can text picture. Please call or text 218-553-0272.

Two aluminum garage doors for sale 7 ft high by 9 ft wide and 2 inches thick insulated includes all tracks, overhead spring weather stripping headers made by north central door company green in color. \$400 each. 218-760-7111.

Hydro Slide knee board. Lake water pump. 2007 Honda Pilot set of floor mats: 2 Husky rubber front, 2 Honda carpet front, 2 rear rubber mats, sell for reasonable offers. 218-987-2009.

1992 Alumacraft 16ft Luncker with 40 Merc and Minnkota trolling motor, Lowrance locator with a Shoreland'r trailer. \$4,200. 218-556-2248.

2002 Chevy Express 3500 converted to camper van. 141,000 miles. Full solar set up. Needs new charge controller. \$4,000. 218-760-4041.

Older dehumidifier works great \$25. 218-766-8781.

Approximately 100 small square bales of hay, \$2 a bale. 2 horse carts, \$250 each. 218-243-3112.

Thompson Omega 50 cal muzzleloader in full camo with matching Nikon Omega scope on quick release. Hard case and dry box with cleaning supplies Sabots Pyrex primers. Excellent condition. 1 owner, bought new in 2005. \$600. 218-760-2252.

Older 25 hp Johnson outboard with electric start, 16-ft 1954 Alumacraft boat, Minnkota 40 lb. thrust with 5 speeds trolling motor, 6-gallon metal marine fuel tank with hoses. All for \$650. Call 218-368-1438.

Wide white pine boards, log run, kept indoors. Looks like 10 left, 18 to 20" x 1 1/8" thick full length. Nice and clean. Take all \$100. Text 218-391-8204.

Beautiful, local, organic flowers. Join our Bouquet CSA. Receive weekly delivery for one monthly price of \$120 (must be in Bemidji area) June through September. Call or text for more information. 218-556-0586.

1998 Honda 1500 Aspencade cycle side bags, hardware, lights, etc., Dunlop K177 tire. \$400. 218-766-2126.

Interceramic porcelain floor tile 8"x8" in sand color, matte finish, 52 count; Richmond Cedar 5-quart electric ice cream freezer. 218-547-1836.

2003 Mercury 25 hp 4 stroke Bigfoot boat motor. Runs great, current service info available. \$3,200. 218-243-3029, lv msg.

Piano-upright Behr Bros. Year 1915. Good condition. Call/text w/offer. 612-940-7312. Great piece for nostalgic room decor!

1999 Ford Ranger 4x4 with snowplow, good tires, runs good. 118K miles. \$3,000. Call 218-255-7612.

## Wanted:

Used tandem axle scissor lift pontoon trailer. Call 218-760-8266.

Copy of book: "Roosevelt Township Past and Present" by Debs Daily Doers Homemakers Club. Please call 218-444-5243.

Looking for free soap molds or silicone molds. Call 218-556-2743.

Looking to buy old axe heads, hammer heads, and old hand tools. No power tools. 218-760-4041.

## Board Highlights

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, June 28, 2023. A quorum of directors was present.

### The following reports were given:

- President and CEO Echternach and the board discussed recent safety successes and observations.
- President and CEO Echternach gave his monthly report, including May's financials, district meetings, grant applications and Project Tundra.
- Mike Birkeland presented a communications update, and a safety video was viewed.
- Jolene Kallroos presented the annual Red Flag report.
- Arlene Hogquist presented May's financial report and a Purchased Power report.
- Mike Birkeland gave an annual meeting update.
- President and CEO Echternach and the board shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings and events.

- Chair Lund appointed Sharon Lembke as the voting delegate and Sue Kringen as the alternate for RESCO's annual meeting.
- Chair Lund appointed Sharon Lembke as the voting delegate, Sue Kringen as the alternate and Mike Monsrud as the second alternate for the NRECA regional and annual meetings.

### The following actions were taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved director and President and CEO expenses.

*The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023.*

## Professional office space available for lease

**923-SQUARE-FOOT OFFICE SUITE** – reception area with three separate office suites. Will modify to suit. Second floor location, elevator, adjacent conference/meeting room, safe, clean, quiet, low-traffic area of well-maintained professional building. For further details contact Mike Birkeland, Beltrami Electric Cooperative, **218-444-3672**.

**Beltrami Electric Cooperative's headquarters**

The average home in our area can be powered for about **\$5 a day** – the price of a bottle of sunscreen.



**VALUING EVERYTHING THAT POWERS YOUR DAY.**

**THAT'S THE VALUE OF ELECTRICITY.**





# BRING THIS COUPON TO THE ANNUAL MEETING FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!

## Win a DEWALT 20V Electric Trimmer/Blower Set!

Present this coupon by 6 p.m. at the registration table under the Beltrami Electric tent (with pre-printed address on reverse side) during Beltrami Electric Cooperative's annual meeting Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, Beltrami County Fairgrounds, to be eligible to win!

No substitute coupons will be accepted.  
Members need not be present to win.



# BEC'S NIGHT AT THE FAIR EVENTS!



4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

### **MEET LED LUCY AND SOLAR SAM**

– Kick off your night at the fair and make sure to meet LED Lucy and Solar Sam.



4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### **REGISTER FOR THE MEETING**

– Receive BEC Food Bucks to use at participating food vendors (valid 4-8 p.m. Wednesday only).



4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

### **BUCKET TRUCK RIDES**

– BEC's lineworkers will bring kids up in the bucket of a line truck (weather permitting)!



4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

### **LIVE HIGH-VOLTAGE DEMO**

– Watch our trained professionals give a safety presentation with high voltage (weather permitting).



6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### **VISIT THE BEC BOOTH IN THE COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

– Say hello, learn more about your co-op and check out the fun photo booth.



6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### **FREE CONCERT IN THE GRANDSTAND**

– Featuring the versatile acoustic group The Waddington Brothers.

**AUGUST 2023 | VOL. 70 | NO. 8**

**Northern Lights (USPS 016488)**

Published monthly by Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., 4111 Technology Drive NW, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601-5128. Subscription rate is \$5. Periodicals postage paid at Bemidji, MN 56601.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address corrections to Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., P.O. Box 488, Bemidji, Minnesota 56619-0488.

### **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Chair** ..... John Lund, *DISTRICT 7*

**Vice Chair** ..... Sue Kringen, *DISTRICT 8*

**Secretary** ..... Murl Nord, *DISTRICT 1*

**Treasurer** ..... Sharon Lembke, *DISTRICT 9*

**Directors:** Charlie Perkins, *DISTRICT 2*; Michael Monsrud, *DISTRICT 3*; Craig Gaasvig, *DISTRICT 4*; Robert Wallner, *DISTRICT 5*; Rick Coe, *DISTRICT 6*

**President and CEO** ..... Jared Echternach

**Office Hours:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Monday – Friday

**Telephone:** 218-444-2540 or  
1-800-955-6083

**Website:** [www.beltramielc.com](http://www.beltramielc.com)

**Email:** [info@beltramielc.com](mailto:info@beltramielc.com)

### **MN 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. Please visit [www.dli.mn.org](http://www.dli.mn.org) for more information. Inspectors can be reached weekday morning between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

### **BELTRAMI COUNTY:**

Wade Koons | 218-255-3011  
[wade@koonsinspections.com](mailto:wade@koonsinspections.com)

### **CASS & HUBBARD COUNTIES:**

Sheldon Monson | 218-689-3260

### **GOPHER STATE ONE CALL**

1-800-252-1166 or 811  
[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)



Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone line, television cable, pipelines, utility electric lines, municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide excellent value to our members through the safe delivery of reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



**Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Connecting Communities.  
Powering Life.



# PLAN TO ATTEND THE 83<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

## Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023

Beltrami County Fairgrounds  
Marilyn Shutter Stage | Bemidji, Minn.

Make sure to bring your registration prize drawing slip from this issue to enter into a drawing for a DeWalt 20V electric trimmer/blower set.

## ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

### 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

- Registration for meeting
- Turn in registration prize drawing slip

### 5 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

#### Business Meeting

- Welcome
- Pledge of Allegiance & invocation
- National Anthem
- Call meeting to order
- Approve minutes
- Introduction of directors
- Election process

- o Introduce director candidates
- o Call for voice vote
- o Election results
- Operation Round Up® report, Kay Mack, *president, Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust board*
- 2023 Youth Tour delegate, *Elena Harmsen*
- Financial report, *Arlene Hogquist, director of Finance and Corporate Services, Beltrami Electric*
- CEO report, *Jared Echternach, president and CEO, Beltrami Electric*
- Adjournment of meeting

*Thank you for attending your cooperative's annual meeting.  
Our mission is to serve. Our priority is you!*

