

# NORTHERN

L I G H T S May 2025



## Building a new home this year?

*Don't forget to apply for your new electric service!*

Whether you are building a new home or upgrading an existing service, it is important to communicate with us while in the planning stages.

To begin your new service, please visit our website at [www.beltramielectric.com/electric-service-construction](http://www.beltramielectric.com/electric-service-construction) or call our office at **218-444-2540 (toll free 800-955-6083)** to speak with one of our friendly member service representatives.

You can also visit our office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (no appointment necessary) at 4111 Technology Drive, NW, Bemidji, Minnesota.

## **HEATSMART** *A benefit of Co-op Membership*

It can be easy to budget for a home mortgage, but it's difficult to predict what it will cost to heat or cool a new home. Let Beltrami Electric help you find a system that will provide comfort and value for years to come.

- ✓ Bring in your detailed building plans/blueprints.
- ✓ Our technicians will complete a comprehensive heat loss calculation at no charge.
- ✓ Receive a report that includes estimated annual heating cost comparisons for a variety of heating systems.



## WE WILL COMPARE THESE AND MORE!

Geothermal



Heat pumps



Off-peak electric



Propane



Electric thermal storage



Natural gas





# May is National Electrical Safety Month

by Jared Echternach, *Beltrami Electric Cooperative president and CEO*

## Safety is our priority

At Beltrami Electric Cooperative, our mission goes far beyond simply delivering electricity to your homes and businesses. As a member-owned cooperative, we are deeply invested in the well-being of our community, and that includes ensuring you and your loved ones stay safe.

Electricity is an essential part of our lives, but it must be treated with caution and respect. That's why we make safety a top priority – because nothing is more important than protecting the people who make up this cooperative: you, our members.

We are committed to sharing life-saving electrical safety information through our print and digital newsletters, social media, and even local radio. But safety awareness isn't just a one-time conversation; it's something we must practice every day. In fact, we participate in many events throughout the year, delivering electrical safety presentations to local classrooms and emergency response personnel.

## Stay safe around electricity

Whether you're working on a home improvement project, cleaning gutters or trimming trees, always be mindful of overhead power lines. Look up and maintain a safe distance, especially from the lines connected to your home. A simple moment of awareness can prevent a dangerous accident.

If your project requires digging – whether for a fence, landscaping or any underground work – never assume you know what's below. **Call 8-1-1** or visit **www.GopherStateOneCall.org** a few days in advance to have underground utilities marked. Taking this precaution can prevent accidental contact with buried electrical lines, which could lead to injury or service disruptions.

## Protecting our children

Our youngest members are naturally curious, and we must

teach them how to stay safe around electrical equipment. Remind children to never climb trees near power lines, avoid playing on or around pad-mount transformers (those green utility boxes), and fly kites only in wide-open areas far from power lines. These simple rules can help prevent serious accidents.

## Be prepared for storms

Severe weather can create hidden electrical hazards, from downed power lines to flooded electrical devices. After a storm, always assume downed lines are energized and dangerous – stay far away and report them immediately. If you experience an outage, know that our crews are working as quickly and safely as possible to restore power.

## A commitment to safety education

Beltrami Electric Cooperative is proud to be a partner in the Safe Electricity program, which provides valuable safety resources for all ages. I encourage you to visit **SafeElectricity.org** for engaging videos, interactive games for children and educational materials designed for teachers and families.

## You matter to us

The United States has one of the safest and most reliable electrical systems in the world – but we believe there is always more we can do to protect our members. Your safety is, and always will be, a top priority for us.

So, as you go about your day, please take a moment to think about electrical safety – for yourself, your family and your community. Because at the end of the day, there is nothing more important than keeping the people we care about safe. Stay safe and thank you for being a member.

## Congratulations, Janice

Janice Renner, our members services lead, retired this month, and I would like to thank her for her five years of dedicated service to our members.

Congratulations, Janice!

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

*Beltrami Electric's board conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, March 26, 2025. A quorum of directors was in attendance.*

### The following reports were given at the meeting:

- President and CEO Echternach and the board discussed recent safety successes and observations.
- President and CEO Echternach made his monthly report, including financials, 2024 audit, employee updates, member focus groups, building maintenance and the Red Lake Business Activity Fee.
- Arlene Hogquist presented February's financial report.

- Jay Welsh, Brady Martz & Associates, presented the 2024 audit report giving Beltrami Electric Cooperative a clean audit opinion.
- Arlene Hogquist presented the 2024 patronage capital margins and allocation.
- President and CEO Echternach reviewed the updates to the Cooperative Service Standards.
- Directors and President and CEO Echternach discussed upcoming meetings and events.

### The following actions were taken at the meeting:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved a Cooperative Family Fund donation.
- Approved the 2024 audit report
- Approved the 2024 patronage capital allocation.
- Approved director and President and CEO expenses.

*The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025.*

# 2025 DISTRICT MEETINGS

## TO BE HELD IN LATE JUNE

District meetings are held each year in districts whose directors are up for election. District meetings for members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative will be held in June for Districts 1, 5 and 8. The meetings inform members of current issues and programs associated with the cooperative.

Official business will be conducted at the district meetings, including the nomination of a director candidate. Nominations for qualified candidates from your district to Beltrami Electric's board of directors will be accepted at this meeting. The top two candidates as determined by popular vote will have their names on the general election ballot in August.

If you are interested in seeking a directorship position with Beltrami Electric Cooperative and desire more information, please contact Jared Echternach at (218) 444-2540 and request a director candidate packet.

**\*NOTE:** Members seeking to run for the board of directors shall, not less than five (5) business days prior to the district meeting in which there is a director election, submit to the corporate office a completed candidate packet, as provided by the cooperative, by which the cooperative will verify said member's qualifications to be an eligible candidate for the director position.

See the list below for townships in Districts 1, 5 and 8:

**DISTRICT 1: BELTRAMI COUNTY:** Battle, Birch Island, Cormant, Eland, Hornet, Kelliher, Langor, O'Brien, Quiring, Red Lake, Shooks, Shotley (*East and West*), Waskish (*North, South and West*), Woodrow. **KOOCHICHING COUNTY:** Unorganized T151N R29W, T152N R29W, T155N R29W

**DISTRICT 5: BELTRAMI COUNTY:** Brook Lake, Frohn (*Section 25*), Moose Lake, Sugar Bush, Ten Lake. **CASS COUNTY:** Otter Tail Peninsula-NW (*Sections 1-18*), Pike Bay, Unorganized T145N R30W, Wilkinson (*Sections 1-18*)

**DISTRICT 8: BELTRAMI COUNTY:** Eckles, Grant Valley, Jones, Lammers. **HUBBARD COUNTY:** Fern, Guthrie, Lake Hattie, Rockwood, Schoolcraft

### What does it mean to be a director?

As an electric cooperative, Beltrami Electric is guided by an elected board of directors which represents its members' best interest when making important decisions. Being a member of the co-op's board is an incredibly important position in our community. A director's decisions will impact issues, such as service rates, rights of way and work plans. This position holds great responsibility and requires men and women who understand their community's needs and serve the cooperative members' best interest. Scan the QR code to learn more.



#### 1 DISTRICT 1

Incumbent: Murl Nord

**Monday, June 16, 6 p.m.**

North Beltrami Community Center,  
220 E. Main Street, Kelliher

#### 5 DISTRICT 5

Incumbent: Bob Wallner

**Tuesday, June 17, 6 p.m.**

Ten Lake Town Hall, 2142  
Mission Road NE, Bemidji

#### 8 DISTRICT 8

Incumbent: Sue Kringen

**Wednesday, June 18, 6 p.m.**

Fern Town Hall, 47978 129<sup>th</sup>  
Ave, Becida

### WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU! Participate in our member survey

Beltrami Electric Cooperative is committed to providing the best service possible, and your input helps guide our efforts. We have contracted with Cooperative Insights and Bellomy Research to conduct a member satisfaction survey this summer to help us better understand your needs and improve our services. Members will be randomly selected to participate via phone or email in June and July, with the survey taking no more than 15 minutes to complete. If you receive an invitation, we encourage you to share your thoughts – it's a simple way to help shape the future of your cooperative! As a member-owned cooperative, your feedback is invaluable in ensuring we continue to provide safe, reliable electricity and outstanding service. Thank you for being a part of our cooperative community!



# GET PUMPED

## - WITH THE TECH THAT WORKS FOR YOU!



**Ayla Kranz**  
Business Development  
Coordinator

Heat pumps have quickly become one of the fastest-selling home heating and cooling products on the market –

and for good reason. Heat pump technology efficiently moves heat instead of generating heat, lowering your energy bill and reducing your dependence on volatile fuel prices.

But what kind of heat pump works best for your home, shop or cabin? We broke down the benefits of air-source heat pumps and mini-split heat pumps to help you decide!



## AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP (ASHP)



## MINI-SPLIT HEAT PUMP

### HOW IT WORKS

An ASHP doesn't burn fuel to make heat. It simply uses electricity to move heat from one place to another. Think of an ASHP as a heat transporter constantly moving warm air from one place to another, to where it's needed or not needed (depending on the season). A standard ASHP is a self-contained system that uses existing ductwork. The system is composed of an outdoor compressor unit and an indoor air handling unit.

Similar to an air-source heat pump, a mini-split heat pump is run by a compressor unit placed outside of your home. That unit is connected to an indoor unit by small cables and a refrigerant line. The indoor unit is typically mounted high on the wall of the room that is being heated/cooled.

### BENEFITS

#### VERSATILITY

A single system delivers heat in the winter and cools your home in the summer.

#### WHOLE-HOME EFFICIENCY

Because an ASHP moves heat instead of generating it, the system delivers up to 3X more energy than the electricity it consumes.

#### COMFORT

Your air-source heat pump will deliver steady, automatic climate control to your home – even when switched to a backup fuel source.

#### SAVINGS

In addition to access to our low off-peak program rate, you can receive hundreds in co-op rebates.

#### VERSATILITY

A single system delivers heat in the winter and cools your home in the summer.

#### ZONE EFFICIENCY

The system only heats and cools the area that is necessary and transfers heat instead of generating it.

#### NO DUCTWORK

The system does not require ducts and can be installed easily in any room.

#### SAVINGS

In addition to the money saved in efficiency, the upfront cost may be covered in part by our rebate program.

### BEST USE

Whole-home heating/cooling

Spot heating/cooling in a home, or full heating in smaller shop or cabin

### CO-OP INCENTIVES

Rebate of up to \$750/ton installed  
Eligible for low off-peak program rate

Rebate of up to \$750/ton installed  
Eligible for low off-peak program rate



## VALUE OF ELECTRICITY

Learn more about Beltrami Electric's off-peak program and rebate eligibility at [beltramielectric.com](http://beltramielectric.com)!

# BELTRAMI ELECTRIC SELECTS Anika Harmsen of Bemidji as the 2025 Youth Tour Representative



Beltrami Electric Cooperative is proud to announce Anika Harmsen of Bemidji as its 2025 Youth Tour representative! A junior at Bemidji High School, Anika was selected for this honor after submitting a knowledgeable and accurate essay detailing what sets Beltrami Electric apart from other electric utilities.

Anika will join students from across the nation on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 16-21, where she will explore the nation's capitol, meet legislators and develop leadership skills.

Anika is an accomplished student-athlete, maintaining a 4.0 GPA while taking PSEO courses at Bemidji State University. She competes in soccer, Nordic skiing and track and field, serving as a team captain for multiple sports. A dedicated volunteer, she has been involved with the Special Olympics

Unified Partner program for over five years, supports the PinkySwear Foundation and serves as a Link Leader at her school. In addition, she balances three jobs as a lifeguard, youth sports leader and restaurant host.

Anika looks forward to visiting historic sites like the U.S. Supreme Court, Library of Congress and Holocaust Museum, and she hopes to pursue a career in law and politics.

"We're excited for Anika to experience the Youth Tour and engage with the legislative process firsthand," said Angela Lyseng, Youth Tour coordinator.

For over 58 years, the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour has provided students with an opportunity to explore Washington, D.C., and learn about the cooperative movement. Congratulations, Anika – we wish you an incredible journey!



## EMPLOYEE NEWS AROUND THE CO-OP

### CONGRATULATIONS TO JANICE RENNER ON HER RETIREMENT AND SERVICE!



Please join us in congratulating Janice Renner, Member Services Lead, on her retirement! Janice retired on May 2, 2025, after nearly five years of dedicated service to our members. Her commitment, expertise and warm presence have made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly

missed. As she begins this exciting new chapter, Janice is looking forward to spending more time with family, morning kayaking adventures and enjoying coffee on the deck with her husband. Thank you, Janice, for your outstanding contributions and dedication. We wish you all the best in your well-earned retirement – may it be filled with joy, relaxation and wonderful adventures ahead!

### MELISSA SCHROTH PROMOTED TO MEMBER SERVICES LEAD



We are pleased to announce that Melissa Schroth has accepted the Member Services Lead position. Melissa began her career with Beltrami Electric Cooperative (BEC) in September 2013 as a Receptionist/Cashier. Her dedication and commitment to serving our members led

to her promotion to Member Services Representative in February 2015. Over the years, Melissa has played a vital role in assisting our members with their service needs, always providing exceptional support and expertise. Please join us in congratulating Melissa on her well-deserved promotion! We look forward to her continued contributions in her new leadership role.

# Classifieds

## Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the following dates:
  - **JUNE ISSUE:** Submit by May 5.
  - **JULY ISSUE:** Submit between May 5 and June 4.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at [www.beltramielctric.com](http://www.beltramielctric.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:

22-250 reloading dies, 45 rds. of ammunition, 69 rds. of primed brass and 90 rds. of un-primed brass, \$80 cash, call 9 a.m. or after Mon. to Fri. 218-444-2958.

1998 Larson 186 Sei I/O 4.3L/200HP

with only 365 hours. Single owner well maintained, and it shows. Kept on covered boat lift during boating season and stored indoors in the off-season. Asking \$5,995. 763-234-9128.

Fiberglass topper for Ford F150 standard bed, good condition, \$400/obo. 2 pairs of professional skateboard shoes, women's size 10½. New, toe box too small. Paid \$150, asking \$100. Oracle hearing aid, new, never worn. Paid \$150, asking \$100. 218-751-2003.

14' Crestliner aluminum boat with 15HP Evinrude outboard motor, \$800. Plus, other 14' aluminum boats: Lund, Mirrocraft and Alumacraft, a 9.9HP Evinrude, older 10HP Johnson motors. Call 218-760-8266.

Misc. scrap iron/steel, various lengths and weights. Want to sell them all at once. I can text pictures upon request. Artificial 7' Spruce Christmas tree w/stand, \$25. Leave message/number if no answer. 218-586-2962.

North Star horizontal/vertical log splitter, 37 ton, 270cc Honda GX270 engine. Bought 5 years ago. Used very little, like new. Asking \$2,000. 218-444-2280, ask for Steve.

2017 Jayco Eagle, HT 37', 5th wheel, 2-bedroom, extra outside kitchen, articulated hitch available. 2021 F-250 SuperDuty Lariat, 7.3 engine, 67K miles. Selling as package - \$74,800. Call 218-839-4641.

Wilson ProStaff right hand golf clubs with bag; All season fabric cover for

32+' class A motor home; 6 ft. folding ladder; Roadmaster Falcon Tow bar: Surge Guard voltage regulator 120 volt 30 amp; heavy duty booster/jumper with 11' cable; Spectrum DX5e radio system for RC airplane. 218-547-1836.

2018 Kia Soul Basic, 46,000 miles, 4-door, automatic trans, gray color cloth interior, anti-theft done and steering wheel bar included. Car cover included. Call 218-444-2280.

Older Club Cab electric golf cart, needs batteries, has charger, \$50. Mower deck for 2006 Yard-man 46" mower, \$50. Husqvarna gas leaf blower, needs tune-up, \$25. Two Busch pool table lights, excellent shape, in boxes, \$125 each or \$200 for both. 320-345-1145.

Earthquake rototiller, OHN, 99cc, model 20015, best offer. 218-751-0863.

FISHING! Rods, reels, landing nets, coolers, baits (\$15 retail-now \$5). Twelve ft. surfcasting rod w/200 Penn reel, protective fabric sleeve (\$300 value now \$100). Gaff hook \$7. High seas marine binoculars for large lakes, waterproof, fog proof, w. case. \$200. 218-586-2884.

Remington Model 11 sportsman 12 gauge shotgun (Browning A5 patent) very nice shape with engraving and Lyman Cutts choke system \$650. 612-747-5922.

2012 Ram 1500 SLT 5.7L V8, Big Horn, quad cab, 4x4, with topper, 97K miles, one owner, good condition, \$13,000. 612-810-1443.

Queen mattress and box spring

set with frame, \$75, King set \$125. Both clean and good condition. 701-740-1916.

Lecltric eBike, low miles, \$750. Specialized mountain bike, like new, \$200. Trek girls' mountain bike, \$50. Call 218-243-2958 or 218-368-2058.

Restored oak rocker, \$75. Restored 3-drawer dresser (44"L x 19½"D), \$75. Sewing machines, \$15 each. 4-5-6-inch Block, Crazy, Star quilts: Twin, \$50; full, \$60; Queen, \$70; King, \$90. 218-243-2702.

"Hilda Jeanetta"-1985 sought-after red head signed by Xavier. "Ryan Gerold"-1978 curly brown hair, blue-eyed with dimples and freckles showing his two front teeth. Two 1900 Antique Asbestos Sad Irons with removable cover, wood handles. Will accept reasonable offers. 218-536-0102. Leave message.

Bostitch pneumatic floor nailer. Model MIIIIFN. Includes hammer. Great condition. \$200. Please call 612-859-6740.

Corner china cabinet. 4 glass shelves and interior light. Curved corners. A beautiful display. \$150 firm. Call before 7 p.m. to 218-751-8191.

Raspberry plants/roots, singles or bundles. Reasonable price. Call for price and availability. 218-224-3688.

Bow - PSE Stringer 3G HP, 50-70#, 75% let off, hard case - like new extras \$275. 218-333-1314.

2014 38GK Redwood 5th wheel. This RV is built for adventure or full-time living. 3 slides; +slide within a slide in the bedroom. Kitchen: cherry

cabinets, 2 pantries, residential fridge, convection microwave, oven, dishwasher, and a large island. Living room: 2 heat and massage recliners, sleeper sofa, large screen TV, fireplace. Call 218-556-0267.

Delta dust collector, 35-gallon, excellent condition, \$135. LG portable air conditioner, barely used, \$100. White ash, basswood and pine lumber mixed lengths and widths various prices. 218-766-7333.

Like New 22-inch 6-hole GMC Snowflake chrome rims with fair rubber \$1,600. Phone 218-444-5711.

## Wanted:

Aluminum canoe 15' to 18' in length. Call 218-760-8266.

Pet sitting. Retired teacher to care for your pets, your house or mine 218-766-6510.

Looking for old, used metal stock tanks. do not need to hold water. Call 218-224-3688.

## Free:

16-volume set of Childcraft books, includes many topics with great pictures, easy to read. Includes bookshelf. 218-443-0426.

Firewood, standing dead and live scattered hardwood trees. Need to bring your own chainsaw. Call 218-760-8266.

Free firewood. Trees downed by winds. Close, easy access from the driveway. You cut and haul. 218-766-9881.

## MAY READER'S CONTEST

For your chance to be entered in a drawing to **win a \$10 credit** on your bill, correctly answer the questions and include with your payment or mail to: BEC, P.O. Box 488, Bemidji, MN 56619. Or email answers to [info@beltramielctric.com](mailto:info@beltramielctric.com) with the subject line "Reader's Contest." Be sure to include your name and BEC account number. **Entries must be received by May 25.**

1. If you are building a new home and want to know what different types of systems will cost to heat your new home, ask BEC about \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Beltrami Electric has selected \_\_\_\_\_ as the 2025 Youth Tour Representative.
3. This year's Energy Resources Tour is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_.

Member Name:	BEC Account Number:	Phone/Email address:

Congratulations to our March contest winner: Paul R. Pedersen/Amber Morales

Memorial Day



Beltrami Electric Cooperative's offices will be closed on

**Monday, May 26,**

in observance of Memorial Day.

# OPERATION ROUND UP®

## Small Change, Big Impact



Beltrami Electric Cooperative’s Operation Round Up® program continues to showcase the power of collective giving, helping local nonprofit and community organizations thrive. In April, the Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust Board carefully reviewed 39 grant applications requesting \$114,103 in funding. With \$40,191 in available funds, the board faced tough decisions but ultimately awarded \$40,190 to 21 deserving organizations – ensuring vital programs receive the support they need.

### HOW OPERATION ROUND UP WORKS

Operation Round Up is a voluntary giving program where participating Beltrami Electric members round up their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar. While the average donation is just 50 cents per month (or \$6 a year), these small contributions add up – creating a meaningful funding source for community projects.

### KEY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- ♦ 100% of donations go directly to local nonprofits and community groups.
- ♦ Funds are managed in a separate trust, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- ♦ A five-member volunteer board – comprised of Beltrami Electric co-op members – oversees fund distribution.
- ♦ Contributions are tax-deductible and voluntary, with members able to opt in or out at any time.

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

From youth programs and emergency services to healthcare initiatives and community development, Operation Round Up helps fund projects that improve lives across our region. It proves that even the smallest contributions can create a lasting impact when a community comes together.

### BELTRAMI ELECTRIC TRUST BOARD FOR OPERATION ROUND UP

Kay Mack, Bemidji; Miriam Osborn-Dougherty, Blackduck; Sharon Hadrava, Laporte; Jean Diffley, Bemidji; Marne Waldo, Kelliher.

## The following organizations were awarded Operation Round Up grants in April:

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	GRANT
Bemidji Career Academies	Bemidji Career Academies & Exploring Program	\$ 500
Let’s Go Fishing of MN - Bemidji Chapter	Let’s Go Fishing summer fishing program	\$ 1,500
Bemidji Middle School Robotics	BMS Robotics – Worlds Competition 2025	\$ 500
Bemidji Symphony Orchestra	The Paths of Dignity project	\$ 1,440
Bemidji Veterans Memorial Board	Gold Star Family Memorial component to Bemidji Veterans Memorial	\$ 2,500
Blackduck Area Senior Center	Electrical system upgrade, water line repairs	\$ 2,500
Blackduck Woodcarvers Festival	2025 Blackduck Woodcarvers Festival	\$ 1,500
Boys & Girls Club of Bemidji Area	Blackduck Branch: youth summer financial aid	\$ 2,500
Hope House	Sensory furnishings for Hope House	\$ 2,250
Evergreen Youth & Family Services, Inc.	Water heater/dish sanitizer for Evergreen Shelter Program	\$ 2,500
Headwaters Science Center	Transportation assistance for school’s student groups, African River Tank featuring electric fish	\$ 2,500
Kelliher Fire & Rescue / City of Kelliher	LUCAS chest compression system	\$ 4,000
Lead for Inclusion	Inclusion Works program for youth with intellectual/development disabilities	\$ 2,000
Northern Lights Council	Career exploration program: TrekNorth and Voyageurs High Schools	\$ 1,000
Northwoods Habitat for Humanity	Construction costs	\$ 1,000
Occupational Development Center	New day services support & training site	\$ 1,500
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Philip’s Conference	Hope in Bemidji program	\$ 4,000
The Nature Connection	2025 Educational Birds of Prey (Raptors) presentations	\$ 500
Unbridled Ranch	Woodworking and construction trades workshop for youth	\$ 1,000
United Way of Bemidji Area	Backpack Buddies program in Bemidji, Kelliher and Red Lake	\$ 3,000
Youth Emergency Shelter & Supports	Laporte Mobile Closet & Beyond backpacks program	\$ 2,000

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### 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*; Kevin Geerdes, *DISTRICT 3*; Craig Gaasvig, *DISTRICT 4*; Robert Wallner, *DISTRICT 5*; Rick Coe, *DISTRICT 6*

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

**Editor** ..... Angela Lyseng

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

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

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

**Email:** [info@beltramielectric.com](mailto:info@beltramielectric.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. Find service territories for electrical inspectors here: <https://workplace.doli.state.mn.us/jurisdiction/>

### BELTRAMI & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Wade Koons | 218-580-8589  
[wade.koons@state.mn.us](mailto:wade.koons@state.mn.us)

### CASS & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Tony Kohrs | 218-616-1554  
[tony.kohrs@state.mn.us](mailto:tony.kohrs@state.mn.us)

### 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 a 48-hour notification so that buried telephone lines, TV cable, pipelines, and utility electric 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.

# ASK THE EXPERT!



## WHERE DOES BELTRAMI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S POWER COME FROM?



**Angela Lyseng**  
*Communications Specialist*

**Q: Who supplies the electricity distributed by Beltrami Electric Cooperative?**

**A:** Beltrami Electric Cooperative purchases its electricity from Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier. Minnkota's corporate headquarters are based in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and it owns and operates several generation stations across the state.

**Q: What kind of energy sources does Minnkota use for power generation?**

**A:** Minnkota's energy portfolio includes a diverse mix of coal, wind and hydro resources. This balanced approach helps ensure a reliable and sustainable energy supply for our members.

**Q: Does Minnkota purchase power from Canada?**

**A:** No, Minnkota does not rely on Canadian electricity purchases. This means that tariffs or trade regulations on Canadian power imports do not directly affect our energy costs or supply. By maintaining energy independence, our members are protected from potential price increases or supply disruptions.

**Q: Can members see where their power comes from?**

**A:** Absolutely! Every July, we offer members the chance to tour our generation resources and see firsthand how our power is produced. The tour includes visits to Minnkota Power Cooperative, Oliver III Wind Energy, Garrison Dam, Milton R. Young Station and BNI Coal.

**Q: When is this year's tour, and how can I sign up?**

**A:** This year's tour is scheduled for July 15-17. Registration opens in June, and more details will be available in next month's Northern Lights publication. We encourage all interested members to join us for this insightful experience! For further questions, feel free to reach out to Beltrami Electric Cooperative. We're happy to help!