

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

As a member of Beltrami Electric, you're not a customer, you're an owner. That ownership powers more than the electricity delivered to your home or business. It powers local decision-making, reliable service, community support, energy-saving programs and investments that strengthen our system for future generations.

Throughout this report, you'll see how **THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP** is reflected in everything we do and how the cooperative difference continues to benefit the members and communities we serve.

Northern Lights
August 2026



**Beltrami Electric
Cooperative Inc.**



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS

John Lund, Board Chair (*left*)

Jared Echternach, President & CEO (*right*)



The Power of Membership

You may have heard the saying, "If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together." Eighty-six years ago, friends and neighbors made the decision to "go far" when they formed Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

For more than eight decades your cooperative has gone far together, building a distribution network of 3,600 miles over 3,000 square miles of service territory. From a handful of visionary directors and employees in 1945 to a dedicated team of nine board members and 65 employees today, we are here to serve our members – sometimes under challenging conditions.

As part of a member-owned electric cooperative, you have a voice. Your cooperative is governed by a locally elected board of directors that is charged with governing your cooperative in the best interests of the membership. They don't answer to distant shareholders – they answer to you, our member owners. Our board and employees are accessible and available. They work and play in the communities we serve. As a member, you can be involved as much or as little as you wish. You can attend meetings and events, you can run for the board of directors, you can vote in director elections and your voice helps guide the decisions that impact your cooperative.

The Power of Growth

Your cooperative continues to grow at a steady and manageable pace. Last year your cooperative completed its first year of a four-year construction work plan, continuing to invest in your distribution system to improve safety, service and reliability. Line crews constructed 301 new services and performed 70 service improvements.

The Power of Safety and Reliability

Safety is our number one priority, and we continue to focus our efforts in this area. Our board and employees are committed to working safely, and we actively deliver that safety message in the communities we serve through educational sessions, safety material and demonstrations. We continue to be reliable. On average, our members experience about one outage per year, and our average response time is around 98 minutes. We are proud of

our employees for their commitment to safety and for their dedication to providing excellent service to our members.

The Power of Ownership

As a cooperative, margins realized at the end of the year are allocated to the membership based on their patronage. The allocations are later retired in the form of capital credits. Last year your cooperative returned more than \$1.4 million in capital credits to current and former members.

Our wholesale power rates increased 4.1% in April 2026. Internal costs have also increased and as a result, we adjusted our retail rate with the April billing cycle with the average residential member experiencing a 6.1% increase. Approximately 65 cents of every dollar you pay on your electric bill goes toward the cost of wholesale power.

The Power of Democracy

We hope you can join us at your annual meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Beltrami County Fair. The annual business meeting will be held at the Shutter Stage beginning at 5 p.m., where we will provide members with an update on their cooperative. We will have food vouchers for members, a safety demonstration, a duck pond and bucket rides for kids, and we will sponsor the musical entertainment.

The Power of Gratitude

We do not take our responsibility of serving our members lightly. Your board and employees are dedicated to providing excellent service and strive to improve each and every day. We know we cannot do this without you, our members. Thank you for your patronage and support and for being a member. We are committed to serving you to the best of our ability.

With gratitude,

Jared Echternach
President & CEO

John Lund
Chair, Board of Directors

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2025



The annual meeting of the members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative was held at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds in Bemidji, Minnesota, on Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2025, commencing at 5 p.m. John Lund presided as Chair. The following directors were present:

Murl Nord
Craig Gaasvig

Sue Kringen
Charlie Perkins

Bob Wallner
Sharon Lembke

Kevin Geerdes
John Lund

Chair Lund called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. Rick Coe was absent. Chair Lund asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, invocation and national anthem. Director Sharon Lembke gave the invocation and sang the national anthem.

Chair Lund announced a quorum with 821 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 2024 annual meeting were approved without objection.

Chair Lund introduced current directors and recognized Mike Monsrud and Dennis Zeto, 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 to declare all three uncontested candidates elected to serve their respective districts. A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried. Attorney Sam Schmitz then announced Murl Nord, Bob Wallner, and Sue Kringen as Directors of Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

Communications Specialist Angela Lyseng reported on Operation Round Up. Anika Harmsen, Youth Tour delegate, reported on her recent trip to Washington, D.C.

Director of Finance and Corporate Services Arlene Hogquist presented the annual financial report. President and CEO Jared Echternach addressed the membership, recognizing special guests, reporting on the past year's performance, the storm of 2025, safety and the cooperative's 85th anniversary.

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 5:32 p.m.

MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION

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.

OUR VISION

That the members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative realize the benefits of their membership, as we strive to be their trusted energy partner.

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

IS LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS MAKING LOCAL DECISIONS

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, we were built by the communities we serve to deliver safe, reliable, sustainable and affordable energy. Because we answer to local members like you, rather than out-of-town shareholders, our electric cooperative has a unique understanding of our local needs. Being a member of a cooperative distinguishes you from other electric utility consumers and from other business relationships in important ways.



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



Kevin Geerdes
Director
District 3



Craig Gaasvig
Director
District 4



Robert Wallner
Director
District 5



Rick Coe
Director
District 6
Minnkota Director

Co-op leaders are members of our local communities.

Our nine board members live right here in our local area and are elected by co-op members just like you. Your membership matters because you have a vote in how your cooperative is governed. Members elect the board of directors from their friends and neighbors. Board members serve three-year terms and elections are held at our annual meeting.

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

IS REBATES AND OFF-PEAK PROGRAMS

WHY IT MATTERS

Your electric cooperative is more than your power provider. We're your energy partner. Membership comes with programs and expert services designed to help you save money.

SAVE WITH REBATES

Whether you're upgrading your home or business, rebates can help reduce your upfront costs for:

- Heat pumps
- Off-peak electric heating
- Off-peak electric water heaters
- Off-peak electric vehicle charging
- Commercial lighting and refrigeration

LOWER YOUR ELECTRIC RATE WITH OFF-PEAK

Enroll qualifying electric heating systems, water heaters or EV chargers on our Off-Peak Program and receive a lower energy rate. In return, these loads may be temporarily interrupted during periods of high electric demand.

THE PAYOFF

Participating members enjoy lower costs while helping control wholesale power costs for the entire cooperative.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Not sure which heating system is right for your home? Experiencing higher-than-expected energy bills or issues with your electric heating system?

OUR ENERGY EXPERTS OFFER:

- HeatSmart heat loss calculations with annual heating cost estimates
- Home energy evaluations to help identify ways to lower your electric bill
- Electric heat maintenance

BOTTOM LINE

Before you invest in new equipment, contact us first. We'll help you maximize rebates, determine if Off-Peak is right for you and find the most cost-effective solution for your home or business.



Energy Services-Business Development

Team: Chris Henriksen, electrician; Ayla Kranz, business development coordinator; Bob Gregg, business development manager; Festus Rockensock, lead electrician



*That's the cooperative difference.
That's the power of membership.*

2026 DIRECTOR CANDIDATE VOTING OPTIONS

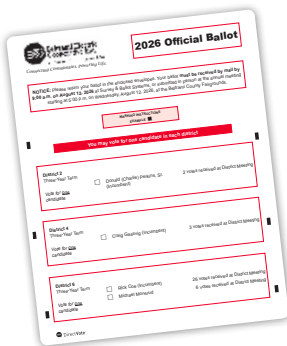


Cooperatives are **democratic entities**, owned by those they serve and governed by elected representatives from the membership. In fact, one of the seven cooperative principles is Democratic Member Control. This year, members are voting for candidates in Districts 2, 4 and 6.

WE OFFER MULTIPLE WAYS TO CAST YOUR VOTE!

1 VOTE BY MAIL

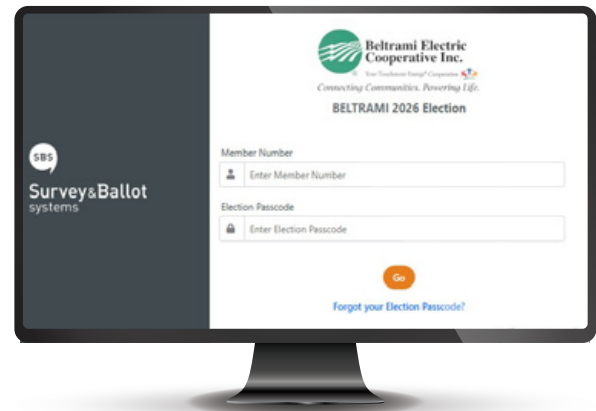
Your mailed ballot must be received by 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026.



Election ballots are scheduled to be mailed to all members around July 20. The ballots will look like the sample to the left. The candidates will be listed by district, then alphabetically.

To vote by mail, complete your ballot, place the ballot in the white, secrecy envelope and seal. Place the secrecy envelope in the blue, pre-addressed, postage-paid return envelope and mail. The ballots will be mailed directly to our election company, SBS, to tabulate.

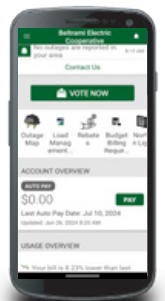
Election results will be announced at the annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12, and will be printed in the September Northern Lights.



2 VOTE ONLINE

Online voting must be completed by 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026.

Visit our election page at <https://www.directvote.net/Beltrami>. Log in with your member number and election passcode located on the back tab of the blue return envelope mailed to you.



If you're a registered user on SmartHub, you will also receive an email with a link to vote online. Access your online ballot by logging into SmartHub at beltramielectric.smarthub.coop and click the **VOTE NOW** button, or open the SmartHub app and vote there.

3 VOTE IN PERSON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

- Vote in person at the annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds.
- The voting tent will be located next to the Shutter Stage.
- Voting opens at 4 p.m. and ballots will be accepted until 5 p.m., when the annual meeting begins.



MEET YOUR DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



District 2 – DONALD (CHARLIE) PERKINS, SR. (Incumbent)

Charlie Perkins is a resident of Red Lake and has dedicated more than three decades to the electrical and maintenance field. He is employed as a maintenance worker at Red Lake Hospital, where he performs preventative HVAC maintenance and works on generators, high-voltage circuits, power meters and other electrical systems. Charlie graduated from Red Lake High School, completed the two-year carpentry program at Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Detroit Lakes, and studied industrial technology at Bemidji State University. Charlie enjoys spending time with his three children and three grandchildren, along with hiking, camping and target shooting. Charlie has represented District 2 on the Beltrami Electric Board of Directors since 2017, continuing a family tradition of cooperative leadership. His sister, Lea Perkins, served on the board for 12 years, and his father served for eight years. He draws on his extensive electrical knowledge and industry experience to represent the interests of cooperative members.

"It has been an honor to serve the members of Beltrami Electric. I am proud to continue my family's legacy of service while using more than 33 years of electrical experience to help educate members and support sound decisions. I remain committed to providing reliable, affordable electric service and working hard for the members we serve."



District 4 – CRAIG GAASVIG (Incumbent)

Craig Gaasvig has lived in the Bemidji area his entire life and has called Port Hope Township home for the past 27 years. He recently retired after nearly 32 years as an account manager with North Country Business Products. Craig earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics with a

secondary education licensure from Bemidji State University and holds a power-limited technician license. Craig and his wife, Karen, have two sons and one grandson. He enjoys fishing, hunting, traveling, gardening and spending time with family. Craig has represented District 4 on the Beltrami Electric Board of Directors since 2017, earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certification through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and is committed to staying informed on issues affecting electric cooperatives. He served 12 years as a Port Hope Township supervisor and is serving his second term on the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners. He also serves on several local and regional boards focused on economic development, emergency services and regional planning.

"Serving the members of BEC has been a privilege. I believe in being prepared, listening to members and making informed decisions that support our mission. I study the material before each meeting, remain accessible and am committed to providing reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices."



District 6 – RICK COE (Incumbent)

Rick Coe has been a member of Beltrami Electric Cooperative for more than 43 years and has lived in the Bemidji area for over 53 years. He retired from Bemidji Public Schools after a career as a teacher, counselor and coach. Rick earned a bachelor's degree in biology and general science and a master's degree in guidance counseling.

Rick and his wife, Mickie, have three grown children and five grandchildren. He enjoys spending time with family, fishing, hunting, playing hockey and woodworking. He has also been actively involved in the community, coaching youth hockey and baseball for more than 30 years and serving on youth sports, church and community boards. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and has served on its board. Rick has represented District 6 on the Beltrami Electric Cooperative Board of Directors since 2008. He has also served on the Minnkota Power Cooperative Board for 14 years and the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) Board for 12 years, gaining valuable experience in cooperative governance and the electric utility industry.

"Serving the members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative has been a privilege. My experience serving on the Beltrami Electric, Minnkota and MREA boards has helped me make informed decisions for our members. I remain committed to providing reliable, safe and affordable electric service and clean energy. The most important duty of a director is to serve their members, and I am always available to you as a member. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue serving."



District 6 – MIKE MONSRUD

Mike Monsrud brings more than 48 years of experience in the electric utility industry and cooperative leadership to his candidacy for the Beltrami Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Bemidji State University and began his utility career as a helper before advancing to lineman and line foreman. Through continued education and

professional growth, he retired in 2019 as president and CEO of Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative. Mike and his wife, Sue, have eight children, 23 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He enjoys gardening, bird feeding, home remodeling and cheering on his grandchildren at sporting events. During his career, Mike also served as general manager of Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative and utility manager for the City of Bagley. He has worked with Minnkota Power Cooperative and other generation and transmission cooperatives and served on numerous industry, community and nonprofit boards. Mike also served 15 months on the Beltrami Electric Board of Directors in 2023 and 2024, earning his Credentialed Cooperative Director certification through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association before relocating to District 6.

"The cooperative business model has been at the center of my career for nearly five decades. My experience in utility operations, cooperative governance and industry leadership has prepared me to serve the members of Beltrami Electric. I will work to keep rates stable, maintain reliable electric service and strengthen our cooperative and the communities we serve."

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

IS BEING COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE



Angela Lyseng
Communications
Specialist

At Beltrami Electric Cooperative, our commitment extends far beyond providing safe and reliable electricity. As a cooperative, we are guided by the seventh Cooperative Principle, Concern for Community, which means investing in the places we call home and supporting the people who make them thrive.

Throughout the year, you'll find our employees volunteering for, sponsoring and participating in community events across our service area, from local celebrations like Kelliher Days, Laporte Days, Backwoods Bash, the Beltrami County Fair and Bemidji's Night We Light Parade, to school booster clubs, robotics teams, youth organizations and countless local nonprofits. We are proud to support education through scholarships, the Rural Electric Youth Tour, safety education and member energy tours.

Through Operation Round Up®, our members have helped provide hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to local organizations that strengthen our communities. Our employees also give back through initiatives like the United Way of Bemidji Area's campaign, our Mitten Tree, volunteer service, coaching youth sports and many other community efforts.

Because we live and work alongside the members we serve, giving back isn't just something we do. It's who we are. Thank you for being part of a cooperative that is committed to making our communities stronger today and for generations to come.



We awarded eight high school seniors scholarships in 2025.



Our employees and fundraising events contributed \$38,832 to the United Way of Bemidji Area in 2025.



We sponsored one high school junior on the Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., in June 2025.

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

IS BUILDING RELIABILITY LONG BEFORE THE STORM



Ryan Rogers
Line
Superintendent

June 20, 2025, started with reports of a storm coming. I remember thinking, how bad could it be? As we all know now, it was pretty bad.

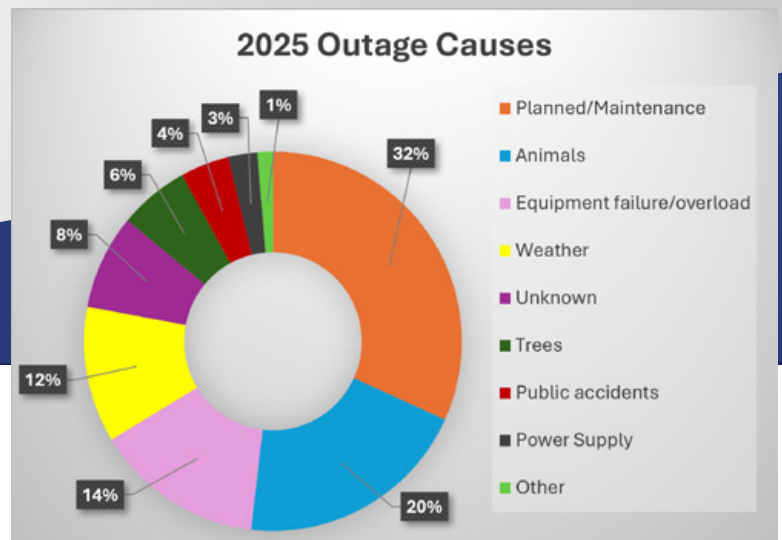
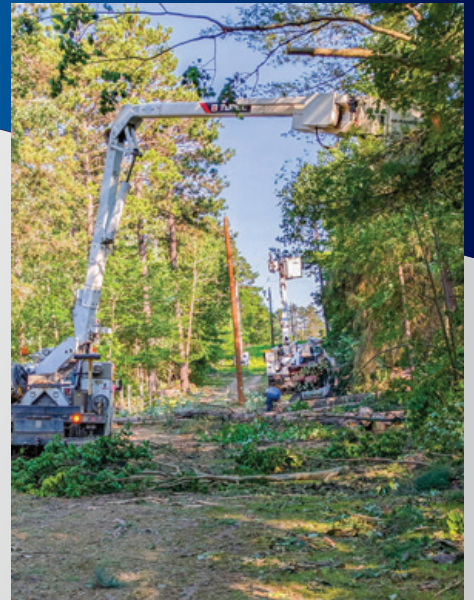
When most people think about the cooperative, they think about the electricity that powers their homes and businesses. But during the storm, I saw a different kind of power. I saw the teamwork, planning and cooperation that made a safe and efficient restoration possible.

I was called in around 3 a.m. With cell towers down, communication was limited. Living south of Bemidji, things didn't seem too bad when I left home, but as I got closer to town, I could see the damage was much worse than I expected.

As our crews assessed the system, we quickly realized we had a major restoration effort ahead of us. Behind the scenes, neighboring cooperatives were already reaching out to provide mutual aid. Five neighboring co-ops answered the call, bringing skilled crews and equipment to help restore power safely and efficiently. That's the cooperative way: cooperatives helping cooperatives.

As I drove from outage to outage, I couldn't help but think how much worse it could have been. Through our construction work plan, we identify areas that need improvement and invest in projects that strengthen reliability. Overhead to underground conversions along Adams Avenue, Star Island and Moose Lake are some examples. Without those upgrades, restoring power would have taken much longer.

The storm reminded me that reliable power isn't just about restoring electricity after an outage. It's about the planning, investments and teamwork that happen every day to build a stronger electric system for the members we serve. That's the power of membership, and it's something I'm proud to be part of.



CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2025 & 2024

ASSETS	2025	2024
WHAT WE OWN:		
Electric utility plant	\$ 112,226,199	\$ 110,474,804
Total other property and investments	15,246,403	14,322,889
Total cash and investments	3,723,163	4,008,792
Accounts receivable, less allowance for uncollectible accounts	9,353,415	7,956,998
Materials and supplies	2,018,411	1,761,142
Other current assets	453,156	408,101
Deferred debits	138,998	147,783
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 143,159,745	\$ 139,080,509
EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES		
WHAT WE OWE:		
Total equities	\$ 54,971,368	\$ 52,114,519
Long-term debt, net of current maturities	76,709,159	76,349,588
Other non-current liabilities	388,159	310,047
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Current maturities of long-term debt	3,636,456	3,454,172
Accounts payable	4,804,208	4,377,359
Other current liabilities	1,973,884	1,872,240
Deferred credits	676,511	602,584
TOTAL EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES	\$ 143,159,745	\$ 139,080,509

EQUITY

Equity is the amount of the cooperative assets the members own.

- Member equity for 2025 is 38.40%, up from 37.47% in 2024.

ELECTRIC PLANT ADDED

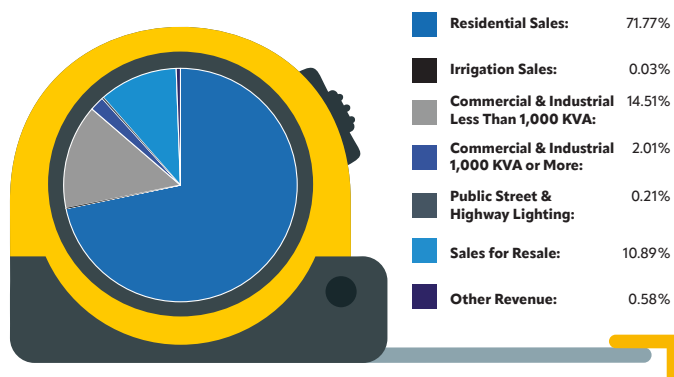
Electric plant is BEC's distribution system that includes wire, transformers, poles and other equipment necessary to deliver electricity to our members.

- Underground line increased 15 miles in 2025, bringing the system to 76% underground.
- \$5.2M of plant was added in 2025, with an additional \$423K under construction at the end of the year.
- BEC's electric plant has grown by \$42M in the last 10 years.

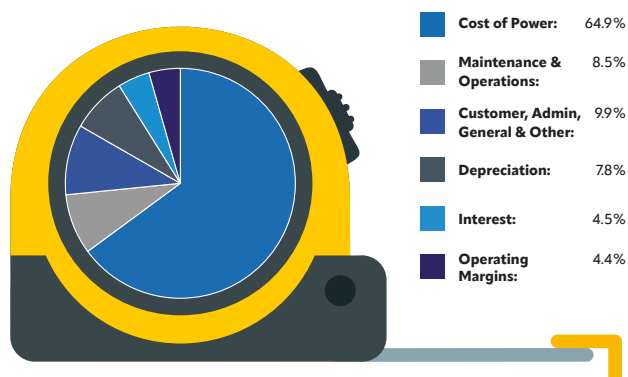
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	2025	2024
WHERE IT CAME FROM:		
Total operating revenue	\$ 62,660,058	\$ 60,162,555
WHERE IT WENT:		
Cost of power and generation	\$ 40,671,519	\$ 41,777,325
Distribution – operation and maintenance	5,343,424	5,093,829
Customer service and information	3,359,852	3,106,543
Administrative and general	2,822,289	2,574,195
Depreciation	4,908,810	4,738,260
Interest on long-term debt	2,804,463	2,690,199
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 59,910,357	\$ 59,980,351
NET OPERATING MARGIN	\$ 2,749,701	\$ 182,204
NON-OPERATING MARGINS (LOSSES):		
Other cooperative capital credits	\$ 776,476	\$ 531,353
Merchandising, jobbing and contract work, net of costs	14,222	9,842
Rent of headquarters second floor, net of costs	3,820	(8,705)
Loss on disposition of property	(424)	5,738
Investment income	180,747	144,807
Cooperative Development, LLC (net of income taxes)	560,778	319,183
Income tax benefit (expense)	(116,130)	(41,943)
Miscellaneous lease and maintenance income	0	(171)
Beltrami Electric Solar, LLC	0	4,844
TOTAL NON-OPERATING MARGIN	\$ 1,419,489	\$ 964,948
NET MARGIN	\$ 4,169,190	\$ 1,147,152

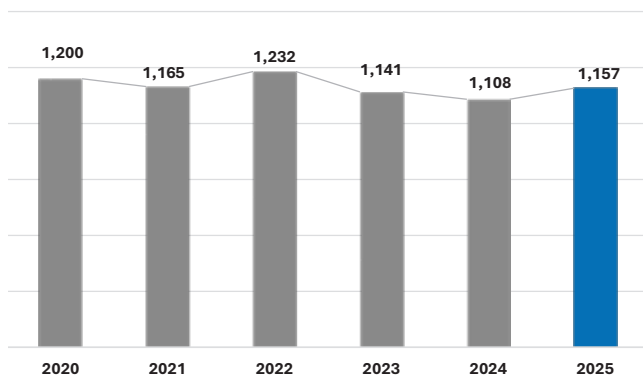
2025 SOURCES OF REVENUE



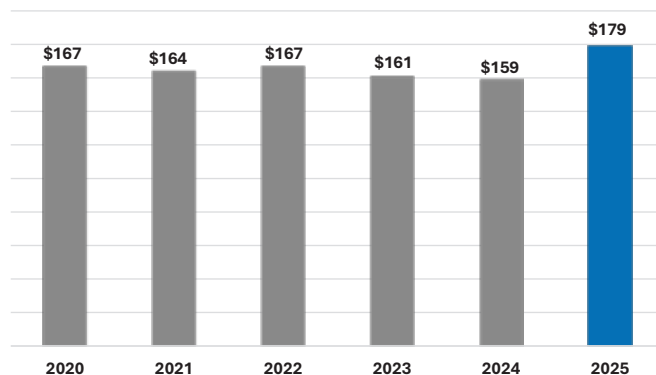
2025 USES OF REVENUE



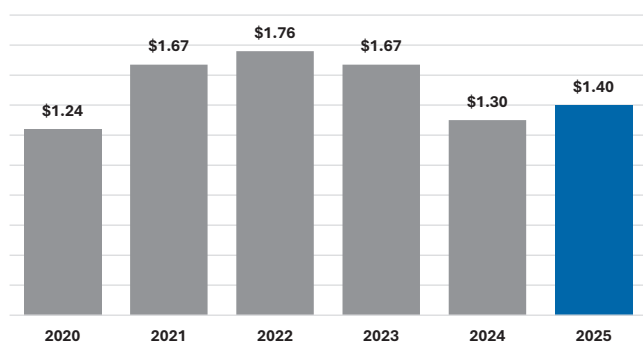
AVERAGE MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC USE (kWh)



AVERAGE MONTHLY RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC BILL

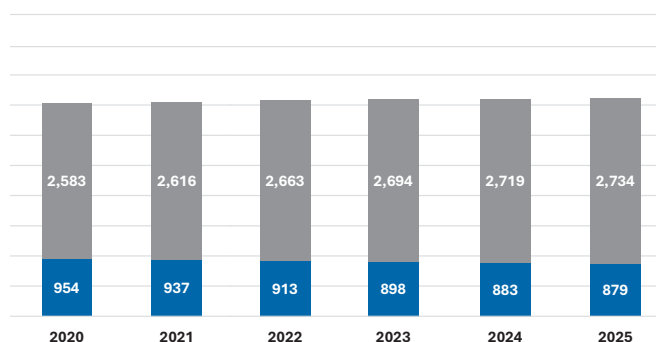


CAPITAL CREDIT RETIREMENTS (In Millions of Dollars)



MILES OF LINE

■ Overhead ■ Underground



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., which comprise the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, 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. as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, 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. | Grand Forks, North Dakota | March 9, 2026

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP

IS OPERATION ROUND UP®

One of the greatest examples of the cooperative difference is Operation Round Up®, where the collective generosity of our members creates meaningful change throughout our communities.

2025 BY THE NUMBERS



75% member participation



\$82,201 awarded in 2025



47 grants approved



Average member gives \$5.76/year



\$855,865 granted since 2016

Grants are awarded twice each year by the volunteer Operation Round Up Board of Trustees and support projects in four focus areas:

Community Service, Economic Development, Education & Youth, Environment

We extend our sincere appreciation to the volunteer Operation Round Up Board of Trustees for their thoughtful stewardship of this program:



Kay Mack, *President*; Miriam Osborn-Dougherty, *Vice President*; Sharon Hadrava, *Secretary/Treasurer*; Jean Diffley; Marne Waldo

Most importantly, thank you to the thousands of Beltrami

Electric Cooperative members who choose to participate. Your generosity proves that small change truly creates lasting impact, making our communities stronger today and for generations to come.



Great River Rescue received a grant to install a security system for safety at the shelter.



Kelliher Fire & Rescue received a grant for a LUCAS automatic chest compression system.



The Boys & Girls Club in Blackduck received a grant to assist qualifying families with club fees for their children.



Red Lake Nation College received a grant for its Strong Bodies, Strong Communities Fitness Center at the school.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the following dates:
 - **SEPTEMBER ISSUE:** Submit by August 1.
- Please submit ads here: beltramelectric.com/submit-ad.
- 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.
- Ads are published at no charge as space permits on a first-received, first-printed basis, **with no guarantee your ad will appear.**

For Sale:

Homemade quilts: Block, Crazy, Star. Twin, \$50; Full, \$60; Queen, \$80; King, \$90. Lap, baby quilts, \$30. 218-243-2702.

John Deere STX-38 Tractor: 38" cut, 2 bagger. Runs good, cuts well. Stored inside. \$750. Pics to share, on Big Turtle Lake. 651-492-6709.

1650 Lund Angler. Like new. Used 5 days. 25 hp, Minnesota electric. Hummingbird electronics. \$15,000. 651-491-1466.

TV - Radio tower. 6-8 foot sections, triangular base. Bob 218-443-0426.

16-ft Lund fishing boat with 25 hp Yamaha motor and trailer, \$2,495. Couch-sleeper, 6-ft long, good shape, \$50. 218-335-2328.

Elk Hunters/Campers: 2 sleeping bags, one rated -20; 2 hardside gun cases, both hold 2 scoped rifles; great backpack; sleep mats; rain suits; water purifier; large duffel. All used, but not much. Best offer, will negotiate. 218-556-1213.

2005 Cyclone Rake Pro leaf collector, \$400. 40-foot TV antenna tower. 4 sections with base, mounting brackets and hardware, \$400. Mankato portable fish house, \$40. 218-556-3026.

Nike shoes, size 15½, \$150. Nike shoes, size 18, new, never worn, asking \$150. Nike shoes, size 15½, asking \$20. Adidas shoes, size 20, asking \$15. Adidas high top shoes, size 17, \$40. 218-444-9422.

ProForm treadmill heavy-duty, has incline and decline. Can subscribe to iFit for preprograms, has LCD screen to "run" seaside, mountainside etc. Had not been used much-too many health issues show up yearly - was \$1,500 new, asking \$499. Text 218-766-8503 for info/pics.

Whole house fan, Air King model 9166, high velocity air circulator, 3-speed intake or exhaust coverage 1,000 sq. ft., window mount. Works well, light usage, like new. Selling at 40% discount, \$175. New load

handler model 2000 pickup truck ton unloader. Tailgate attachment without drilling or welding. 30% discount, \$110. 218-536-1341.

Flotec submersible water pump, 1/4 hp. water hose connection, used once to drain swimming pool, \$35. Can send pics, will meet in town. Mike 218-444-4767.

Kenwood PKG-MR368BT marine and powersports audio package. Includes wireless CD receiver with built-in Bluetooth and 2-way marine 6.5" speaker system. Stored inside/boxed in off-season. Excellent condition. \$195 text: 218-766-1289.

1968 Fleetcraft 14' vintage travel trailer, fully restored, TV, toilet, \$3,500/obo. Call or text 218-760-7535.

Sun Dolphin pedal boat with seating for 1 to 5 people. No canopy. Measures 64" wide x 94" long x 24" tall. Located in Laporte. Can help load. \$100. 612-366-5091.

Wanted:

Used wood-fired WWII/Vietnam Military items wanted: flags, helmets, medals, uniforms, bayonets, swords, binoculars, combat boots, etc. 218-371-6259 leave message.

Horse for 15-year-old beginner to ride. 218-368-7459.

Looking for used pull-behind wood chipper that can take up to 3-4 inch limbs. 218-751-7693.

Board Highlights

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Monday, June 29, 2026. 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 made his monthly report, including the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program, district meetings, energy sales, cost of service study, economic development, employee updates, Public Utilities Commission update and Minnkota Power Cooperative rate design.
- Jolene Kallroos presented the Red Flags report and reviewed the identity theft prevention process at the cooperative.
- Lee Pemberton presented the RESAP unannounced on-site observation report.
- Arlene Hogquist presented the May financial report.
- Jennifer Veaser updated the board on the upcoming annual meeting and presented the election ballot.
- Directors and the President and CEO shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings, educational classes and conferences.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved the 2026 official ballot.
- Appointed Sue Kringen as the NRECA voting delegate with John Lund as the alternate.
- Appointed John Lund as the RESCO voting delegate with Sue Kringen as the alternate.
- Approved director and president and CEO expenses.

The next board meeting will be held Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2026.

REMEMBER
TO WATCH
THE WIRES
THIS SUMMER



WHEN SHOULD YOU LOOK OUT
FOR OVERHEAD
POWER LINES?



WHEN
WORKING ON
YOUR HOME



WHEN
FLYING
DRONES



WHEN
TRIMMING
TREES

Visit WatchtheWires.com.

ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION COUPON

Win a Milwaukee M18™ Fuel String Trimmer with QUIK-LOK Kit from ACME Tools in Bemidji! (\$380 value!)

Present this coupon by 6:30 p.m. at Beltrami Electric's annual meeting registration tent on **Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026**, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds to be entered to win!

NOTE: Only the preaddressed coupon from your copy of the Northern Lights is eligible for the drawing. No substitutions will be accepted.



BEC'S NIGHT AT THE FAIR EVENTS

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. MEET TOUCHSTONE ENERGY® MASCOT LED LUCY

- Kick off your night at the fair and make sure to meet LED Lucy!

4:00 – 6:30 p.m. REGISTER FOR THE MEETING

- Receive BEC Food Bucks to use at participating food vendors (*valid Wednesday only*)

4:00 – 6:30 p.m. BUCKET TRUCK RIDES

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

4:00– 6:30 p.m. LIVE HIGH-VOLTAGE DEMO

- Watch our lineworkers give a safety presentation with high voltage (*weather permitting*) – See the **EXPLODING Hot Dog!**

4:00 – 6:30 p.m. DUCK POND

- Kids can pick a duck from the pool for a prize! (*limit 1 pick per child*)

4:00 – 8:00 p.m. VISIT THE BEC BOOTH IN THE COMMERCIAL BUILDING

- Watch the Wires! Stop by our booth for safety tips, videos and to register for a Summer Safety giveaway!

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. FREE CONCERT IN THE GRANDSTAND

- Featuring The Waddington Brothers



NORTHERN

L I G H T S

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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

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Monday – Friday

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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

CASS & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Tony Kohrs | 612-770-1938

tony.kohrs@state.mn.us

GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

1-800-252-1166 or 811

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.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND YOUR LOCAL CO-OP'S 86TH ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, 2026

Beltrami County Fairgrounds
Shutter Stage | Bemidji, Minnesota

Make sure to bring your registration prize drawing slip from this issue to enter into a drawing for a Milwaukee Trimmer!

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Registration for Meeting

- Bring the registration prize drawing slip from **YOUR MAILED COPY** of the Northern Lights to enter into a drawing for a Milwaukee Trimmer (must have your preprinted name/address on back to be eligible for drawing)

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

Business Meeting

- Welcome
- Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation
- National Anthem
- Call Meeting to Order

- Approve Minutes from 2025 Annual Meeting
- Election Process
 - Introduction of Directors
 - Election Results
- Operation Round Up® Report – Kay Mack, President, Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust Board
- 2026 Youth Tour Delegate – Jacobi Burmeister Pater
- 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!

