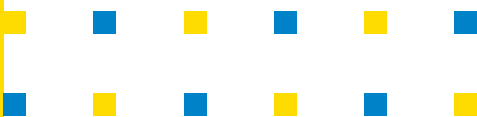


# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT





# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Welcome to the 2025 McLeod Co-op Power Annual Report. This report reflects the work, progress, and service that shaped the past year, along with our ongoing commitment to delivering dependable electricity to the members we serve.

# CEO MESSAGE

BY RON MEIER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This year marks an incredible milestone for McLeod Co-op Power: 90 years of serving our members.

For nine decades, this cooperative has powered homes, farms, businesses, and communities throughout our region. We've seen wars, recessions, new technologies, and major changes in how people live and work. Through all of it, one thing has remained constant: this cooperative belongs to the people it serves.

That wasn't always guaranteed. In 1935, much of rural Minnesota was left behind when it came to electricity. Investor-owned utilities did not see enough financial return in building power lines to farms and small communities. Many families relied on kerosene lamps, hand-pumped water, and iceboxes.

Rather than wait for someone else to solve the problem, residents took action. The first meeting of what would become McLeod Co-op was held at Silver Lake Hall on August 19, 1935. McLeod Co-op officially incorporated that October. In 1936, the first pole was set south of Hutchinson, and by May of 1937 electricity was flowing to rural homes for the first time.

Building the cooperative wasn't easy. Early organizers went farm to farm, convincing neighbors to sign up. Many were skeptical and worried about financial risk. Thankfully, persistence won.

And it changed everything.

One story from our history stands out to me. In 1940, a premature baby named Virginia Mae Tieden was born, weighing only 1.75 pounds and needing an electric incubator to survive. There was no electric service at the family farm.

Our crews responded immediately.

A nearly mile-long line was built in a single afternoon, and at 5:45 p.m. the power came on. That incubator began working.

That story reminds me that our work has always been about far more than poles, wires, and meters. At our best, we improve lives in very real ways.

Over the years, McLeod Co-op continued to evolve. We expanded our system, adopted new technologies, improved reliability, and continued finding better ways to serve members. Today, we operate 15 substations and 2,000 miles of distribution lines.

But our greatest investment has always been people. That continues today through programs like Youth Tour, lineworker scholarships, and Operation Round Up, which supports local organizations and families in need.

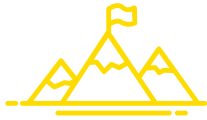
Unlike other utility models, this cooperative is governed by local people elected by local members. Your participation matters because this cooperative belongs to you. That's why I hope you'll join us for our Annual Meeting on July 14 as we celebrate 90 years of service. It's an opportunity to connect with fellow members, meet our employees and board members, and reflect on how far we've come together. Ninety years ago, a group of determined neighbors built something remarkable because they believed rural communities deserved better.

We are still benefiting from their vision today. And with your continued support, we'll continue powering progress for generations to come.




# 2025 AT A GLANCE

We are proud to have served the area since 1935. McLeod Cooperative Power is a member-owned cooperative that provides electricity to over 7,000 residents, businesses, and farms in McLeod, Renville, Sibley and Carver Counties.



## MISSION:

To enhance the quality of life for our members through effective, safe, and innovative solutions.



**7,026**  
MEMBER  
CONSUMERS



**NINE**  
MEMBER-ELECTED  
DIRECTORS

FOUNDED  
**1935**

**3.4**  
MEMBERS  
PER MILE  
OF LINE

## VISION:

Exceed members' expectations for reliable energy and services.



**965+**  
SQUARE MILE  
SERVICE AREA


## 7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. Open and Voluntary Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community



**TWENTY SIX**  
DEDICATED AND TALENTED  
EMPLOYEES

.....  
**GLENCOE**  
HEADQUARTERS  
.....



**2,035**  
TOTAL  
MILES OF LINE

SMARTHUB USERS

**1,494**



OVERHEAD LINE  
**1,413 MILES**

CAPITAL CREDITS  
**\$232K**

UNDERGROUND LINE  
**622 MILES**



**KILOWATT-  
HOURS SOLD**  
**161,236,073**



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[www.facebook.com/McLeodCoop](http://www.facebook.com/McLeodCoop)





# A LOOK BACK AT OUR EARLY YEARS!

2025 marked 90 years as a Cooperative serving our members, with the first known meeting to discuss rural electrification in McLeod County being at the Silver Lake Hall on August 19, 1935. To celebrate this milestone, we held an open house event this past September.

Members were treated to coffee and donuts while enjoying tours of our facility. We also had live demonstrations showcasing how your cooperative works behind the scenes to keep the power running. Roughly 100 members attended the open house.

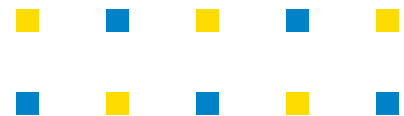
Cheers to the past 90 years and to the foundation it's built for our future as a cooperative! We look forward to the challenges and opportunities that await us as we strive to continue meeting the needs of our members.





# OPERATIONS REPORT

Throughout 2025, McLeod Co-op Power's operations team remained focused on maintaining a safe, reliable, and resilient electric system for the members we serve. Crews carried out important construction and maintenance work, completed inspections and repairs, supported system reliability through vegetation management, and continued safety training across the cooperative. Together, these efforts reflect a proactive approach to meeting today's needs while preparing for tomorrow's challenges. The following report highlights the operational activities that helped keep power flowing and supported McLeod Co-op Power's commitment to dependable, member-focused service.





**Every pole replaced, every line upgraded, and every repair completed is part of a bigger commitment to reliability. Our ongoing system investments help deliver the safe, dependable service members expect from their cooperative.**

## CONSTRUCTION

In 2025, McLeod Co-op Power's line crews continued strengthening the electric system throughout our service territory. Over the course of the year, crews installed 163,749 feet of underground cable and 111 feet of overhead wire, while retiring 122,478 feet of overhead wire and 5,254 feet of underground cable. This ongoing work helps modernize our system and support the safe, reliable service members depend on every day.

## MAINTENANCE

This year, McLeod Co-op Power crews replaced 199 utility poles, tested 63 transformers, and upgraded 2 inefficient yard lights to energy-efficient LED lights. Crews also continued routine inspections of overhead lines and completed necessary repairs to help maintain reliable service. Additional inspections were conducted on poles at the Hector substation and underground equipment in Sherman, with repairs made where needed. Together, this work helps keep the electric system safe, dependable, and ready to serve our members.

## SAFETY

Safety remains a top priority at McLeod Co-op Power. In 2025, line crews and employees completed several safety training courses covering a variety of topics to help keep safety at the forefront of everything we do. Ongoing training ensures our team is prepared to work safely, respond effectively, and maintain a strong culture of safety across the cooperative.

We were also proud to continue sharing those safety messages beyond our own organization. Throughout the year, crews and employees visited local schools to talk with students about electrical safety, helping build awareness and encourage safe habits at a young age.

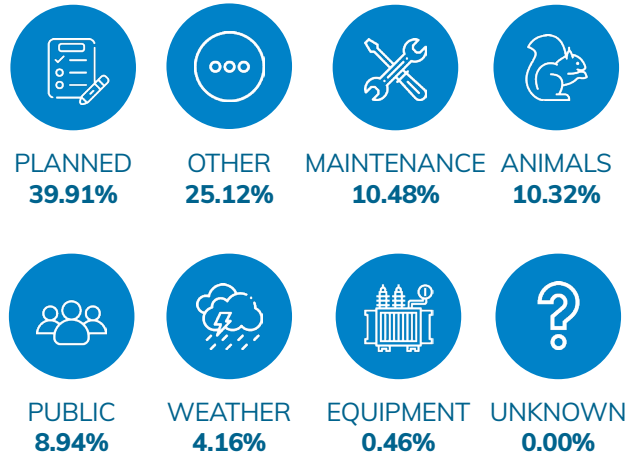
# RELIABILITY

Reliability remained strong in 2025, with members experiencing an average of one outage during the year and an average outage duration of 107 minutes. On average, members had power 99.98% of the time, an important measure of the cooperative's ongoing commitment to dependable service.

To support that reliability, crews and contractors carried out essential maintenance work across the system and cleared vegetation within our rights-of-way. These proactive efforts help reduce the risk of outages, improve system performance, and keep electricity flowing reliably to the members we serve.

MONTH	OUTAGES	MEMBERS	AVG.	LONGEST
January	61	78	49 min	174 min
February	25	37	65 min	198 min
March	49	416	77 min	167 min
April	45	1,130	60 min	381 min
May	73	261	84 min	393 min
June	87	4,876	73 min	989 min
July	97	1,087	166 min	570 min
August	44	177	129 min	258 min
September	66	223	79 min	260 min
October	45	152	66 min	279 min
November	30	257	71 min	231 min
December	27	1,046	21 min	309 min

## WHAT'S CAUSING OUTAGES?





**Outages can happen, even on a strong and well-maintained system. When storms, accidents, equipment issues, or other unexpected events interrupt service, McLeod Co-op Power's priority is restoring power as safely and quickly as possible. Every response reflects our commitment to reliability, preparation, and the members we serve.**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Delivering affordable, reliable electricity takes careful planning, responsible financial management, and a strong foundation for the future. As a member-owner, your economic participation helps make that possible. We take that responsibility seriously, using the resources you provide wisely to serve members today while preparing for the needs of tomorrow.

ASSETS (THINGS WE OWN)	2025	2024
<b>MCLEOD CO-OP PROPERTY</b>		
Cost of System	\$70,772,064	\$68,051,970
Cost of our Office, Warehouse and Equipment	\$16,353,314	\$16,408,855
Construction Work In Progress	\$696,378	\$1,035,180
Depreciation	\$(22,509,556)	\$(21,747,207)
<b>Book Value of our System</b>	<b>\$65,312,200</b>	<b>\$63,748,798</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Great River Energy Capital Credits	\$12,300,075	\$11,013,974
Capital Credits from Other Cooperatives	\$1,244,068	\$1,293,934
Investments with National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation	\$723,753	\$743,903
Investments with Associated Organizations and Other	\$863,066	\$795,910
Community Economic Development Loans	\$241,033	\$295,616
<b>Total Other Property and Investments</b>	<b>\$15,371,995</b>	<b>\$14,143,337</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,204,036	\$1,798,337
Great River Energy Temporary Investment Account	\$1,513,617	\$1,350,740
Members and Others Owe Us for Electricity	\$2,893,177	\$2,409,113
Members and Others Owe Us for Non-Electricity ( <i>generators, materials, rebates</i> )	\$222,866	\$228,029
Materials and Supplies for Line Construction and Maintenance	\$1,772,080	\$1,409,540
Interest Receivable on Investments	\$8,856	\$7,296
Prepayments	\$39,775	\$33,658
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$7,654,407</b>	<b>\$7,236,714</b>
Deferred Debits	\$831,915	\$743,503
<b>TOTAL ASSETS WE OWN</b>	<b>\$89,170,517</b>	<b>\$85,872,351</b>

LIABILITIES (WHAT WE OWE)	2025	2024
<b>LONG TERM DEBT</b>		
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)	\$14,834,425	\$11,464,422
Federal Financing Bank (FFB)	\$32,051,308	\$33,279,800
RUS Grant for Economic Development	\$300,000	\$300,000
National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation	\$2,270,356	\$2,502,299
CoBank	\$1,091,646	\$1,178,569
Other	\$156,395	\$309,993
<b>Total Long Term Debt</b>	<b>\$50,704,130</b>	<b>\$49,035,083</b>
Power, Materials, Services, Taxes, etc.	\$3,738,254	\$4,034,248
Deferred Credits (revenue, construction, community solar, etc.)	\$937,089	\$1,086,284
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES WE OWE</b>	<b>\$55,379,473</b>	<b>\$54,155,615</b>
<b>NET WORTH</b>		
Accumulated Patronage Capital	\$19,334,190	\$15,780,890
Other Equities (diversified services and others)	\$14,456,854	\$15,935,845
<b>MEMBERS EQUITY IN THE COOPERATIVE</b>	<b>\$33,791,044</b>	<b>\$31,716,735</b>
<b>TOTAL COMMITMENTS</b>	<b>\$89,170,517</b>	<b>\$85,872,351</b>

The accounts and records of McLeod Cooperative Power Association were audited by Eide Bailly LLP, Fargo, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2025. The completed audit report will be presented to the Cooperative's Board of Directors and will be available for members to review at the Cooperative office.



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		2025	2024
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Sale of Electric Energy to Members		\$24,591,658	\$21,832,086
Miscellaneous Electric Revenues		\$151,033	\$875,453
<b>Total Revenues</b>		<b>\$24,742,691</b>	<b>\$22,707,539</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Wholesale Power Paid to Great River Energy		\$14,885,575	\$14,155,649
Operating Expenses (distribution, administrative and customer service)		\$5,531,206	\$5,443,443
Depreciation of Utility Plant		\$2,538,000	\$2,419,729
Interest on Loans		\$1,521,191	\$1,393,563
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$24,475,972</b>	<b>\$23,412,383</b>
<b>NET OPERATING MARGIN</b>		<b>\$266,719</b>	<b>\$(704,844)</b>
<b>NON OPERATING</b>			
Non-operating and Other Income (interest income, generators, etc)		\$845,322	\$901,807
Non-operating Expenses		\$(488,780)	\$(585,737)
Patronage Capital from Great River Energy and Other Associated Cooperatives		\$1,476,902	\$586,165
<b>TOTAL MARGINS (INCOME)</b>		<b>\$2,100,163</b>	<b>\$197,391</b>



# HOW WAS THE MEMBER DOLLAR SPENT?



Wholesale Power Costs: 61%



Operating and Maintenance Expenses: 23%



Depreciation: 10%



Interest: 6%

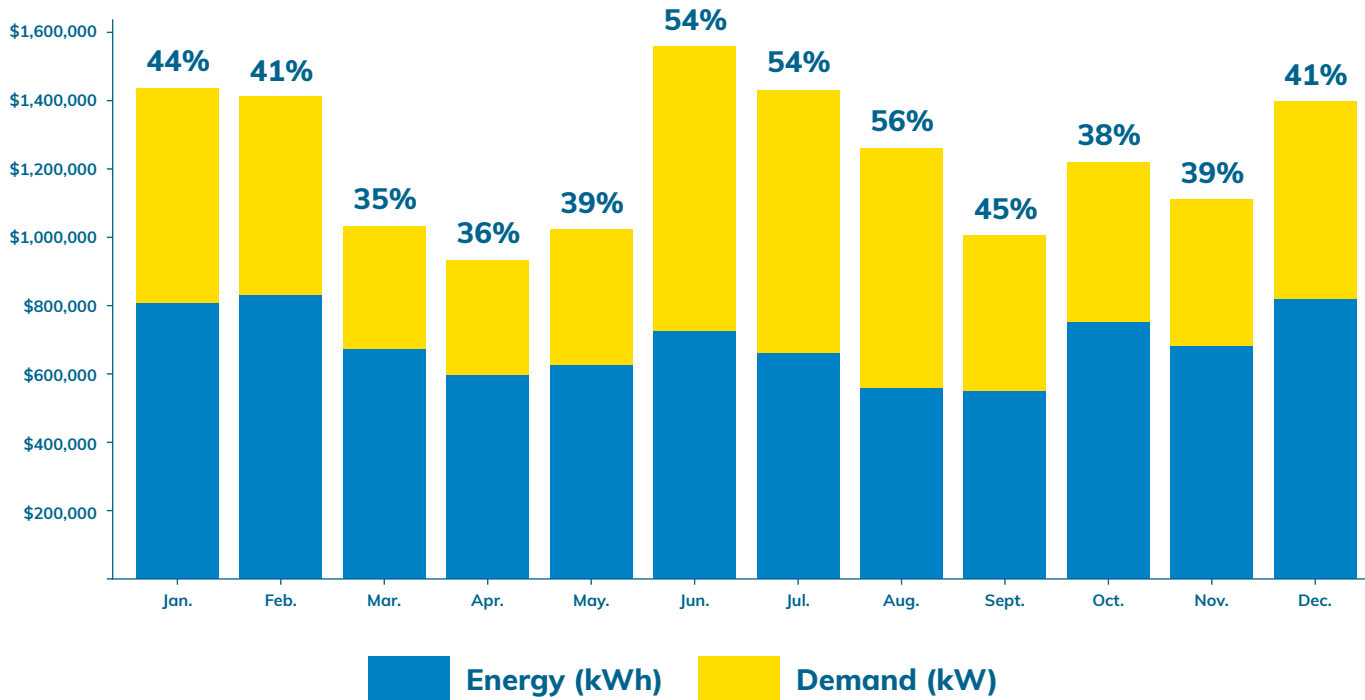
# UNDERSTANDING WHOLESALE POWER COSTS

This graphic below shows how McLeod Co-op Power's wholesale power costs are split between energy (kWh) and demand (kW) throughout the year. It reflects the amount paid to our wholesale energy providers in 2025 to purchase power for our members.

On average, about 43% of the monthly wholesale power bill is driven by demand, which is based on the highest level of electricity used at one time. Seasonal changes in demand can significantly affect overall power costs.



## 2025 WHOLESALE POWER BILL ENERGY VS. DEMAND



# CAPITAL CREDITS

McLeod Cooperative Power's board of directors approved a capital credit return of \$232,000 to its members in 2025.

As a not-for-profit electric cooperative, McLeod Cooperative Power is not like other utilities—you, as a member and consumer, own a portion of the business. One benefit of that membership involves the allocation of excess revenue, called margins, in the form of Capital Credits. Electric co-ops operate at cost, collecting only enough revenue to run and expand the business, unlike investor-owned electric utilities, which are designed to make a profit for shareholders.

McLeod Cooperative Power assigns any money collected above the cost of operations to its members in the form of Capital Credits. When the Co-op's financial position permits, the co-op retires, or pays, a portion of these Capital Credits back to its members.

## We need your help locating members with unclaimed capital credits.

Each year, funds that were not claimed or returned by the Post Office are sent back to the Cooperative. We need your help locating the members that these unclaimed Capital Credits belong to. We now have a searchable database online at [www.mcleodcoop.com/about/capital-credits/](http://www.mcleodcoop.com/about/capital-credits/). Members can use this database to search for friends and family members that might be on this list. Often it happens to be people who have moved or a former member who has passed away. Any information you can provide regarding the location of these members, or a close family member, is greatly appreciated. Those with information can call our office at (800) 494-6272 or (320) 864-3148.



## HOW CAPITAL CREDITS WORK

Electric co-ops are not-for-profit and operate at cost. Capital credits are a financial benefit of co-op membership.



1. Members pay their electric bills, and we track their business with us each month.

2. The co-op pays operating expenses throughout the year and allocates any leftover operating revenue as capital credits.



3. When financial conditions permit, the co-op board votes to retire (pay) capital credits to the members.

4. We send members their share of capital credits as a bill credit or check.





## EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

McLeod Co-op Power offers multiple convenient payment options. Be sure to pay by the due date to avoid late fees. For any billing questions, call (800) 494-6272 or (320) 864-3148.

### **AUTOPAY:**

Automatically pay on the 28th of each month via checking or savings. The enrollment form is online at [www.mcleodcoop.com/i-want-to/pay-options/](http://www.mcleodcoop.com/i-want-to/pay-options/).

### **SMARTHUB:**

Manage your account and pay your bill through SmartHub online or via the app. You can also view usage, receive alerts, and more.

### **PAYNOW:**

Make one-time payments online without a SmartHub account by clicking the "Pay Now" button on our website.

### **PHONE:**

Pay securely 24/7 using our automated phone system.

Call (320) 864-3148 and choose option #2. Have your account number ready from the top right of your bill.

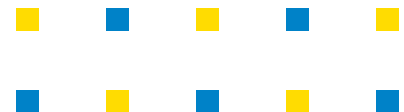


Twins Youth Clinic

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

At McLeod Co-op Power, we are connected to our members by more than electricity. We are connected by community. Serving our members means more than delivering reliable power. It means being present, involved, and committed to the well-being of the people and communities we serve. Whether we are providing support, sharing resources, or helping members find ways to save time and money, our goal is always the same: to make this community stronger.

That is the cooperative difference. We listen, we respond, and we work alongside our members because understanding their needs is the best way to serve them well.





**Electricity powers homes, farms, schools, and businesses, but community is what gives that work purpose.**

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ridgewater College Foundation awarded two \$500 scholarships on behalf of McLeod Cooperative Power to students Alyssa Fredrickson and Maleah Wischnack. Each year, the co-op donates \$1,000 from its unclaimed capital credit fund to be used by the Ridgewater College Foundation to support local students furthering their education. Congratulations to our recipients!

McLeod Co-op Power was honored to award Line Worker Scholarships to Max Hansch and Colin Bernstein. Both Max and Colin are graduates from Glencoe-Silver Lake High School and are currently pursuing a degree to be line workers. We wish them both the best as they complete the Electrical Line Worker Technology programs.

## YOUTH BASEBALL CLINICS

More than 100 local youth took part in a fantastic Youth Baseball Clinic at Arlington Baseball Park on June 27, 2025. Organized jointly by McLeod Coop Power and the Arlington Baseball Association, the event aimed to cultivate young talent and promote the love for baseball among children of all ages and skill levels.

The Youth Baseball Clinic at Arlington Baseball Park offered a fun and educational experience for the young participants. The event was made possible in part by the sponsorship of Great River Energy, McLeod Co-op Power's wholesale power provider.

Children from neighboring communities came together to embrace the sport, receiving expert coaching and guidance from experienced volunteers. McLeod Co-op Power is proud to be part of this great program that showcases the power of sports in bringing communities together and fostering the growth of our youth.



# RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH TOUR

This summer, 35 Minnesota students, including Sadie Kirtz of Hector, experienced the 2025 Rural Electric Youth Tour, sponsored by McLeod Co-op Power and coordinated by the Minnesota Rural Electric Association.

From June 16–21, students traveled to Washington, D.C., on an all-expenses-paid trip where they explored national landmarks, met with legislators, and learned more about electric cooperatives and their role in communities.

One of Sadie’s favorite experiences was a nighttime Segway tour of the National Mall, along with visits to Arlington Cemetery and the Marine Corps parade. She was also especially moved by the Holocaust Museum, saying it made history feel real and deeply personal.

Another highlight was meeting Senator Tina Smith. Sadie appreciated hearing how she stays connected to Minnesota while balancing her work in Washington.

Throughout the week, Sadie gained a deeper understanding of the cooperative model. She said the trip helped her see how co-ops not only provide essential services, but also reinvest in and strengthen local communities.

She also valued the friendships she built with other participants, saying the experience helped her learn more about herself and the world around her.

Reflecting on the trip, Sadie shared her gratitude to McLeod Co-op Power’s member-owners and board of directors for making the opportunity possible. She encourages other students to apply, saying the experience brings meaningful connections, new perspective, and unforgettable memories.



## LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL FIELD DAY

McLeod Co-op hosted several high school groups at our headquarters in 2025, including students from Glencoe-Silver Lake, Hutchinson, and Sibley East high schools. We also hosted students from Ridgewater College. These visits provide an opportunity to learn more about the electrical industry and career possibilities. In addition to highlighting the job duties of a line worker, McLeod Co-op employees shared some important safety and electrical topics.



# OPERATION ROUND UP®

Through the Operation Round Up® program, McLeod Cooperative Power gives our members the opportunity to give back to the community. Each month the rounded-up funds (between 1¢ and 99¢) are placed in a trust fund and administered by the volunteer Trust Board.

In March 2025, McLeod Cooperative Power and the Operation Round Up® Trust Board awarded \$85,500 to 37 local organizations. From food shelves and senior services to emergency response teams and youth programs, these grants support the people and programs that strengthen our rural communities.

**Since the program began at McLeod Co-op in 2004, members have contributed more than \$282,225 to local initiatives. That's nearly \$300,000 in community impact—just from rounding up bills.**



## 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Arlington Area Ambulance Service (life-saving equipment)	\$3,500
Arlington Fire Department (firefighting equipment)	\$3,500
Arlington Lions Club (fish fry trailer)	\$3,000
Bear Lake Sunshine Society (community assistance)	\$1,000
Brownnton Bruins Association (fundraiser for medical assistance)	\$1,000
Brownnton Fire Department (rescue gear)	\$3,500
Brownnton Public Library (kids' programming)	\$2,500
City of Glencoe (pickleball courts)	\$1,000
Community Outreach/Arlington United Methodist Church (community event)	\$500
Crow River Habitat for Humanity, Inc./House (home construction)	\$2,000
Gaylord Baseball Association (baseball safety netting)	\$2,000
Gibbon Fire and Rescue Department – City of Gibbon (firefighting gear)	\$3,500
Glencoe Fire Department (firefighting gear)	\$3,500
Glencoe Regional Health Foundation (accessible wheelchair swing)	\$2,500
Glencoe Rotary Club (dog park)	\$2,000
Glencoe Sportsmen Club (fencing project at wildlife sanctuary)	\$2,500
Green Isle Sportsmen Club (conservation projects)	\$1,000
GSL School District (books for students)	\$1,000
Hutchinson High School Robotics Team (STEM robotics)	\$2,000
Lester Prairie Fire Department (rescue gear and equipment)	\$3,500
McLeod County Historical Society (facility improvements)	\$3,000
McLeod County Toward Zero Deaths Safe Road Coalition (mock crash demonstration)	\$1,000
McLeod For Tomorrow (leadership program)	\$1,000
New Auburn Fire and Rescue (firefighting equipment)	\$3,500
Noah's Ark Preschool (facility improvement)	\$1,000
Norwood Young America Fire Department (firefighting equipment)	\$3,500
Nothin' but Dust BLHS Trap Team (youth programming)	\$2,000
Olivia Hospital & Clinic Foundation (community assistance)	\$2,000
Parents Inspired (community event)	\$2,000
Renville County Food Shelf (community assistance)	\$3,500
Sibley County Agricultural Association (facility improvements)	\$2,000
Silver Lake Civics Association (playground equipment)	\$1,500
Silver Lake Fire Department (firefighting equipment)	\$3,500
Timber Bay (teen outreach)	\$2,500
United Way of McLeod County (kids' and youth programs)	\$2,500
Wheel & Cog Children's Museum (youth programs)	\$2,500
Winsted Fire Department (firefighting equipment)	\$3,500



# OUR TEAM

McLeod Co-op Power is powered by more than poles and wires. It is powered by local employees who care deeply about the members and communities they serve. Guided by cooperative values, they make thoughtful decisions, provide dependable service, and take pride in helping our area grow and thrive right alongside you.

**Emerson Brady**, Operations Manager

**Debbie Ebert**, Operations Specialist/Safety Coordinator

**Dan Ehrke**, Member Service Manager

**Deb Goettl**, Billing Coordinator

**Curt Hanson**, Staking Technician

**Kaylee Hansch**, Accountant

**Brad Hundt**, Lineman

**Steph Jakel**, Manager of Finance

**Peyton Jasken**, Apprentice Lineman

**Shannon Jerabek**, Energy Mgmt. Specialist

**Jordan Jungclaus**, Executive Administrative Assistant

**Jared Klein**, Lineman

**Justin Kohls**, Energy Mgmt. Specialist

**Kevin LaCourse**, Lineman

**Craig Marti**, Foreman

**Ronald Meier**, Chief Executive Officer

**Brady Miller**, Apprentice Lineman

**Gregg Nistler**, Asst. Engineering Manager

**Kaleigh Rumrill**, Billing Clerk

**Becky Schiroo**, Customer Service Representative

**Ryan Schuette**, Foreman

**Eric Sell**, Information Services Manager

**Scott Schrupp**, W.H./Materials Technician

**Robert Thomes**, Asst. Member Service Manager

**Nicholas Tritz**, Lineman

**Terry Underdahl**, Foreman

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 2025 ELECTION RESULTS

The Annual Meeting was held on July 15, 2025, and included the Nominating Committee's announcement of the election results.

Board of Director Election Results:

District 2 – Jeff Kosek

District 7 – Randy Hlavka

District 8 – Jonathan Burgstahler

District 9 – Susan Anderson

We extend our gratitude to all the members who participated in this year's election and cast their votes for the Co-op's Board of Directors. Following the announcement at the Annual Meeting, we are pleased to introduce the candidates elected by the membership to represent their districts over the next three years.



*Left to Right: Jonathan Burgstahler, Dave Resch, Allan Duesterhoeft, Kirk Newman, Randy Hlavka, Susan Anderson, Gary Burdorf, Jeff Kosek, and Doug Kirtz.*

# 2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

## MCLEOD COOPERATIVE POWER ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF THE 89TH ANNUAL MEETING

**JULY 15, 2025 | CROW RIVER WINERY**

The Meeting was called to order by President Doug Kirtz at 10:00 A.M.

President Kirtz welcomed members to the 90th Annual Meeting.

President Kirtz declared the balloting closed and instructed the tellers to count the ballots for the director election.

President Kirtz gave the invocation.

President Kirtz observed a moment of silence in memory of Virgil Stender, a dedicated member of the Nominating Committee.

Sawyer Guerrero performed the National Anthem.

A quorum was established and verified by President Doug Kirtz and Secretary-Treasurer Susan Anderson.

Secretary-Treasurer Susan Anderson read the "Notice of the Cooperative's Annual Meeting" and declared that the notice had been properly published in an official newspaper in McLeod County.

President Kirtz called for a motion to approve the 2024 Annual Meeting minutes.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting as printed in the Annual Report. Motion carried.

President Kirtz announced the Director Candidates in the following districts. District 2: Jeff Kosek and Marc Telecky; District 7: Randy Hlavka and Rob Bell; District 8: Jonathan Burgstahler and Nathan Mueller; District 9: Susan Anderson and Jeff Caswell.

President Kirtz also introduced the Directors in Districts 1 and 3-6.

President Kirtz recognized Keith Peterson for his 15 years of dedicated service to the Board of Directors and expressed appreciation for his contributions.

President Kirtz also recognized Joe Griebie for his 10 years of service, acknowledging his recent departure from the Board of Directors in 2024.

The Manager of Finance, Steph Jakel, presented the Financial Report, highlighting key points and comparisons to 2023. It was noted that there was no allocation to the members for

2024, as operating margins were below zero. Additionally, 34% of the monthly power bill charges were attributed to demand costs. Tree trimming emerged as the Co-op's largest expense, with an annual expenditure of approximately \$460,000.

Patronage capital, representing the current membership's equity in the Co-op, is returned over time through capital credits. In the reported year, approximately \$271,000 was returned to the membership. Manager of Finance Steph Jakel also reminded members to visit the Co-op's website to help locate past members who may have unclaimed Capital Credits.

Operation Round Up Trust Board Member, Cheryl Bielke, announced that since Operation Round Up began in 2004, the program has awarded nearly \$360,000 to local organizations. This year, forty-three applications were received. Thirty-seven projects received funds for a total of \$85,500.

President Kirtz introduced the 2025 Nominating Committee.

District 2: David Aul, Randy Kirchhoff, & Dave Sanken  
District 7: Doug Hanneman, Luanne Kucera & Bruce Svanda  
District 8: Judy Hahn & John Lipke  
District 9: Marlin Kohls, Dean Loehrs, & Virgil Stender

Nominating Committee Chairman Doug Hanneman read the results of the Director Election and declared Jeff Kosek elected from District 2, Randy Hlavka elected from District 7, Jonathan Burgstahler elected from District 8, and Susan Anderson elected from District 9. Director Kosek will serve a one-year term. Directors Hlavka, Burgstahler, and Anderson will serve a three-year term.

President Kirtz stated there was no Unfinished Business. President Kirtz then asked for New Business, with none being received.

A discussion panel was held between Member Services Manager Dan Ehrke, 2024 Youth Tour Participant Sawyer Guerrero, and 2025 Youth Tour Participant Sadie Kirtz, which highlighted their experiences on the Youth DC trip.

CEO Ronald Meier provided a presentation highlighting 2024 for McLeod Cooperative Power Association.

CEO Meier also discussed the recent departures and new hires of the cooperative, an updated outage map that will soon be available on the cooperative's website, and introduced the concept of Time-of-Day Demand rates.

CEO Ron Meier responded to several questions from the Members.

With no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Attendance prizes were awarded.

Following the meeting, Chef Craig served approximately 280 members with a meal.

Dated: July 15, 2025



## **MISSION:**

To enhance the quality of life for our members through effective, safe, and innovative solutions.

## **VISION:**

Exceed members' expectations for reliable energy and services.

3515 11th St. East, Glencoe, MN 55336  
(320) 864-3148 | (800) 494-6272  
[www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com)  
[info@mcleodcoop.com](mailto:info@mcleodcoop.com)