

# NORTHERN

## L I G H T S

April 2020



### Beltrami Electric Cooperative selects

## JOSIBETH AGUILERA FOR 2020 YOUTH TOUR



Beltrami Electric is pleased to announce that Josibeth Aguilera of Tenstrike has been selected as the cooperative's 2020 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour representative. She will join hundreds of high school students representing their cooperatives on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 20-25, 2020. This trip is part of an annual Youth Tour sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) and Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

In its 56<sup>th</sup> year, the Youth Tour program continues to foster the grassroots spirit of the rural electric cooperatives by demonstrating to our youth how our government works and what the electric cooperative business model is all about. In a time when energy is at the forefront of our nation's issues, this is a great opportunity to have a hand in the creation of electric cooperative advocates! Many former Youth Tour representatives have moved on to serve in significant positions in our communities, including becoming a member of Congress.

Students on the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour will participate in leadership training, engage in one-on-one conversations with their U.S. representatives and senators, jumpstart their national peer network and tour Washington, D.C. The tour includes visits to the Smithsonian, the National Archives, Arlington National Cemetery, the WWI, Vietnam and Korean War Veterans Memorials, as well as the Jefferson, Washington and Lincoln Memorials.

As part of the selection process, candidates were required to submit an application, write a 500-word essay and submit two letters of reference from teachers, groups or community leaders. Ms. Aguilera's application expressed her passion for the law and her desire to learn more about our government and U.S. history.

Ms. Aguilera is very active at Bemidji High School. She has participated in mock trial for the past three years while maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average. She is currently involved in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) Program that allows her to take college-level courses while in high school, and she is a member of the BSU Honors Program.

Ms. Aguilera has a love of music and the arts, studying both piano and viola for many years. She received a Regions 2 Young Artist Grant in 2017 and has volunteered locally at the Watermark Art Center and the Red Cross while studying abroad in Santona, Spain. She has been an active member of 4-H and has competed with 4-H at the state fair for the past three years. Ms. Aguilera plans to pursue a degree in international law and is excited for the opportunity to visit Washington, D.C.

She is the daughter of Bernadette Aguilera of Tenstrike, Minn. The members of Beltrami Electric are once again pleased to send a well-rounded student to our nation's capitol as a representative of the cooperative. Congratulations and good luck!

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Monday – Friday

**Member Service:** 218-444-2540  
or 1-800-955-6083

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

### Board of Directors

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## Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

*Beltrami County*

Wade Koons

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

*Cass and Hubbard Counties*

Steve Schauland

218-652-2213 – Fax: 218-333-0451

*These are the inspectors covering the area served by Beltrami Electric. They can be reached by phone Monday through Friday between 7 and 8:30 a.m. or by fax or email as indicated.*

**Gopher State One Call 811**  
1-800-252-1166 or 811  
[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)

Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance.

All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone lines, television cables, pipelines, utility electrical lines, and municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

## Mission of Beltrami Electric Co-op

*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.*



## COVID-19 response

Jared Echternach, *President and CEO*

### COVID-19 response

Beltrami Electric Cooperative has been monitoring recent events associated with COVID-19 (coronavirus) closely, and as a provider of critical power infrastructure, we need to be able to keep the lights on. The safety of our employees, our members and the public is our top priority while continuing to provide safe, reliable electricity.

We are encouraging members to call us at **(218) 444-2540** or **(800) 955-6083** with questions or visit [www.beltramielectric.com](http://www.beltramielectric.com) to conduct business electronically.

At this time, our Community Room is closed to the public through the end of April. All nonessential service work that requires in-home visits will be postponed. With regard to our load management program, ensuring our members have heat in their home is considered an essential service.

As of this writing, we have closed our facility to walk-in traffic in an effort to minimize exposure. We will remain open and will still be working; we will just be working differently. We encourage members to pay their utility bills by using one of the following options:

- Mail the payment (PO Box 488, Bemidji, MN 56619)
- Pay online through SmartHub
- PayNow – Visit [www.beltramielectric.com](http://www.beltramielectric.com) and click on One-Time Payment
- Pay by phone (24/7) **1-855-356-6345**
- MoneyGram – located at Walmart, TEALS Market, CVS Pharmacy and Lueken's Village Foods
- Use the drive-up drop box located near the flagpole in our parking lot

We also ask members to contact us

at **(218) 444-2540 / (800) 955-6083** or email us at [info@beltramielectric.com](mailto:info@beltramielectric.com) with questions, as many of our services can be completed electronically. We continue to monitor the situation and additional changes may have been made by the time you read this, so please visit our website for the latest information. We thank you for your patience and understanding during this critical time.

### State legislative update

As of this writing, the Minnesota legislature is on break due to COVID-19. However, more than 1,300 bills were introduced during the first two weeks of the 2020 session! Of course not all of these were energy-related bills, but this number is staggering. In light of COVID-19, it's likely most bills will be set aside this session, including energy legislation. However, there are several pieces of legislation we continue to monitor.



### Clean Energy First – HF 1405, SF 1456

Clean Energy First legislation was one of the energy provisions that died at the end of last session, but it continues to be a top issue this year. SF 1456 requires utilities to consider carbon-free resources to satisfy additional generation needs. The bill allows the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to approve a utility's proposal for a new or refurbished nonrenewable energy facility only if the utility demonstrates that a carbon-free resource is not in the public interest. While the House version of Clean

Energy First is more restrictive on its definition of clean energy, the Senate version offers more flexibility as it expands the definition of renewable energy to include hydro, adds language to account for carbon capture and sequestration and adds transmission study language. As it stands, the House and Senate bills are far apart.

### Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Reform

We continue to seek reform to the state's Conservation Improvement Program that mandates electric and gas utilities conserve (reduce) 1.5% of their retail energy sales annually and spend 1.5% of their gross operating revenue doing so. Not many business models are sustainable under a mandate that requires them to sell less of their product year after year. We're working to change that law and we will continue to promote the wise use of electricity and beneficial electrification, including equipment such as storage water heaters, storage space heating, air-source heat pumps, ground-source heat pumps and electric vehicle chargers.

The Department of Commerce's Division of Energy Resources (DER) has drafted CIP legislation titled the Energy Conservation and Optimization Act of 2020. The bill reforms the existing CIP program by allowing .5% of a utility's 1.5% energy-savings goal to be met through efficient electrification programs such as incentivizing electric

vehicles. The bill also allows for multi-year plans, retains the exemption for small cooperatives and municipals and removes the spending requirement, with some caveats. While there are some improvements, we have concerns with the bill as it increases the savings requirement if we increase load through beneficial electrification and subjects cooperatives and municipals to additional oversight.

### Load Control Receivers – SF 3962

The Department of Labor and Industry (DOLI) has informed electric co-ops they must now file a request for electrical inspection each time they replace a load-control receiver, even though they have not been required to do this in the past. This is a new interpretation of existing statute language, which explicitly exempts inspections for "minor work" that poses no real safety concerns, including the repair or replacement of worn or defective parts of a technology circuit or system. The cost of complying with the new DOLI permit and inspection requirement is a minimum of \$36 per load-control receiver. The total cost per co-op as a result of the new requirement could be hundreds of thousands of dollars. Additionally, the added costs could put cooperatives' load management programs at risk. Sen. Jason Rarick – an electrician by trade – has authored SF 3962 that resolves this issue.

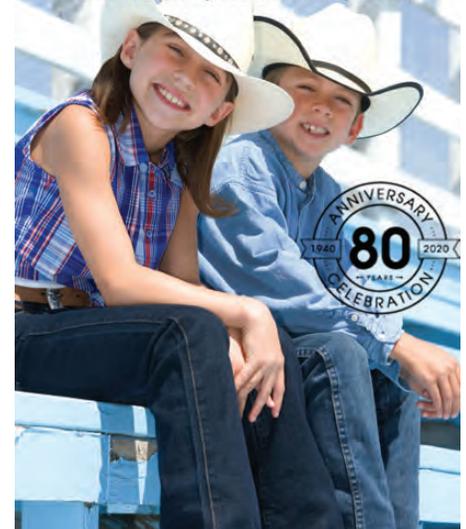
### Congratulations to Dan

Credit manager Dan Dow retires this month from Beltrami Electric and I'd like to personally thank Dan for his 30 years of service to our cooperative members. Dan has seen many changes in our cooperative over the course of his career, but his commitment to serving our members remained. Thank you, Dan, for helping our members and for your service to the cooperative. I wish you a long and healthy retirement.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**AUG. 12, 2020**

**BELTRAMI ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
NIGHT AT THE FAIR  
BELTRAMI COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2020**



**It's Beltrami Electric  
Cooperative's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary!**

In celebration, we will be holding our annual member meeting Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds!

The business meeting will be held on the Marilyn Shutter stage. We will also have bucket trucks, LED Lucy and Solar Sam, a high voltage safety demonstration and more!

Parking will be FREE that night. There will be live music in the grandstand and it's also armband night on the midway! Bring the entire family out for an evening of fun at the Beltrami County Fair. We hope to see you there!

## NOTICE OF GARAGE SALE

**BELTRAMI ELECTRIC'S MULTIVENDOR  
INDOOR GARAGE SALE TO BENEFIT  
THE UNITED WAY OF BEMIDJI AREA  
HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FROM  
MAY 2, 2020 TO OCTOBER 3, 2020.**



**Contact Cammie at (218) 444-3675 or [cvogel@beltramielectric.com](mailto:cvogel@beltramielectric.com) with questions.**

# Three ways to electrify your lawn care



Spring is just around the corner, and you can practically smell the freshly cut grass. If you're in the market to upgrade your lawn care equipment, you may want to consider electric (or battery-powered) options. Gas-powered lawn mowers and trimmers may be your go-to, but times, they are a-changin'. Electric lawn care equipment options are becoming more popular than ever, offering consumers faster charging times, longer battery life and quieter, greener products compared to their gas-powered counterparts. Here are three ways you can electrify your lawn care this spring.

## Electric lawn mowers

Electric lawn mowers have come a long way over the last few years. Early models required corded connections, which were tricky to manage – but the cord has been cut. Newer cordless electric mowers are certainly more expensive than gas-powered mowers, but much of the upfront cost can be recovered since electricity is a less-expensive fuel than gas, and electric engines generally require less maintenance than gas engines. Cordless electric mowers typically range from \$200 to \$500.

Electric mowers are suitable for most lawn care needs, with batteries that typically require about one to two hours to fully charge, and most batteries can run for a full hour. That said, if you have a large yard (half an acre or larger), a gas-powered option may be best to suit your needs.



## Electric trimmers



Cordless electric string trimmers are a great option for most lawns. Traditionally, like lawn mowers, string trimmers have typically been powered by gas. But new versions of electric trimmers are improving and are now

considered worthy competitors of gas-powered models.

Cordless electric trimmers are much quieter and easier to use, but most batteries last about 30 to 45 minutes. So, if you have a lot of space to trim, you may want to consider a backup battery or plan to work in short bursts. If you're interested in purchasing an electric trimmer, the main factors to consider are the battery's life, charge time and power. Costs can vary depending on your needs, but you can find a quality version for about \$100.

## Electric leaf blowers

After cutting and trimming your lawn, you'll need to clear off those walkways and patios for the finishing touch. If you don't want to deal with the maintenance of a gas-powered blower or the restraints of a corded blower, a cordless electric version is a great option.

Cordless electric leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, but they don't offer quite as much power as gas-powered and corded blowers. If your leaf blowing and clearing needs are minimal, a cordless electric leaf blower can get the job done. Costs for a cordless electric blower vary depending on power and battery quality, but you can purchase a dependable model for about \$150 and up.

**If you're looking to electrify your lawn care equipment, be sure to do your homework. Search online for the latest reviews, and check trusted websites like [ConsumerReports.org](https://www.ConsumerReports.org). With a little research, you'll be well on your way to Lawn of the Month – with less maintenance, hassle and noise.**

# DIG SAFELY

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## CALL 811 FIRST

 Safe  
Electricity.org



**By digging responsibly, you're protecting yourself, the public and underground facilities you may not be aware of.**

Before you dig, you are required by law to contact the underground locating service by dialing 8-1-1 at least 48 hours in advance (not including weekends or holidays).

Don't assume you know what's below. Many of Beltrami Electric's power lines are buried underground, and an underground power line can be just as dangerous as an overhead power line. Protect yourself and your property by contacting Gopher State One Call before digging.

**Have the following information ready before calling or submitting a ticket online:**

- Your name, address and telephone number
- The type of work you will be doing
- The address, county and intersecting street of the dig location
- Where you will be digging on the property
- When you plan to dig
- Mark the dig area with white paint or stakes before locators arrive

**If you come in contact with an underground utility, evacuate the area for safety, notify your utility provider and DO NOT attempt to fix the problem yourself. If you are in an excavator or machine, stay in the machine until the utility arrives and ensures you can safely exit the machine.**

**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**



[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)

**MONDAY-FRIDAY,**  
7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Call 811 or  
1-800-252-1166

**WEBSITE FEATURES:**

- Submit and manage tickets
- Search ticket status
- GSOC services are FREE for homeowners



What if you had to sweat through a workout just to clean your clothes?

# ELECTRICITY WORKS

SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the first of the month prior to publication of the next issue. Example:
  - Ads submitted by April 1 will be published in the May issue.
  - Ads submitted between April 2 and May 1 will be published in the June issue.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at [www.beltramelectric.com](http://www.beltramelectric.com) (preferred).
- Include your name and Beltrami Electric account number on all submissions.
- All ads must be **50 words or fewer** and typed or printed clearly.
- Members may only submit one for sale and one wanted or free ad per issue.
- No real estate, rental, personal or commercial ads will be accepted.
- 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.
- Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- All telephone numbers are presumed to have a 218 area code unless otherwise noted.
- Mail ads to: Beltrami Electric Cooperative, P.O. BOX 488, Bemidji, MN 56619.

## For Sale:

H&R Sportsman 22 long rifle CTG 9, shot revolver, double action, 6-inch barrel with holster. \$500 or trade for large caliber pistol. 224-3675.

Older model 19" color TV and separate VHS player with 30+ video tapes. Works fine, tapes in good condition. \$35 for everything. 586-2426.

Electro-Boiler Model EB-S-23 22.5 kw 240-volt. Call leave message 368-2485.

2014 Sweetwater 20' pontoon, vinyl floor, Yamaha 70 HP/4 stroke engine. Less than 30 hours running time. Very good condition. \$18,500. ShoreMaster, like-new pontoon lift - \$3,500. 368-3761.

Darton SL50 compound bow, 45-60-lb, 29½ - 31-inch draw, 3-pin Mongoose sight, stabilizer, 7 arrow Bear quiver, 5 aluminum arrows (31¼ inches tip to tail), 2 camo limb sleeves. \$100. 751-6397 leave message.

Two dock slip rentals available for 2020 season, have electric, protected harbor, Kabekona Bay of Leech Lake. More info 970-901-2605 anytime.

Four (4) prom dresses, size small; colors: chocolate brown, red, pastel, and cherry red. \$25 each. Please call 751-9357.

2014 Cougar 5<sup>th</sup> wheel High Country \$23,900, 36" 6" long, 2 axles, queen bed, dual batteries, 13,500 AC, 30,000 Btu furnace, electric awning, 1,655-lbs hitch weight, 10,200-lbs base weight, electric leveling system, fireplace, 50-amp service, dual recliners, extendable rear storage bumper, plus extras. 368-1262.

2016 16-foot black Lund fishing boat with 25-hp, 4-stroke Mercury motor on a 2017 Yacht Club trailer. Like new! \$9,000. Only cash, cashier's check or certified check accepted. 444-8210.

Dog sled with two X-back harnesses. Sled is made of white ash, has claw brake. Runners, brush bow and handlebar are made of high-density polyethylene. Lightweight and in great condition. 22' neck X-back harnesses fit dogs approx. 50-70-lbs. and handles 1-8 dogs. \$400. 209-5339.

20-gauge Western field model ENM, 176 bolt action, magazine fed. \$200. 243-2325.

Horse statues and plates, call for more information. Black Itch hockey bag, \$50. Diamond Razor Edge compound bow with accessories, \$350. Pelican Colorado 15-ft poly canoe, \$300. Armstrong flute, \$200. 759-0186.

TaylorMade burner plus irons, Ping putter. Large quality bag. Drivers: Callaway XHot, Diablo Octane, Cobra AMT. Wedges: 2 Cleveland, Wilson Staff, Bobby Jones. 2 Bobby Jones Jesse Ortiz H3, 1-H2. #3 King Cobra, Super Concorde. Misc. clubs, umbrellas, lots of shag balls. Beautiful queen-size bed, handcrafted of native wood, \$600. Stackable, lidded storage buckets. 586-2884.

AKC Registered Labrador Retriever puppies. Parents both health tested and OFA completed on hips. Puppies come with guarantees. From excellent hunting bloodlines and make wonderful family companion. Please text or call us for more information at 218-244-7605. Located 10 miles south of Bemidji.

ShoreStation 4600-lb boat lift, metal roof, \$3,500. Green CCM antique women's bike, front handle brakes for front and back, \$40. Greenhouse, 10' x 12', aluminum frame, custom-made wood front deck, all for \$250. 224-2483.

2005 Old Town green fiberglass 15-ft. canoe, used very little and no scrape marks. In very good condition, \$325. Call 209-5339.

2007 Harley Davidson Dyna Low Rider. 96 cu-in. six speed F.I. only 3,740 miles, black/chrome, great bike. Lots of stuff goes with too much to list. \$8,500, great deal. Call 218-255-4101 for more details.

40's to 80's phonograph records. \$5 per record. 547-2157.

Selling out-moving! Complete H Farmall tractor for parts. Super M Farmall tractor with fire crator pistons. 305 Bush Hog-WD45 Allis Chalmers. All original. New Holland mower 7' 455 model. Tractor tire chains, sizes 24", 26", 38." 225-amp welder. 35mm Canon camera AE1. All above items in excellent shape, except H for parts. Call 647-8775.

Butler grain bin, 21-ft diameter. Call 586-2875 after 11:00 a.m. to view. Cash only, \$1,500/obo.

TC Treadclimber by BowFlex, \$500. 444-3424.

Bush Hog rotary cutter, pull type. 407-0293.

Solid oak counter-height round table, \$100/obo. Text 218-766-8503.

Full-size 3-cushion sofa, like new, cost over \$900. Asking \$250. Call 444-1662 for details.

16-ft 1988 Blue Fin fishing boat. 2 live wells, fish locator and 50 hp motor with tilt and trim. Good condition, with trailer. \$1,600. 835-7484.

Beekeeping equipment, full 3 hives of deeps and supers, plus extras, Maxant 6/3 motorized extractor on a sturdy base, refractometer, pail warmer, bee yard-posts, solar fencer and other equipment. John at 209-1215.

Martin Panther Magnum compound bow; sights, release, hard case. 10 graphite practice arrows, 5 new hunting arrows w/ broads. Comes with a block target and Rivers Edge hang-on stand. \$300. 987-2107.

2009 American 18 sailboat/trailer: spacious and comfortable daysailer designed for speed and performance and easy handling, roller reefing jib, spinaker, adjustable jib/spinnaker tracks, Harken hardware, and stainless rigging, compass, self-bailing cockpit. Kickup rudder and centerboard, Torquezo electric outboard motor, mooring cover, lightly used/stored inside \$6500, Marty 847-309-9556.

2012 Polaris Sportsman HO, 2,800 miles, has a winch and trailer hitch, green. Tires in decent shape, lots of torque. Asking price somewhere under \$4,500. Also willing to trade for a small boat motor trailer in good shape. New battery, gone through by Bemidji Sports Centre. Text or call 760-1614.

14' aluminum Northwoods boat, with Spartan trailer, and 7.5 hp Evinrude outboard motor. 12' Lowline boat, and 4 other 14' aluminum boats, Alumacraft, Naden, Mirrocraft and Lund models. Call 760-8266.

Glue-laminated beam, 6 x 16 x 24-ft, \$300. Bob 218-443-0426.

## ITEMS FOR SALE BY BID

Items are available for viewing at Beltrami Electric, on the east side of the building, in front of BEC's garage area from April 13-15 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Bids will be accepted during this time as well. Items sold "as-is." Cash only. Successful bidder is responsible for all taxes, license and transfer fees. For more information, visit [www.beltramelectric.com/items-sale-bid](http://www.beltramelectric.com/items-sale-bid).



2012 Chevrolet Silverado 1500: 5.3L, 175,576 miles. **Minimum bid \$3,500.**



2001 Chevrolet 2500 HD, 6.0L, 181,245 miles, no bed. **Minimum bid \$2,500.**

## Wanted:

Cat cutter type snowmobile sled to pull grandkids around, any brand, any condition. Also older Winchester 30-30. Call or text 766-6238.

Puppy-young adult large dog. I will provide a loving home on farm setting in Kelliher. 647-8553.

Local family wishes for a usable, small car to borrow for errands with new baby. Will be garaged. Please text or call Mark: 218-228-2222.

13 yr. old looking for old or broken hockey sticks to do craft projects with. Call/text (218) 368-9492. Thank you

Double barrel .410, or single shot (no pumps or autos). Text, don't call, 760-3722.

Pontoon trailer, scissor lift style with tandem axel. Call 760-8266.

Snowblower 26"+, 8 hp+. 206-5391.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

This spring, consider using a rain barrel to save energy. Rain barrels capture rainwater from a roof that can be used later for watering your lawn, garden or indoor plants.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)

Good Friday

Beltrami Electric  
Cooperative will be closed

Friday, April 10, 2020,  
in observance of Good Friday.

We are looking  
for you!

Beltrami Electric is  
looking for **Becky L.  
Wittner** (Cass Lake, Minn.).  
Please call **218-444-2540** if  
you have any information.



# NATIONAL LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY

LINeworkERS KNOW HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE.

LET'S THANK THEM FOR POWERING OUR LIVES.



Lineworker Appreciation Day  
April 13, 2020

We depend on our entire staff to keep Beltrami Electric Cooperative running smoothly, but on April 13, 2020, we honor the lineworkers who often find themselves in dangerous and challenging situations, so our lives may be a little bit brighter and safer every day. These brave men and women are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones. A lineworker's job requires them to set aside their personal priorities to better service their local community. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time – day or night, weekday or weekend – if the lights go out, so do they.



## *Congratulations on your retirement, Dan!*

*Credit manager Dan Dow will retire April 3, after more than 30 years working at Beltrami Electric Cooperative. Dan lives north of Bemidji with his wife Cindy and is looking forward to spending more time with his wife, daughter, son-in-law and grandkids. He hopes to spend time fishing with his brothers and with his "girlfriend" Babe, hunting grouse, woodcock and ducks in his retirement. Thank you, Dan, for your dedicated service to the cooperative and our members. We wish you a long, healthy and happy retirement, filled with great fishing, hunting and quality time with family.*



## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020. A quorum of directors was present.

### *The following reports were given:*

- President and CEO Echternach gave his monthly report, including discussion on January financials and legislative issues, national electric rates and 2019 comparative data of the average residential usage and electric bill.
- Arlene Hogquist reviewed the January financial report and the cooperative's Balanced Performance Scorecard.
- Angela Lyseng reported on the Beltrami Electric Cooperative website and social media.
- President and CEO Echternach and Arlene Hogquist reported on the 2019 margins and capital credit allocation.
- President and CEO Echternach reviewed the Director Candidate Packet, revisions to BEC Policies 110, 111 and 113, the tentative Union agreement and the current Succession Plan.
- Dan Edens and Lee Pemberton presented revisions to BEC Policy 416.
- Directors and the CEO shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings and educational conferences.

### *The following actions were taken:*

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved to allocate the 2019 operating margin and to retain nonoperating margins as permanent equity as allowed by our bylaws and capital credit policy.
- Approved revisions to BEC Policies 110, 111, 113 and 416 as presented.
- Accepted the tentative agreement between BEC and the IBEW 1426 as presented.
- Elected Rick Coe as the Minnkota Power director and Murl Nord as the Square Butte director.

*The next regular board meeting will be Friday, April 24, 2020.*



# Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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218-444-2540 • 800-955-6083  
www.beltramielctric.com

## Timely energy saving tips

With many of our members having busier households these days (using computers, watching TV, cooking, turning on lights) due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we encourage you to talk with your family members about your electricity habits. Here are a few simple tips that you can use to conserve energy in your attempt to avoid a higher electrical bill.

- Turn off unnecessary lights
- Turn computers and monitors off when not in use
- Use natural light
- Use task lighting
- Take shorter showers
- Unplug unnecessary electronics
- Lower your thermostat
- Wash laundry in cold water
- Cook with the microwave, crock-pot or toaster oven

For more energy saving tips, including guides to help you save energy and money, visit <https://www.beltramielctric.com/energy-saving-tips>.



[beltramielctric.com/energy-saving-tips](https://www.beltramielctric.com/energy-saving-tips).

Keep track of your energy use with MyMeter, a free web and mobile app.

Create an account

or log in today! Visit: <https://www.beltramielctric.com/mymeter>.

While the kids are home, have them try out the Home Energy Adventure to discover ways you can improve your home's energy efficiency and save money at <http://adventure.touchstoneenergy.com/>.

## SAFELY

connect a portable generator to your home with **GenerLink**

When you have lost power, a portable generator can temporarily provide needed electricity. However, it may present serious hazards if not used properly. **NEVER plug a portable generator into your home.** This can cause electricity to feed back through your home onto the utility's system. This "backfeed" can be **deadly** for lineworkers and anyone near downed power lines.

- The GenerLink is a 200 amp UL listed transfer switch to safely connect a generator to your home.
- Purchase a generator that can provide the amount of power you expect to need during an outage.
- Beltrami Electric's electricians will install the device at your electric meter.
- GenerLink allows you the flexibility and control to select what you want to run using your home's circuit panel.



Contact our Energy Services Department today for more information and current pricing.