

THE POWER OF MEMBERSHIP



Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Members gather for Beltrami Electric Cooperative's 86th Annual Meeting and Night at the Fair

More than 2,400 members and guests attended Beltrami Electric Night at the Fair, where BEC held its 86th annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12.

Board Chair John Lund welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced the cooperative board of directors.

The meeting agenda included a financial update from Director of Finance and Corporate Services Arlene Hogquist, as well as a cooperative update from President and CEO Jared Echternach. Beltrami Electric's Youth Tour Delegate for 2026, Jacobi Burmeister Pater, spoke about her experience in Washington, D.C.

Three directors were elected to the board, which included incumbents Charlie Perkins (*District 2*), Craig Gaasvig (*District 4*) and Rick Coe (*District 6*).

Many fairgoers enjoyed the beautiful and fun evening as well as the free concert in the grandstand featuring The Waddington Brothers.



Congratulations to BEC members Harold Gehrke and Jamie Gehrke on winning the drawing for the Milwaukee Trimmer. We'd like to thank **Acme Tools** for donating this amazing prize!





A word on data centers

by Jared Echternach, president and CEO

WHY IT MATTERS

Data centers have certainly made headlines of late. Some positive, some negative. At a recent district meeting, I was asked what our cooperative's stance is on data centers, so I thought it appropriate to share our position with our membership in this newsletter column.

OUR POSITION

No matter what the future holds, our priority will be supporting growth with fairness – that means ensuring large-scale energy users pay their fair share and don't negatively impact rates or reliability for our membership.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Data centers may feel like a big-city phenomenon, but more and more of them are showing up in rural communities. Rural areas offer what data centers need most: affordable land, room to grow, lower average temperatures and access to transmission lines that can move large amounts of power.

What makes data centers different from other large businesses is their appetite for electricity. These facilities run 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Servers must stay online constantly, which means power has to be reliable every minute of every day.

OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

Data centers have the potential to bring steady, long-term load growth that helps support investments in the local and regional grid. With proper agreements, planning and policy support, those upgrades – including new generation, transmission, substations and distribution – can benefit all.

Providing power to data centers presents challenges, too. These large facilities can be constructed and operating in as little as one year, but ensuring the necessary infrastructure, equipment and electricity requires longer lead times, planning and significant financial investment.

These loads, when agreements are structured properly, help mitigate costs to the rest of the membership (see *associated graphic on page 3*). What's even better is that many data center owners/operators have the balance sheet and the desire to pay for all costs up front, further reducing the risk to existing members.

THE HISTORY & FUTURE

Data centers are certainly not new. They've been around for decades. What is new is the sheer size and scale of many modern varieties. While Beltrami Electric Cooperative does not currently serve any large data centers, co-ops nationwide are fielding requests and inquiries from tech companies.

One project currently under construction is located in Harwood, North Dakota (see *associated article on power supply on page 3*). This data center facility will be served by Cass County Electric Cooperative headquartered in Fargo, North Dakota, who in turn is supplied by Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier. Cass County Electric Cooperative and Minnkota have structured the deal to mitigate the risk associated with serving the load so that it benefits all Minnkota member cooperatives through upgrades in generation, transmission, distribution and increased margins.

OUR COMMITMENT

As a member-owned cooperative, our responsibility is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electric service to all members. Balancing those responsibilities is not always simple, especially as new types of large-scale energy users, like data centers, become part of the landscape.

The energy landscape is changing, and with it comes both opportunities and challenges. Our commitment is to continue listening, communicating and working with our members and community partners to ensure decisions reflect the best interests of the people we serve.

86TH ANNUAL MEETING

Beltrami Electric Cooperative held its 86th annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds. Our "Night at the Fair" featured the business meeting and fun and interactive events. What a turnout! I saw BEC members, directors and employees interacting, which is what our cooperative is all about. Thank you to members who attended, and to the Beltrami County Ag Association for a great partnership and allowing us to conduct our annual meeting at the fair.

During the formal business meeting, members approved the minutes from last year's meeting and reelected directors Charlie Perkins, Craig Gaasvig and Rick Coe. Congratulations to Charlie, Craig and Rick, and thank you for your service to our members. We look forward to seeing you next August at the Fair!





Mac McLennan
President & CEO
Minnkota Power Cooperative

Planning today for the power needs of tomorrow

Minnkota Power Cooperative is preparing for one of the most important power supply planning periods in its history – and our members are at the heart of our decision-making process. As the wholesale power provider for Beltrami Electric Cooperative and 10 other member cooperatives across eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, Minnkota is responsible for making sure reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity is available not only today, but decades into the future. That responsibility is becoming more complex.

Our approach

Electricity demand is growing. Power markets are changing. Environmental requirements continue to evolve. New technologies are creating opportunities, but also new challenges. At the same time, members continue to expect dependable electric service they can afford.

The path ahead is being shaped by extensive planning, detailed analysis and a long-term commitment to the members and communities we serve. Our approach is an all-of-the-above energy strategy. That means we're working to strengthen resources we already have in place, while adding new resources that make our system more diverse, flexible and reliable.

Future generation

One important step already in progress is the development of the Flickertail Wind Farm near New Rockford, North Dakota. When complete, Flickertail will more than double Minnkota's current wind energy portfolio. Because wind energy output changes with weather conditions, Minnkota also needs resources that can respond when electricity demand is high or when other resources are producing less. That's why we're closely evaluating the addition of natural gas generation in North Dakota.

This effort is connected to the development of the Bakken East natural gas pipeline. Natural gas generation can start up, ramp down and adjust output to help match electricity supply with demand across the region. Minnkota is still determining the right technology, location and size for this potential facility, but current planning is focused on having it available in the early 2030s.

Our generation investments are still going strong

At the same time, Minnkota's existing coal-based resources at the Milton R. Young Station in western North Dakota continue to provide tremendous value. This facility produces dependable, around-the-clock electricity and supports the reliability our members expect.

That's why Minnkota continues to pursue Project Tundra, an effort to add carbon capture technology at the Young Station. If implemented, Project Tundra would capture CO₂ emissions from the power plant and help position it to meet potential future environmental regulations. Importantly, the project is being structured with limited required capital investment from Minnkota, minimizing financial risk to the membership.

Our commitment

These power supply decisions are being made for Minnkota's legacy members, including the homes, farms, schools and businesses served by Beltrami Electric Cooperative. You are the foundation of our system, and your needs remain at the center of our planning.

Our plan for large electricity consumers

New large electricity consumers can bring opportunity to our region, but only if they are served in a way that protects existing members and strengthens the overall system. That's the standard Minnkota is applying to the data center being developed near Harwood, North Dakota.

The data center will cover the costs for its dedicated infrastructure up front and pay its own way for all its energy needs. The agreement is designed to ensure this new load does not shift costs to existing members. In fact, the revenues from this data center project can help cover a portion of the costs tied to future power supply investments Minnkota is already pursuing.

With each of these projects now in motion, the work is moving from planning to action. The decisions ahead are significant, but necessary to keep power reliable. As a not-for-profit cooperative, Minnkota's focus remains on the people and communities we serve. That focus will continue to guide the decisions being made today for the power needs of tomorrow.

DATA CENTERS & ELECTRIC RATES

Although Beltrami doesn't currently serve a large-scale data center, we wanted to take a moment to dispel some myths about what data centers mean for local electric bills.

MYTH

"DATA CENTERS WILL DRIVE UP MY ELECTRICITY COSTS."

REALITY

DATA CENTERS CAN ACTUALLY HELP KEEP ELECTRIC RATES STABLE.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING:

1 Most of your electric bill is made up of "fixed costs"

When you pay your electric bill, you're not just paying for the power. You're also paying for the power plants, poles, wires, substations and other infrastructure that make the generation and delivery of that power possible. These long-term investments, known as "fixed costs," get paid for over decades, much like a mortgage.

2 Large electricity consumers help cover these fixed costs

When a large customer – like a data center – connects to our system, they pay 100% of the new equipment they require (so others are not covering their upgrades) and chip in heavily toward the existing system's fixed costs. Their contributions can help keep rates stable and lessen the need for future increases.



3 Rates may still go up for other reasons

Does this mean rates *never* go up again? **No.** Factors like supply chain challenges, inflation and rising costs of labor and materials are pushing expenses higher across the entire industry. But the key is that data centers may limit the impacts. Without their contributions, those increases could be even steeper for everyone else.

4 Takeaway

With the right partnerships and structures, data centers aren't placing undue pressure on electric rates. By paying their fair share, they're helping stabilize costs for all of us.



CONGRATULATIONS, ANGELA LYSENG!

*Thank you for your years
of service to the co-op!*



After more than 21 years of dedicated service, Communications Specialist Angela Lyseng is retiring this month from Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

Angela joined BEC in 2005 and served in several roles before becoming communications specialist in 2015. Throughout her career, she enjoyed sharing the cooperative story, connecting with members through the Energy Resources Tour and helping members better understand the value of their electric cooperative.

Over the years, Angela has helped tell the stories of the people who make Beltrami Electric special, from employees restoring power after storms to members participating in cooperative programs and community events. She says the relationships she built with members and coworkers will always be the most rewarding part of her career.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of an amazing team at BEC," Angela said. "I've enjoyed getting to know so many of our members over the years, and I truly appreciate the friendships and relationships I've built along the way."

Thank you, Angela, for your years of service, dedication and commitment to our members and cooperative. We wish you all the best in your retirement!



More than a trip to Washington, D.C.

**By Jacobi
Burmeister Pater**

This year, I was given one of the greatest opportunities of my high school career: to serve as Beltrami Electric's delegate to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. The memories and experiences I gained there are nothing like I've ever had before. I got to see Mount Vernon, the Capitol and five of the Smithsonian museums, meet our Minnesota senators and so much more – and it is all thanks to my cooperative. They believed in me to serve my community and gain a better understanding of how huge a role electric cooperatives play in states and our country as a whole. I learned that an electric cooperative isn't just there to provide electricity. It's also there to serve its community. Members have a voice and a vote in how the cooperative is run, helping ensure it meets local needs. With this in mind, while I was in D.C., I learned firsthand what it is to be a leader and a representative and came back with so much more knowledge on how I can better serve my community. One of my biggest highlights of the trip was the friends that I made there.

Even though it's hard to see each other because we live all over the state, I've already made plans with many of them to hang out in the near future. We all came from different backgrounds, but we were still able to get along and create long-lasting friendships, and I think that's one of the most important things I gained from this trip. In the end, thank you so much, Beltrami Electric, for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and for giving me the chance to serve our community as the representative for the Youth Tour. I'll be forever grateful, and I wish our next representative will have the best time next year.



ENERGY RESOURCES TOUR GIVES MEMBERS A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK AT THEIR POWER



Beltrami Electric Cooperative hosted its annual Energy Resources Tour in July, giving members a firsthand look at the facilities, people and partnerships that power our communities. Members gained a deeper understanding of how their electricity is generated, transmitted and delivered while seeing the cooperative difference in action.

What members experienced:

- **Minnkota Power Cooperative** – Learned how BEC's wholesale power provider generates and transmits electricity, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the system control center.
- **Milton R. Young Station & BNI Coal Mine** – Saw how lignite coal is mined and used to provide reliable baseload power for Minnkota's cooperatives.
- **Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center & Fort Mandan** – Not only experienced the history of their expedition in the early 1800s, but also learned how coal combustion byproducts, including fly ash, are recycled into products such as concrete, wallboard and other building materials used in the construction of the visitor center.
- **North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives/Bismarck State College Lineworker Training Facility** – Toured the state-of-the-art training

facility and learned how future lineworkers develop the skills needed to safely build and maintain the electric system.

- **Ashtabula Wind Energy Center** –

Explored how renewable wind energy is delivered to BEC members through Minnkota Power Cooperative.



Throughout the three-day tour, members asked thoughtful questions, connected with industry experts, and gained a greater appreciation for the diverse energy resources and dedicated people who work together to keep the lights on.

Thank you: BEC extends its appreciation to employees Ayla Kranz, Jeremy Seibel, Josh Vold and Angela Lyseng, Minnkota Power Cooperative, and all of our tour hosts for making this educational experience possible.

Electrify Your Ride – EV Car Show/Ride & Drive

THURSDAY, OCT. 1 | 4-6 P.M. | BELTRAMI ELECTRIC

Step into the driver's seat of the future during our 2026 EV Car Show and Ride & Drive, part of National Drive Electric Month. Explore the latest electric vehicles, from the powerful Ford F-150 Lightning to sleek Teslas and more. Take a spin in an EV or hop on an e-bike to experience the smooth, quiet ride that's turning drivers into believers. Chat with EV experts to learn about home charging options, off-peak rates and rebates. Enjoy cookies and refreshments and be one of the first 75 attendees to snag a free T-shirt. Whether you're EV-curious or a long-time fan, this event is your chance to see, drive and discover what's next in transportation.



CALLING ALL MEMBERS - DO YOU DRIVE AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?

Do you drive an electric vehicle? We'd love to have you join us for our EV Car Show and Ride & Drive. Share your experience, answer questions and show off your ride to curious drivers. If you'd like to participate, contact Ayla at 218-444-3623 to reserve your spot.

Classifieds

Classified ads rules

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

For Sale:

Delta Unisaw table saw: 220V single phase w/Biesemeyer fence and table extension. Excellent condition. \$1,200. 218-333-0920.

Steven's Model 311A classic 12 ga side-by-side double-barrel shotgun, dual triggers, internal hammers and a hardwood stock, \$300 cash. 218-556-8623.

Bubba LI-ION cordless electric knife, brand new, paid \$185. First \$150 cash takes it. Electric patio heater (umbrella type), \$25 cash. 218-444-7308.

2012 Honda Ridgeline, 190k miles, 4-door, clean interior and exterior, working sunroof. \$9,995/obo. Jerry 218-444-7774.

HD 130-2 Doosan hydraulic excavator, 3,200 hours, \$26,000. 612-281-7295

Schmidt beer can hunting lamps, antelope, moose, deer, elk. \$25 and up. Call Jim at 218-760-3298.

60 John Deere tractor, excellent rubber; John Deere 3-bottom plow. All for \$4,000. 218-444-4796.

2004 Honda 4-wheeler, one owner, tool box windshield, farm use only, very nice. \$2,000. 218-444-9650

2007 Harley Davidson 883 Sportster 17,068 miles, cherry black, has saddle bags and windshield – runs great, fun ride, great for a beginner. \$5,500. Call 218-335-8587 or 218-368-6442.

Brand new 7' freezeless water connection (retail at \$504). Has a 2' heater rod for Thermaline units with instructions (retail at \$76) and a RK Therna Woodford Thermaline repair kit (retail at \$138). Total retail of \$718+. Everything is brand new. All three components for \$400. Text Amber at 218-308-5182.

Clopay new white garage door. Size 9' wide x 8' high. Out of box but never used. Asking \$150. 218-224-2407.

2002 Larson 210 SEI Ski & Fish. 21.6' length with 5.0 engine. \$9,800/obo. Comes with many extras. Have all maintenance records since new. Travel cover, sonar, depth finder, bimini top, carpet, anchor, electric trolling motor, fishing pedestals, swim platform, ladder, live well, on-board tackle storage. Bunker trailer. 218-368-3686.

2005 Tahoe Tracker inboard boat 19 ft, 190 hp, radio, sundeck, one owner, excellent shape, Grand Forks N.D. Call 218-779-0088. \$8,500/obo.

Coleman generator 2250 watts, little use \$200. 1.35 hp Guide electric meat grinder like new \$80. Used refrigerator works good \$125. New chest freezer \$100. Metal storage closet 3' wide \$75. Barnett Wildcat crossbow 150 lb., crank cocking device, extra bolts, case, block target INC, \$650. Call 218-760-5957

Whirlpool 5-burner gas stove. Self-cleaning, freestanding, white. Purchased 2018. Has had little use. Clean and in excellent condition. Upgraded appliances during kitchen renovation. Paid \$749, asking \$200. Call/text 509-994-0474.

John Deere 826 snow blower, 8 hp Tecumseh engine, 26 inch width, \$275. 612-281-5089

Kimber Rifle 84L Hunter Pro 280 Ackley Improved, like new in the box with 4 boxes of shells and extra clip. \$995. Savage Rifle 6.5 Creedmore Axis II XP with Bushnell scope. New unfired in the box. \$495. 218-766-4946.

Heavy duty two-man red kayak with paddles. \$150 cash. 218-444-7308.

16' duck/river boat – Honda motor and Minn Kota troller – 16' Water Fowler Alumacraft with three pedestal seats; Gx390 Honda 13 hp long tail mud motor; Minn Kota V2 24V trolling motor. Very good shape; running condition, on board battery charger. No trailer. \$6,500. Pics to share. 218-368-2046.

2003 1850 Crestliner Fish Hawk, four seats/two consoles/stored inside. 218-556-5152.

Wanted:

Cash for chainsaws in any condition. Husqvarna, Jonsered, Stihl, Partner, Dolmar, Makita, possibly others. 45 CC and larger preferred but will consider any. 218-308-4461 – text pictures and info or call.

Four laying hens that need somewhere to go. I want to round out my flock before a couple old girls succumb to nature. Not looking to pay much if anything. Nice clean coop and flock. Birds would be very well cared for. Text Amber at 218-308-5182.

A deck for a John Deere riding lawn mower. The Edge cutting system 42" fits L110 automatic or for parts. Call or text 218-368-2369.

Treadmill. 218-368-3117.

BY THE NUMBERS | Q2 2026

Below is an overview of our Second Quarter Unaudited Financial Report.



	2026	2025
Cost of Purchased Power and Generation	\$22,450,154	\$20,870,264
Other Operating Expenses	\$10,297,841	\$9,931,683
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$32,747,995	\$30,801,947



Residential kWh SOLD
165,038,442

2025 Comparison: 164,245,406



TOTAL MARGINS
\$2,625,291

2025 Comparison: \$1,472,235

	2026	2025
Operating Margins	\$2,554,846	\$1,384,605
Non-Operating Margins	\$70,445	\$87,630



2025 Comparison: 22,525

AVERAGE kWh used by residential members



1,306
PER MONTH

2025 Comparison: 1,312

SEPTEMBER READER'S CONTEST

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

1. The first name of BEC's Youth Tour delegate is _____.
2. BEC's wholesale power provider is _____.
3. The Northwoods Maker's Market is a fundraiser for _____.

Member Name:	BEC Account Number:	Email address:
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Congratulations to our contest winners: Richard and Patricia Valen (June) and Shannon and John Schmitt (July).

JULY 2026 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting on **Wednesday, July 29, 2026**. A quorum of directors was in attendance.

- President and CEO Echternach and the board discussed recent safety successes, observations and storm restoration efforts.
- Youth tour delegate, Jacobi Burmeister Pater, spoke about her recent trip to Washington, D.C.
- President and CEO Echternach made his monthly report, including board reorganization, annual meeting, employee update, member correspondence and inquires, Cooperative Family Fund 5K fundraiser and board leadership.
- President and CEO Echternach presented Craig Gaasvig with the Board Leadership Certificate.
- Arlene Hogquist presented June's financial report.
- Arlene Hogquist presented the cooperative's Balanced Performance Scorecard.
- President and CEO Echternach presented the cooperative's detailed Strategic Plan.
- A member addressed the board regarding rates.
- Directors and President and CEO Echternach shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings, events and education conferences.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved additions to the agenda.
- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved a memorial resolution.
- Approved the collective bargaining agreement with the lineworkers union.
- Approved holding October's board meeting on Oct. 23, 2026.
- Approved holding December's board meeting on Dec. 18, 2026.
- Approved President and CEO and director expenses.

The next board meeting will be held Friday, Sept. 25, 2026.

MN Energy Assistance Program

WHAT IS IT?

Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program helps renters and homeowners keep homes heated and the lights on. The deadline to apply for energy assistance during the winter of 2026-2027 is May 31, 2027.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Households in need of assistance with utility bills. Both renters and homeowners can qualify. Eligibility is based on income and household size.

HOW MUCH CAN I RECEIVE?

Initial benefits average \$500 per household and can be up to \$1,400 depending on household income and energy/fuel costs.

- Additional funds may be available for crisis situations.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The program is based on income guidelines. The program offers extra support for seniors over 60 years old.

COLD WEATHER RULE

Each year, some members struggle to pay their electric bill during cold weather months. The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule was established to protect residential members from electrical service disconnection between October 1 and April 30.

Cold Weather Rule protection is available if the following conditions exist:

- 1) The disconnection would affect your main heating source
- 2) Your household income is eligible
- 3) You and Beltrami Electric Cooperative agree on a payment plan

** Note: The Cold Weather Protection form is mailed to all past-due accounts during the CWR period.*

The Cold Weather Rule does not automatically prevent winter disconnections. If you receive a **DISCONNECT NOTICE between Oct. 1 and April 30**, you must act before the disconnect date. View **MN Statute 216B.097** for the Cold Weather Rule at beltramielelectric.com/payment-assistance.

MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSISTANCE - Special consideration may be given when a household member has been deployed on military duty. If this applies to you, contact the cooperative immediately to identify your situation and schedule a payment plan - **MN Statute 325E.028**.

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Weatherization Assistance Program in Minnesota provides free home energy upgrades to income-eligible homeowners and renters to help save energy and make sure your home is a healthy and safe place to live. Weatherization works closely with its companion program, the Energy Assistance Program, to help permanently reduce the energy bills for low-income Minnesotans. If you are interested in applying for weatherization assistance, please contact your local Weatherization Assistance provider or visit mn.gov/commerce/energy/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance-program/ for more information.

NEED HELP PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?

Energy assistance may be available!

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) helps income-qualified households pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid. *(Eligibility is based on energy costs, household size and the most recent month of income.)*

SCAN ME



View EAP income guidelines and APPLY ONLINE.

BI-CAP IN BEMIDJI

6603 Bemidji Ave N
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-751-4631

BI-CAP IN WALKER

8245 Industrial Park Rd NW
Walker, MN 56484
218-547-3438

KOOTASCA

201 4th Street NW, Suite 130
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
218-999-0824

LEECH LAKE

115 6th St
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-3783

MAHUBE-OTWA

120 North Central Ave
Park Rapids, MN 56470
218-847-1385

RED LAKE

15809 High School Dr
Red Lake, MN 56671
218-679-3350

2027 MAXIMUM EAP INCOME GUIDELINES

Household Size	1-Month Maximum
1	\$3,205
2	\$4,191
3	\$5,117
4	\$6,164
5	\$7,150
6	\$8,136
7	\$8,321
8	\$8,506

NORTHERN

L I G H T S

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Northern Lights (USPS 016488)

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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

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Email: info@beltramielectric.com

MN STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. Find service territories for electrical inspectors here: <https://workplace.doli.state.mn.us/jurisdiction/>

BELTRAMI & HUBBARD COUNTIES:

Wade Koons | 218-580-8589
wade.koons@state.mn.us

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.



SEPT. 19TH & 20TH
11 AM-3 PM

\$10 AGES 13 & OVER
\$5 AGES 5-12
UNDER 5: FREE!

Tractor/Wagon Rides!
(weather permitting)
Music, Family Fun,
Kids' Activities, Crafts
& Vendors!



BUENA VISTA SKI AREA

19600 Irvine Ave NW, Bemidji | 218-243-2231



**OPERATION ROUND UP®
APPLICATION DEADLINE**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Do you know of a nonprofit organization in our service territory that would benefit from a grant from Operation Round Up? Community organizations and nonprofit groups may apply for an Operation Round Up grant by completing and returning an application form. For more details and a fillable application, visit our website at beltramielectric.com/operation-roundup.

The deadline for grant applications is **FRIDAY, SEPT. 18, 2026**.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!



Beltrami Electric Cooperative is looking for Betty A. Engen (Walker, Minn.).

Please call 218-444-2540 if you have any information.

MAKERS/VENDORS WANTED:

Northwoods Maker's Market

Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. | At Beltrami Electric



If you are a maker or vendor, this event is just for you! Vendor registration is open for this year's Northwoods Maker's Market! This event is a fundraiser for the United Way of Bemidji Area. Makers and vendors can contact Beltrami Electric at **218-444-3675** for more information or to sign up for a booth!