

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS



Hooked on Fishing

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Hatcheries**
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Moving Structures**
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*Photo Credit:
Markus Erk*

Northern Electric Board of Directors approves restated and amended bylaws for member vote



Nolan Wipf
Board President

Thank you for your continued support of our member-owned electric cooperative. As you may know, our Northern Electric board of directors meets monthly to govern the business and affairs of the cooperative. One of the responsibilities that falls to our board is to periodically review Northern Electric's bylaws. The cooperative's bylaws were last amended by the membership in 2012 and have not been thoroughly reviewed since the last merger in 1997. After 26 years, the Northern Electric board of directors voted unanimously in February to propose restated and amended bylaws to the membership for a vote.

The board appreciates your support to modernize our cooperative's articles of incorporation and bylaws.

The board formed a committee more than a year ago in January 2022 to begin this review. The committee laid out the following goals when doing its review:

- Modernize the language and provisions
- Simplify and clean-up language
- Ensure any changes would be for the benefit of all members and align with cooperative principles
- Seek member input during the committee review process

The board provided notice to the members that the board had formed a committee and sought feedback in the April 2022 issue of *Cooperative Connections*. The committee met several times between February and May 2022 and unanimously recommended a

set of updates and revisions. Over the next several months, the full Northern Electric board of directors reviewed those changes, provided feedback, and decided to notify the membership at the 2022 annual meeting that a revised set of bylaws would be presented to the membership for their review and approval in the coming months.

At the February 20, 2023, board meeting, the board unanimously agreed to a final version for the members to consider and vote on via mail. The version the board is recommending for member approval is a restatement, which is a package of changes that is voted on at the same time. **The entire copy of the recommended restatement will be mailed out to every member along with a ballot and a postage-paid ballot envelope at the end of March.** All ballots must be returned to a Northern Electric office in Bath, SD, or Redfield, SD, by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20. Ballots must be sealed in the provided postage-paid ballot envelope and can either be mailed to one of the cooperative offices or dropped off in person. All ballots, however, must be received by the end of the day on April 20 to be counted. The full voting instructions are included on pages 10-11 of this publication.

The committee and board have worked with its legal counsel and management for more than a year finalizing this restatement for our members to consider and vote on. We encourage you to please take the time to read through the restated and amended bylaws when you receive them in the mail and contact your local director with any questions about the proposed restatement. The board appreciates your support to modernize our cooperative's bylaws.

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

NORTHERN ELECTRIC

(USPS 396-040)

Board President: Nolan Wipf

Board of Directors

Todd Hettich - Vice President
Ron Kaaz - Secretary
Josh Larson - Treasurer
Fran Esser
B.J. Hansen
Kirk Schaunaman
Scott Sperry
Mike Traxinger

CEO/General Manager: Char Hager
info@northernelectric.coop

Chief Financial Officer: Lorisa Rudolph

Operations Manager: Jerry Weber

Manager of Member Services: Russel Ulmer

Manager of Information Technology: Derek Gorecki

Communications Director: Ben Dunsmoor
bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

Executive Secretary: Kay Albrecht

Northern Electric Cooperative Connections is the monthly publication for the members of Northern Electric Cooperative, PO Box 457, Bath, SD 57427. Families subscribe to Cooperative Connections as part of their electric cooperative membership. The purpose of Northern Electric Cooperative Connections is to provide reliable, helpful information to electric cooperative members on electric cooperative matters and better rural living.

Subscription information: Northern Electric Cooperative members devote 50 cents from their monthly electric payments for a subscription. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$12 annually. Periodicals postage paid at Bath, SD 57427.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to Northern Electric Cooperative Connections, PO Box 457, Bath, SD 57427; telephone (605) 225-0310; fax (605) 225-1684

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Northern Electric Cooperative's regular board meeting was held February 20, 2023, at the headquarters in Bath with all directors present. As the first order of business, the board approved the January 19, 2023, minutes and expenditures. The board then reviewed and accepted monthly reports by management.

East River Director Kirk Schaunaman reported on actions taken by the board at its February 2, 2023, meeting. South Dakota Rural Electric Association Director Nolan Wipf reported that the next SDREA board meeting will be held March 30-31, 2023. Directors Kirk Schaunaman, Todd Hettich, Nolan Wipf, and General Manager Char Hager reported on the East River Energize Forum, which was held February 1-2, 2023, in Sioux Falls. General Manager Char Hager reported on the South Dakota Rural Electric Managers Association Meeting held February 7-8, 2023, in Pierre.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Char Hager's report to the board included the following items:

- Informed directors of the American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) D.C. Fly-in & Government Affairs Summit, March 29-30, 2023, Washington, DC.
- Reminded directors of the 2023 NRECA Legislative Conference, April 16-19, in Washington, DC.
- Reminded directors of the 2023 NRECA New Director Orientation, April 26-28, in Arlington, VA.

- Informed directors of the 2023 NRECA CCD Director Courses, April 3-5, Pierre.
- Informed directors of the LAMONT-RHODES Lecture Series, Tuesday, April 11, 2023, Northern State University, Aberdeen.

BOARD REPORT

The board considered and/or acted upon the following:

1. Approved the date and time of the next regular board meeting for 8:30 A.M. on Thursday, March 23, 2023.
2. Approved adjustment to the 2023 Operating Budget.
3. Approved Work Order Inventory #23-01 for \$1,049,222.95 to be submitted to Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for reimbursement from loan funds for electric plant construction already completed.
4. Approved revisions to Electric Tariffs.
5. Approved Conflict of Interest Policy.
6. Approved the amended and restated bylaws.
7. Special Meeting of the Membership to be held April 24, 2023, to consider the amended and restated bylaws.
8. Approved resolution to submit to members to utilize mail balloting.
9. Set date, time, and place, and determined election rules for mail balloting.

Please direct questions to your cooperative director, manager, or co-op staff member.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Jan-23	Jan-22
kWh Sales	32,037,341 kWh	36,972,405 kWh
Electric Revenues	\$2,675,120	\$2,944,885
Total Cost of Service	\$2,582,000	\$2,739,787
Operating Margins.....	\$93,120	\$205,098
Year to Date Margins	\$127,423	\$207,140

RESIDENTIAL AVERAGE MONTHLY USAGE AND BILL

JAN-2023.....	3,518 kWh.....	\$290.22	0.0825 per kWh
JAN-2022.....	3,876 kWh.....	\$310.27	0.0800 per kWh

Wholesale power cost, taxes, interest, and depreciation account for 85.1% of NEC's total cost of service.

Practicing Electrical Safety Inside and Outside the Home

Electricity is a vital resource South Dakotans depend on daily, but when used unsafely, the consequences can be costly and sometimes even deadly.

Many tragedies involve common items such as power outlets, appliances, power cords, power equipment and extension cords. Sadly, most of these deaths and injuries are preventable.

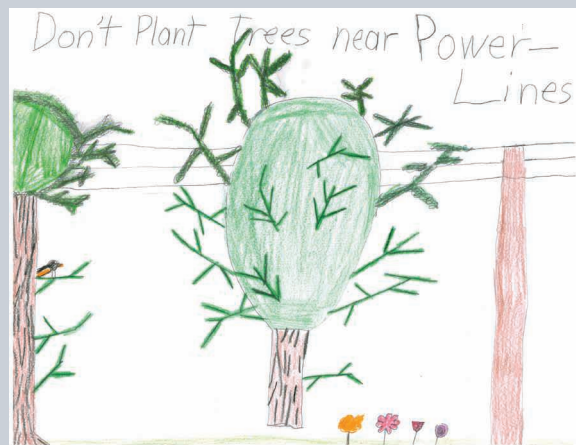
To help reduce electric safety casualties and injuries, South Dakota's electric cooperatives are dedicated to raising awareness of electric safety information to educate people of all ages on the dangers of electricity.

Inside the Home:

- Inspect electrical cords often for broken connectors or fraying. Throw away any worn cords to eliminate the possibility of shock, short circuit or fire.
- Don't overload power outlets.
- The wattage of the bulbs you use in your home should match the wattage indicated on the light fixture. Overheated fixtures can lead to a fire.
- When trying to unplug something from an outlet, pull on the plug, not the cord.
- Keep in mind that turned off appliances are still connected to electricity until they are unplugged. Always unplug appliances before cleaning or repairing.
- Use extension cords only for short-term purposes, and make sure the cord is adequately suited for the amount of electricity it will be transferring.
- Turn off and unplug all portable electrical appliances, like hairdryers, irons and shavers, when you're finished using them.
- Be familiar with the location of your breaker box and make sure the switches are clearly labeled so you can shut off electricity quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Teach children never to put their fingers in electrical outlets and appliances.
- Keep appliances and cords away from children and use plug covers in outlets.

Outside the Home:

- If there is a downed power line nearby, leave the area immediately and notify your cooperative or call 911. If others are around, let them know that they need to stay away.
- Teach children to stay away from power lines and substations and make sure they can recognize "Danger-High Voltage" signs.
- Never use electrical equipment near any wet areas, such as pools or ponds.
- Remember, electricity looks for the shortest, most direct path to ground. A ladder, pole or even a wet kite string touching a power line will give electricity a new, shorter path and if you are holding one of these items, you could become a part of that path.
- "Call Before You Dig." Dial 811 before starting a digging project, and workers will be sent to your home to mark utility lines in your yard. This service is free, and it has the potential to save your life.



Power Line Safety

Annette Tschetter, age 9

Annette Tschetter, age 9, offers a great safety tip for power lines. Planting trees near power lines can be dangerous and problematic. Annette is the daughter of Ryan and Elaine Tschetter, members of Whetstone Valley Electric based in Milbank, S.D.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

SMOOTHIE SENSATION

WAKE UP COFFEE SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

1 cup milk
1/8-1/4 cup instant coffee granules
1 envelope chocolate or vanilla instant breakfast drink mix
3 cups ice cubes

METHOD

In a blender, combine all the ingredients except the ice. Blend until well mixed. Add the ice and blend until well mixed and slushy.

Catherine Peterson
Viborg, S.D.

STRAWBERRY SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

2 cups fresh strawberries, stemmed and halved
1 cup plain yogurt
1/2 cup ice cubes or chips
1/2 tsp. ground cardamom
1/4 tsp. ginger

METHOD

In a blender, combine all of the ingredients. Blend on high speed until it has a smoothie texture. Makes two 12 ounce glasses.

Dar Duncan
Milbank, S.D.

MINT CHOCOLATE BREAKFAST SMOOTHIE

Ingredients:

1 cup ice
1/2 medium avocado, peeled, pitted and chopped
1/2 cup frozen sliced banana
1/2 cup packed baby spinach leaves
1/2 cup reduced fat milk
1 tablespoon agave nectar
1/2 teaspoon Pure Vanilla Extract
1/4 teaspoon Pure Peppermint Extract
2 tablespoons finely chopped chocolate

METHOD

Place all ingredients except chocolate in blender container; cover. Blend on high speed until smooth. Stir in chocolate. Serve immediately.

mccormick.com

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

Ethan Boekelheide of Northville and Abbilyn Kaan of Aberdeen Receive 2023 Co-op Scholarships



Ethan Boekelheide
Northwestern
High School senior
Ethan Boekelheide
received the \$1,000
Basin Electric
Scholarship.



Abbilyn Kaan
Aberdeen Central
High School senior
Abbilyn Kaan is
the 2023 recipient
of the Northern
Electric Scholarship.

Ethan Boekelheide of Northville and Abbilyn Kaan of Aberdeen have been selected as the 2023 recipients of scholarships from Basin Electric Power Cooperative and Northern Electric Cooperative. Boekelheide has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Basin Electric and Kaan is the recipient of the \$500 scholarship from Northern Electric. Both Boekelheide and Kaan are seniors in high school and will be enrolling in universities this fall.

Boekelheide has a 4.0 grade point average at Northwestern Area High School and has been on the straight-A honor roll for every semester of high school. He is involved in pep band, marching band, and jazz band. He was a member of the 2021-2022 South Dakota State University Honor Band and has been an all-state band, jazz band, and orchestra participant. Boekelheide was the captain of the cross-country team this year and is a state qualifier in track. Boekelheide is also involved in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), was elected as the Public Utilities Commissioner at the 2022 Boys State event and has been a member of the Northwestern Science Bowl team during his four years of high school.

"This scholarship will help me fund my education, and it will increase my financial stability after college graduation," Boekelheide said.

Boekelheide plans to attend South Dakota State University in the fall where he will pursue a degree in agricultural business with a minor in commodity risk management to prepare for a career on his family's farm.

Abbilyn Kaan is a senior at Aberdeen Central High School where she has a 4.08 GPA and has been on the honor roll for every semester of high school. She is also involved in jazz band, symphonic band, marching band, show choir and a capella choir. Kaan has been inducted into the National Honor Society and has volunteered with the Salvation Army in Aberdeen.

Kaan plans to enroll at the University of North Dakota in the fall and pursue a degree in Atmospheric Sciences. She would like to work for the National Weather Service.

"This scholarship will help me accomplish my goals by relieving some of my financial burdens. This will help me pay for credits that overall go to my degree which will help me get a great job," Kaan said about being selected as the Northern Electric scholarship recipient.

All scholarship applicants had to submit an essay about the challenges they believe rural electric cooperatives will face in the future. Both Boekelheide and Kaan wrote about renewable energy and the need for co-ops to diversify sources of electric generation.

"Special attention should be given to maintaining the balance between power sources to ensure affordable and accessible power for cooperative members while conserving our nonrenewable resources," Boekelheide wrote in his essay.

Kaan recognizes that electric co-ops already use wind and hydropower as sources of renewable electric generation but she believes consumers can also do their part to conserve energy.

"Consuming less electricity when not needed, decreases the amount of energy needed, and therefore decreases the number of resources needed to power that device," Kaan wrote.

Boekelheide and Kaan will receive their scholarships when they enroll in classes in the fall. The applications were judged by a panel of Northern Electric employees.

More information,
visit: northernelectric.coop/scholarships



Northern Electric Cooperative Communications Director Ben Dunsmoor (right) presents Redfield High School Senior Trae Turck (left) with a \$250 check for being named the Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week.

SCHOLAR OF THE WEEK

Redfield High School Senior Trae Turck Named Scholar of the Week on February 20

Ben Dunsmoor

bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

Redfield High School Senior Trae Turck is outgoing, involved and helpful both inside and outside the classroom.

“Trae is always super positive and he is so fun to have in class,” Redfield High School science

teacher Mara Fredrick said. “Really what just hits me is his positivity.”

Turck is the president of the National Honor Society at Redfield High School and is involved in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), and a 4.0 honor roll student. Turck was recognized for his accomplishments by being named the Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week on February 20.

“I was really excited. It seems like a huge honor, so I am just really excited about it,” Turck said.

Turck has a passion for art and plans to attend the University of Colorado in Denver for architecture next fall.

“I do love art but surprisingly I also love math, and especially geometry,” Turck said. “So, going into architecture I think it fits well.”

The Redfield High School Senior plans to follow in his father’s footsteps by pursuing a career in landscape architecture and exterior design. Turck said his success in school comes down to his time management skills.

“I like to organize my time very vividly for myself so I can fit it all in.”

Turck was featured on Dakota News Now on February 20 for being named the Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Week. He received a \$250 award from Northern Electric Cooperative as recognition for his achievements. He will also be eligible for a \$1,000 or \$500 award this spring at the Touchstone Energy Scholar of the Year banquet.

HOOKED ON FISHING

A Game, Fish and Parks employee consolidates fish in a raceway at McNenny State Fish Hatchery for loading and stocking.

South Dakota Fish Hatcheries Meet Growing Demand

Frank Turner

frank.turner@sdrea.coop

Fishing guide Dave Spaid, of Pierre, has a passion for helping anglers pull fish out of South Dakotan waters. When a customer catches a memorable monster along the banks of the Missouri River, Spaid knows he has had a successful day.

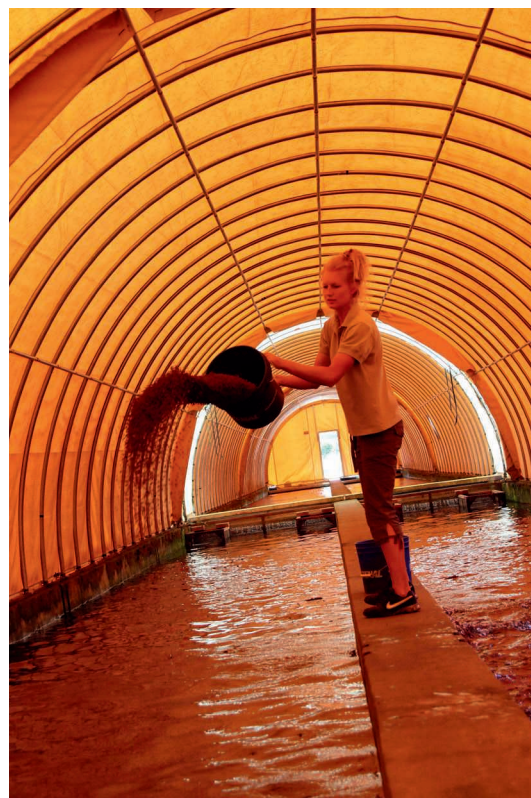
“I basically enjoy watching other people catch fish,” said Spaid, who has been a guide for fishermen from across the Midwest for more than 37 years.

Over the course of his long-standing career, Spaid says he observed more anglers on the water and improved fishing technologies and capabilities, yet fewer sizable fish. “There’s a growing amount of people out there that are fishing every day and having success,” said Spaid. “It puts a detrimental dent in our fishery and sometimes the fish just don’t have a

chance to grow to those bigger sizes.”

According to data from Game, Fish and Parks (GFP), fishing continues to be an important part of South Dakota’s outdoor heritage, confirming Spaid’s suspicions. And while fishing guides, like Spaid, have earned a living by taking fish out of the water, managers of fish hatcheries have taken on the responsibility of putting new fish back in.

Fish Hatcheries administrator Mike Barnes said GFP is being proactive in the development of its three hatchery locations to meet the needs of South Dakota’s anglers. Recent improvements to South Dakota’s three hatcheries located in



Regular feedings help bolster fish before their introduction to South Dakota lakes and rivers.

Spearfish, Rapid City and Waubay have significantly improved the state's abilities to produce and rear mass quantities of fish – everything from walleye to rainbow trout to largemouth bass – for stocking across the state.

The fish produced at these state hatcheries can even bolster South Dakota's larger fisheries, and without them, there would be significantly fewer fish to catch. In 2022, GFP and other entities stocked a total of 66 million fish, including 19 different species, in 138 lakes and streams in South Dakota. Over 60% of the walleye fisheries in South Dakota depend on stocking, and walleye stocking is increasing in Lake Oahe, South Dakota's largest reservoir. Other fisheries, like those for Chinook salmon, rainbow trout, and paddlefish, only exist because of hatcheries.

So how does the state manage to raise millions of fish? When raising walleye, hatcheries collect and fertilize fish eggs collected during the spawning season in the spring. The eggs incubate in upwelling jars, which circulate fresh water and gently roll the eggs. When the eggs hatch,

the small fry are either stocked directly into lakes or kept for further growth in ponds or newly installed re-circulating aquaculture system (RAS) tanks.

Due to the recent addition of RAS technology in 2019, Barnes said it is now possible to grow more fish and different species of fish to sizes never before possible. "Anglers are going to feel a huge impact from what we have done with these new systems, even as soon as this summer," said Barnes. "We are increasing small walleye production, and will be stocking bass at 10 inches or bigger, bluegills at eight inches, and muskies at 16 inches or longer – we've never had the opportunity to grow and stock these species of fish at these sizes before. This is all happening at the same time as increased numbers of walleyes returning from traditional rearing ponds and trout production at record levels. I'm extremely proud of the people I am privileged to supervise."

Rearing fish in RAS is complex, and Barnes compares the process to a factory. The scale of production is massive and energy intensive. Barnes is also the

manager of McNenny Hatchery in rural Lawrence County. As a co-op member of Butte Electric, Barnes said the McNenny hatchery in Spearfish has had consistent support from its local co-op to keep the operation rolling.

"There is no way we could do what we do without reliable electricity," said Barnes. "It's just a tremendous blessing for us to have Butte Electric as our provider. They are just so good to work with and so responsive and helpful."

The state is keen on keeping the momentum rolling. In fact, GFP has plans for a new hatchery facility on SDSU's campus. Increasing production, increasing rearing efficiencies, saving money, developing student interns, and enhancing fisheries education, are all reasons for the new facility. Barnes estimates that the project could be completed within the next three years.

"Keep an eye out for new projects because they are happening and underway," he said. "And at the end of the day, it's all about maximizing the satisfaction of our customers, South Dakota's anglers."



Game, Fish and Parks uses trucks equipped with livewells to stock fish directly into South Dakota fisheries across the state.

BALLOTING PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

The Northern Electric Board of Directors has authorized these procedures for voting on the restated and amended bylaws

DATE OF MEETING AND ELECTION

The date of the special meeting of the Cooperative's members at which ballots shall be counted regarding the proposed restated and amended bylaws shall be the 24th day of April, 2023.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors for the purpose of ensuring the integrity of the election process and for the purpose of counting ballots hereby establishes an election committee. Each director shall appoint a resident of their district to serve on an election committee. The purpose of the election committee shall be to oversee the integrity of the election process to include the counting of the official ballots.

Members of the election committee appointed by the Board of Directors should be physically and mentally capable of rapidly counting ballots. This means members of the committee should be free of hearing defects and should also be able to rapidly manipulate paper ballots.

BALLOT METHOD

The Cooperative shall use a two-en-

velope system.

The first envelope ("Generic") shall be a simple envelope addressed to each member or entity entitled to cast a vote. The Generic envelope shall have the return address of the Cooperative printed in the customary location. Contained within the Generic envelope shall be a "Ballot Envelope," the voting instructions and the official ballot.

The Ballot Envelope shall be postage prepaid and preaddressed to the Cooperative and the return address of the Cooperative. A number uniquely identifying the member to which the ballot has been sent shall be conveniently printed on the Ballot Envelope.

MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

Each member entitled to vote shall be assigned a uniquely identifying membership number which shall appear on the Ballot Envelope. The Cooperative will maintain a list, organized numerically, from lowest to highest number depicting which number has been assigned to which member. The Cooperative shall also maintain an alphabetically organized list A – Z listing the members and their correspondingly assigned numeric number. This list shall be

made available only to the Cooperative's manager and the Cooperative's attorney.

The Generic envelope, Ballot Envelope along with voting instructions and an official ballot shall be mailed to each member.

If any person is entitled to cast more than one vote because they hold multiple memberships, then separate ballots, Generic envelopes and Ballot Envelopes shall be sent to such person.

RETURN OF BALLOTS - VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Members shall be instructed to complete the official ballot and to return the ballot (and only one ballot) in the Ballot Envelope that was provided to them.

To be eligible for counting, a ballot returned must be returned to a Cooperative office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023. Members may choose to mail their ballot to a Cooperative office or drop off their official ballot in person. The ballot must be sealed and contained within the Ballot Envelope, and it must be returned no later than 4:30 p.m. on the April 20, 2023.

The official ballot must be placed in the Ballot Envelope which accompanied the ballot. No more than one ballot per envelope will be considered and counted. If more than one ballot is contained within the Ballot Envelope, any and all ballots in such envelope shall be spoiled. Such spoiled ballots shall be kept in the Ballot Envelopes in which they were enclosed and will be set aside and marked as spoiled for review by the election committee.

Ballot Envelopes returned by the membership shall remain sealed and organized numerically in accordance with the number that is depicted

on the outside of the Ballot Envelope. Ballots delivered to the United States Postal Service or delivered to the cooperative in accordance with the preceding requirements may not be later retrieved from the Cooperative, changed, revoked or canceled.

OPENING OF BALLOT ENVELOPES

On April 21, 2023 and under the supervision of three members of the election committee (to be selected by the President of the Cooperative), the Cooperative's staff will open all Ballot Envelopes and ensure that a single ballot is contained within the envelope. If more than one ballot is discovered within a Ballot Envelope, the envelope, including the ballots, will be separated, preserved in a safe place for further consideration or disposition under these rules. If any ballot is returned in a container or envelope other than the official Ballot Envelope, it shall be spoiled. The ballot and the envelope in which it was contained shall be set aside and preserved by the committee.

The Cooperative's staff, under the supervision of three members of the election committee, shall remove ballots from their Ballot Envelopes, orient the ballot to its proper position, stack the ballots and conveniently bind them in stacks through the use of rubber bands or other temporary bindings and place the ballots in a secure lock box. The lock box shall be secured with a key given to one of the members of the election committee.

COUNTING OF BALLOTS

At 8:00 a.m., on the 24th day of April, 2023, the Board of Directors shall call to order a special meeting of the membership. The meeting

and the counting of ballots shall proceed so long as a quorum of the members are present. In mail balloting, quorum requirements are met with the submission of a sufficient number of ballots as a ballot constitutes a member's presence for purposes of mail balloting.

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. on, April 24, 2023, the election committee consisting of all nine members shall convene and meet at the Cooperative's headquarters in Bath, South Dakota. At that time the lock box containing the official ballots shall be presented to the committee as a whole. The ballots shall be removed from the lock box.

The ballots having been removed from the lock box shall be organized by the committee members by sorting the ballots between those votes in favor of the adoption of the amended and restated bylaws and those votes against or opposed to the adoption. After sorting the ballots between the "yes" and "no" votes, each group of ballots shall be further divided into stacks of 25 ballots each with each group of 25 ballots being bound with the use of paper clips. The members of the committee will then separate into three groups of three persons each. The ballots containing affirmative votes shall then be divided among the three groups for counting. Each group shall verify the vote and number of votes of the ballots provided to them. This process will continue until all of the affirmative votes have been counted and the committee as a whole agrees upon the number of affirmative votes cast.

The committee will then follow the same process with regard to those ballots which are opposed to the adoption of the amended and restated bylaws. The committee

will divide the "no" ballots among three groups, with each group proceeding to count the ballots assigned to them until the task has been completed. The committee as a whole must agree upon the number of votes cast in opposition to the amendment.

The committee in counting the ballots shall attempt to determine the voter's intent. If it is impossible to determine the voter's intent on any ballot, the same shall be void and shall not be counted. In determining a voter's intent, a mark that touches the circle or square on a paper ballot shall be counted as a vote; any mark that does not touch the circle or square may not be counted as a vote.

Once the committee has reached agreement on the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed adoption and the number of votes cast opposed to the adoption of the proposed amended and restated bylaws they shall complete a tally sheet to be supplied by the Cooperative's management with each member of the committee signing his/her affirmation.

The ballots including any spoiled ballots shall be preserved and safely secured in case of any dispute of the election results. The tally sheet and the ballots shall be returned to the Board of Directors who shall officially report the election results at the meeting. Upon reporting the election results, the special meeting of the membership shall be adjourned.

ASSISTANCE OF COOPERATIVE'S ATTORNEY

The Cooperative's attorney may be present with the election committee to assist the committee in implementing these instructions.



A home is moved in Fargo, N.D., due to flooding.

Reasons to Move and Methods to Get it Done

Jocelyn Johnson

jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

You found your dreamhouse. It's affordable and everything you ever wanted. The catch? You must move it across town.

It's not an easy thing to do, but moving a complete structure from the past to its future home can be done and is done for the right reasons.

Milbank House Movers, Inc., located in Milbank, S.D., has been in business since 1965 and serves all of South Dakota, North Dakota, and the Mid-Western parts of Minnesota.

Josh Wendland from Milbank House Movers said, "The demand for moving structures remains high across all of our service area...we have multiple crews, that, at times, move multiple houses every week."

A house, sentimental barn or historical

church are all structures that people have moved in South Dakota. Sentiment, safety, time, cost, convenience, and restructuring could all be reasons why this occurs.

Throughout the United States,

intimidating structures are moved regularly – lighthouses, hotels, movie theatres, airport terminals, barges, ships, bridges, grain elevators, houses, libraries, transformers, draglines, and viaducts are a few examples.

"Relocating structures is the world's oldest and largest recycling industry," Wendland stated. "Why people move structures varies greatly, but a few of the most common reasons occur in a



Two buildings are moved from Augustana University campus due to expansion of the college athletics complexes.

vast state like South Dakota. People that would like a home built may have difficulty finding builders that will work in their parts of the state, or the local builders are simply booked out and cannot help in the timeframe that works for them.”

In these circumstances, ready-built companies offer pre-built homes that could be moved to the customer’s site and set it on their basement as if it were built there all along.

A homeowner wanting to upgrade homes in their current location while also wanting to make a profit over the home they currently live in, is another example to move a home. Out with the old and in with the new! This philosophy can be true with barns, buildings, garages, and other types of structures that are in the way of new opportunities, but still hold value.

Flooding is an additional reason why some in the Midwest may want to move their homes to higher ground. Wendland observed that structural movers have seen an increase in the number of requests to elevate houses permanently, so owners

would not have to pay for expensive flood insurance. This move would elevate the long-term value on their home.

“We also work with numerous historical societies to help preserve historic structures, trains, churches, hotels, and schoolhouses by moving them to historical society grounds where they can be saved for future generations to learn from and enjoy,” Wendland stated. “We like to say, Moving the Past to the Present for the Future!”

Things to Consider When Moving a House

Despite professionals making it look somewhat easy, getting from Point A to Point B may not be that simple. It requires constructive planning and forethought. The following are just a few considerations to take before any structure is moved.

1. Size – the bigger the house, the more expensive it is to move.
2. Obstacles – trees, overhead utility lines, bridge weight limitations, traffic signals, and railroad crossings should be considered

with every route taken.

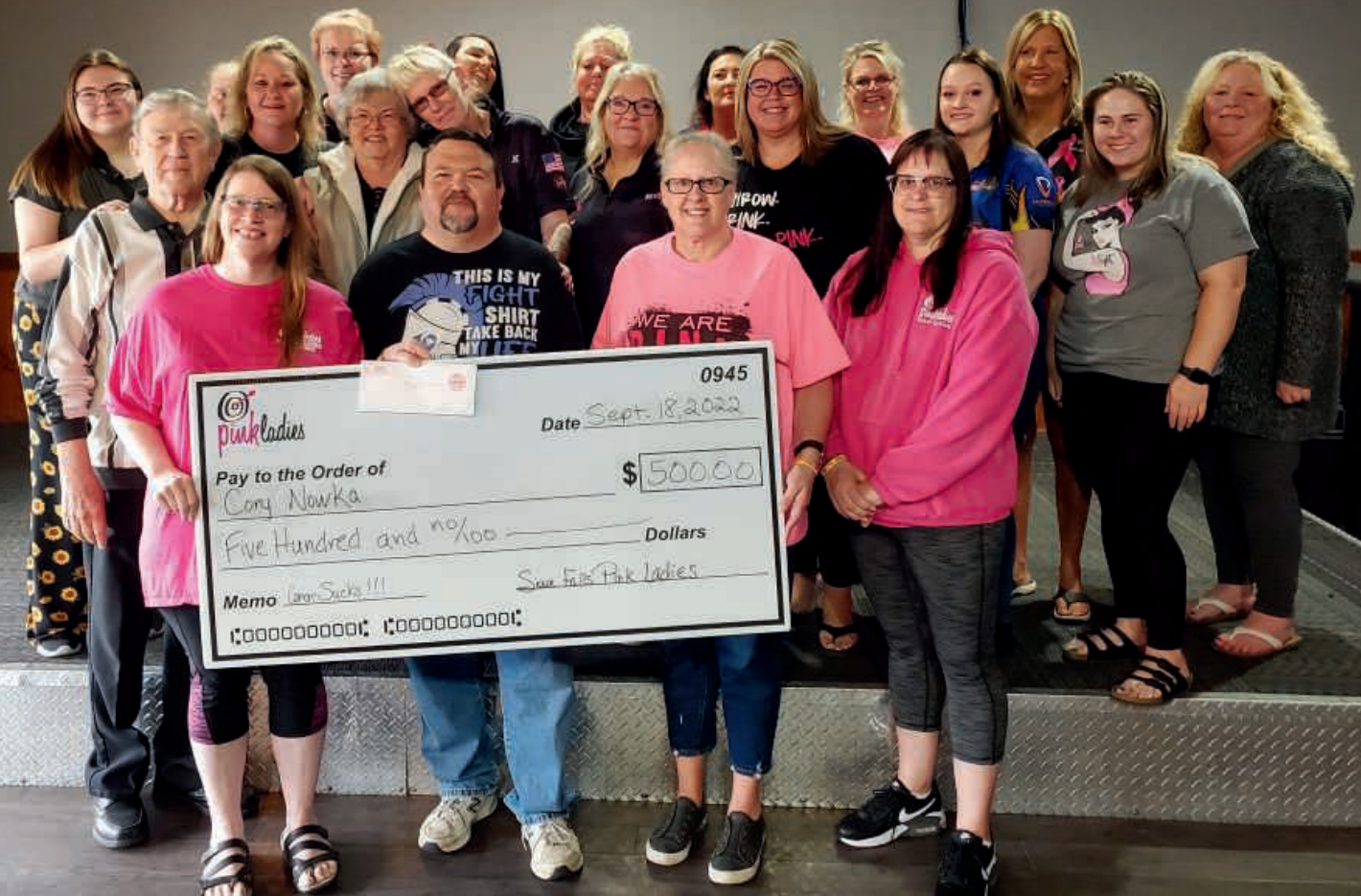
3. Price of moving the house
4. Distance of the move
5. Cost of the new lot
6. Cost to purchase the house or building
7. Fees associated with moving overhead utilities, tree trimming, and any permits or inspections required to move and place the house
8. Fees associated with disconnecting all of the current utilities, HVAC, and electrical and plumbing systems
9. Remodeling costs
10. Financing costs

Moving a structure can be an exciting process if done correctly. It’s saving a piece of history from destruction or putting in something new without the headache of waiting. Whatever the reason behind the move, the ability to do it is astounding. Homes can be saved, history can be preserved, and future options are made more available.



A home is moved due to flooding near Waubay, S.D.

DART LEAGUE



Members of the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League present a \$500 check to area residents fighting cancer.

PINK LADIES DART LEAGUE

Looking to Make a Difference

Frank Turner

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Clad in pink, one nonprofit organization in Sioux Falls is making a difference in their community one dart at a time. The Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League, alongside other Pink Ladies chapters in South Dakota, has a goal to support and raise funds for area community members who are battling cancer and undergoing

treatment.

Although the Pink Ladies Dart League is mostly noncompetitive when it comes to darts, the group is serious in its efforts to assist those fighting cancer. Funds raised by the ladies through league darts and public events regularly help embattled families during their fight with cancer, easing the financial burden of hospital bills, food expenses, gas money or anything else the family might need.

Despite having only 60 members in their chapter, the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League has significantly impacted their community in the last decade. Through community events, tournaments and league fees, the group has collectively donated more





Even Santa sometimes visits the Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League, gifting presents to families battling cancer.



Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League Logo

than \$130,000 to those impacted by cancer.

"It's about giving back to our community and giving love and support to cancer patients," said Sioux Falls Pink Ladies Dart League President Leann Gabel.

When Gabel joined her chapter in 2015, she had no previous experience throwing darts. For her, it was about trying something new, having fun and making a difference.

"It's about the hearts, not the darts."

Every year, Pink Ladies chapters from across the state gather in October during cancer awareness month for the Pink Ladies Darts Tournament. Although the sport is a significant component of the Pink Ladies, Gabel emphasized that their goal is about supporting their community. Anyone,

regardless of gender, age or skill, is welcome to join their chapter.

"I came into the chapter never having thrown a dart in my life and I'm still in the lower division when we play tournaments," said Gabel. "It's about the hearts, not the darts."

For Gabel and the rest of the chapter, each donation serves as a reminder of why they participate in the non-profit. Gabel recalled helping a family with five children during Christmas time in 2021.

The dad was struggling with cancer, and while supporting the father and the family, the mother was unable to work. When the family attended one of the chapter's events, the group gave the family an abundance of gifts, a Hy-vee gift card and cash for the holidays.

"They were so grateful and they started crying and I couldn't help but cry too," she said. "I just thought, wow, my heart is full right now. It doesn't get any better than that, and

with the kind of passion we have in our chapter, you just can't beat it."

Charity from The Pink Ladies Darts League goes beyond just the holiday season. The chapter regularly holds fundraising events and supports area families throughout the year. In fact, the chapter's next benefit event, Kickin' Cancer Jam, will take place this month on April 16 at the El Riad Shrine in Sioux Falls. The event will feature five different bands and, of course, a dart tournament. All proceeds from the event will go to local families from the Sioux Falls area.

The Sioux Falls Pink Ladies League, however, is not alone in its efforts. Gabel also encouraged people to watch for events around the state and support the Pink Ladies in their mission to support those with cancer.

"People are more than welcome to attend our Kickin' Cancer Jam," she said. "It's all for the community. No one should fight alone."



April 22, 2023
RiverRat Run
 Gavins Point Recreation Area
 Yankton, SD
 605-660-9483

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

MARCH 31-APRIL 2
70th Annual Hayes Play:
Trouble in Tumbleweed
 Hayes Community Hall
 Hayes, SD

APRIL 1
Hill City Easter Egg Hunt
 9:45 a.m.
 Visitor Information Center
 Hill City, SD
 605-574-2368

APRIL 1
Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt
 10 a.m.
 City Park
 Groton, SD
 605-397-8422

APRIL 1
**Dueling Duo Baseball/
 Softball Fundraiser**
 Legion Post #39
 6 p.m.
 Groton, SD

APRIL 2-4
**"The Psychic-a Murder
 Mystery of Sorts"**
Community Theater
Performance
 Town Players Theater
 Watertown, SD
 605-280-6556

APRIL 8
East Dakota Chapter
NWTF 30th Banquet
 Sioux Falls, SD

APRIL 8
**Easter Egg Hunt for Helping
 with Horsepower**
 2 p.m.
 Reclamation Ranch
 Mitchell, SD

APRIL 21-22
**Junkin' Market Days,
 Spring Market**
 W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds
 Expo Building
 Sioux Falls, SD
 605-941-4958

APRIL 22
RiverRat Run
 8 a.m.
 Gavins Point Recreation Area
 Yankton, SD
 (605) 660-9483

APRIL 22
Firemen's Spring Social
 7 p.m.
 Fire Station
 Groton, SD

APRIL 23
Princess Prom
 4:30 p.m.
 GHS Arena
 Groton, SD

APRIL 29-30
Front Porch 605 Rural Route
Road Trip
 Front Porch 605
 Groton, SD

MAY 6
Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
 Lake Farley Park
 Milbank, SD

MAY 6
Lion's Club Spring Citywide
Rummage Sale
 8 a.m.
 Groton, SD

MAY 20
Buggy Museum Open House
 10 a.m.
 Stockholm, SD
 605-938-4192

MAY 27
Back When They Bucked
All-Day Rodeo
 9 a.m.
 Days of '76 Event Complex
 Deadwood, SD
 605-717-7642

**Note: Please make sure
 to call ahead to verify the
 event is still being held.**