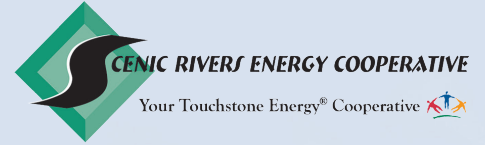


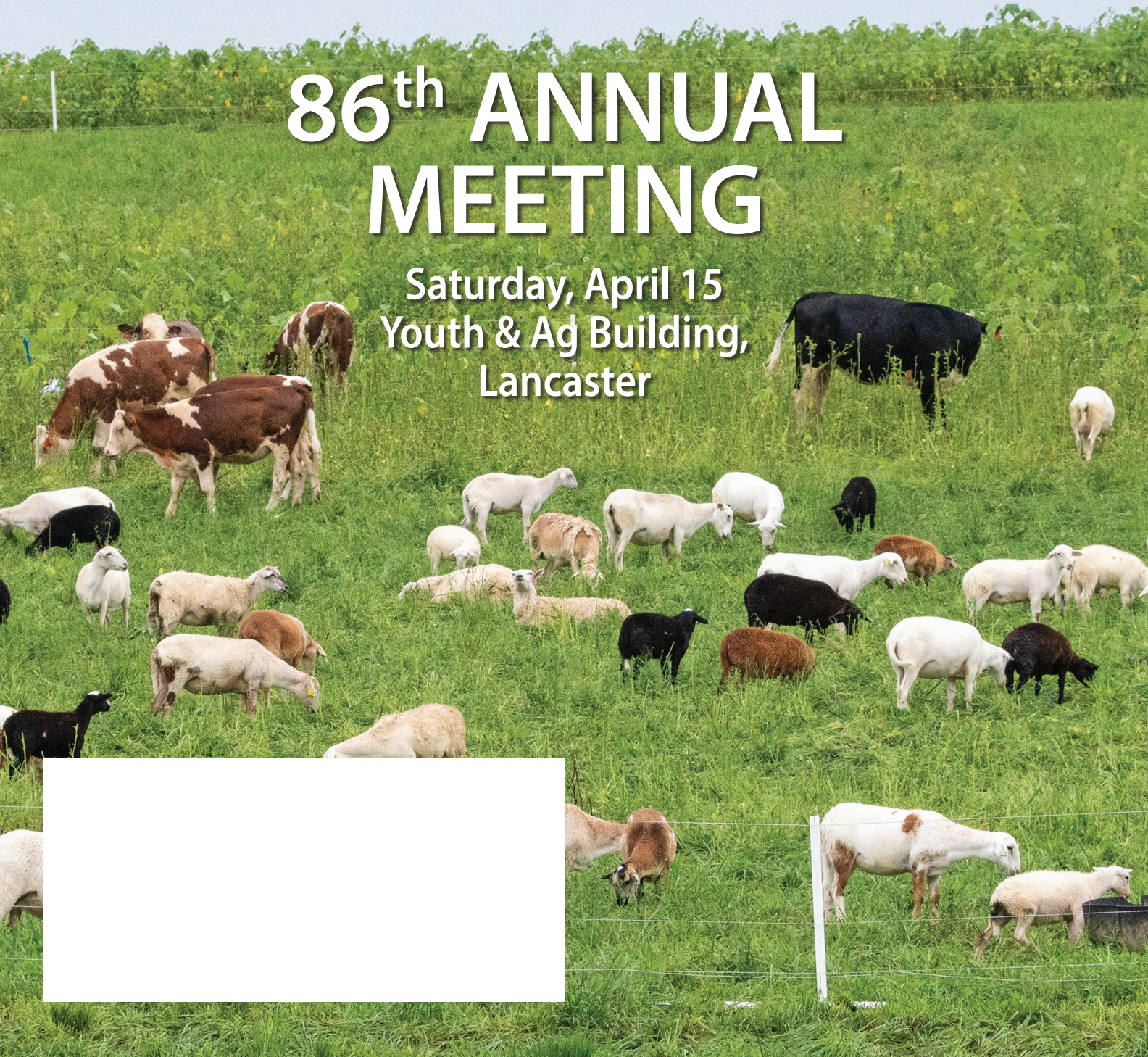
Since 1940

# WISCONSIN ENERGY *Cooperative* March 2023 NEWS



## 86<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, April 15  
Youth & Ag Building,  
Lancaster



# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

## Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative

**April 15, 2023**

**GRANT COUNTY YOUTH AND AGRICULTURE BUILDING  
LANCASTER, WISCONSIN**

The 86th Annual Meeting of the members of the Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative will be held at the Grant County Youth & Agriculture Building in the City of Lancaster, Wisconsin, beginning at 9:30 o'clock a.m. on Saturday, the 15th of April 2023, to take action upon the following matters:

1. Determination of quorum.
2. Approval of minutes of 2022 annual meeting.
3. Election of three (3) directors, they being the directors to represent Districts 1, 5 and 9.
4. Unfinished business.
5. New business.
6. Adjournment.

Dated this 15th day of March, 2023.



Chuck Simmons, Chairman

Cover photo taken by SREC member Craig Grau.

# TWO WAYS TO TAKE PART IN SREC'S ANNUAL MEETING

Pursuant to our bylaws, we are required to hold our Annual Meeting during the first six months of each calendar year.

This year, we will provide members with two options in which to attend the 86th Annual Meeting.

- **Members may attend in person.**

The in-person site will be at the Youth and Ag Building, located at the Grant County Fairgrounds. Registration on site will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the meeting will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. Students applying for a scholarship must attend the meeting in person to ensure uniformity and consistency in the awarding of these scholarships.



- **Members may attend virtually.**

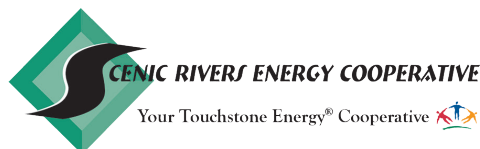
Using the same technology as previous year's virtual meetings, members will need to pre-register at [www.sre.coop/annualmeeting2023](http://www.sre.coop/annualmeeting2023). Be sure to have your billing account number handy when you register. After registering, and during the week of April 10, you will receive an email with the meeting link. Save your email with the link! On the morning of April 15, log in to attend the meeting using the link provided. Documents, visual presentations, and all meeting information will be available to the members attending our meeting virtually.



Please note that voting for directors will only be by absentee signed (mail) ballots or ballots cast in person at the meeting. Voting on other matters will only be in person at the meeting, and no online voting option will be provided. Please also note that scholarship applicants cannot attend the meeting virtually, but must attend in person.

Our Annual Meeting will include elections of Board Members; the Audit Committee and Treasurer's report; addresses from our CEO and Chairman; the awarding of scholarships; and drawing of door prizes. Students who have applied for our annual scholarships will need to attend the Annual Meeting in person. Upon registering in person at the meeting site, students will be entered into the scholarship drawing.

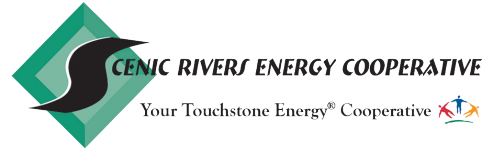
We hope that you will join us for our 86th Annual Meeting. Give us a call at 800-236-2141 x554 to speak with Judy Mims regarding the Annual Meeting. If you have questions about Scholarships, please contact Carrie Olmstead at x556.





# ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

April 15, 2023



## RULES OF ORDER FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS MEETING

9:00 a.m.

- Registration Begins

9:30 a.m.

- Meeting called to order
- Invocation
- Introduction of Directors and Guests
- Determination of Quorum
- Minutes of the last Annual Meeting
- Election of Directors
- Audit Committee Report
- Treasurer's Report
- CEO Report
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Prize Drawings
- Scholarship Winners
- Election Results
- Adjournment
- Lunch as a to go box

We will be drawing the scholarship and prize winners at the end of the meeting.

- **Scholarship Drawing**

Winners **must** be present to win.

- **Prize Drawing**

This is for members who mailed in their ballots. They do not need to be present either on site or virtually to win. The winners will have their certificate applied directly to their electric bill.

- Six (6) \$50.00 certificates

- **Prize Drawing**

To enter, members **must** be present to win either on site or virtually. The winners will have their certificate applied directly to their electric bill.

- One (1) \$100 certificate
- Three (3) \$50 certificates
- Ten (10) \$25 certificates

- All members who attend either in person or virtually will receive a \$5 bill credit on their next monthly statement.

1. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised and under the following special Rules of Order.
2. Members wishing to speak are to give their names and the districts or towns in which they are members and will be recognized by raising their hands.
3. Only members will be allowed to speak for two minutes on each issue and for one time only, except that an additional two minutes may be granted with the approval of the membership present.
4. Voting for directors shall only be by absentee signed ballots or ballots cast in person at the meeting. Voting to approve other motions or resolutions and on any parliamentary procedural matters shall only be in person at the meeting and shall be by unanimous consent or by majority vote, (unless otherwise required by law or Robert's Rules of Order), with a show of voting cards. An online voting option will not be provided.
5. In the interest of time, the Board-appointed, disinterested persons may begin counting the absentee signed ballots prior to when balloting is closed.
6. Any member wishing to reserve the right to present an advisory resolution at the Annual Meeting on matters relating to the business of the Cooperative shall deliver a copy of the proposed resolution to the Cooperative at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting, that is, not later than close of business on April 6, 2023, so as to allow consideration of the proposed advisory resolution and determination of what information should be presented to the membership for an informed decision on the issue.
7. No signs or handouts will be permitted within the place of the meeting, except such handouts as required for the official conduct of the Annual Meeting. No handouts or advertisements made available outside of the meeting location will use the name of the Cooperative, its letterhead or logo to imply that the Cooperative supports or opposes any candidate for director or any resolution or any position on any issue.
8. No demonstrations shall be held within the place of the meeting.
9. The Cooperative reserves the right to limit in person attendance if and to the extent it is necessary to comply with any state or local regulations or orders governing large meetings.



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## SREC is in a good home and good hands

Chuck Simmons, Chairman

**A**s chairman of the board of directors for Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC), I want to cordially invite you all to the co-op's 86th annual meeting on Saturday, April 15, at the Youth & Ag Building in Lancaster. We have a number of positive developments from a very busy year to highlight.

First among them is the completion of our new headquarters building on County Road K in Lancaster. We moved into this beautiful new building in the summer and are now fully settled in and reaping the benefits of the updates and much-needed room. Our former headquarters building on Sheridan Street had served us well for many years, but we were badly in need of more space. In some cases we had multiple employees crammed into an office meant for just one person, and our big trucks and materials had to be stored in different areas because the warehouse was too small for today's equipment.

We learned through feasibility studies that trying to renovate our landlocked building to suit our needs would cost about as much as it would to simply start from scratch, so we broke ground for our new headquarters in August 2021, on property located on co-op lines. That's right—we are now our own member.

The new building has some advantages that enable our employees to work more efficiently. It combines the co-op's operations from three separate buildings on our former site. The office space is designed to keep each department separate from each other, which will help keep our staff healthy and able to carry on working in the event of another viral outbreak. In addition, the building has the necessary space and infrastructure to accommodate both in-person or virtual meetings.

All the trucks and large equipment can now be stored conveniently and safely indoors, and we are also now able to keep all of the poles, transformers, wire, and other materials together in a large, fenced-in lot. This has proven to be very valuable when it comes to working around the supply-chain interruptions that affected equipment availability over the past year. These supply-chain issues are still a concern; lead time for ordering some of the equipment we need to keep the power flowing can be many months, even a year or more. But thanks to our new space, we can keep a large inventory on hand so we're not constantly at the whim of the supply chain.

Also exciting is that there's room to grow; this building was designed to accommodate additional staff and equipment as the needs arise.

Perhaps best of all is that the new headquarters project came in almost \$1 million under budget. We had already benefited from great timing, as this whole project had gotten underway before interest rates went up and material availability went down. Therefore, our project didn't experience some of the delays and unpleasant cost surprises

Perhaps best of all is that the new headquarters project came in almost \$1 million under budget.

that many other construction projects did over the past couple of years.

Good fortune also came our way last year in the form of relatively mild weather. Of course we had storms, but none were of the extent that some of our neighboring electric co-ops experienced, causing outages that lasted, in some cases, for days. This not only helped our bottom line (storm recovery is expensive), but it also meant our operations personnel had more time to get caught up with some maintenance projects.

It also meant we were able to spare a few lineworkers when our neighboring co-ops were in need, something of which I'm very proud. We have a mutual-assistance program in place in this state known as ROPE (Restoration of Power in an Emergency), whereby an electric co-op that has been hit particularly hard by a storm can ask for help with power restoration from neighboring co-ops. It's a perfect example of the sixth Cooperative Principle, "Cooperation Among Cooperatives." This past December, a SREC crew volunteered to help Jackson Electric Cooperative, which saw more than 12,000 combined outages thanks to wet, heavy snow followed by sub-zero temperatures. Next time, it could be our co-op that gets hit hard and needs a helping hand, and our neighboring co-ops will be there for us.

I'm extremely proud of our employees, who go above and beyond in performing their jobs here but are also ready to answer a call for help. Your cooperative is in good hands.



## CEO'S REPORT

### Challenges to energy costs catch up

Steve Lucas, CEO

As I look back over the year that just was, I see a whole lot of reasons to feel positive. At Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, we met our goal of providing safe and reliable electric service at the lowest possible cost, despite some big challenges.

This doesn't happen without a lot of work. Our staff participates in regular training sessions to ensure they have the skills and knowledge necessary to do their jobs expertly and return safely home at the end of the day. We take every measure we can to reduce power interruptions by maintaining a rigorous right-of-way clearing program. And we're always mindful of controlling every cost we can with efficient practices.

However, some factors are simply beyond our control. We can't control the weather, for example. This past December we got another harsh reminder that Mother Nature will do her thing, whenever and wherever she pleases, even at Christmas.

We also can't control the electric grid. In our part of the country it's managed by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), which is responsible for moving electricity from where it's generated to local utilities where it's needed. We benefit from this system because if one energy source isn't producing enough power, MISO can move electricity from another source that is. MISO, however, doesn't own or control the generating systems or the transmission lines, and both have caused problems at times—usually the very worst times. If there's not enough generation immediately available to meet an unusually large need—as can happen during an extreme weather event like December's bitter cold—the cost of wholesale power that is available goes way up.

And finally, we can't control events that are happening on a national and global scale that affect our costs here at home. In last year's annual report I talked a lot about how supply-chain interruptions are driving up costs for all the materials we need to keep the lights on in your homes, farms, and businesses. Those issues have not gone away. Supply-chain interruptions, labor shortages, and the international conflicts that erupted this past year have all contributed to the inflation we're dealing with today.

Despite all of this, we managed to get through the past year without raising rates, thanks to cost-cutting measures we took just before the pandemic hit. As the cost for everything from a gallon of gas to a dozen eggs went up, your rates

remained stable. But as I cautioned last year, we can't keep this up indefinitely.

This year we will need to raise our rates. We realize it's never a good time for a rate increase; however, I am very pleased that we're able to keep the increase to just 3.5 percent. We've managed this even though Dairyland Power Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier, increased our cost of wholesale power by 6.5 percent, due to all the factors

We will continue to do all we can to help you manage, whether it's by offering energy-saving tips to help you keep your costs low or directing you to resources for energy assistance.

I discussed earlier. We will be conducting a cost-of-service study later this year to determine how to most equitably apply the future rate increase.

We don't need to tell you how difficult it is to deal with rising costs—you all go to the grocery store, after all. According to the U.S. Department of Energy Economic Research Service (USDA ERS), food prices increased by 9.9 percent in 2022. All food price categories tracked by the USDA ERS increased by more than 5 percent, with 11 of those categories increasing by more than 10 percent. In addition, the cost of household furnishings and supplies went up 10.2 percent this past year, the cost of apparel went up 5.2 percent, the cost of new vehicles went up 5.2 percent, and the cost of motor vehicle parts and equipment went up 14.9 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index.

Comparatively, a 3.5 percent increase in the cost for electricity—which heats and cools your home, powers your electronics and appliances, and keeps the lights on—is not so bad. Electricity is still a very good deal.

We will continue to do all we can to help you manage, whether it's by offering energy-saving tips to help you keep your costs low or directing you to resources to see if you're eligible for energy assistance. And we will continue to control our own costs wherever we can. I'm very positive about all of that.

# SCENIC RIVERS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

## 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Unaudited COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

|                                       | <u>12-31-21</u>             | <u>12-31-22</u>             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total Utility Plant                   | \$ 90,393,354               | \$100,096,209               |
| Less Reserve for Depreciation         | <u>23,424,855</u>           | <u>23,985,252</u>           |
| Utility Plant—Less Reserve            | \$ 66,968,499               | \$ 76,110,957               |
| Inv. In Associated Organizations      | \$ 14,765,178               | \$ 15,176,142               |
| Other Investments                     | <u>3,810,920</u>            | <u>15,497,562</u>           |
| Total Investments                     | \$ 18,576,098               | \$ 30,673,704               |
| Account Receivables                   | \$ 2,628,742                | \$ 3,084,571                |
| Materials & Supplies                  | 538,299                     | 738,910                     |
| Other Current Assets                  | <u>391,220</u>              | <u>92,066</u>               |
| Total Current Assets                  | \$ 3,558,261                | \$ 3,915,547                |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                   | <u><b>\$ 89,102,858</b></u> | <u><b>\$110,700,208</b></u> |
| Long-Term Debt – RUS                  | \$ 37,028,767               | 55,223,345                  |
| Long-Term Debt – CFC & Co Bank        | 1,046,132                   | 805,605                     |
| Current & Accrued Liabilities         | 4,149,517                   | 4,373,362                   |
| Consumer Deposits                     | <u>227,534</u>              | <u>216,815</u>              |
|                                       | \$ 42,451,950               | \$ 60,619,127               |
| Patrons Capital & Oper. Margins       | \$ 42,138,939               | \$ 45,151,898               |
| Other Margins & Equities              | <u>4,511,969</u>            | <u>4,929,183</u>            |
|                                       | \$ 46,650,908               | \$ 50,081,081               |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b> | <u><b>\$ 89,102,858</b></u> | <u><b>\$110,700,208</b></u> |

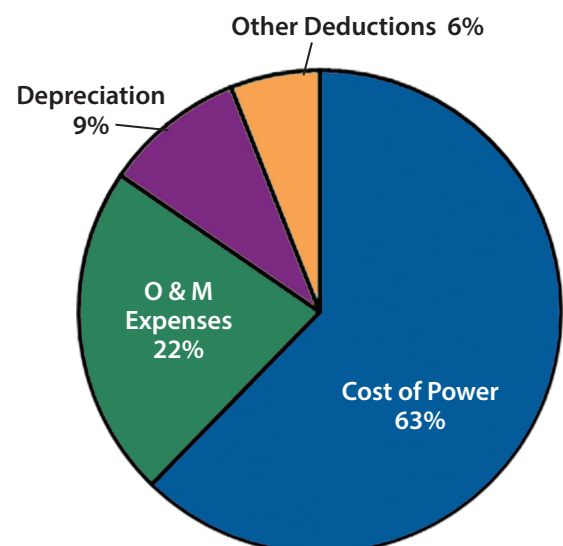
### Unaudited COMPARATIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

|  | <u>12-31-21</u>     | <u>12-31-22</u>     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Operating Revenues                     | \$ 29,845,202       | \$ 32,016,935       |
| Cost of Power                          | \$ 17,918,688       | \$ 19,451,518       |
| Operations and Maintenance             | 4,089,394           | 4,244,745           |
| Consumer Accounts                      | 267,283             | 277,286             |
| Consumer Service & Information         | 257,977             | 264,995             |
| Sales Expense                          | 76,122              | 82,201              |
| General & Administrative               | <u>1,712,395</u>    | <u>1,980,424</u>    |
| Total Operations & Maintenance Expense | \$ 24,321,860       | \$ 26,301,169       |
| Depreciation                           | \$ 2,714,823        | \$ 2,769,632        |
| Taxes                                  | 412,961             | 467,746             |
| Interest                               | 1,308,742           | 1,574,464           |
| Other Deductions                       | <u>1,388</u>        | <u>2,492</u>        |
| Total Cost of Electric Service         | \$ 28,759,774       | \$ 31,115,503       |
| Operating Margins                      | \$ 1,085,427        | 901,432             |
| Non-operating Margins                  | 1,663,212           | 2,060,952           |
| Income from Equity Investments         | (1,653)             | 758                 |
| Dairyland & Other Capital Credits      | <u>921,878</u>      | <u>844,276</u>      |
| Total Margins                          | \$ <u>3,668,864</u> | \$ <u>3,807,418</u> |

### HIGHLIGHTS

|  | <u>2020</u>  | <u>2021</u> | <u>2022</u> |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|
| Members Served   | 11,597   | 11,648      | 11,704      |
| Miles of distribution line   | 3,528  | 3,523       | 3,532       |
| Number of Substations  | 23   | 23          | 23          |
| Connected meters   | 14,329   | 14,405      | 14,482      |
| Density - meters per mile of line                                  | 4.06   | 4.09        | 4.10        |
| kWh sold   | 222,661,228  | 225,983,518 | 230,400,378 |
| Total energy sales   | 29,731,734   | 30,682,459  | 32,106,083  |
| Ave. kWh usage per member, per month                               | 1,600  | 1,617       | 1,640       |
| Avg bill per member, per month                                     | 213.65   | 219.51      | 228.60      |
| Full-time employees  | 36   | 35          | 37          |
| Capital Credits returned to date<br>(including estate settlements) | 36,817,729   | 37,942,376  | 38,885,089  |
| Service area   | Grant, Lafayette and Crawford counties; part of Green, Iowa, Richland, Vernon in Wisconsin; Jo Davies and Stephenson in Illinois |             |             |
| Board meeting day  | Usually the last Thursday of the month   |             |             |
| Number of director districts                                       | Nine   |             |             |

### 2022 EXPENSES





# MEET YOUR DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

## DISTRICT 1

### Marcus Saegrove

15120 Saegrove Drive,  
Gays Mills, WI 54631



Mark and his wife, Diana, have owned and resided on a small farm in Utica township in Crawford County for nearly 49 years. They have one son, David, married to Shelly, and one 13-year-old grandson, John. Mark was born and raised on a next-door dairy farm, which at the time was owned by his grandmother, who became one of the charter members of Crawford Electric Cooperative, now part of Scenic Rivers. He graduated from Gays Mills (now North Crawford) High. He earned bachelor's degrees in mathematics, physics, and computer science, master's degrees in mathematics, education, and computer science, and a Ph.D. degree in mathematics. He taught college-level mathematics, statistics, and computer science courses for over 45 years, retiring 12 years ago as professor emeritus after 36 years at Viterbo

University in La Crosse. Mark has been an active lifelong member of the Mount Sterling Lutheran Church, and has served on numerous church committees and boards. He was twice elected to the North Crawford Board of Education, and is presently a member of the North Crawford FFA Support Committee. Collecting and pulling antique tractors, fishing, and attending his grandson's sports events are his favorite hobbies.

"My interest in cooperatives probably began in high school when I served on the Crawford Electric Cooperative Junior Board of Directors. I have enjoyed serving as your District 1 representative on the SREC board during the past nine years. This is a critical time in the energy world as various factors have arisen which have the potential to threaten the viability and reliability our generation and distribution grid. If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for policies that support the health of SREC and our grid and assure that all SREC members have access to reliable electrical energy at the lowest possible cost. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you."

## DISTRICT 5

### Delbert Reuter

10713 Borah Road,  
Lancaster, WI 53813



Delbert and his wife of 52 years, Barb, have lived in the North Lancaster Township for 46 years. They have two sons and a daughter who live and work in the area. They farmed, milked 60 dairy cows, and owned 430 acres. Now, he spends much of his time working for Economy Feed Mill in sales. He has been with them for 10 years. He has been on the township board since 1984 and has been chairman for the past 21 years. Delbert was president of the Lancaster Sports Boosters for three years and was active in the Jaycees. He was in the United States Army and is a Viet Nam vet.

"I have been to many NRECA (national electric cooperative organization) and WECA (state electric cooperative organization) meetings and have completed several director leadership courses. It has been a good learning experience and I plan to learn more. I have enjoyed serving the members of District 5 these past 11 years and ask for support to continue serving you for the next three years."

### Lisa Mayne

9346 Tin Can Lane,  
Cassville, WI 53806



Lisa Mayne is a native of Southwest Wisconsin where she grew up on a dairy farm. She is retired from We Energies after 31 years in the utility business. Her work experience includes a strong emphasis on customer service, leadership, and project management. She earned Bachelor of Business and Marketing degrees from Lakeland College, as well as an Associate Degree in Supervisory Management from Mid-State Technical College. She previously served on the board of the North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development and is currently serving on the board for Heartland Credit Union.

Lisa lives in rural Beetown with her husband, Ronny. She has two grown children and eight grandchildren whom she thoroughly enjoys. Her hobbies are playing organ and piano, reading, and exploring trails on their land with their UTV with Ron.

"I have a strong work ethic and set high moral standards for myself. My strong leadership background, education and utility management experiences make me uniquely qualified to help lead Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative into the future. My change management and problem-solving expertise would help support Scenic Rivers as it grows and changes to make a positive impact for the communities that we serve."

District 9 candidate on the following page

# MEET YOUR DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

## DISTRICT 9

### Jack Larson

7240 E. Lamont Road,  
Argyle, WI 53504



I have been privileged to be the District 9 board member at Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative for the past six years. It has been a pleasure to represent the members and the cooperative. I would appreciate your continued confidence in me representing you for another term by voting for my re-election to the board.

As a director I have input into decisions that are important for the members and the sustainability of the cooperative. The board's responsibilities are to review the financials of the cooperative and supervise the CEO. It brings me great pleasure to tell you that our cooperative meets and exceeds the financials that co-ops are measured by. We have an excellent CEO who is dedicated to the cooperative effort, and he is surrounded by many employees who are committed to the cooperative.

My background as a retired financial officer for Farm Credit Services has served me well in being a board member. I have also been fortunate to attend important educational classes provided by Scenic Rivers that contribute to my ability to serve you and the cooperative. I am Director Gold-certified as a result of this training and I will continue to maintain that designation.

My pledge to you is to continue to make board decisions that will provide you with reliable, dependable, and safe energy at an affordable price while making sure that the cooperative maintains its solid financial position.

Your support and vote for my re-election is greatly appreciated. Thank you!



## VOTING INSTRUCTIONS For Districts 1, 5, and 9:

As a member of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, you have the opportunity to elect a director for your district to represent your interests on the Board of Directors. The ballot will be sent to your billing address with the names of all candidates. For the ballot to be counted, please follow the step-by-step instructions below. If you mail in your ballot, you will automatically be entered in a drawing to win a \$50.00 credit on your energy bill! The drawing will take place during our annual meeting and you do not have to be present to win.

### Mail-in Ballot Instructions:

- 1) Mark which candidate you want to represent your district.
- 2) Place the ballot inside the return envelope with the Co-op's address.  
(Please do not include your electric bill payment in this envelope since it may not be opened until April 15th.)
- 3) Seal the envelope.
- 4) On the outside of the envelope, SIGN your name on the line stating "Member Signature" located at the upper left-hand corner of the envelope.

### Ballots are only counted if you SIGN your outer envelope!

- 5) All ballots must be mailed or delivered so that the Cooperative office has received them by 4:00 P.M. on Friday, April 14, 2023.

*Advance authorization must be given for non-individual members of the Cooperative, such as churches, schools, cooperatives, governmental bodies or corporations, to vote at the Annual Meeting. Please contact our office if you did not receive/return an authorization notice.*

**Thank you for taking interest in the activities of your cooperative.**





## SERVICE RECOGNITION

### 5 YEARS

Hunter Fortney  
Derrick Heisz  
Andy Lindenberg  
Judy Mims  
Mason Miller  
Ron Wells

### 15 YEARS

Lucas Ritchie

### 20 YEARS

Carrie Olmstead  
Pat Pennekamp

### 30 YEARS

Ron Jentz  
Phil Schneider

### 10 YEARS

Shane Crowley

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint> and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES



**Can you tell us more about this photo?**

All we know about this member is that she's from the former Crawford Electric Cooperative area and that she's demonstrating how her new electric knife works. We'd love to know more! If you can help, please call Judy at 800-236-2141 x554.

Last month's "From the Archives" photo is of Helen Muench on the family farm located on Boice Creek Road in South Lancaster Township. Helen is making chick and bunny cookies for Easter. Thank you to her daughter, Janet Schauff (who still has the cookie cutters), for the details.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Washing windows and screens is a great way to practice energy efficiency during spring cleaning. Clean windows and screens make your home brighter by allowing more sunlight in, reducing the need for lamps and fixtures. Clean screens also allow more fresh air in the home when the windows are open to recycle indoor air. Natural light and clean air are energy savers, and they enhance overall health and productivity.

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



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

## Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative • Held on April 9, 2022

The 85th annual meeting of the Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC) was held on Saturday, April 9th in person at the Youth & Ag Building in Lancaster, WI and via the internet. Chairman Simmons called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m. The 2022 meeting rules of order were posted. Chairman Simmons allowed members time to read and review the proposed rules of order. The members were asked to vote to approve the meeting rules of order, and the rules of order were approved unanimously.

Pastor Mary Ann Floerke, the United Methodist Pastor at the Whig and Arthur churches near Platteville, gave the invocation.

Attorney Andrew Parrish from Wheeler, Van Sickle & Anderson, S.C. proceeded with the business portion of the meeting. It was determined that there was a quorum, as 114 members were registered and present on site at the time the meeting was called to order.

Attorney Parrish stated the Notice of Annual Meeting was printed in the annual report and posted at each SREC office. We received notarized proof of mailing from *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News (WECN)* that the March 2022 issue of the WECN magazine contained a printed notice of the annual meeting.

Attorney Parrish asked the membership to approve the previous annual meeting minutes held on April 10th, 2021, as printed in the annual report on page 18 and posted during the meeting. The membership unanimously approved the minutes as printed and posted.

The election process was handled by Attorney Parrish. A call for any further in-person ballots was made and those ballots were collected and included with the mail-in ballots. The staff proceeded with tallying the ballots for the elections in Director Districts 2, 6, and 7, as well as the proposed Bylaw Amendment.

On behalf of the Audit Committee, Mary Butson reported on the fiscal year 2021 Audit Committee Meeting held on March 31st, 2022.

Secretary-Treasurer Sandra Davidson presented the financial report that highlighted key points of interest in 2021 for SREC.

CEO Brent Ridge from Dairyland Power Cooperative (“DPC”) presented on that state of our Generation and Transmission provider (G&T) and the future plans DPC has.

CEO Lucas presented his annual report on the state of the cooperative.

Attorney Parrish explained that there was no unfinished business from the previous annual meeting. He advised that the only new business was the proposed amendments to the bylaws, but that would be taken up at the same time as the elections following announcement of the door prizes.

Chairman Chuck Simmons announced the winners of the \$100, \$50, and \$25 door prizes.

Chairman Chuck Simmons announced the 52 recipients of the \$1,000.00 scholarships.

Attorney Parrish then announced the results of the director elections, indicating that incumbents Sandra Davidson (District 2), Don Schaefer (District 6) and Lily Long (District 7) were re-elected, by the following votes:

### District 2

Sandra Davidson received 175 votes.

Alan Buss received 93 votes.

### District 6

Don Schaefer received 234 votes.

### District 7

Lily Long received 271 votes.

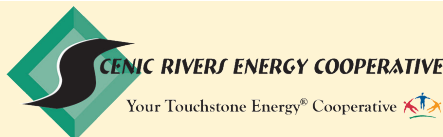
Brenda Martin – write in – received 1 vote.

### Bylaw Amendments

Mr. Parrish explained the proposed bylaw amendments which were included in the notice of annual meeting. 1,829 ballots were received, with 1,677 voting Yes, and 152 voting No. Therefore, the Bylaw Amendments are adopted as presented to the membership.

All registered members who were present at the Annual Meeting will receive a \$5.00 credit on their May statement.

Chairman Simmons asked for any further business – hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.



206 County Road K  
Lancaster, WI 53813  
lancaster@srec.net

300 Barth Drive  
P.O. Box 127  
Darlington, WI 53530  
darlington@srec.net

15985 St. Hwy. 131  
Gays Mills, WI 54631  
gaysmills@srec.net

608-723-2121 • 800-236-2141 • [www.sre.coop](http://www.sre.coop)

*This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider*

**Steve Lucas, CEO**

**Judy Mims, Editor**

## Board of Directors

Chuck Simmons, Chairman  
Sandra Davidson, Vice Chair  
Steve Carpenter, Secretary-Treasurer  
Donald Schaefer, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer  
Ellen Conley, Director  
Lily Long, Director  
Delbert Reuter, Director  
Jack Larson, Director  
Marcus Saegrove, Director

# SREC OFFERS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative (SREC) Board of Directors will award 52 eligible students with \$1,000 scholarships at our 2023 Annual Meeting. Scholarships will be awarded via a drawing at the meeting held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, in person at the Grant County Youth & Ag Building in Lancaster. At the time of the meeting, applicants will be eligible to receive a scholarship by being either:

- A senior in high school; or
- A senior in a home-schooled program; or
- A non-traditional student entering their freshmen year in a post-secondary accredited program.

## Qualifications:

1. Only dependents of active members or active members of Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative will be eligible to receive scholarship money. (Dependents of employees and directors are eligible so long as they are active members of SREC.)
2. The application can be mailed or emailed to the addresses listed below and must be received on or before Monday, April 10, 2023, to qualify:

**Mailing Address:** Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative  
Attn: 2023 Scholarships  
206 County Rd. K  
Lancaster, WI 53813

**Email Address:** csolmstead@srec.net

SREC will mail or email a confirmation receipt to each student who applies. If you do not hear from SREC by April 10, 2023, please call us to verify receipt of your application.

3. The student must be present at the Grant County Youth and Ag building for the SREC Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 15, 2023.
4. After successful completion of their first semester (Fall 2023) of post-secondary education AND receiving at least 12 college credits at a minimum "C" average for that semester, a \$1,000 check will be made out to the school and the student for their second semester tuition. If the student fails to meet these qualifications, the scholarship will be awarded to the alternate, provided they have met the same requirements.



Graphic by Katie Jagiello,  
Oconto Electric Cooperative

5. Simply fill out the application form at left and return it to the address stated earlier. Applications can also be picked up at our Lancaster or Darlington offices and are available online at [www.sre.coop](http://www.sre.coop).

If you have questions regarding the 2023 Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative Scholarship, please contact Carrie Olmstead at 608-723-2121 or 800-236-2141 ext. 556.

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_

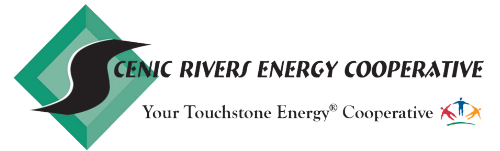
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (or legal guardian) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (if different from student) \_\_\_\_\_

Cooperative Billing Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

# DIRECTOR DISTRICTS



Marcus Saegrove  
District 1



Sandra Davidson  
Vice Chair  
District 2



Steve Carpenter  
Secretary-Treasurer  
District 8



Ellen Conley  
District 4



Chuck Simmons  
Chairman  
District 3



Jack Larson  
District 9



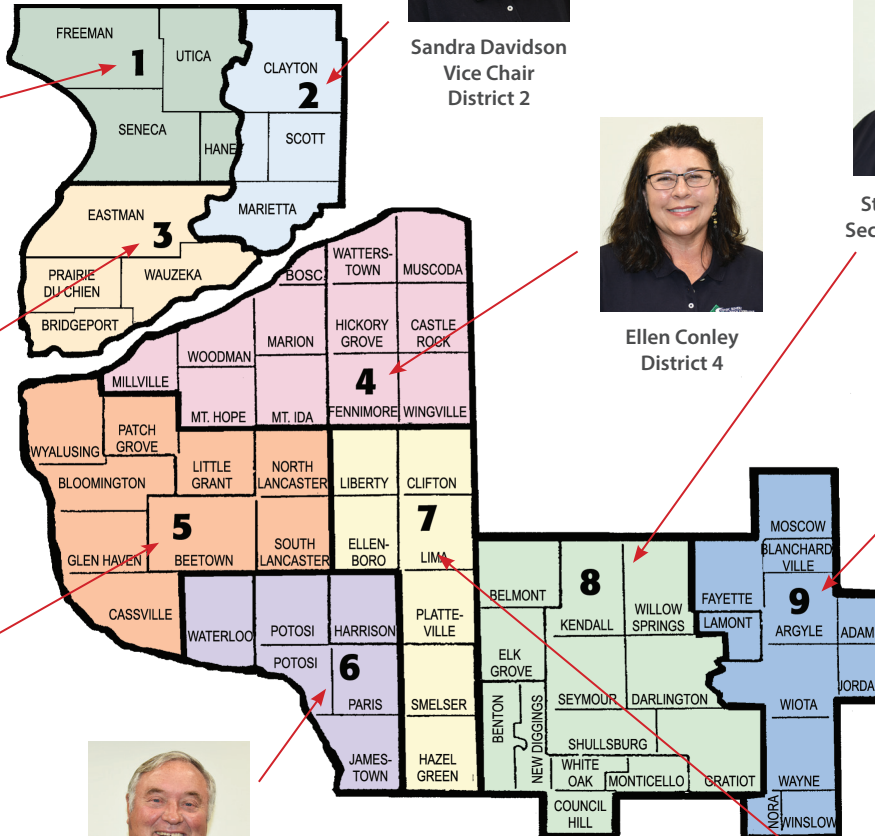
Delbert Reuter  
District 5



Don Schaefer  
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer  
District 6



Lily Long  
District 7



## VISION STATEMENT

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative is committed to being the area's most reliable provider of energy and related services. Our cooperative will strive to identify ways to improve the quality of life for our community.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative strives to be a reliable and innovative provider of energy and related services. Our cooperative will proudly serve our customers by:

- Encouraging member involvement.
- Promoting appropriate growth for our cooperative and community.
- Serving as a strong advocate for effective policy at all levels of government.
- Educating the community, especially youth, about cooperatives.