



**MANAGER'S MESSAGE // PAT CARRUTH**  
*General Manager*



**Capital Credit Allocation Information**

Your capital credit allocation from the business year 2025 will be listed on your next power bill. This number represents your individual share of our \$3,361,018 margin this past year. If the cooperative continues to be successful and there is no reason to believe otherwise, it will all be eventually returned to you in cash. Next year, we will be retiring from the business year 2014, which puts us presently at about a 13-to 14-year rotation.

**Replacing Member Services Building**

Back in 1997, we purchased the bare lot and old car dealership building to the south of our office building from Adams Motor Company. We split the use of the bare lot with them and leased the building back to them for a while. A couple of years later, they moved their entire operation down to their main dealership. We then moved our member services tools, equipment and supplies into that building. It housed our inventory of water heaters, furnaces, air conditioners, heat pumps, generators, meters, parts, related supplies and all things related to keeping your

heating and cooling systems operating when you call for help. We have decided to finally stop putting money into roofing and other structural issues that have always been a part of that old building for 30 years. Anyway, we are tearing the Adams building down and building a new truck bay on the site. We will move our line trucks into that new truck bay and move our Member Services into our present truck bay, which currently houses our line trucks. We hope to be in the new truck bay by first snow.

**Air Conditioning Season**

Summer is right around the corner and with it comes the air conditioning season. If you do run into some problems with your current air conditioner, consider an air source heat pump as your replacement. Not only will it air condition, but it will also efficiently provide heat in the winter and you can run it on our reduced electric heat rate. Talk to the people in the Member Services Department for all the details, including special rebates for this air conditioning season.

Have a great summer!



Old Adams Motor Company Building



Rendering of New Truck Bay

# Changes to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Approved at Annual Meeting

Members approved the following changes (in green) to the *Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws* at the Annual Meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026. View the full bylaws at [www.mnvalleyrec.com/bylaws](http://www.mnvalleyrec.com/bylaws)

## Article III: Directors

Section 2. (Persons Eligible) No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director who is not a bonafide resident and consuming member in the area served by the association, who is **or has been** an employee of the association or who is **or has been** in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the association or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members; provided, however, that nothing in this section contained shall, or shall be construed to, affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board of directors.

## ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS // TODD BOLKEMA



*Engineering & Operations Manager*

**Free Poles!** We have a lot of old poles that were replaced during our line rebuilds this year. They are now in our free pile to pick up. You are doing the cooperative a favor by repurposing them into fence posts or any other use.

There are a lot of poles because our linemen are working on the construction work plan jobs rebuilding overhead lines. They completed a three-mile section of line near Minneota, are currently working on a 3.5 mile section near Gluek and will be working on a 2.2-mile section near Dawson. C three eighteen zero two A The Minneota work allows us to better balance loading in the area. In Gluek and Dawson, the goal is better reliability and storm performance. Karian Peterson will soon be working on a 3.3-mile line near Watson as well. This line will improve the load imbalance condition on the feeder and substation. In addition, the larger conductor size will improve voltage conditions and allow for a future feeder tie to the south and west.

The oil filled reclosers on our system for protection are tested and serviced every five years by EIR Testing of Farmington, MN. Our linemen will change out 154 reclosers this year for this testing. That is 27% of the total 559

reclosers and feeder breakers on the system. Many utilities have moved to electronic vacuum reclosers because they don't require a five-year service interval. With the labor to change reclosers and payments to EIR to service them, compared to the cost of a new electronic recloser, the break even point is about 15 years. We may be looking into making a change to electronic reclosers in a future work plan.

The substation transformer at the Chapman Substation had been showing signs of distress and was changed out on October 2, 2025. The dissolved gas analysis since 2024 had shown steadily increasing combustible gases that are a sign of an internal hot spot. We checked it with the thermo camera and did not see that it was caused by one of the external bushings, so the problem was deep inside. Fortunately, we were able to coordinate a transformer changeout with the ethanol plant fall maintenance shutdown. After securing quotes for a replacement, in April we purchased a 2012 transformer in good condition from East River Electric Cooperative and sold the Chapman transformer to T&R Electric in Colman, SD. This transformer will serve as our spare and would be installed in case of a failure at any of our substations.





Minnesota Valley will be closed on May 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

Congratulations to all our local 2026 seniors. We wish you the very best in all your future plans!



## Do You Know Any of These Former Minnesota Valley Members?

We need your help in locating the people listed to the right. Their capital credit checks have been returned to us because we do not have a current address. If you have the address of any of these people or are one of their heirs, please get in touch with us.

- ✗ Bustos, Oscar • Maynard, MN
- ✗ Crane, Melissa • Saint Regis, MT
- ✗ Dorn, Michael • Cokato, MN
- ✗ Duffy, Robert Sr • Vesta, MN
- ✗ Fredrick, Ronald • Atwater, MN
- ✗ Higley, Brianna • Willmar, MN
- ✗ Hoff, Michael S • Ruthton, MN
- ✗ Howell, Herbert Jr • Granite Falls, MN
- ✗ Johnson, Josh S • Jamestown, ND
- ✗ Lovsness, Lindon • Wabasso, MN
- ✗ Maki, Lacey • Montevideo, MN
- ✗ McNally, Tom • Clarkfield, MN
- ✗ Nation Star Mortgage • Dallax, TX
- ✗ Nelson, Darren J • Marshall, MN
- ✗ Odegard, Devona • Watkins, MN
- ✗ Privatt, Carmelita • Bellingham, MN
- ✗ Sanders, Janet E • Montevideo, MN
- ✗ Schulz, Harry or Elizabeth • Madison, MN
- ✗ Sipma, Vern • Clara City, MN
- ✗ Suarez, Rick • Willmar, MN
- ✗ Walker, Troy • El Dorado Springs, MO

**Phone**

320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051

**Email**

mnvalley@mnvalleyrec.com

**Mail**

P.O. Box 248, Montevideo, MN 56265



Are you a member of Operation Round Up?

**SIGN UP NOW!**

Call the office at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 to get signed up!

### Comparative Report

	Jan-Mar 2026	Jan-Mar 2025	Jan-Mar 2006
Kwh Purchased	68,508,431	68,128,967	51,673,570
Kwh Sold	65,365,747	64,944,594	48,626,468
Cost Of Purchased Power	\$1,442,459	\$3,651,227	\$1,266,411
Patronage Capital Margins	\$743,769	\$326,332	\$322,565
Reserve For Taxes	\$107,500	\$84,999	\$43,800
Cost Per Kwh Purchased (mills)	59.73	52.27	24.51
	<b>March-26</b>	<b>March-25</b>	<b>March-06</b>
Total Plant	\$115,182,847	\$109,015,259	\$41,263,530
Number of Active Services	5,344	5,319	5,252
Avg. Residential Bill	\$300.02	\$251.79	\$129.68
Avg. Residential Kwh Consumption	2,211	2,078	1,978
Avg. Kwh Usage All Consumers	3,773	3,407	3,029
Peak Kw Demand (Peak Load)	41,969	34,555	29,307

### Find Your Location for a \$10 or More Bill Credit!



If you find your location number in this newsletter, you will receive a bill credit that starts at \$10 (*Operation Round Up* participants get an additional \$10 bonus). If no number is claimed before the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month, the unclaimed amount **rolls over into the next month**. If both location numbers are claimed in a month, the recipients will split the credit. Once claimed, we will start again at \$10. If you find your number, call 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051.

No one found their number last month, so we are rolling that amount over to this month! If you find your number, claim by the 25<sup>th</sup> of May for:



## MEMBER SERVICES // SCOTT KUBESH

Member Services Manager



### Heat Pumps and Generators: A Powerful Combination for Year-Round Comfort

Looking for a smarter, more reliable way to heat your home and stay powered all year long? Now is the perfect time to upgrade with an air source heat pump paired with a backup generator—two smart investments that deliver comfort, savings and peace of mind.

Air source heat pumps are among the most energy efficient heating and cooling solutions available today. Instead of generating heat, they transfer it—providing more warmth using less energy. In the summer months, the system reverses, delivering efficient air conditioning. The result is lower utility bills, consistent indoor comfort and a reduced environmental footprint.

When you pair a heat pump with a standby generator, your home is protected no matter what the weather brings. From winter storms to unexpected summer outages, a generator keeps your heat, lights and essential systems running without interruption—so your household stays safe, comfortable and connected.

And there's even more good news. Right now, Minnesota Valley is offering **double rebates through Labor Day**. When combined with **flexible 5% financing**, upgrading your home has never been more affordable. You can start saving on energy costs right away while spreading payments out in a way that fits your budget.

This isn't just a home improvement—it's a long-term investment in efficiency, security and comfort. Take control of your home's energy future today.

Contact the **Member Services Department** at **320.269.2163** or **800.247.5051** to schedule your **free estimate**.



## Heating & Cooling Maintenance Checkup

Protect your comfort and your investment with our **\$85 heating and cooling maintenance checkup**. Regular professional maintenance helps your system run more efficiently, reduces energy costs and catches small issues before they turn into expensive repairs.

During your visit, a trained technician will inspect critical components, ensure everything is operating safely and help extend the life of your heating and cooling equipment. The result is more reliable performance, improved comfort and added peace of mind—no matter the season.

Don't wait for a breakdown to take action. **Contact Member Services** today at **320.269.2163** or **800.247.5051** to **schedule your visit** and keep your system running at its best.

**SUMMER  
DOUBLE  
REBATES**  
MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> — LABOR DAY  
**DOUBLE YOUR SAVINGS**

Get **double rebates** on air source or geothermal heat pumps! Call Member Services at 320.269.2163 or 800.247.5051 today!

#### Office Hours

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Monday through Friday

#### 24-Hour Telephone Answering

320.269.2163  
800.247.5051

#### Minnesota Valley Co-op News

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#### Website

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

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