

# Spotlight

May 2024



## Dunn Energy Cooperative Annual Meeting Thursday, May 16, 2024

Win up to \$400 in bill credits!

Free Ellsworth Cooperative Cheese  
for everyone in attendance!

Dinner by the Viking Bowl!

We hope to  
see you here!

Registration at 5:30  
Dinner from 5:30-6  
Business Meeting at 6 p.m.

## FROM THE BOARD ROOM

### March 2024 Board Meeting Highlights



#### Monthly Reports:

The Operations report included an update on contractors and projects. The project along County Road H should wrap up before the end of April and the new substation should begin to be built in April as well. It

was also reported that several Operations staff attend various schools and trainings.

The Director of IT updated the board on new cybersecurity training that will be implemented this year as well as an overview of the AVL installation on the Cooperative fleet vehicles.

The CFO discussed February sales, which were slightly below budget. However, with strong January sales the cooperative is still right on budget. The auditor was in to report on the 2023 audit, which was clean with no issues.

The CEO/General Manager had various updates, including positive news as the Department of Energy gave the

Cooperative the green light to fill out the full application for the tie-line project that was submitted as a part of the NRECA consortium. Other updates included were Strategic Planning, meetings (upcoming and attended) as well as a reminder that the board evaluation is due.

#### The following items were approved:

- Minutes of the February 2024 Board meeting.
- Capital credit estate payout for deceased members.
- Audit committee report of all checks, ACH payments, wire transfers, credit card statements, and investments accounts.
- 2023 Audit

#### Other Business:

Director Zwiefelhofer reported on Dairyland Power activities for the month.

Reviewed the monthly report of new Cooperative members.

The monthly educational piece was substituted for reports from departing directors

# Do Not Overlook Overhead Power Lines

It can be easy to overlook things that we see every day, including overhead power lines. However, failure to notice overhead lines can be deadly. If you or an object you are touching contacts or gets too close to a power line, you could be seriously injured or killed.

Overhead power lines require 10 feet of clearance in all directions. This distance rule applies to the power lines draped from pole to pole that line roads (distribution lines), as well as the drop-down lines that service homes or other structures.

If your job requires you to operate equipment in the vicinity of large transmission lines and towers, they require even more clearance than distribution and drop-down lines. That clearance is determined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). OSHA mandates line clearance distances for all types of power lines.

Be mindful of overhead power lines when completing the following tasks:

## Home maintenance

Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long tools, such as ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles. Lower long tools and equipment before moving or transporting them. Other safety tips include:

- Carry ladders and other long items horizontally whenever possible.
- Be careful when working on or around your roof.
- Never go on a roof in windy or bad weather.

## Yard work

When trimming trees, do not allow yourself or trimmers to come within 10 feet of overhead power lines, including service lines to your home or outbuilding. Also:

- Do not trim trees near power lines; instead, leave this to certified line clearance tree trimmers.
- Do not use water or blower extensions to clean gutters near electric lines.

## Farming

Review power line locations and other potential electrical hazards with all workers at morning safety meetings. Equipment that could get too close or contact a power pole or line includes sprayer tips, tall equipment, dump trucks, augers and other extensions.


## At work

Follow all OSHA distance requirements when operating dump trucks, cranes, concrete pump truck extensions and when working on a roof or in a bucket.

## Other reminders




- Do not come within 50 feet of a downed or damaged power line. Warn others to stay away. Call 9-1-1 to report it.
- Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines are not touching the tree, they could come in contact when weight is added to the branch.

Look up and look out for overhead power lines. Contact can happen in an instant. For additional electrical safety tips, go to [SafeElectricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org).





## DON'T LET POWER LINES become part of the landscape

### 3 Types of Overhead Lines



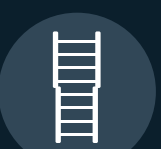
		
Transmission Lines	Distribution Lines	Service Drop Lines

Regardless of the type or voltage, any power line can kill if the path of the electrical current is disrupted.

 Always look up and look out for power lines when working outdoors.

Be careful any time you go up, whether it be on a ladder, scissor lift or in a cherry picker. 

### Also look for power lines when:

		
Operating a crane, concrete pump truck	Raising a truck bed	Using any long tool or equipment that extends

Learn more at: 