

**REGULAR MEETING OF DISTRICT NO. 1
AT THE DEWITT COMMUNITY CENTER
DEWITT, IOWA
JULY 29, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.
CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME**

The District Meeting of the members of District No. 1 of Eastern Iowa Light and Power Cooperative was held at the DeWitt Community Center, DeWitt, Iowa, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., Central Daylight Savings Time on July 29, 2024.

Joel Carstensen, Director from District 1, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He announced the members would elect a fellow Cooperative member to a position on the Board of Directors, recognize this year's District 1 Scholarship winners and hear a report from Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kirk Trede.

Director Carstensen said in today's ever-changing times, where the electric utility industry is facing new challenges every day, it's important that we use meetings like tonight to discuss the issues facing us. He encouraged all members to ask any questions they might have.

A 2023 Annual Report was made available on the Cooperative's website, showing the solid financial condition of the Cooperative. Energy sales and operating revenue met projected goals.

Director Carstensen announced the first item of business was the nomination of a Chairperson for the District Meeting. State Representative Norlin Mommsen of DeWitt was nominated and elected.

One hundred and forty-two members of the district were present as reported by the Chairperson. The members present will be listed and filed with the minutes of the meeting. The Chairperson announced with more than 25 members in attendance, a quorum was present in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Cooperative.

The Chairperson appointed Attorney Steven T. Hunter as Secretary for the meeting.

The official notice of the meeting and the 2023 district meeting minutes were provided on the Cooperative's website. A motion was made and seconded to dispense

with the reading of the notice and minutes. The motion carried. A further motion to approve the 2023 district meeting minutes was also approved.

The Chairperson stated the qualifications required for members to serve as a director of the Cooperative, as well as details regarding director compensation, are available on the Cooperative's website.

The next order of business was the election of a director for a three-year term. Aubrey "Lee" Cartwright of Charlotte and Director Glenn McCulloh of DeWitt were candidates for the position. By vote of the members, Aubrey "Lee" Cartwright of Charlotte was duly elected for a three-year term as director in District No. 1.

Chairperson Mommsen announced Jim Williams, Communications Director, would present the scholarship recipients. Scholarship winners planning to attend a four-year college/university were Lilly Fuglsang, Kaitlyn Hansen, Nathan McGarry, and Isaac Wilhelm. Scholarship winners planning to pursue a trade-related degree were James Adams and Coy Petersen.

The Chairperson then called upon CEO Trede for his comments.

CEO Trede reported the Cooperative experienced another successful year, fulfilling its commitment to providing safe, reliable and affordable service. This positive evaluation is based on the organization's financial performance in 2023 and its achievement of self-imposed goals.

CEO Trede reported the Cooperative continues to meet its financial responsibilities and is well-positioned to maintain this positive financial outlook moving forward. CEO Trede presented a power-point presentation detailing the Cooperative's financial performance. For 2023, operating revenues totaled \$64.6 million, indicating a slight decrease of 0.6% compared to the prior year.

Kilowatt-hour sales decreased from 600,453,000 kWh in 2022 to 576,404,000 kWh in 2023, representing a decline of 4.0%.

Operating expenses for 2023 totaled \$62.4 million. Operating margins after fixed costs amounted to \$2.3 million. When combined with non-operating margins, interest income and capital credits of \$3.6 million, the total operating margins for 2023 reached \$5.9 million.

The Cooperative returned \$2.8 million in patronage capital to its members, as authorized by the Board of Directors.

CEO Trede emphasized a commitment to the mission of providing safe, affordable, reliable and sustainable electric service to the membership. Despite operating in an increasingly complex and interconnected world presenting new challenges, this dedication has remained stronger than ever over the past year.

CEO Trede reported, as a distribution cooperative, the Cooperative does not own or control any generation assets. However, if necessary, the Cooperative will be asked by its power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, to participate in load shedding should the need arise. This will only happen if all other efforts to relieve the strain on the grid have been exhausted. The Cooperative has a plan in place to implement firm load interruptions if necessary.

CEO Trede explained Cooperative members can assist by conserving energy during peak demand periods. These typically occur on the hottest days of summer and the coldest days of winter, between 4-9 p.m.

CEO Trede reported cyber threats pose significant risks to all businesses, especially electric utilities, where such threats can impact the delivery of power. Recognizing this, the Cooperative has implemented a robust cybersecurity framework, including proactive threat detection, real-time monitoring, and rapid response protocols. The Cooperative's information and operation technology teams have partnered with state and national electric cooperative experts and governmental agencies to enhance system security and safeguard against potential attacks.

CEO Trede reported the SmartHub app provides members with a quick and easy way to pay bills, report power outages and monitor energy usage. He noted SmartHub users can now view a detailed monthly summary of their energy consumption, receive alerts when usage spikes, and get energy-saving tips to potentially lower utility bills. The Cooperative line crews now carry iPads in the field, which gives them access to this data. This helps them to respond to outages more efficiently.

CEO Trede stated as we move forward, the Cooperative's focus remains on enhancing the resilience, reliability, and security of its electrical distribution system through continued investments in cybersecurity measures and technological innovation.

CEO Trede reported the Cooperative is committed to delivering safe, sustainable, and reliable energy solutions to its members while staying ahead of emerging threats and embracing the opportunities presented by new technologies.

It was announced the 89th annual meeting of the Cooperative would be held Thursday, September 5, 2024, at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport, Iowa.

CEO Trede thanked the members for attending the District Meeting. He opened the floor for questions about his presentation or other Cooperative business. Member questions were asked and answered by the CEO and staff.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chairperson Mommsen declared the meeting adjourned.

A drawing was held for prizes after the District Meeting which resulted in the following winners: Brian Schmidt; Kurt and Ruth Dohse; Richard and Jolayne Milefchik; Chris and Andrea Thompson; and Rebecca Wilhelm.



Steven T. Hunter, Recording Secretary of the Meeting