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## EMPOWERING RURAL YOUTH: **Hysjulien selected for Youth Tour**

BY ISABELLA FILIPI

Each year, Roughrider Electric Cooperative looks forward to announcing the high school sophomore or junior who has been selected to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. This opportunity provides these blossoming students with the chance to explore our nation's capital and build relationships with fellow students from across the United States.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson inspired the Youth Tour when he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association annual meeting in 1957. He envisioned the trip as a chance to broaden the horizons of high school students living in rural areas and further educate them about America's system of government.

Now, this weeklong trip awards students with firsthand exposure to some of the best historical monuments in Washington, D.C., and a better understanding of the structure and importance of electric cooperatives, all while establishing new and lasting friendships.

Roughrider Electric is proud to sponsor one of the 1,800 participating students from across rural America on this all-expense-paid trip annually. Congratulations to Mattea Hysjulien for being named the Youth Tour winner this year. Read her winning essay here and on Roughrider Electric's website. A feature story in the August issue of *North Dakota Living* will delve into her unforgettable journey.

### **Meet Mattea**

The daughter of Roughrider Electric members Brent and Lindsey Hysjulien, Mattea is a high school sophomore from Hazen. She enjoys golfing, playing softball, tubing and jet skiing at the lake in the summer.

This upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. marks her second visit, and she appreciated seeing the monuments on her first trip, especially the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and Holocaust Museum.

"I am happy I have been there before and know a little history of the monuments," she says.



**Mattea Hysjulien** has been selected by Roughrider Electric Cooperative to attend the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour.

Her dad, an employee of Roughrider Electric, encouraged her to apply for the trip. Intrigued by the chance to delve deeper into American history, Mattea chose to focus her essay on the Declaration of Independence.

"The Declaration of Independence stands out to me as a pivotal moment in history. Studying it in school left a profound impact, and its significance has always fascinated me," she says.

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## Mattea's winning essay

One moment in American history I wish I could have been part of is the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. This significant event defined the beginning for a new nation and set the base for the principles of freedom and democracy we still care about today. I would have contributed by engaging myself and speaking for the equality of all people. I would have confirmed the importance of equality for the future of the nation and the need to make certain these morals were maintained.

If I had the opportunity to be a part of this historic event, I would have contributed in four ways. Firstly, I would have made the importance of individual rights and liberties known. The Declaration of Independence boldly pronounced "all men are created equal" and are entitled to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." I would have passionately advocated for the inclusion of these principles, as they form the very foundation of a just and democratic society.

Additionally, I would have stressed the significance of representative government. The idea that governments derive their power from the consent of the governed was a revolutionary concept at the time. I would have emphasized the need for a system that allows the people to have a voice in the decision-

making process, ensuring their interests are protected and their voices are heard.

Likewise, I would have contributed to the drafting of the document itself. I would have worked diligently to ensure the language was used effectively to show the desires and values of the American people. Clear, yet brief, wording would have been crucial in articulating the grievances against British rule and asserting the right to self-governance.

Lastly, I would have emphasized the importance of unity and collaboration among the delegates. The journey toward independence required the cooperation of individuals from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. I would have encouraged open and respectful dialogue, fostering an environment where differing viewpoints could be debated and considered.

In conclusion, the Declaration of Independence was a transformative moment in American history, and if I had the opportunity to be a part of it, I would have contributed by advocating for individual rights, emphasizing the importance of representative government, actively participating in the drafting process and promoting unity among the delegates. The principles and ideals laid out in the Declaration of Independence continue to shape our nation to this day, reminding us of the enduring power of freedom, equality and self-determination. ■



## LUCK-OF-THE-DRAW SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Three Luck-of-the-Draw Scholarships will be available at our Annual Meeting, June 5 in Hazen. Students can learn more about the scholarship by scanning the QR code.





**Abby Talkington**



**Zofia Dostal**



**Samantha Ficek**



**Harper Skaare**



**Weston Winkler**



**Caisen Dohrmann**



**Emma Bock**



**Jarret Henke**



**Addison Dittus**

## EMPOWERING MINDS: Roughrider Electric awards scholarships

Each year, Roughrider Electric Cooperative awards outstanding high school seniors with scholarships toward their post-secondary education. This is just one of the many ways Roughrider Electric embodies the commitment to giving back to our cooperative family and service area.

This year, Roughrider Electric honored one student with a \$1,000 Basin Electric Power Cooperative scholarship and 10 students with a \$500 scholarship. One outstanding 2024 graduate from each high school in our service area and one outside our service area was selected by their school to be a recipient of this year's scholarships.

Roughrider Electric recognizes the personal and academic achievements of these students are made possible by their hard work, sacrifices and dedication to their goals. We believe these accomplishments deserve to be commended and encouraged.

Additionally, at our Annual Meeting on June 5 in Hazen, three Luck-of-the-Draw Scholarships will be awarded. Students can learn more about

the scholarship at [www.roughriderelectric.com/scholarships](http://www.roughriderelectric.com/scholarships).

We wish this year's scholarship winners the best in their future academic aspirations. ■

### **\$1,000 Basin Electric Power Cooperative**

Dickinson Trinity High School..... Harper Skaare

### **\$500 scholarships**

Belfield High School .....Abby Talkington  
 Beulah High School ..... Zofia Dostal  
 Dickinson High School ..... Samantha Ficek  
 Dickinson Trinity High School ..... Harper Skaare  
 Hazen High School..... Weston Winkler  
 Richardton-Taylor High School.....Caisen Dohrmann  
 Dickinson Hope Christian Academy .....No applicants  
 South Heart High School .....Emma Bock  
 Center-Stanton High School.....Jarret Henke  
 Minot High School (at large).....Addison Dittus

## MANAGER'S MESSAGE:

# Make your voice heard at the 2024 Annual Meeting



**Travis Kupper**

Roughrider Electric Cooperative is excited to extend an invitation to our upcoming Annual Meeting, a cornerstone event that highlights the essence of our cooperative model and the impact of member engagement on our community. Each year, we look forward to Roughrider Electric's Annual Meeting. You, the members we serve, always bring value to the discussion, and I know our cooperative

team is energized by these interactions.

We are not just an ordinary utility company. We are a cooperative deeply rooted in serving our members and the communities we call home. Our core purpose is to provide safe, reliable and affordable electric service, but our mission goes beyond electricity.

We are driven by a commitment to our members. If you've never attended the annual meeting, I'd encourage you to participate. Why? Because input from members like you matters and helps drive the direction of the cooperative. At the Annual Meeting, we report on current initiatives and discuss the financial health and priorities for the coming years. And, equally important, this is an opportunity for Roughrider Electric to hear from you.

## You have the power

This is also a time to vote for new directors who will represent you and our community's interests on the cooperative's board. As a member of Roughrider Electric, you have the power to help shape our community's energy future.

Electric cooperatives are democratically controlled by the members we serve, which means you have a say in who governs our cooperative. By voting in the annual director election, you can select the leaders who will make important decisions about the future of the cooperative and our local energy needs.

Roughrider Electric's directors are community-minded individuals with different skillsets. We rely on them to help us make more informed decisions on long-term priorities and investments. Roughrider Electric has nine directors who live in the cooperative's service area. We consider them the eyes and ears of the community, because they provide their unique perspective on various local issues.

## 2024 candidates

The following Roughrider Electric Cooperative members are candidates for the 2024 director election. The names are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot. More information on these candidates can be found in the Annual Report, which you will receive soon.

Western District:

**Roger Kudrna**, Dickinson

Central District:

**Troy Sailer**, Golden Valley

Eastern District:

**Darrell Herman**, Beulah

We want to make voting as convenient as possible for our members, so we offer a variety of ways for you to participate. We hope you'll join us at the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 5, where you can cast your vote in person. If you're unable to attend, you can vote by requesting a mail-in ballot.

If you've never been to an Annual Meeting or it's been a while, we invite you to stop by. We welcome you to join us for food, door prizes, camaraderie and more. All members who attend the event will receive an appreciation gift.

Your Roughrider Electric team will be ready to answer any energy-related questions you may have, from electric vehicle options to ways to manage your home energy use. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting on June 5 at the Hazen High School, with registration beginning at 5 p.m. and the business meeting commencing at 6:30 p.m. ■



# Unclaimed capital credits

The following list contains the names of current or former Roughrider Electric Cooperative members who had unclaimed capital credit checks mailed in December 2023.

These checks have either been received, but not cashed, or returned to Roughrider Electric by the postal service, because it could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by Roughrider Electric personnel has not turned up their whereabouts. If you know of the whereabouts of members on this list, please have them contact

Roughrider Electric at 800-748-5533. Please keep in mind not all of the capital credit amounts are large, but we would like to get these checks to the proper parties. Persons who wish to claim checks from the following list should be prepared to provide proper personal identification.

The names list below are only a portion of Roughrider Electric's unclaimed capital credit list. Another list will be published in the June issue of *North Dakota Living*. Please note, these are unclaimed capital credits as of April 17.

A&M FARMS	BERGSTAD, HEATHER	CARROLL, DAVID	DORVAL, DANE
AASAND, HARDIN	BERNHARDT, DAN	CARSON, RYAN	DORVAL, DELRAE D.
AASEN, AIMEE	BERRETH, SHANNON K.	CARTER, BEN	DOTSON, TERRY
ACKERMAN, MATT	BEST ASSETS	CASSON, ERIC W.	DOTZENROD, JACQUELINE
ACKERMAN, RON	BIERI, ERIN	CHADBORN, JOAN C.	DOWNING, JASON
ADAMS, SHEENA	BIERMAN, RORY	CHAPMAN, DAVID	DRESSLER, TY
AIPERSPACH, ESTATMABEL	BIG K HOMES INC.	CHRISTENSEN, RANDY	DUKART, JOSEPH M.
AIRGAS ONSITE SAFETY SERVICES	BINSTOCK, LEAH	CITY OF DICKINSON	DUNHAM, KAYLA
AKPARANTA, ANTHONY	BINSTOCK, RAYMOND J.	CLINT FELAND INC.	DUNN, MICHELLE
ALEXANDER, JULIE	BIS-MAN MOBILE PHONE INC.	CLUB STAFFING INC.	DURBIN, CHRISTOPHER
ALVAREZ, TONI	BISHOP, TERESA	COFFIN, JEFF	DUTTENHEFER, DONALD J.
ANC ENTERPRISES LLC	BLACK, JIM	COFFMAN, CHRIS	ECKELBERG, TESSA
ANDERSON, DAN	BLACKLER, GEORGIA	COLIS, SCOTT	EDINGTON, RUSSELL
ANTELOPE FRYBURG LLC	BLANKENSHIP, JOE	COLONY WEST REALTY	ELDER, WILBER
ANTON, ARNOLD S.	BLETH, JAY	COOPER, BRIAN	EMMONS, PATRICK
ARMBRUST, DAVID	BOECKEL, CLAUDETTE	CORNOG, TRACY	ENO, CLAYTON
ARRIOLA, CAROL	BOGNER, RYAN	CORWIN, JEFF	ENTZI, ATHENA
ARTHAUD, JODY	BOHLMAN, CASEY	COUCH, TARA L	ERICKSON, AMY
ASH, BRIAN	BOHLMAN, CHUCK	CROW, MIKE	ERMAN, JEFFREY
AXTMAN, JORDAN	BOLIN, MARK	CURRENCE, SARAH	ETHERINGTON, BERNIECE
BACH, SYLVIA B.	BOLSTAD, CLARENCE	CV ENTERPRISE	ETIENNE, DANIELLE L.
BACKFISH, HILDA	BOLTZ, BRENT	DAHLE, TAMMY L.	EVANS, JOHN W.
BADLANDS DIESEL SERVICE	BOSTICK, DANIEL T.	DALE'S REFRIGERATION	EVENSON, CHRIS
BAER, DERRICK	BOTTEICHER, SANDY	DAMSCHEIN, MARVIN A.	F&L DEVELOPMENT
BALLENSKY, MARK	BOWERS, TONI	DASSINGER, DALE	FAGERLAND, JEREMY
BALLIET, TOM	BOYKO FOODS LLC	DAVIS, DANIEL K.	FEDDEMA, GRANT
BARANKO, GREGG	BRAMADI, FNU	DAVIS, KEVIN	FERDERER, TAMMY
BASIC ENERGY SERVICES LP	BRANNIN OPERATING LLC	DAVIS, ROBBIE D.	FETTIG, PAULA E.
BASSETT, SHERRIE	BRAUN, JOHNNY L.	DECKER, BRUCE A.	FICEK, HERMAN
BAUMANN, CARLEEN	BRAUNBERGER, EUGENE JR.	DECKER, DONALD M.	FICEK, TERRY
BAUMANN, STEPHANIE	BRAZELTON, HEATHER	DECKER, RUSSELL	FISCHER, CAREY
BEA'S ATTIC	BRIERLY, ROBERT M.	DECOTEAU, DENNIS	FISCHER, MERLE
BEDARD, JAMES	BRIGGS, JEFFREY T.	DEHNE, GORDON	FISHER, SHEILA
BEEHLER, DENNIS	BROWN, BRITTANY	DEICHERT, TED	FISK, RYAN
BELDEN, TODD	BROWN, LAURA	DESIGN 1 INC.	FITTERER, CATHERINE
BELL, GRADY	BUCKMAN, CRAIG	DICKINSON	FORMAN, JODY
BENSON, WHITNEY	BUCKMAN, JERALD L.	ECONOSTORAGE	FOSS, SYLVAN
BENZIE, DONOVAN B.	BUECHLER, FRED	DICKINSON TRAP CLUB	FOX, WENDY
BERENS, TOM	BUTLER, WILLIAM E	DOBLER CONSTRUCTION INC.	FREDERICKS, COLEMAN
BERGER, DARBIE	BUTTERFIELD, BILL	DOCHUK, ROBERT	FRETTY, DENNIS
BERGER, RUSSELL	CABRAL, ANN B.	DOEPKE, WYATT	FROELICH, TOM K.
BERGER, TIFFANIE	CAMPBELL, STACY	DOLAJAK, JOHN	GT FABRICATORS
	CANTLON, LISA	DOLL, CALLEN K	GABEL, JAY
	CARPENTER, JASON	DONE DEAL AUTO SALES	GABLE, SHELLEY
		DOPPLER, TOM	GACKLE, JENNY
			GALSTER, EDNA

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GALSTER, RAY E.  
GANSKE, JAYME  
GARCIA, TONI  
GARRETT, RANDY  
GARS LANDSCAPING  
GARTNER, SHEILA  
GATES, CORY  
GEHRING, KARLENE  
GEISNER, DOUG  
GEMMEL, KATHY  
GENTLE, TANIS  
GERVERS, BRANDON  
GIEGLE, CURTIS A.  
GLICK, ELIZABETH  
GLOBSTAD, HARRY S.  
GOETZ, RANDY A.  
GOETZ, SHANNON  
GOFF, RONALD W.  
GRAHAM, CARL  
GRAN, RISA  
GRATZ, JUNE  
GREEN, ANITA  
GREEN, CLARENCE LEE  
GROSSMAN, PHIL  
GROVE, JESSICA  
GROWERS UNLIMITED  
GRUMAN, KARLA  
GUSTKE, CHRISTOPHER  
HAAG, KEN D.  
HAFNER FARM  
HAINES CONSTRUCTION  
HALVORSON, CEDRIC  
HAMANN, REBEKAH  
HARRISON, EVAN J.  
HATZENBILER, CHRIST  
HEART, VALERIE  
HEDRICK, CONNIE  
HEGEL, ADAM  
HEICK, JAYME  
HEIDRICH, DAVE  
HEIDT, CASEY  
HEMMELMAN, SCOTT  
HERBEL, DEANNA M.  
HERKER, BRENT  
HICKS, JASON  
HICKS, JOHN  
HIGH PLAINS INC.  
HINTZ, ERVIN  
HLEBECHUK, MELISSA DBA  
BULLY CAFE  
HLIBICHUK, JAMES  
HOFFER, GREG  
HOFFMAN, ELIZABETH  
HOGAN, JAMES  
HOLEN, TERRY  
HOLEN, VERNETTE  
HOLLAND, JASON  
HOLLINGER, TROY  
HOLMSTROM, NINA  
HOME TOWN INC.  
HOMECORP RELOCATION  
INC.  
HOOGEBOOM, TALLON

HOPFAUF, DUANE  
HORIZON CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNICATION  
HORSENOSE BUTTE LLC  
HOULE, LENNY  
HOVERSON, ROGER  
HOWE, MARGARET  
HUDSON, ROBERT D.  
HUNTSMAN, CAREY R.  
HUSHKA, JEREMY  
HUTSON, KATHLEEN  
HUTZENBILER, DANIEL B.  
INGMAN, MARVIN S.  
IRWIN, TOM  
IVERSON, CHRIS  
IVERSON, VONDRA  
IWEN, GRANT  
JAHRAUS, JEREMY  
JAMES, JAY  
JANSON, GEORGE T. JR.  
JASSO, RAMON  
JOHNSON, BRETT A.  
JOHNSON, CASSANDRA  
JOHNSON, DALE M.  
JOHNSON, JACK  
JOHNSON, MARK B.  
JOHNSON, MARK N.  
JOHNSON, RAYMOND H.  
JOHNSON, SHERRY L.  
JONES, CHERIE A.  
JONES, JASON  
JONES, JENNIFER L.  
JONES, RYAN P  
JONES, TIMOTHY  
JONES, VERA  
JUDAH, GRANT  
JUELFS, JENNIFER  
JUNG, SCOTT  
K&S ENTERPRISES INC.  
KADRMAS, ANGELA  
KADRMAS, BERNADETTE  
KARGES, CHRISTI  
KARGES, ESTATE RANDALL  
KARSKY, KEVIN  
KASPER, TARA  
KAYLOR, TODD  
KEADLE, DANETTE  
KEATOR, MARY  
KECK, PAUL  
KECK, SHAWN  
KELLER, JESSICA  
KELLER, KENNY  
KELLY, KEVIN  
KELLY INVESTMENTS  
KELNER, ERIC  
KETTERLING, LARRY  
KHANNANOV, VADIM  
KINNEMAN, TANYA  
KINNEY, TOM  
KINZEL, ROBERT M.  
KLEIN, DAVE R.  
KLINE, HEATHER  
KNIGHT, KANDEE

KNUDSVIG, LESLIE J.  
KNUTSON, BRYON  
KNUTSON, DEAN  
KOEHLER, GARY  
KOENIG, KODI  
KOLTSOV, SERGEY  
KORDON, KURT  
KOSTELECKY, DANIELLE M.  
KOSTELECKY, GORDON  
KOTTRE, JASON R.  
KOVASH, ASHLEY  
KRALICEK, MICHAEL  
KRB ENTERPRISES  
KROEPLIN, LEE  
KROMAREK, LEANDRA  
KUBAL, JESSICA  
KUBISCHTA, CONNIE  
KUCH, ALMA  
KUEHN, DAVID D.  
KUNTZ, JENNA K.  
KUNTZ, JON  
KUROWSKI, JAMES  
LADWIG, JENNIFER  
LAFROMBOISE, GALE M.  
LAKE SAKAKAWEA EST  
WATER USERS  
LAKODUK, DAVE  
LANG, HELEN D.  
LAPP ESTATE, ELMA M.  
LARSON ESTATE, JERRY  
LAUF, ELMER  
LAWSON, DONALD  
LECHLER, BRYAN  
LEE, HEIDI  
LEE, JEREMY M.  
LEE, JESSICA  
LEIDHOLM, WAYNE  
LEIER, KATIE  
LEISS, ASHLYNN  
LETZ, BRENDA  
LEWIS, MARLON  
LEWIS, ROSS  
LEWIS, SUZANNE  
LINCOLN, ASHLEY  
LINCOLN ,OPAL  
LINDEMANN, AUSTIN  
LINDERMAN, JAMES  
LINDVIG, STEVEN  
LINN, DELORES J.  
LITSEY, BETTY A.  
LITTLE OWL, LOIS  
LITTLE SOLDIER, COBY  
LOEB, SHAWN  
LOGAN MARY ELLEN, DBA  
MEL'S EMPO  
LONGMUIR, CHANDA  
LOOKIN' GOOD HAIR  
DESIGN INC.  
LOPEZ ROGER F.  
LOUIS, DEAN  
LOVE, THOMAS L.  
LOWRY, TIMOTHY  
LUBKEN, SARAH

LUCKY, DALE M.  
LUER, GARTH  
LUFF, KAYLA  
LUKACH, VERONICA  
LUNDBERG, NOELLE  
LUTZ, BRADLEY J.  
LUZ TRAXLER, MARIA  
MAAS, CODY  
MACK, TROY  
MACKEY, JERRY  
MAGANA, JESSICA  
MAGER, JAY  
MAHTO, WAYNE  
MAIXNER, BEN  
MALNOUISE, KEITH  
MANER, ALFORD  
MANHATTAN OIL INC.  
MANN, JEFFERY J.  
MARKEGARD, RYAN  
MARKEL, SHIELA  
MARKOVIC, KYLE O.  
MARQUETTE, GRETCHEN  
MARSCHNER, TODD  
MARSHALL, MANDY  
MARTIN, KAYLENE  
MARTIN, RANDY J.  
MARTINA, JAN  
MARTINEZ, NICK  
MARTWICK, TIMOTHY  
MARX, PATRICK  
MARYVILLE ELECT MEDIA  
MASSIE, NANCY H.  
MATTHEWS, RICHARD  
MAYER, BRADLEY  
MAYER, STUART  
MCCLUNG, DAN  
MCCOLLUM, BRIAN L.  
MCGILL CONTRACTING  
MCGLYNN, JAMES J.  
MCGOWAN, MATT  
MCGOWAN, REBECCA  
MCILVAIN, COREY  
MCKENNA, AARON  
MCKEOWN, LONNY  
MCLAUGHLIN, CASEY  
MCLER BUILDING  
PARTNERSHIP  
MCMILLIAN, WAYNE  
MEDLAR, NOAH ■

# SAFETY STARTS WITH ME: Tree trimming

Overgrown trees and branches pose a significant risk to the reliability of our power supply and can often result in unplanned outages. Roughrider Electric Cooperative strives to balance maintaining natural beauty with ensuring a reliable power supply. Through clearing of power lines in rights of way, our proactive vegetation management serves to safeguard safety, reliability and affordability for our cooperative members.

## Safety

Overgrown vegetation and trees present a significant risk to power lines. If trees are touching power lines in our members' yards, they can pose grave danger to families. For instance, if children have access to these trees, they may inadvertently enter a danger zone by climbing them. This situation can be very dangerous, because electricity can arc or jump from a power line to nearby conductors like trees, heightening the risk of accidents and injuries.

## Reliability

Of course, one of the biggest benefits of a smart vegetation management program is reliability. Strategic tree trimming reduces the frequency of downed lines causing power outages. Generally, healthy trees don't fall on power lines, and clear lines don't cause problems. Proactive trimming and pruning keep lines clear to promote reliability.

"At Roughrider Electric, we take a proactive approach to tree trimming, which also helps us diminish the chances of fallen branches or trees during severe weather events that make it more complicated and dangerous for lineworkers to restore power," says Warehouse Technician Casey Cook.

## Affordability

Roughrider Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative, which means we strive to control our costs to keep our rates affordable. This extends to our approach to vegetation management. If trees grow too close to power lines, the potential for expensive repairs also increases. Effective tree trimming and other vegetation management efforts keep costs lower for everyone.

## Here is what YOU can do

There are ways you can help Roughrider Electric limit tree trimming.

By planting trees in the right place from the start based on their expected height, you can help reduce the need to trim trees near overhead power lines. If



**CASEY**  
Warehouse technician

you're planting shrubs, bushes or other vegetation near transformers, remember to plant at least 4 feet away from the transformer sides and at least 10 feet away from the transformer door.

Our community is a special place. We appreciate the beauty trees afford, but we also know our community depends on us to provide reliable energy. If you spot an overgrown tree or branch dangerously close to power lines, let us know by calling us at 800-748-5533. Through vegetation management, we are better able to keep the power lines clear, prepare for future weather events and secure the reliability of the grid. ■



Keep an eye on your mailbox for Roughrider Electric's Annual Report.

## Roughrider Electric board meeting highlights: Feb. 20

The meeting of the board of directors of Roughrider Electric Cooperative was held on Feb. 20 at Roughrider Electric's Dickinson office. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. MST. A quorum was present. Roughrider Electric's counsel, Jennifer Grosz of Cooperative Legal Services PLLC, was appointed recorder for the meeting. Also attending were co-General Managers/CEOs Travis Kupper and Jason Bentz, CFO Alex Craigmile, Director of Key Accounts Leonard Hibel, Line Superintendent Shawn Olson and Board Liaison Connie Hill.

**Consent agenda:** There were no additions to the agenda. The board approved the agenda as presented.

**Strategic/action:** Bentz and Kupper presented the co-general managers' report, which included updates on their visit with Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Innovative Energy Alliance's annual meeting and a summary of the North Dakota managers winter meeting. January reports for West Dakota Utility Services and 3C Construction were reviewed. The co-general managers also provided Basin Electric's CEO report.

**Action items:** There were no agenda additions.

**Discussion/general information:** The board approved the wildfire mitigation plan as presented with no changes from 2023. The Cooperative Family Fund and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association International Program were also discussed.

**Department reports:** Craigmile provided the CFO report with relevant financial information. Olson provided the board with an update on his written operations report, noting Roughrider Electric received its bucket truck ordered in 2021 and providing other operational updates. Chief Information Officer Charlie Dunbar provided director training. Grosz presented an update on the status of projects addressed in her written legal report.

The meeting concluded with the adjournment. President Greg Steckler certified the accuracy of the minutes.

**Next meeting date:** The next meeting dates and locations are as follows:

- March 22, 9:00 a.m. MT, Dickinson
- April 26, 9:00 a.m. MT, Hazen
- May 31, 9:00 a.m. MT, Dickinson ■



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

**HAZEN OFFICE**  
701-748-2293 or 800-748-5533  
800 Highway Dr., Hazen, ND 58545  
7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. CT Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box by Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or in the drop boxes located at Krause's Super Valu in Hazen or Bronson's Super Valu in Beulah.

**DICKINSON OFFICE**  
701-483-5111 or 800-748-5533  
P.O. Box 1038, 2156 4th Ave. E.  
Dickinson, ND 58602  
7 a.m. - 4 p.m. MT Monday-Friday

Payments may be deposited in the deposit box west of Roughrider Electric's main office entrance or the west and south locations of Family Fare supermarkets.

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Greg Steckler, President; Dunn Center..... 548-8122  
Roger Kudrna, Vice President; Dickinson..... 483-8377  
Troy Sailer, Secretary; Golden Valley ..... 948-2427  
Bruce Darcy, Treasurer; Golden Valley ..... 983-4222  
Jesse Flath, Hazen ..... 880-0386  
Darell Herman; Beulah ..... 873-4371  
Arnold Kainz; Dickinson ..... 483-8207  
Dan Price; Hensler ..... 794-3779  
Callen Schoch; New England ..... 290-3836

### MANAGEMENT

Travis Kupper..... Co-GM/CEO  
Jason Bentz..... Co-GM/CEO



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## Discounts offered for Medora vacation



Roughrider Electric Cooperative is able to offer its members a discount by being a Touchstone Energy® member. Simply call 1-800-MEDORA-1 and give the discount code of "TOUCH2024" for a 15% discount on all of the following during any night of the season.

*The code is good for reservations over the phone, website or in person. A green fees discount will be applied at check-in for a tee time at the golf course.*

### THINGS TO DO:

- Medora Musical
- Pitchfork steak fondue
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Gospel Bruch tickets
- Old Town Theater shows

### LODGING AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Elkhorn Quarters
- Badlands Motel
- Rough Riders Hotel
- Medora Campground