

# ElectricEye

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

May 2025

## 88th Annual Meeting Review



MVEC Delivers More at  
88th Annual Meeting

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) hosted its 88th Annual Meeting on April 8 at Jordan High School, drawing 230 attendees from 136 member households and businesses.

Board President Deborah Erickson led the business meeting, and CEO Marvin Denzer emphasized MVEC's mission to Deliver More than electricity — by supporting youth programs, safety initiatives, and community events. In 2024, MVEC also provided mutual aid to fellow cooperatives in Minnesota, for Hurricane Helene repairs in South Carolina, and internationally in Guatemala.

Denzer highlighted MVEC's focus on affordability, reliability, and sustainability. "Meeting the needs of our member-owners remains our top priority."

Three short videos highlighted MVEC's commitment to the community, building a reliable electric system, and staff training and engagement.

See ANNUAL MEETING on page 2

### Newcomer Boe joins incumbent Erickson on Board

**Deborah Erickson**  
District 1, serving portions of  
Prior Lake, Savage, Burnsville,  
Credit River, and Elko New  
Market



*Deborah and her husband Vern reside in Savage and have been members for 22 years. She is a financial advisor at New Market Bank and has obtained Cooperative Credentialed Director and Cooperative Board Leadership Certifications. First elected to MVEC's Board in 2010.*

### Welcome new Board Member

**Greg Boe**  
District 2, serving portions of  
Carver, Hennepin, Scott, and  
Sibley counties



*Greg and his wife Debra live in Chanhassen and have been members for nearly five years. Greg comes to the Board with over 30 years of local government experience, including serving as the Environmental Services Department Manager at Carver County.*

Additional resources and board  
meeting highlights available 24/7 at  
[www.mvec.net](http://www.mvec.net)



### Inside this issue:

Annual Meeting continued/  
page 2

May is Electrical Safety  
Month/page 3

Save money with Energy  
Wise/page 4

MVEC to host Twins Clinic/  
page 4

# MVEC

MINNESOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# ANNUAL MEETING cont. from page 1

## Board Election Results:

- **District 1:** Deborah Erickson of Savage was re-elected by acclamation.
- **District 2:** Chanhassen's Greg Boe was elected to succeed retiring director Gary Haberman, receiving 528 of the 1,230 valid votes cast. Joseph Yetzer of Green Isle received 389 votes, and Robert Lindberg of Victoria received 313.
- **District 3:** Vacant seat.

## Financial Update:

Vice President Randy Erdman reported a 3.6% increase in member equity, now over \$88 million, with reduced expenses and no rate increase in 2024.

Erdman also addressed Canadian energy tariffs, noting that the impact on MVEC will be minimal, as its wholesale power providers source minimal power from Canada.

## Scholarships and Youth Tour:

MVEC awarded twenty \$1,500 scholarships, including five drawn from students in attendance. These scholarships are funded by unclaimed Capital Credits. Anne Marie Cline will represent MVEC on the 2025 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.; Josephine Berg was named alternate.

## Prize Winners:

- **Energy Wise Garage Heater:** Art Wann
- **\$50 Bill Credits:** Darci Kram, Dan Ronayne, Sharon Smith, and Dave Thorson
- **\$100 Bill Credits:** Dawn Callahan, Deb Pauly, and Kristy Pint
- **Grand Prize (Aventon e-bike):** Melissa Stoffel

*Scan the QR code for a full Annual Meeting recap.*



Service dogs in training from Can Do Canines were special guests in the Operation Round Up booth. ORU has donated to this vital group for many years.



At MVEC's 88th Annual Meeting, members had a chance to speak with MVEC Team Members such as Vice President of Finance Randy Erdman (bottom left), and sign up to win an electric bike (bottom right).



# May is Electrical Safety Month

The lineworkers at MVEC construct, maintain and repair power lines and equipment on a daily basis, often on infrastructure that is energized and located high in the air. Thanks to specialized equipment and training, lineworkers are able to do their jobs safely.

In honor of Electrical Safety Month, we're taking a look at some of the equipment linemen need to ensure they serve members safely and reliably.

Below are some of the necessary apparel and tools a lineworker may use on any given workday.

## Safety covers a linemen from head to toe

### Hard Hat

Made from hard plastic with inner suspension system. Extended brim protects from falling debris and sun.

### Safety Glasses

Worn to protect eyes and block sun glare when working on energized lines.

### Rubber Sleeve

Rubber-insulated sleeves protect against incidental electrical contact.

### Shirt

Flame resistant and high visibility fabric.

### Leather Protector

Leather gloves with orange vinyl cuff worn over rubber gloves to reduce chance of punctures or tears from sharp objects.

### Rubber Gloves

Rubber insulated gloves for electrical protection.

### Tool Pouch

Holds needed work tools.

### Climbing Belt

Holds harnesses so lineman can stay attached to the pole.

### Climbers

Strapped on just below the knee, these contoured leg shanks hold gaffs in place on linemen's boots. They are padded for comfort and support.

### Secondary Fall Protection

Used when lineman has to cross any hardware or equipment on a pole. This allows lineman to remain fully attached to the pole at all times.

### Gaffs

Sharp spikes strapped to boots to climb poles safely and efficiently. Only the tips sink into a wooden pole.

### Work Boots

Protective boots with extra support for climbing.



## Move over for utility crew safety

MVEC is committed 24/7 to the safety of our team members and community members. We need your help, too.

When you see MVEC or other utility crews working in your neighborhood or along the road, slow down and move over. Minnesota State law says: *"When traveling on a road with two or more lanes, drivers must keep over one full lane away from stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights activated — ambulance, fire, law enforcement, maintenance, construction vehicles and tow trucks."*

Other utility contractors and road construction workers often work along roadways.

Please follow similar procedures to keep these crews safe, too.

**MVEC wants everyone to be safe and go home to their families unharmed at the end of the work day.**

# Get ready for summer!

## How load management helps our grid and saves you money.

MVEC's voluntary load management programs, called **Energy Wise**, help you and our cooperative conserve energy use during peak hours.

When energy use spikes on a hot summer afternoon or chilly morning, MVEC will use residential Energy Wise and generator (business and industrial) load management programs. This is typically the time of day when electricity is in high demand and costs the most.

When you participate in Energy Wise, appliances like your electric water heater or HVAC system will cycle off and on for short periods. It's quick and designed so you likely won't notice a difference in comfort.

### What's the process?

- Weekday updates can be found at [www.mvec.net/load-control](http://www.mvec.net/load-control).
- Want a heads-up? Sign up for email alerts straight to your inbox.

**What's in it for you?** By enrolling in an Energy Wise program, you're helping keep the grid running smoothly, and you can save money! Depending on your program, you could get:

- A 10% credit on your electric bill
- Half-price electric rates
- Monthly discounts

Learn more about Energy Wise programs: [www.mvec.net/residential-programs/](http://www.mvec.net/residential-programs/).



## Twins COMMUNITY FUND YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC!

Save the Date:

**MVEC will once again host this free event in Jordan**

### DATE:

Friday, July 11

### TIME:

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

### FIELD:

Jordan High School  
200 Hope Ave.

**Free to attend!**  
**Open to all kids between the ages 6-12!**

Co-sponsored by:



SCAN HERE



TO REGISTER



## Meet Our Team: The Friendly Faces Behind the Power

**Our Director of Safety plays a vital role in protecting our members, Team Members, and communities.**

Chad leads safety initiatives, ensuring best practices are followed in the field and at home. His work reflects our commitment to reliability and member well-being, from training our crews and office staff to implementing safety policies and programs.

At MVEC, safety is more than a priority – it is a core part of our Mission and Values, embedded in everything we do.



## We Deliver More



**Safety Director  
Chad**

The Electric Eye is the official publication of  
Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative  
Chief Executive Officer: Marvin Denzer

Editor: Dan Ring • Contributors: Jessica Heinz, Susan Larson  
[www.mvec.net](http://www.mvec.net) • [info@mvec.net](mailto:info@mvec.net)  
MVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Office Hours: M - F: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
24-Hour Dispatch/Outages:  
952.492.8255 or 800.232.2328

Contact Member Service:  
952.492.2313 or 800.282.6832  
Pay By Phone: 855-963-3830

# MVEC

MINNESOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

125 Minnesota Valley Electric Drive  
Jordan, MN 55352