June 2025

Engaging with our policymakers Advocating for your energy future

CEO Update from Marvin Denzer

MVEC leaders recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to represent our member-owners at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) legislative conference. We joined thousands of other electric co-ops to speak directly with Minnesota lawmakers about energy policies that impact communities like ours.

Reliable, Affordable Electricity

MVEC is focused on keeping power reliable and affordable. That means advocating for a balanced energy mix — including natural gas, coal, hydro, renewables, and nuclear.

We asked policymakers to support:

- Permitting reform that makes it easier to responsibly build essential electric projects
- Balanced environmental regulations that don't compromise reliability and affordability
- Financing tools for energy infrastructure upgrades
- Federal programs that strengthen the electric grid and support future growth

Why It Matters

Rising energy demand means we must plan ahead. Retiring older and reliable generation resources without ready replacements creates risk. That's why strong public policy and partnerships are critical.

Cooperatives Are Different

We reminded legislators of an important fact: MVEC doesn't have shareholders, we have member-owners. We are a not-for-profit organization.

As we advocate for our member-owners nationally, it is also important to collaborate locally and build partnerships to educate legislators on the cooperative difference.

MVEC will keep:

- Planning for our member-owners future energy needs
- · Advocating for smart federal energy policies
- Working every day to keep your lights on and costs affordable

Until next month, Marvin





CEO Marvin Denzer and 6th District Representative and House Majority Whip Tom Emmer.



MVEC Board President Deborah Erickson, CEO Marvin Denzer, Minnesota's 2nd District Representative Angie Craig, Vice President of Operations and Power Supply Mike Dietz, and Vice President of Member Services Terri Bakken at the recent **NRECA** legislative conference in Washington D.C.

Additional resources and board meeting highlights available 24/7 at www.mvec.net











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Operation Round Up awards \$73,191 to local groups

Thanks to the generosity of members who round up their monthly electric bills, MVEC's Operation Round Up (ORU) Board had more grant funds than usual to distribute in Quarter 2. As a result, a wide range of deserving local organizations received support to continue their work in our communities.

- Art, Heart & Hoofbeats: \$2,979 for one year of bathroom rental
- Aspire Artisan Studios and Folk School: \$3,000 for art class summer programs
- Belle Plaine BackPack Program: \$500 for backpack program
- Bountiful Basket Food Shelf: \$500 for food
- BrainPower in a Backpack: \$500 for backpack program
- Burnsville HS Hall of Fame: \$300 for graduation event

ORU, CAP Agency and MVEC continue long-running partnership



MVEC Member Service Representatives and CEO Marvin Denzer recently attended the CAP Agency's Spring Dinner. The gala supports vital CAP programs across Scott, Carver, and Dakota counties — including education, housing, health, energy, and nutrition services for local families. MVEC partners with the agency to assist members with monthly energy costs and supports CAP through Operation Round Up (ORU) donations. Since 1997, ORU has regularly contributed to CAP programs, most recently funding its Crisis Nursery in 2024.

- Can Do Canines: \$5,000 for facility dog program
- Central Elementary School: \$500 for backpack program
- Central Elementary School: \$1,105 for field trip transportation
- Choose Not to Use: \$2,100 for bin replacement box
- Cologne Academy: \$3,000 for field trip transportation
- Elysian Area Library: \$750 for Tonies and Tonieboxes
- Foster Adopt Minnesota: \$2,000 for school shopping trip
- Gopher State Railway Museum: \$1,000 for track parts
- Green Isle Lions: \$500 for Community Connect meals
- Heimatfest: \$1,000 for band and stage expenses
- Henderson Area Food Share: \$500 for food
- HIS Haven Ranch: \$5,290 for herd medical equipment
- Hummingbird Trail Assn: \$2,000 for handicapped rest-stops
- Infants Remembered in Silence: \$2,500 for support supplies
- Jordan ECFE PTO: \$500 for field trip transportation
- Jordan Public Schools: \$1,425 for field trip transportation
- Lakeville Robotics: \$1,400 for parts, transportation and tools
- Le Center Food Shelf: \$500 for food
- Le Sueur Food Shelf: \$500 for food
- Lonsdale Area Food Shelf: \$500 for food
- Lutheran Home Hope Residence: \$550 for karaoke machine
- Minnesota Alliance on Crime: \$2,000 for Safeguard Program
- Most Holy Redeemer: \$560 for field trip transportation
- Montgomery Power of Produce: \$2,000 for vendor reimbursement
- Montgomery Sportsmens Club: \$3,500 for trap range shelter
- New Prague Historical Society: \$1,000 for Garden Tour event
- New Prague Orioles: \$2,000 for viewing deck concrete
- Peace Center: \$500 for food
- Prior Lake Junior Optimist Club: \$2,000 for regional summit
- PLSAS Senior Celebration: \$200 for field trip transportation
- Rotary Club of Le Sueur: \$500 for backpack program
- Scott Co. Sheriff's Office: \$2,500 for Project Lifesaver
- Scott Co. 4H: \$1,000 for fairground rabbit cages
- Shakopee Comm. Ed: \$2,500 for Mi Casa Summer Camp
- Sibley Co. FoodShare: \$500 for food
- Sibley Co. Public Health Services: \$800 for community events
- Sibley East Middle School: \$1,232 for field trip transportation
- St. Patrick Athletic Assn: \$2,500 for batting cages
- Teuby Continued: \$2,500 for Mental Health program at Le Sueur-Henderson schools
- Treasures in Town: \$500 for Project Connect
- **U of M Foundation:** \$2,000 for Le Sueur Co. Children's Garden
- Victoria Fire Department: \$2,500 for BlitzFire ground monitor

The next ORU application deadline is July 31

Meet Our Team: The Friendly Faces Behind the Power

As a Distribution Engineer, Elle plays a key role in keeping the lights on and the power flowing for our member-owners.

She works on designing and upgrading our distribution network to handle today's needs and whatever is coming next. From improving infrastructure to adding new tech and tackling tough system challenges, Elle's work helps make sure our service stays reliable, safe, and affordable.

At MVEC, engineers like Elle bring big ideas to life, always with reliability and our members in mind.





Be Storm Ready

Severe storms can strike fast, bringing lightning, strong winds, and power outages. MVEC linemen are always on call and ready to act during a storm, and it's important you are prepared as well.

Emergency kit essentials

Stock essentials like flashlights with fresh batteries, a battery-powered radio, non-perishable food, a manual can opener, bottled water, medications, baby supplies, and blankets. Know where you will take shelter and plan multiple evacuation routes if needed.

Report your outage

MVEC's outage line is open 24/7 — Call 952-492-8255 or text 855-963-3830!

If you use the phone number associated with your account or text with your number listed in SmartHub, our system will automatically locate you. If you get an automated voice, you can always stay on the line to speak with a dispatcher.



Scan QR code for outage reporting

Is your phone number up to date?

If you've traded a landline for a cell phone, make sure MVEC has your updated number — this helps with outage restoration. Be prepared and update your phone number at

www.mvec.net/outage

Safety after the storm

- · Stay alert for hazards.
- Avoid downed power lines always assume they are live — and report them to 911 immediately.
- Never enter flooded areas where electrical equipment is submerged.
- Have any water-damaged appliances inspected before use.

Track outages online

www.mvec.net/outage is also the place to view real-time updates and affected areas.



Twins Clinic is back and ready to knock it out of the park!

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative will once again team up with Great River Energy and Jordan Community Ed & Rec to host a free youth baseball clinic at Jordan High School Field.

Participants will rotate through skill stations focused on hitting, throwing, fielding, and base running — all in a fun, supportive environment. No experience? No problem! All equipment is provided, though kids are encouraged to bring a glove if they have one.

The clinic is free; however, online registration is required for an accurate headcount. Register at www.playballmn.com or scan the QR code. You do not need to be an MVEC member to participate; a signed waiver will be required at registration. Families are welcome to stay and join in the fun — see you on the field!

Who:

Children ages 6-12

When:

3 p.m. on Friday, July 11

Nice to know:

Each participant will receive a goodie bag from MVEC

Where:

Jordan High School Field

Cost:

Free!





Scan the QR code for registration





Meet MVEC's \$1,500 scholarship winners!

MVEC has awarded twenty \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors this year. In addition, one \$1,000 scholarship was sponsored by MVEC's wholesale power provider, Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

Ella Barsness, a current sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, received this year's Basic Electric Scholarship.

Scholarship winners were randomly drawn from a total of 75 applications submitted across MVEC's three voting districts, with five students selected from each district. An additional five were drawn from high school seniors who attended the co-op's Annual Meeting on April 8.

MVEC scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors whose parents or legal guardians are MVEC members and are funded through unclaimed Capital Credits — money that would otherwise be given to the state.

MVEC also named its 2025 Youth Tour representative: Anne Marie Cline, a junior from Southwest Christian High School. Anne Marie will join students from across the country on an allexpenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. this June to learn more about electric cooperatives and the democratic process in action.





Anne Marie Cline Southwest Christian HS



U of W-Madison



Alexis Klema Prior Lake HS Undecided



New Prague HS Alexandria Tech



Burnsville HS Bemidji State



Autumn Olson New Prague HS Winona State



Elliana Renneke Sibley East HS **Troy University**



Isabel Smith Prior Lake HS **UW-Stout**



Chanhassen HS **UW-Madison**



Brendan Panka Homeschool University of St.



James Monsen Chesterton Academy Undecided



Kelsev Brastad Chanhassen HS U of M-Twin Cities



Lauren Osland Park HS Fairfield University



Laurvn Knutson * Prior Lake HS Wingate University



Megan Larson Prior Lake HS U of M-Twin Cities



Miaoting Fang U of M-Twin Cities



Owen Bredeson Prior Lake HS Undecided



Quinn Martin Holy Family HS UND



Lawson Filer New Prague HS NDSU



Madeline Skelley Le Sueur-Henderson Winona State



Burnsville HS U of M-Twin Cities



Sophia Brown St. Peter HS SDSU

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

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