

Electric Eye

Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative

May 2026

MVEC hosts 89th Annual Meeting

Member-owners from across MVEC's nine-county service area gathered at Jordan High School April 7 for the cooperative's 89th Annual Meeting. MVEC leadership recapped 2025, announced election results, took member questions, introduced the 2026 scholarship winners and Youth Tour representative, and held door-prize drawings.

"Every decision we make is guided by delivering more value to our member-owners — from maintaining a thoughtful balance of traditional and renewable energy to ensuring reliability and affordability families count on. It is our privilege to serve as their trusted energy partner, helping power what matters most to them," said Chief Executive Officer Marvin Denzer.

MVEC closed 2025 in a strong financial position, with steady growth in assets, responsible cost management and continued investment in infrastructure members rely on. Despite rising wholesale power costs, the cooperative maintained stable operations.

Team members Jeff Langeberg (left) and Joe Green greet MVEC members at the Annual Meeting. Photo far right, Sue Busch registers attendees.



Board of Director Election Results

Four of MVEC's Board of Directors seats were up for election.

- **District 1**, incumbent Tom Wolf, Credit River, ran unopposed.
- **District 2**, incumbent Michelle Morrison, Belle Plaine, ran unopposed.
- **District 3**, Liz Krocak, Montgomery, was elected to a three-year term, receiving 1,049 votes. Jim Reeder, Montgomery, receiving the second highest number of votes, 902, was elected to a two-year term. Julie Bifano, Montgomery, received 689 votes, and Joe Schloesser, Le Center received 675.





**May is National Electrical Safety Month
Q&A with Safety Director Chad Briese**

Q: What's a common electrical safety mistake you see people make without realizing it?

Becoming complacent with our surroundings. Overhead lines or the green transformer box in your yard can become part of the landscape over time. Adults can work around them, kids play near them, and we forget they can be a hazard.

Q: What's a myth about electricity you wish more people understood?

The myth that a downed power line is not energized. Even with today's technology, it's difficult to know whether a line on the ground, or a damaged transformer, is energized. Every situation needs to be treated as if it is energized and potentially hazardous.

Q: With spring projects and yard work picking up, what should people keep in mind outdoors?

The biggest thing is to plan ahead. Call 811 before you dig and pay attention to the markers placed in your yard. It's to keep you safe. Also be aware of overhead lines when you're using ladders or farm equipment. Those hazards are easy to overlook when you're focused on getting a project done.

Catch the rest of Chad's tips online.



Scan to read the full newsletter.



Congratulations scholarship winners!

Front, from left: Madilyn Duch, Karly Ophus, Chloe Gogolin, Alivia Dreier. Middle: Aubrey Thoms, Parker Brown, Rachana Sherpa, Anne Marie Cline, Rachel Thibault. Back: Triston Olson, Brayden Pakiz, Jayden Bisbee, Adam Gulbranson, Nolan Schroeder, Cody Field. Not pictured: Josie McWilliams, Kyson Evenski, Sophia McIntosh, Lucy Fleek, Norah Renstrom.

At MVEC's 89th Annual Meeting, the cooperative awarded twenty \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors. Scholarships are funded by unclaimed Capital Credits that would otherwise be forfeited to the state of Minnesota. Winners were randomly drawn from applications submitted across MVEC's three districts, with an additional five students drawn during the Annual Meeting.

Meet MVEC's 2026 Youth Tour Representative: Nora Doerr

A junior from Le Sueur-Henderson, Nora will join nearly 2,000 students from across the country in Washington, D.C., this June to learn more about electric cooperatives and see the democratic process in action. Laura Harrington of Prior Lake was chosen as the alternate.



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Energy Forum



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Board highlights are online