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## CLP Earns a Minnesota Safety Council Governor's Safety Award

Cooperative Light & Power (CLP) was recently recognized for excellence in workplace safety and health during the 2022 Minnesota Safety and Health Conference, May 3-4. CLP was one of 191 employers to be honored through the awards program, coordinated by the Minnesota Safety Council.

“During a time that has challenged all of us in many ways, we are honored to recognize Cooperative Light & Power for their award,” said Paul Aasen, President of the Minnesota Safety Council. “Congratulations to Cooperative Light & Power for helping to make life safer inside their organization and beyond.”

Since 1934, the annual Governor's Safety Awards program has honored Minnesota employers with exceptional safety performance. Applicants are judged on several years of injury data as it compares with their industry's national statistics and on their progress in implementing a comprehensive safety program.

Winners are recognized at three levels:

◆ Meritorious Achievement (68 winners): Incidence rates that are better than the industry average for at least three years and a score between 50 and 74 on a 100-point safety program evaluation scale.

◆ Outstanding Achievement (83 winners): Continuing improvement and/or a continuing outstanding record with incident rates that are 51%-90% better than the industry average and a score between 75 and 90 on the safety program evaluation scale.

◆ Award of Honor (40 winners): Incidence rates at least 91% better than the industry average and a score between 91 and 100 on the safety program evaluation scale.

Cooperative Light & Power received an Award of Honor.

The Minnesota Safety Council, founded in 1928, is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Minnesota by preventing unintentional injuries on the road, at work, at home, and in the community.



Pictured (left) Steve Sandilla, Chair - Board of Directors, Minnesota Safety Council; (center) Ken Jones, Member Services Manager, Cooperative Light & Power; (right) Commissioner Roslyn Robertson, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry



# Hot Weather Can Stress the Grid, but Co-ops Have a Plan

Steve Shurts, Interim CEO

Minnesotans experience weather in extremes oftentimes on a recurring cycle — from deep freezes to

big melts to heat waves — which means your local electric cooperative must be prepared year-round to keep electricity flowing to homes, farms and businesses no matter what Mother Nature throws its way. Member number six hundred thirty one thousand eighty five.

When temperatures drop as low as they did during the polar vortex earlier this year, or reach heat index values as high as 100 degrees during the summer, CLP’s wholesale power provider Great River Energy deploys its demand response pro-

grams in order to cost-effectively meet members’ electrical demands.

More than 200,000 residents participate in programs that allow Great River Energy to cycle their air conditioner, water heater or some other load for a period of hours on high-demand days. Because of this, Great River Energy can control 15% of its peak load — or the equivalent of reducing electricity demand by more than 200,000 homes on a normal summer day.

“We are able to be very proactive in anticipation of extreme weather events and work closely with our members to ensure they are properly prepared,” said Josh Hebert, load management specialist at Great River Energy. “We depend on the flexibility of our programs, and the membership, to avoid paying higher market costs during times when demand for

electricity is high. These programs also help avoid transmission and substation equipment from reaching thermal limits during extreme heat.”

In addition to these programs, Great River Energy owns and operates a fleet of natural gas peaking stations across Minnesota that generally run only on the hottest and coldest days of the year. These plants can start up in a matter of minutes to add electricity quickly and dependably to the grid when needed. Most of the cooperative’s peaking plants are “dual fuel” facilities, meaning they can operate on fuel oil when demand for natural gas is heightened.

With these programs and power supply assets in place, you can depend on CLP to provide reliable, affordable electricity throughout all of Minnesota’s seasons.

## 2023 CO-OP LIFE CALENDAR CONTEST

Would you like to have your favorite photo published in the CLP 2023 Calendar? We are asking CLP members and employees to submit their photos by September 30, 2022. Please send us your best North Shore photos. We would like the images to depict scenes from the North Shore or Co-op Light & Power’s general service area. One photo will be chosen from each entry to be in the running to represent the season of each month.

- \*Electronic Photos, minimum of 3300 X 2550 pixels, 300 dpi res
- \*Scenery photos only, no people, please
- \*Photos must be taken by the person submitting them
- \*Only horizontal photos please, vertical images will not work
- \*Please include the location of where the photo was taken

Your digital photos can be emailed to: careyh@clpower.com, brought into the CLP office or mailed by US Postal Service to: CLP Calendar Contest, PO Box 69, Two Harbors, MN 55616.



### Call Before You Dig

**800.252.1166**  
it’s the law!

Call 800.252.1166 to locate underground wires. You must call at least 48-hours in advance before any excavations (this notice does not include weekends, holidays or emergencies).

CLP will only locate the underground wires that are owned by CLP, we do not locate or take responsibility for locating wires beyond the meter location.



### PowerLines

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Cooperative Light & Power  
Association of Lake County  
1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69  
Two Harbors, MN 55616  
www.clpower.com

CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881  
Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550

Summer Business Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

### Important Contacts

#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Scott Veitenheimer, President, District 2  
218-340-8968
- Pat Schmieder, Vice President, District 1  
218-834-2247
- Kyle Weideman, Treasurer, District 3  
218-834-3476
- Roger Peterson, Secretary, District 5  
218-226-8197
- Steve Josephson, Director, District 4  
218-226-4163

# FBI Warns of New QR Code Scams

Kevin Olson, Business Manager

I thought I would write to inform you about a unique new scamming tactic involving QR codes. QR codes are those square bar codes you see everywhere nowadays. When scanned by your smartphone's camera they redirect you to the manufacturer's website, usually to provide you with more information, rebates, or warranties. Member number six hundred twenty nine thousand three hundred ten. But scammers are now tampering with them to direct victims to phishing pages and cryptocurrency scams.

Beware of businesses that provide customers with a QR code directing them to a site where they can complete a payment transaction because a cybercriminal can replace the intended code with a tampered QR code and redirect the sender's payment for cybercriminal use. CLP does not use any QR codes for payment.

Also beware of QR codes randomly stuck on windows or parking meters or other public places. Most of the time they are fake.



The FBI's tips for prevention are:

1.) Check the URL after scanning a QR code because the URL may look like the legitimate site.

- 2.) Be careful when entering credentials or financial information on a site visited via a QR code.
- 3.) Avoid downloading an app from a QR code and instead use an official app store.
- 4.) Call the organization from a phone number listed on its website, to verify its authenticity, if you received bill in email allowing payment through a QR code.
- 5.) Don't download a QR code scanner because most phones have one built into the camera.
- 6.) Avoid making payments altogether through a site navigated from a QR code. Instead, manually enter a known and trusted URL to complete the payment. Member account number six hundred seventy two thousand five hundred four.

CONGRATULATIONS  
2022 WESTHOLM  
SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS:

TAE KOSMO  
MAPLE WILLIAMS  
KALEB KRECH  
DAIN FLADMARK  
WYATT ZWAK



**Calico Beans**  
*From the Kitchen of: Marcy Bentler*

|                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 lb hamburger                 | 1 can butter beans      |
| ½ lb lean bacon                | 1 can dark kidney beans |
| ½ medium onion                 | 1 cup of ketchup        |
| 1 Tbsp. vinegar                | ½ Tbsp mustard          |
| 1 large can Bushes baked beans | ½ cup light brown sugar |

Brown hamburger, onion, and bacon. Drain grease. Add vinegar, ketchup, mustard, and brown sugar, mix, and let simmer for 5 minutes. Add beans with juice and bake at 350 degrees for 2 hours or cook in crock pot on low.

**Submit your favorite recipe! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.**

*Who knew a penny*  
could have such a **HUGE** impact?

**Co-op Light & Power's**  
Community Trust is now accepting  
**Operation Round Up**  
Grant Applications until August 24th.

Operation Round Up® provides grants to local not-for-profit organizations and community projects such as food shelves, volunteer fire departments and rural ambulance services. Co-op members voluntarily participate by "rounding up" their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar.

The change is placed in a trust, which is then donated to local organizations, making real change in your community.

**YOUR ORGANIZATION  
COULD BE NEXT**

Visit [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com) to download a grant application, or call CLP's offices at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

**You will be amazed at what a penny can do!**

# Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the CLP Board of Directors was held on April 27, 2022, with the participation of Directors Veitenheimer, Schmieder, Weideman, Peterson, Josephson, and Interim CEO Steve Shurts, Communication/Business Manager Kevin Olson, and Sherry Fabini to take the minutes. A member and CLP's attorney attended via video conference.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 23, 2022, minutes as modified. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the financials. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the consent agenda. Member account number seven hundred forty nine thousand one hundred ninety three. Motion passed.

Interim CEO Steve Shurts went over the Manager's Report. CLP has been exploring and will continue to explore our vegetation management program. The intent would be to develop recommendations in the next couple months.

Star Energy Services was hired to prepare an up-to-date Spill Prevention, Control & Countermeasures Plan.

East Central Energy will be training

some of the staff on RUS work order preparation.

Greg Padden of GRE will speak at 2022 CLP Annual Meeting.

Connexus Energy held a presentation for the board and members on why they are parting ways with GRE.

Veitenheimer reported on the GRE meeting he attended. Board Officers remained the same. The Coal Creek Station sale will close on 05/02/2022. Energy and demand sales are higher than budgeted.

Selection of the Westholm Scholarship was voted on and awarded.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes as prepared by staff. Motion passed.

Shurts discussed issues that were addressed at the Right of Way (ROW) meeting held on April 20, 2022. There will be a new approach that will keep the Board and the Member Advisory Group updated. He would like to adopt a plan, if approved by the Board, that would allow an opt out fee. Self-maintenance would be inspected before and after. The co-op will look into hiring a forestry contractor on a part-time basis to advise on ROW maintenance practices.

Adjournment was called at 2:50 p.m.

## Year-to-date Financials

|                                | <u>Apr-22</u> | <u>2022</u>  | <u>2021</u>  | <u>2020</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Operating Revenue              | \$ 3,701,007  | \$ 5,046,506 | \$ 5,251,504 |             |
| Cost of Purchased Power        | \$ 2,209,443  | \$ 3,080,677 | \$ 3,224,719 |             |
| Other Operating Expenses       | \$ 1,299,588  | \$ 1,834,106 | \$ 1,909,019 |             |
| Total Cost of Electric Service | \$ 3,509,031  | \$ 4,914,783 | \$ 5,133,738 |             |
| Operating Margin (Loss)        | \$ 191,976    | \$ 131,723   | \$ 117,766   |             |
| Interest Income                | \$ 21,580     | \$ 26,569    | \$ 14,073    |             |
| Other Margins                  | \$ 27,407     | \$ (52,472)  | \$ (9,348)   |             |
| Capital Credits                | \$ 6,942      | \$ 11,526    | \$ 13,745    |             |
| Total Margins                  | \$ 247,905    | \$ 117,346   | \$ 136,236   |             |
| kWh Purchased                  | 36,228,609    | 41,440,314   | 46,487,311   |             |
| kWh Sold                       | 34,265,342    | 39,601,209   | 44,344,671   |             |
| Line Loss                      | 5.42%         | 4.44%        | 4.61%        |             |
| Members Billed                 | 5,916         | 6,308        | 6,371        |             |
| Average kWh Used, Residential  | 1,220         | 1,362        | 1,533        |             |
| Average Bill, Residential      | \$ 133.18     | \$ 160.31    | \$ 176.91    |             |
| Average Cost/kWh, Residential  | \$ 0.1092     | \$ 0.1177    | \$ 0.1154    |             |
| Interest Expense               | \$ 151,225    | \$ 115,844   | \$ 116,234   |             |

## Dates to Know...

**July 15:** Cookies in CLP Lobby

**July 25:** CLP Bills Due

**July 27:** CLP Board Meeting

**Aug 15:** Cookies in CLP Lobby

**Aug 24:** CLP Board Meeting

**Aug 25:** CLP Bills Due

*NOTE: CLP dates are subject to change*

To view a complete version of the latest CLP Board Meeting Minutes please go to:

<http://clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes>

*Cooperative Light & Power is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:**  
Call CLP at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 during business hours or 800.927.5550 after hours.

**BEFORE** calling, please check your breakers. If an outage is found to be on your side of the meter, you will be billed for a service call.

### SPOT YOUR NUMBER:

A \$20 electric credit is awarded each month to our faithful readers. Four account numbers are spelled out in each newsletter. If you find yours, notify CLP by the 25th of that month and a credit will be applied to your bill.

**Credits claimed for May:** Joseph Holtz, Jeff Eggen, and Patrick & Vicki O'Brien

**Credits not claimed:**

Mark Reiling

### OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

May Donations: \$1,698.68

Year-to-date Donations: \$8,405.73

Thank you to all the participants! If you have questions about Operation Round Up, or would like to apply for a grant from the Fund, please contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit our website at [www.clpower.com](http://www.clpower.com).