The next generation of voting members

While Jaycee, JJ and Jordan Entzel were too young to vote at this year’s Capital Electric Cooperative annual meeting, they are old enough to understand there are benefits to being a member-owner. In this month’s local pages, read a recap of the meeting and learn about other co-op benefits, including capital credit checks.

Capital Electric thanks members Josh and Stephanie Entzel for bringing their children to the annual meeting.
70th annual meeting recap
STORY AND PHOTOS BY CARMEN DEVNEY

Capital Electric Cooperative held its 70th annual meeting June 1 at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. More than 1,000 members and their families attended.

Capital Electric Cooperative held its 70th annual meeting June 1 at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. More than 1,000 members, families and guests attended to learn about cooperative issues; to collect a capital credit check if they qualified; to enjoy entertainment from Joe Friday’s Dixieland Jazz Band and eat a free meal; and to cast their vote and elect three members to serve on the board of directors.

This year, the board of directors approved the retirement of 50 percent of unretired “co-op” capital credits from 1999 totaling more than $481,000, which exclude capital credits allocated by the co-op’s generation and transmission providers. Employees distributed checks prior to the meeting. Unclaimed checks were mailed to members who were unable to attend.

During the business meeting, three members were elected to serve three-year terms on the board of directors. In District 1, incumbent Sheri Haugen-Hoffart was re-elected to the board. She has served as a director since June 2010. In District 2, the cooperative had one vacancy for a director residing in sub-district 2A. Richard Koski was the only candidate to reside in sub-district 2A, so he was elected by a voice vote of the membership prior to the election. Incumbent Arlene Olson was also re-elected to the board; she has represented district 2B for the past 24 years. The cooperative congratulates Haugen-Hoffart, Koski and Olson for being elected by the membership to serve a three-year term. The cooperative also thanks District 1 candidate Dave Charles, and District 2 candidates Andrew Frohlich, Arthur Hendrix and Vernon Laning, for vying for a board position and being active cooperative members.

After having served on the board of directors for 33 years, David Liuska, a Wing resident who represented District 2A, chose not to seek re-election. Capital Electric thanks him for the time, knowledge and experience he’s provided in the board room and at meetings across North Dakota and the United States over the years, representing electric cooperatives. We know this will provide David and his wife, Marcia, more time for work on the farm, and with family and friends.

The cooperative membership also voted on a bylaw amendment regarding redistricting. The Capital Electric board of directors had proposed an amendment to the bylaws to redefine the boundaries and the definitions of the director districts: from District 1 and District 2, with District 2 subdivided as Sub-District 2A and 2B; to District 1, District 2 and District 3. Agreeing with the need to have a more equal representation based on membership in each district, Capital Electric members voted in favor of the bylaw amendment. The board will move forward with the bylaw change, which will be effective with the annual meeting in 2017.

Business meeting highlights
The Capital Electric membership was welcomed by U.S. Congressman Kevin Cramer, as well as other candidates running for statewide and national government positions.

Nicole Lautenschlager, a certified public accountant with the auditing firm of Eide Bailly LLP, presented the annual financial report.

LeAna Hug, board president of the Charitable Trust, gave a report on the cooperative’s Operation Round Up program and urged members to opt into the program if they do not currently participate.
Natasha Hesse, a Century High School graduate, accepted the Capital Electric/Basin Electric Power Cooperative student scholarship. She plans to attend South Dakota State University, where she will study medicine in the hopes of becoming a pediatrician or obstetrician.

The president’s and manager’s combined report was given by Board President Dwight Wrangham and new Manager Paul Fitterer. Formerly the cooperative’s business manager, Fitterer took over as general manager in April, following the retirement of Lars Nygren.

Before the report was given, Wrangham asked for a moment of silence to remember those who have been associated with Capital Electric and passed; most recently, former general manager Syd Soma and longtime director Gene Hilken.

“Theyir dedication to the co-op was a tribute to our membership, and they will be remembered as leaders in the co-op community,” Wrangham said.

He and Fitterer then shared some of the past and current events and activities at Capital Electric, updated the membership on power-supply issues, and gave an update on the progress of infrastructure improvements.

**Updates on the transmission side included:**

- Central Power Electric Cooperative, Capital Electric’s power provider, has been making significant enhancements to Capital’s electric system to add reliability and redundancy in the transmission of power, and help Capital prepare for future growth.
- Basin Electric Power Cooperative, a power provider for Central Power, is reporting positive results from joining the Southwest Power Pool, a regional transmission organization. However, a decrease in activity in the Bakken, mild weather, and a reduction in natural gas and commodity prices are causing some negative effects in the industry. Basin Electric is also dealing with the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Power Plan, which would have an immediate impact on the cost of power in North Dakota and across the United States. Basin Electric is working with the EPA of North Dakota on how to comply with the EPA’s Clean Power Plan, assuming the plan moves forward. The generation and transmission cooperative continues to develop renewable energy resources and invest in emissions control technology to make its already clean generation fleet even cleaner.

**Updates on the distribution side included:**

- An .8 percent increase in kilowatt-hour sales in 2015;
- An increase of 722 new accounts in 2015, which represents an increase of 3.9 percent;
- Stable electric rates for the past four years, as Capital Electric has used revenue deferral dollars to offset the need for rate increases. The cooperative will continue to see significant wholesale rate pressures and anticipates a rate adjustment will be necessary later this year.
- Investments in technology, including SmartHub, the system that allows members to access their accounts by computer or mobile device. This fall, the cooperative is also expanding its use of mobile technology by bringing real-time connectivity to employees in the field. Work will be done electronically from the office to the field, improving efficiency, data accuracy and real-time service information.
- Investments in infrastructure: adding underground distribution line and retiring overhead line; rebuilding overhead line; and automating substations to provide real-time data and the ability to control substation breakers from headquarters.

Fitterer concluded by noting the cooperative did not have any lost-time accidents during 2015. “We want to thank everyone for their dedication and effort to safety and efficiency,” he said.
Director Liuska retires after 33 years of board service

BY CARMEN DEVNEY

At the annual meeting, Director David Liuska thanked the member-owners of Capital Electric Cooperative for supporting him and re-electing him for three decades. He said some of the biggest decisions he’s helped make in the board room over the years were supporting Basin Electric Power Cooperative during its purchase of Dakota Gasification Company; Capital Electric’s consolidation with Central Power Electric Cooperative; and the hiring of managers Lars Nygren and Paul Fitterer.

David Liuska retired from the Capital Electric Cooperative board of directors in June after completing his final three-year term. A representative of District 2A from Wing, David has served 33 years.

When Capital Electric brought electric service to the family farm southwest of Wing in 1950, David was just 4 years old. After the linemen had drilled holes for the poles, David accidentally fell in the hole where his transformer pole sits today. David remembers looking up and seeing sky, as his mother pulled him out of the hole. It was the start of his electric cooperative roots, and David proudly tells people they go “from the ground up.”

During his junior year of high school in 1964, David was asked to serve on Capital Electric’s junior board of directors. He was one of nine students to attend meetings at the former cooperative headquarters on Airport Road in Bismarck. During his one-year term, two Capital Electric employees took the junior board to Minnesota, where they toured a nuclear power plant and attended a Minnesota Twins baseball game against the New York Yankees.

In 1981, David went on a young couple’s cooperative tour with his late wife, Diane. The next year he was asked to serve as a board director. He ran and was elected by the membership. The members have continued to support and re-elect him ever since.

To help him understand the continually changing electric industry, David attended formal training through the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association and the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, and earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director certification and a Board Leadership Certificate.

Over the years he has attended trainings and workshops, and represented electric cooperatives locally, regionally and nationally, through many co-ops in the electric cooperative network.

“It’s been a good, long run,” he reflects. He noted the time commitment involved in learning the history of electric cooperatives and where they are headed in the future, and says he feels the three decades he has spent representing cooperatives has given Capital Electric continuity.

David says he wants to retire from the board while he and his wife, Marcia, still enjoy life.

“Two and two make four yet. Once they don’t, it’s time to quit,” he says.

The couple lives in Wing, but David has kept the family farm south of Wing. He still makes hay for 90 cows and rents out much of the pasture and hay land. Now that he will have more time, he plans to redo pasture fence, tear down old buildings and clean up his “million-dollar” machinery rows. He says 80 percent of his bucket list involves sprucing up the farm. In his spare time, he will come home and give Marcia his famous “two-minute notice” that it’s time for a road trip. When they get in the car, it seems to know what casino to visit.

David is also retiring from many of the activities he has been heavily involved with in Wing. Over the years, he’s been active in the Wing horse club, fire department, theater, cemetery, American Legion, the Wing-Tuttle Color Guard, and his church. He does plan to remain active with the American Legion.

To pass the time, he and Marcia plan to take some day trips close to home including one to the Dale and Martha Hawk Museum in Wolford. Also in his recommended “Top 10” tourist attractions to visit within a short distance include the Pfennig Wildlife Museum in Beulah, the Paul Broste Rock Museum in Parshall and the petrified rock park in Lemmon, S.D. A former marine from 1965 to 1968, David also plans to go to Quantico, Va., to see the National Marine Corps Museum. He may also see his two sons and one granddaughter more often.

While David says he will miss the comradery of all the directors he’s met, visited with and learned from over the years, he knows Capital Electric is in good hands and feels peace in leaving the board.

“Lars trained Paul well,” he says.

“The cooperative will continue to grow and prosper.”

Capital Electric Cooperative thanks David Liuska for his 33 years of dedication to the cooperative and its member-owners, and wishes him well.
Capital credit claims

Listed below are the names of former Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. members who have capital credit checks mailed to them in June of the year 2010. These checks have been returned to Capital Electric Cooperative by the postal service because they could not locate the members at the address on file. A further search by Capital Electric personnel has not turned up their whereabouts.

If you received electrical service from Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. any time during the year 1994 and your name is on this list, please contact our office. If you know of the whereabouts of members on this list who received electrical service from Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc. any time during the year 1994, please have them contact our office at 701-223-1513.

Please keep in mind that not all of the capital credit amounts are large. However, we desire to get the money due to those who earned it, and clear up our records.

We will redeem capital credits for those members on the following list who notify us prior to Dec. 1, 2016. Notice is hereby given that any of the aforementioned unclaimed capital credits outstanding after Dec. 1, 2016 will be forfeited pursuant to Section 10-15-34.1 and 10-15-23 of the North Dakota Century Code.

1ST NOTICE - JULY 2016

4 L Mfg Inc.
Aberle, Dave
Adams, John T.
Adv Business Methods
Allen, Lee H.
Allen, Linda B.
Anderson, Harlie J.
Anderson, Mike
Anderson, Ruth M.
Ash, Jennifer
Bachmeier, Kelly
Banyai, Frank A.
Banyai, Joyce J.
Bauer, Delia D.
Bauer, Duane E.
Berger, David
Bice, Leitha
Bickler, Jeffrey S.
Big Eagle, Kathleen
Big Valley Gravel Supply
Binder, Lonnie J.
Binder, Pamela J.
Blue Bird, Leah
Boeshans, David
Bosch, Tracy
Braley, Cynthia
Brandler, Missy
Burke, Thomas A.
Canada, Joe
Canada, William
Cayce, Dorothy
Chapa, Philip
Chase, Woodrow
Couch, Constance
Condon, Lori K.
Condon, William R.
Conrad, Craig M.
Cornell, James F.
Couch, Constance
Curry, Woodrow
Custer, Shelley
Dauenhauer, Corrina
DBA Sams Body Shop
Devillers, Jeffrey M.
Diehl, Lois
Dinius, George L.
Dinius, Marilyn M.
Doerr, Candace K.
Doll, Cecelia
Doll, Kent
Dorscher, Marie
Draper, Bruce
Drader, Raye
Duffy, Julie
Dyak, Nataliya
Dyak, Petr
EC&G Dynatrend
Ell, Tim
Emerson, John M.
Emerson, Sherry
Engelhard, Richard G.
Erath, Lisa
Erickson, Jacki
Erickson, Tara
Erickson, Yvette D.
Essler, Leon
Evan-Curry, Pinkie
Feist, John J.
Ferdig, Jeanette L.
Ferdig, Vincent D.
Field, Donald B.
Finneman, Ronald
Fitzgerald, Krist
Fitzgerald, Michael
Flemmer, Gary
Forsberg, Jeffrey C.
Fox, Bridget D.
Frank, Sandra
Fred, Laurie J.
Frey, Terry G.
Fries, Lester
Fries, Sandie
Frison, Michael
Frohlich, Angie
Garrison, David L.
Garrison, Linda M.
Geico Financial Services
Geige, Brian
Gerhardt, Frederick
Gerhardt, Lynne
Giannarelli, Shari
Giannarelli, Todd
Gifford, Patricia J.
Girard, Karen L.
Girard, Michael W.
Glass, Becky
Grabber, Kim A.
Graves, John T.
Gruntz, Alme
Gab Ino
Gustafson, John E.
H & H Warehousing
Hager, Tom
Hall, Jodie
Haman, Brian
Haman, Cassandra K.
Haman, Jay A.
Hames, Lex
Hame, Craig H.
Hame, Lisa M.
Hanson, Donald T.
Hanson, Scott D.
Hanson, Stan
Hanson, Sylvia J.
Haugen, Marnie
Heatlton, Harriet
Hehn, Carrie
Heinman, Bob
Heinen, Dennis
Hebling, Todd
Hilliard, Deanna
Hilliard, Howard
Hinkel, Mark L.
Hlavacek, Marie
Evelyn
Hoffman, Tonya
Holter, Daniel R.
Hove, Heidi J.
Hove, Sydney M.
Howells, Virginia A.
Huber, Audrey
Huber, Gerald R.
Huber, Mary G.
Huck, Mack
Huck, Monica
Hudson, Lavina
Hutt, Tara
Inga, Samuel
Iverson, Lynn
Iverson, Lynn R.
Jacobs, Lester D.
Jenkins, Brian D.
Jensen, Dennis W.
Johnson, Jolette R.
Joyce, Alice M.
Karrington Cottage
Kaufman, Cory
Keller, Deborah
Keller, Jerome J.
Keller, Leon H.
Keller, Ralph J.
Keller, Russell
Kendall, Darlene
Kendall, Roger
Kennedy, Craig Dennis.
Ketterling, Natheran A.
Kling, Christy
Kirschnann, Manufacturing Co.
Klein, Jennifer
Knecht, Paul J.
Knudson, Karyl
Koch, Mike
Koch, Trina
Kolen, Darcy
Kolen, Mike
Kosch, Greg
Kraft, Kim
Kramer, Sarah K.
Kuehl, Lori A.
Kuehl, Paul
Kuehl, Paul D.
Kulish Construction
Labrenz, Tim
Lacher, Donna M.
Lab, Sandy
Landgren, Jim
Lane, Gary
Larson, Alan
Lauer, Paula Jo.
Lousch, Lachelle
Lousch, Mitch
Lynch, Michael L.
Markets Cellular L P
Marquart, Tracy L.
Martinson, William
McCullar, William A.
Mogavero, Linda A.
Mcmains, Marvell
Mcnary, Brad
Mcnary, Laurie
Mees, Larry
Meier, Tammy
Meisner, Janice
Melby, Steven J.
Melde, Dean T.
Messer, Mark
Messer, Shelly
Metz, Angela
Metzger, Shawn
Meyers, Tammy
Michelson, Amy Jo.
Miller, Janice
Moch, Nathan
Moen, Kim
Moen, Phylis
Molinaro, Daniel J.
Moore, Terry R.
Moritz, Tim
Morris, Brett A.
Morris, Margaret
Morris, David W.
Morris, Paula M.
Mosbrucker, Joe P.
Mosset, Charon
Motis, Kim R.
Mueller, Glenn
Mueller, Sherry
Murray, Allan J.
Nelson, Eugene
Nelson, Kristi Jo.
Nerby, Matt
Niles, Mary
Norby, Timothy S.
Nordstrom, James A.
O'Neill, Bernard J.
O'Neill, Brenda N.
Oeddemann, Nancy
Olauson, Leroy
Oliver, Richard T.
Ottmar, Betty L.
Ottmar, Dennis R.
Parmer, Vicki L.
Parson, G T.
Parson, Katherine
Pederson, Stephanie
Pederson, Trelf
Pennington, Jolyn
Perro, Joelle A.
Peterson, Carissa
Peterson, Chad A.
Peterson, Elaine
Peterson, Linda M.
Peterson, Marlene E.
Peterson, Thomas R.
Pfaltz, Deb
Platz, Francis
Platz, Thomas
Pochard, Toni Rae
Rader, Diana
Renneau, Leta
Rice, Carrie A.
Rice, Donald A.
Richter, Steve
Richter, Traci
Rickett, Nancy L.
Ritz, Ricki
Roberts, Greta T.
Rogerson, Tracy
Roth, Donovan W.
Roth, Marcone J.
Rush, Donald Z.
Rusk, Kelley
Sabat, Lisa
Sailer, J. T.
Sailer, Ramona
Sanders, Billy D.
Sanders, Carolyn R.
Sarkhavan, Vladmir
Sarkhavan, Nina
Saxvik, Dale R.
Sayer, Joyce A.
Sayer, Mark A.
Schafer, Anthony
Schafer, Esther V.
Schafer, Robert J.
Schan, Glenda
Schroth, Ric
Schantz, Bryan
Schneider, Christina H.
Schneider, Delton
Schneider, Joseph S.
Schrenk, Kevin R.
Schrenk, Mary Kay.
Seiler, Timothy J.
Senn, Amy
Serra, Raymond L.
Sig, Jerry
Sigl, Michelle
Simpson, Linda
Skarr, Donald
Skarr, Sandra
Skudahl, Sandra
Slater, Jeremy D.
Smith, Kristine H.
Smith, Marjorie E.
Smith, Nicole
Smith, Peggy
Smith, Robert
Solberg, Larry D.
Sorensen, Angela
Stein, Tammy
Stemen, Sharon
Stenson, Elaine
Stolz, Donald E.
Strom, Randell
Stute, Evelyn J.
Swope, Jeff
Swope, Tammy
Thompson, Dale L.
Tibbits, Mary
Timmings, Vicky
Tysdal, Darleen
Tysdal, Mike
Ulmer, Jerrod
Ulmer, Valerie
United States Marshall Service
Urbanek, Dorenda
Utcher, Glenn J.
USDA Rural Development
Vetter, Delean
Vetter, Mary
Volk, Barbara
Volk, Marsh
Volk, Richard
Wagner, Bernadette
Wagner, David
Wahl, Leah
Wahl, Stacy L.
Wahl, Todd J.
Wegner, LaVonne L.
Weinberger, Clem
Weiss, Rhonda
Weltch, Holly A.
Weston, Andrew M.
Weston, Jan
Witch, One Auto
White, Lonnie
White, Scott A.
White, Sheila A.
White, Tressie
Wicks, Timothy J.
Wiley, Kim
Williams, Bev
Williams, James A.
Williams, Janie S.
Williams, John
Williams, John Ed.
Wilson, Evelyn M.
Wilson, Ray P.
Wise, Glenn D.
Wolf, Caye
Wolf, Kenneth
Wolf, Leon L.
Wolf, Terri L.
Wood, Jeffrey A.
Wood, Tim
Young, David J.
Young, Pamela M.
Zahn, Karen K.
Zahn, Robert D.
Zerr, Ardis K.
Zillier, Elizabeth
Members of the Dynamite Kids 4-H Club studied photography this spring during a monthly meeting. Longtime club member and former leader Lynn Moser gave them tips on lighting, composition, focus and perspective. Some of the participants include, from left: Scout Wheeler, Gabriel Hinks, Kadee McKenzie, Sydney Berg and Mary Jane Hinks.

In May during their monthly meeting, members of the Dynamite Kids 4-H Club brought their cell phones and digital cameras, and listened to a presentation on how to take better pictures. Lynn Moser, a Capital Electric Cooperative member and one of the founding leaders of the club, asked the kids to think about the subject of interest and depth of field, light and shadows, perspective high and low — and fill the frame before capturing a moment in time. She also advised them to shoot and shoot and shoot. Out of 10 photos taken, one might stand out based on the light, focus, composition and perspective.

Develop life skills
4-H is a fun, learn-by-doing educational program for young people. Cultivated by the North Dakota State University Extension Service, 4-H helps students develop citizenship, leadership, responsibility and life skills through experiential learning programs and a positive youth development approach.

The Dynamite Kids 4-H Club is one of 22 county clubs and 3 afterschool clubs in Burleigh County. Capital Electric Cooperative members Julie and Paul Fornshell became involved in the club years ago to involve their daughters, Carly and Nicole, with learning projects and community service. Julie and Doreen Swenson are the current leaders of the club, which has 13 members and many very involved parents.

“The parents of our club members are very valuable to our club,” says Fornshell. “They assist with teaching and providing lessons, and assisting in many, many ways.”

The club chooses projects based on the interest of its members that might result in something the kids can take to Achievement Days. Some past presentations have included cooking and baking, making crafts and homemade ropes. Last year, members planted flowers in old cowboy boots, rain boots and tennis shoes, and showed them as horticulture projects at Achievement Days.

Fornshell says not all meetings and presentations are project-related. A couple months ago, one member’s father gave a demonstration on prosthetics. “Whatever the kids learn, it is always related to life knowledge and skills,” she says.

It is also often related to community service. In the past, the Dynamite Kids 4-H Club has assisted with preparing food baskets for the American Legion Open Your Heart campaign, and helped put together birthday party items for kids whose parents cannot afford to give them a special day.

Fornshell participated in 4-H as a child, and says she wanted her
Paul and Julie Fornshell live northwest of Bismarck. Paul is a farmer and rancher who raises cattle and crops. Julie works for the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District and is a leader of the Dynamite Kids 4-H Club. The couple has two daughters.

Carly is a senior at Century High School. She is involved in basketball, track, 4-H and student council.

Nicole is a freshman at Century High School. She is involved in track and volleyball, band, student council and 4-H.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Some of the many benefits of being a 4-H member include participating in educational and interesting hands-on activities, enjoying parent involvement and learning life skills. Pictured here are club member Jaylee Mernaugh and club leader Doreen Swenson.

daughters to have similar experiences and opportunities. From donating to food pantries and giving speeches, to making projects like tie blankets to decorate bedrooms and give as homemade gifts, the value of the 4-H program has been endless.

“Our kids have had to be secretary and treasurer for the club, so they learned how to balance a checkbook, write checks and take meeting minutes,” she says. “4-H always goes back to the development of life skills.”

Fornshell notes that not all students excel in athletics or music, or other areas associated with school. Because of the diversity of programs available through 4-H and the hands-on learning among students, leaders and parents, all children can learn and grow in 4-H.

“When the parents are involved, the kids get more out of it,” Fornshell notes. “Sometimes I’m helping a kid with a project and wonder if I’m helping too much. That’s okay! I’m spending time with my daughters, and they are learning.”

Get involved

Families can join a local 4-H club at any time. The official start of the year is Sept. 1; planning is held every autumn featuring many kick-off activities. Achievement Days (exhibition of small and large animals, and static projects) and the North Dakota State Fair are held in July.

To learn more about 4-H or to find a club in the Capital Electric Cooperative service area close to you, contact Amelia Doll, the 4-H youth development extension agent in Burleigh County, at 701-221-6865 or Amelia.Doll@ndsu.edu.

Meet your Capital Electric Cooperative neighbors

▶Paul and Julie Fornshell live northwest of Bismarck. Paul is a farmer and rancher who raises cattle and crops. Julie works for the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District and is a leader of the Dynamite Kids 4-H Club. The couple has two daughters.

▶Carly is a senior at Century High School. She is involved in basketball, track, 4-H and student council.

▶Nicole is a freshman at Century High School. She is involved in track and volleyball, band, student council and 4-H.

ACHIEVEMENT DAYS

The culmination of the 4-H Year!

July 8th through the 14th at the Joann Hetzel Memorial 4-H Building and the Missouri Valley Complex Outdoor Arena, Bismarck

- Friday, July 8, 9:30 a.m. Horse Show featuring showmanship, western and speed events.
- Tuesday, July 12, 8 p.m. Static Night in which youth showcase their photography, baked goods, drawings, potted plants and other exhibits.
- Wednesday, July 13, 6 p.m. Small Animal youth show featuring rabbits, poultry, cats, dogs and other pets.
- Thursday, July 14, 9:30 a.m. Livestock Day featuring beef, goats, sheep and hogs.
Board minute excerpts
May 20, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Capital Electric Cooperative, Inc., was held at co-op headquarters in Bismarck, North Dakota, pursuant to due notice to all directors.

All of the directors were present at that time, except Josh Kramer.

Financial review: Prior to the board meeting, Directors Haugen-Hoffart and Liussa reviewed the April 2016 check register and expenditures. They reported all checks were in order. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve April expenditures in the amount of $2,989,024.40.

Business Department report: The Manager and Business Manager presented the financial and statistical report with the Board. The total kilowatt-hour sales for April 2016 were below budget by 2.71 percent. The actual monthly electric revenue was below budget by 2.38 percent. The total margin for April was -$21,079 compared to the budgeted margin of $58,906, below budget by $79,985.

Capital Electric began billing 59 new services in April, bringing active services to 19,336 versus 18,623 at this time last year, or a net increase of 713 accounts over the last 12 months.

The Manager reviewed the comparison of actual-to-budgeted expenses for the month of April 2016. Accounts receivable balances as of May 19, 2016, were reviewed.

Aflac: Aflac representatives visited the cooperative on May 17 and made a presentation to the employees regarding the various products.

General retirement credits: The general retirement was prepared for the annual meeting. The amount was $481,031.61. The retirement is for the remaining balance of the Capital Electric allocation from 1999.

RUS loan advance: A Rural Utilities Service loan advance request was submitted in the amount of $2 million.

2015 IRS Form 990 submission: The 2015 IRS Form 990 was filed by the Board President on May 13, 2016.

WSI ergonomic grant (Phase 2): Capital Electric has been approved by North Dakota Workforce Safety & Insurance to pursue an ergonomic review that will facilitate the opportunity for a grant opportunity that it is offering.

CFC Integrity Fund: The Cooperative received a letter from National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC) requesting participation in their Integrity Fund. It was moved, seconded and carried to donate $500 to the CFC Integrity Fund.

Estate retirements: Following review of the financial condition of the cooperative and recommendation by management, it was moved, seconded and carried to authorize payment of capital credits to the following deceased members’ estates:

- Lee Selland $4,583.83
- Roy Bauer $2,209.34
- Duane Keller $714.32
- James G. Froelich $895.41
- Janice LaCoe $660.35
- TOTAL $9,063.25

Engineering and Operations report: The Manager reviewed the written report from the Engineering and Operations department. We completed 23 work orders this month, adding 13 new consumers to the system.

Fisher Contracting, Gieser Utility Contracting and Third Generation continue to trenched in new services. VIP continues to work on overhead and rural rebuild. Fisher Contracting also has been installing our 500 mcm URD cable along north Washington Street from 57th Avenue N.W. to Aspen Avenue as the city is widening Washington Street to a four-lane. They also are rerouting some of our URD cable to accommodate the new roundabout on Highway 10 and 66th Street.

Policy No. E-2 was reviewed by management and the Board. It was moved, seconded and carried to amend Policy No. E-2 to require operations employees to reside within a 30-minute drive from the specified office or outpost.

Member Services department: The Manager reviewed the member service written report.

Office remodel: Capital City Construction began work after last month’s board meeting and has progressed with the remodel work.

Solar energy: We have been researching the solar energy aspects of distributed generation in an attempt to get more information from material suppliers.

ERC loans: There are no Energy Resource Conservation loans for the Board to consider.

Communications and Public Relations department: Topics of interest were discussed with the Board. Wes Engbrecht reported on the guests speaking at the annual meeting.

Final Nominating Committee results: The Nominating Committee met April 12 and put forth a slate of seven candidates for the three open board positions.

4-H presentation: Lineman Seth Lothspeich and Engbrecht presented a safety demonstration to a group of 4-H members at the Burleigh County Extension office on May 3, 2016. Engbrecht spoke to them about electrical safety and Lothspeich demonstrated some of the safety equipment he uses.

Safety report: There were no lost-time accidents this month.

Steve Homes, safety instructor from the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC), was at our shop on May 4, 2016 going over May Day procedures with the office staff and conducting pole-top rescue for the linemen.

The members of the Safety Committee are Luke Steen, Jeff Holzer, Brad Johnson, Jessie Goehring and Jessi Hummel. They will meet at least as often as quarterly.

Menards case: Following discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried that the cooperative will withdraw its objection and complaint in the two companion issues to the Menards case.

Central Power Electric Cooperative report: Hilken reviewed Central Power matters.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative report: Director Presser says there is a good chance of a rate increase this fall.

NDAREC: There was no meeting this month. The next meeting is scheduled for May 23, 2016. Vilhauer was elected as the Capital Electric representative on the Statewide board. Eckroth was elected alternate.

RDFc grant program: It was moved to make a grant request for $2,000. The motion failed for lack of second.

NRECA Legislative conference: Fitterer gave the highlights of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association conference.

CoBank conference: Vilhauer and Eckroth discussed this conference and the Board approved their attendance if they so desire.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, without objection, the regular meeting was adjourned at 1:45 am.