

# News FOR YOU...

## Breakfast, Director Elections, and a Chance to Win one of 12-\$100 Cash Prizes

Join us for Barron Electric Cooperative's 87th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 25 at the Barron High School. Bring your March electric bill statement to the meeting to register. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and will feature a FREE breakfast served by the Barron VFW Post 8338 including eggs, sausage, pancakes, and beverages. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m., and members will elect directors to Districts 2, 4, and 8. Ron Franz, Dairyland's Director of Resource and Energy Planning, will discuss clean energy and renewables.



### Prizes

We will hold a drawing for twelve \$100 cash prizes. Members must be present to win. Employees and directors are not eligible to win. All members and guests will receive a pound of cheese as an attendance gift.

### Designated Voters

Please contact the Member Service Department at 800-322-1008 or [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) to request a form to designate

*(continued on page 4)*

## Official Notice: Barron Electric Cooperative's 87th Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 25 at the Barron High School in Barron with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 2, 4, and 8
- Presentation of reports
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof.

Dated this 22nd day of  
February 2023  
Scott Warwick, Secretary



*Board President Randy Cook visited with members at Barron Electric's 86th annual meeting.*



# \*Condensed Board Minutes

December 21, 2022



David Olson represents District 1 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors, which includes the following

townships: Brooklyn, Gull Lake, Stinnett, Hayward, Scott, Casey, Trego, Springbrook, Bass Lake, and Rusk.

- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #101148 thru #101268 of CCF Bank in the amount of \$415,162 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$25,137. Total receipts in the office - \$1,625,173; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$116,754; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$1,230,689; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$99,847 and power bill paid in the amount of \$2,002,095.
- Form 219 summarizing construction activity for the month of November in the amount of \$281,747.94 was presented for approval and included new services - \$105,570.95; change jobs - \$29,843.02; Other Work Order Projects - \$146,333.97 and 2 retirements. The Form 219 stood approved as presented.

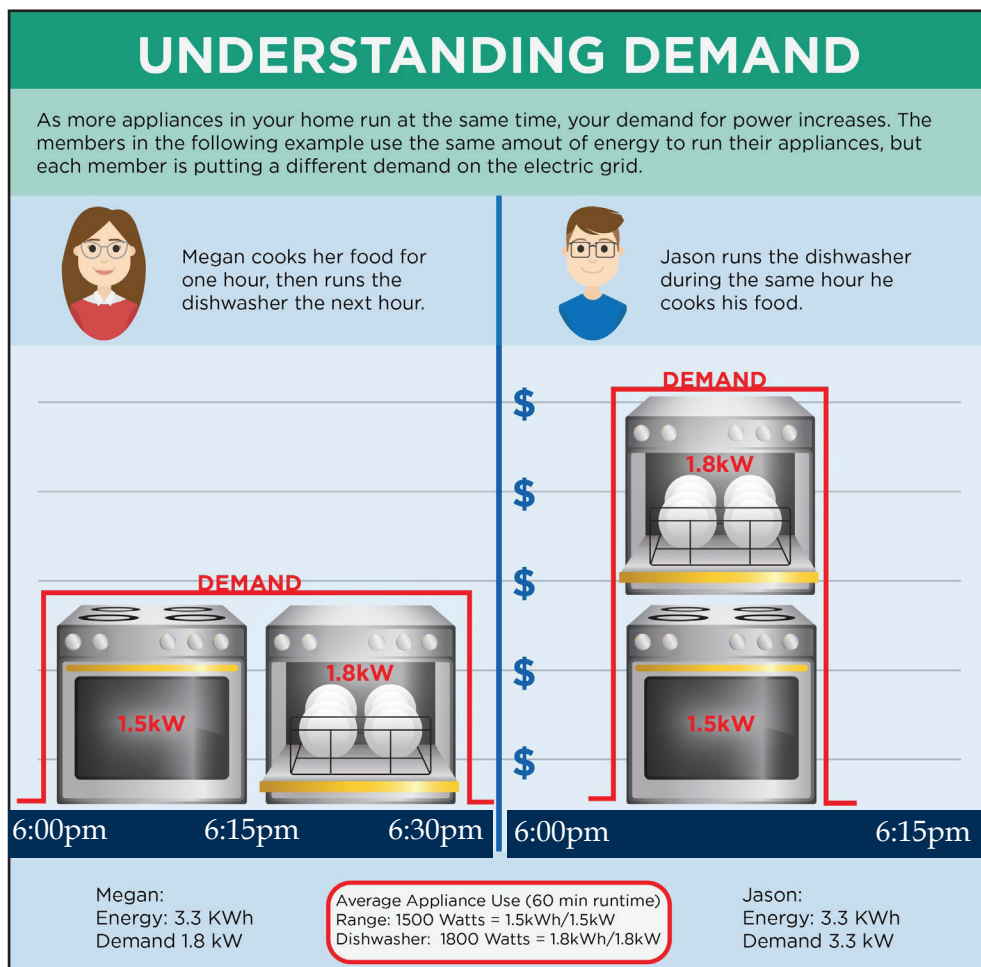
\* View full board minutes on SmartHub at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com).

## Demand Reading on Electric Bill

Demand is how much electricity you use at one time and is measured in kilowatts (kW). For example, if you have ten 100-watt light bulbs on at the same time, the demand would be 1,000 watts, or 1 kW. If you then use your 1,000-watt microwave while these lights are on, your demand would increase by 1,000 watts to a total of 2,000 watts, or 2 kW.

Electric demand is not the same as electric consumption. Your electric consumption, a measure of how much electricity you use over a given time period, is billed in kilowatt-hours (kWh). If you ran the ten lights for one hour, that would be billed to you as 1 kWh because they consumed 1 kW for one hour.

Barron Electric wants to ensure we generate enough electricity for all of our members. That's why it's important for us to calculate our members' demand.



## Save with Auto Pay

Save time and money when you sign up for Auto Pay at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com). Click on SmartHub to get started. Your name will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

## Congratulations Survey Winners

Thank you to our members who completed the online survey. We greatly appreciate your feedback. Congratulations to the following members who were randomly selected to win a \$25 electric bill credit including: Timothy Dulac, Thomas Fischer, Irvin Humphrey, and Jeffrey Lyons.

# Rising Costs Affecting Electric Rates

Barron Electric works hard to keep rates stable and affordable. Barron Electric's last rate increase was in 2018. Barron Electric's Board of Directors approved a 2.7% rate increase to help cover the rising costs to deliver safe, reliable power.

## How will this affect members?

The average residential member using 1,200 kilowatt hours will see an increase of \$4.80 per month. Barron Electric will be evaluating future rates and rate options to help members save money.

## Increasing Costs

Inflation has affected the cost to deliver reliable power from equipment to contractors. Our wholesale power charges are up over 6% as a result of higher market prices and the high cost of natural gas which is used to generate electricity. Nearly 70% of our members' bills are used to purchase wholesale power.

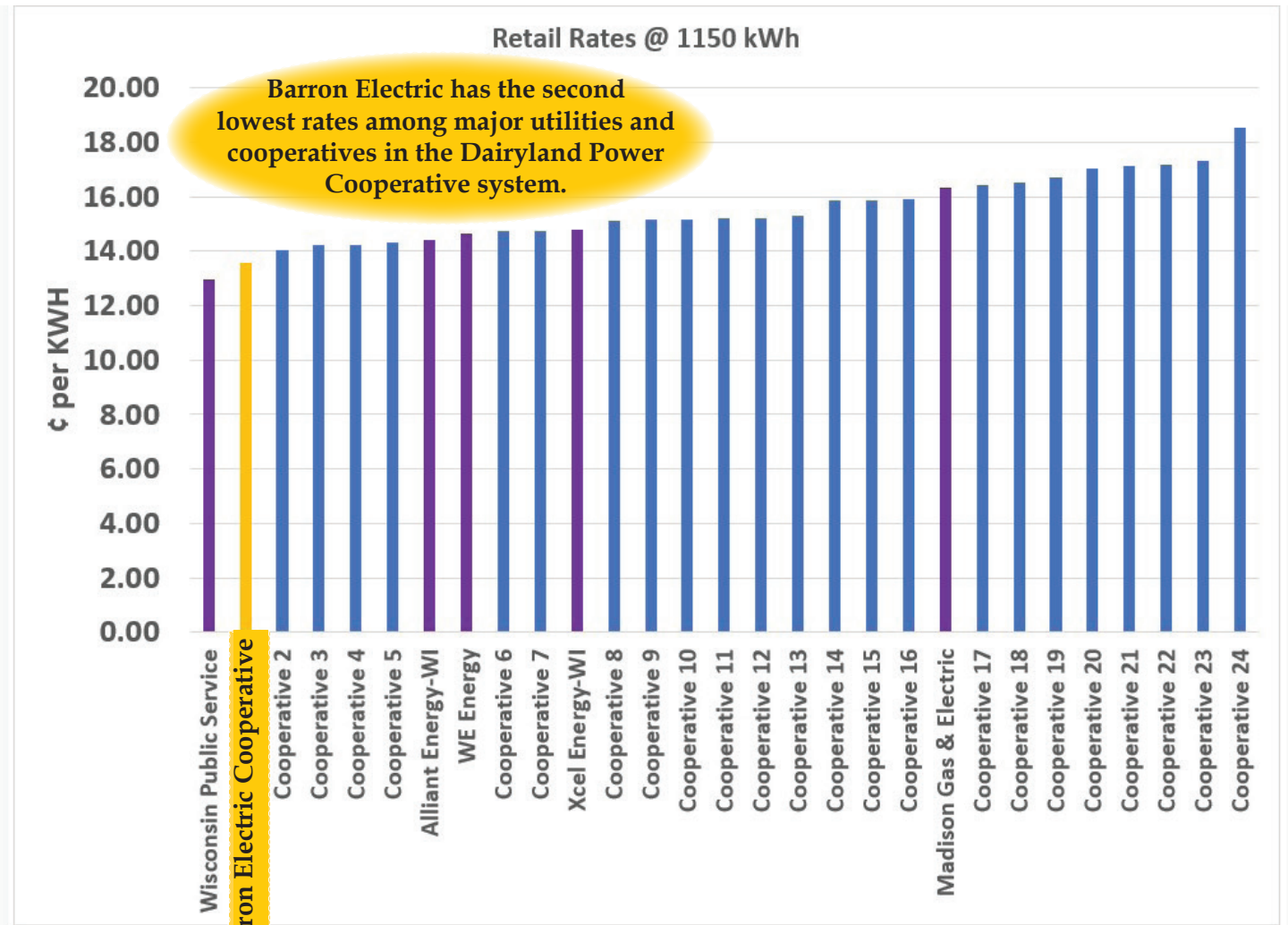
## Energy saving tips and Energy Star® rebates

Members can access their account at [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com)

through SmartHub and view their daily usage while comparing temperatures and previous usage. Check out our *Use Energy Wisely* brochure, available on our website, for energy saving tips. Buying a new Energy Star® appliance? Check our website to see if it qualifies for a rebate. Visit [touchstoneenergy.com](http://touchstoneenergy.com) for energy saving ideas.



## 2022 Retail Rates Among Major Utilities and Electric Cooperatives in Wisconsin



# Annual Meeting

(continued from cover)

a representative from your organization to vote at the annual meeting.

## Need a Ride to the Annual Meeting?

A shuttle service will be available to the annual meeting on Saturday, March 25 for those members living in the northern part of Barron Electric's service territory. The shuttle will leave at 8 a.m. from Barron Electric's Spooner office located at 1550 Paulson Drive. Please contact the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008 or [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) to sign up.

## Food Donations Needed

Bring a food donation for the Cameron Food Pantry. They are in need of soups, cereals, tuna, any types of soaps, and monetary donations.

## Kids' Program Eliminated

Due to low attendance during the past few years, the Kids' Program has been eliminated to help reduce expenses. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## News FOR YOU...

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If you have any comments regarding the  
newsletter, please e-mail  
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*Barron Electric is an equal  
opportunity provider.*

# March into Savings



Lower your energy bill with these energy saving ideas.

- ▶ Are you changing your air filters regularly?  
Dirty air filters make your system work harder, especially in older systems.
- ▶ When was the last time you had your AC and furnace inspected?  
Yearly and seasonal maintenance are key to preventing costly repairs and also extends the unit life.
- ▶ Are you using space heaters?  
Space heaters are just as expensive to run as an inefficient heating system.
- ▶ Do you have a fireplace?  
Fireplaces can take heat out though the chimney when not used. Keep the flue closed when not in use.
- ▶ What is the temperature of your water heating system?  
Your system should not be set any higher than 115° Fahrenheit for a one to two person home and 120° Fahrenheit for a three or more person home.
- ▶ How old is your refrigerator and freezer?  
If your refrigerator and freezer are more than 15 years old, upgrade to a more efficient Energy Star® unit. Older units must work harder to keep food and beverages cool. Visit [barronelectric.com](http://barronelectric.com) for rebates on Energy Star® appliances.

## Monthly Photo Contest Winner Receives a \$50 Credit

E-mail your spring photo to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) for a chance to win a \$50 credit on your electric bill. Criteria for the photos include:

- Photos must have a horizontal orientation (landscape) and must be high resolution, 300 dpi or higher.
- Member must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to [memberservices@barronelectric.com](mailto:memberservices@barronelectric.com) by March 10, 2023. Include your Barron Electric account number, address, and phone number.
- By submitting your photo, you are granting Barron Electric permission to use your photo in a variety of publications and on our website.

