

Barron Electric Cooperative
February 2022
Photo by Tammy Lagenfeld

News FOR YOU...

86th Annual Meeting to Include Breakfast, \$100 Electricity Credits, and an Update from Dairyland Power Cooperative

Barron Electric Cooperative's 86th Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 26 at the Barron High School. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. and will feature a breakfast served by the Barron VFW Post 8338 including eggs, sausage, pancakes, and beverages. The breakfast is a fundraiser for the Barron VFW. The business meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. Members will elect directors to represent Districts 3, 6, and 9. Director nominations and resolutions are due Monday, February 14. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 800-322-1008 or e-mail barronec@barronelectric.com.

*Cooperative Principle #2
Democratic Member
Control*

There will be a Kids' Program for those age 5-12 including a variety of activities. Two Fire Kid's Tablets will be awarded. Barron Electric will be awarding \$100 electricity credits to twelve members at the conclusion of the meeting. Members must be present to win.



Brent Ridge, President and CEO of Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be the guest speaker.



More than 400 members and guests attended Barron Electric's 85th Annual Meeting. Kids enjoyed crafts, games, and facepainting. Join us for the 86th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 26. Registration starts at 7 a.m. with the business meeting following at 10 a.m.



Access My Account

What information will you find when you access your account through SmartHub at barronelectric.com? You will see your daily readings compared to temperatures, a comparison of usage, your payment history, and communication alerts. There is no charge for this service. Sign up today at barronelectric.com.

Your Donation Matters Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Take time to give blood:

Blood Drive

Friday, February 25, 2022

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Barron Electric Cooperative
1434 State Hwy 25 North
Barron

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Barron Electric to schedule an appointment.



Employee Spotlight



Meet Jeff Nelson, Barron Electric's Line Superintendent for the Barron line crew. Jeff started at the cooperative in 1985 as a mechanic, then became a journeyman lineman. In 2009, he was promoted to Line Superintendent. He plans and supervises work for the construction, operation, maintenance and repair of the cooperative's electric distribution system. Jeff said, "I enjoy working with the line crews to help provide reliable power to our members." Jeff has two sons; and enjoys raising horses.



Jeff points to the system map to give instruction to the Barron Line Crew on their next project.

Cooperative Effort Helps Support Local Organizations

In 2021, Barron Electric employees, directors and the cooperative donated over \$8,000 to several organizations through a matching gift program. "This program reflects our employees and directors' commitment to community," said Barron Electric's General Manager Aaron Torud.

Some of the organizations who received donations include: Rice Lake Community Health Foundation, Friends of Railroad Park, Barron VFW Post 8338, Barron Community Fund, and Community Cat Rescue & Adoption Center.

*Principle #7:
Concern for
Community*

Increasing Reliability in Spooner



Linemen Jason Kircher, JT Gunderson, and Ben Valentin wear rubber gloves to replace equipment and insulators. Rubber gloving allows the lines to remain energized while work is completed to avoid service interruptions, thereby increasing reliability on our system.

Making a Difference in Chetek

The Chetek Area Museum collects, promotes, and interprets the history of the Chetek area. Claudia Wold serves as President of the Board for the museum and is Barron Electric's Megawatt Community Service Award winner. She has also served as the secretary/treasurer. Claudia has assisted with tours of the museum and has helped with grounds maintenance. Approximately 1,000 people visit the museum annually, with visitors from as far away as Germany, Puerto Rico, and Scandinavia.



Member Claudia Wold is Barron Electric's Megawatt Community Service Award Winner.

Nominate a Member for the Megawatt Community Service Award

Barron Electric is led by members like you who understand and listen to the community. Nominate a member for the Megawatt Community Service Award. Each winner will receive a \$50 electric bill credit. Application forms can be found at barronelectric.com in the community area or by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-322-1008.



Barron Electric to Award \$28,000 in Scholarships

Barron Electric is offering two \$1,000 Cooperative Achievement Scholarship opportunities to each of the following schools: Barron, Birchwood, Cameron, Chetek-Weyerhaeuser, Clayton, Clear Lake, Cumberland, Hayward, New Auburn, Prairie Farm, Rice Lake, Shell Lake, Spooner and Turtle Lake. Applicants must have parents or guardians that are Barron Electric Cooperative members. Please check with the school counselor's office to obtain an application and the eligibility requirements.

Abbie Schradle, one of last year's winners, remarked, "I am very thankful to have been selected for your scholarship, which will greatly help in my post-secondary education endeavors." Barron Electric's General Manager Aaron Torud said, "We are proud to help high school seniors achieve their goals. Barron Electric has awarded more than \$340,000 since 1985."

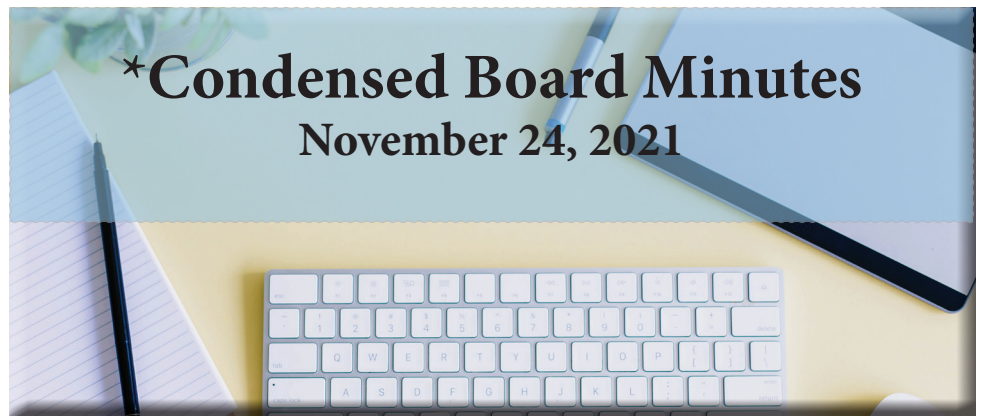


Monthly Photo Contest

Winners receive a \$50 Credit

E-mail your winter photo to 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.
- Must own rights to the photo.
- E-mail your digital image to memberservices@barronelectric.com by February 8, 2022. 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.



*Condensed Board Minutes November 24, 2021

Bill Effertz serves on Barron Electric's Board of Directors and represents District 8, which includes the townships of Crystal Lake, Almena, Clayton, Turtle Lake, Arland, Clear Lake, Vance Creek, Prairie Farm, New Haven, and Sheridan.



- Director Kessler gave the treasurer's report, with comments by General Manager Torud. A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #99572 thru #99690 of CCF Bank was in the amount of \$174,887 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$11,239. Director Kessler reported on activity of total receipts in the office - \$2,101,491; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$478,200; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$2,177,080; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$185,030 and power bill paid 11/24/2021 in the amount of \$1,480,176.
- A membership list of 64 was presented and approved without objection by the board.
- Outages year-to-date stand at 39,359 consumer hours off, which is 52.59% below 2020 hours of 83,018. Overtime year-to-date is 3,010.75 hours, which is 2.56% below 2020 hours of 3,090.00.

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

News FOR YOU...

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

Save with Rebates on Energy Star Appliances



Barron Electric members purchasing Energy Star® rated appliances are eligible for the following rebates:

Energy Star® Clothes Washer	\$25
Energy Star® Electric Clothes Dryer	\$25
Heat Pump Clothes Dryer	\$50
Energy Star® Dehumidifier	\$25
Energy Star® Dishwasher	\$25
Energy Star® Freezer (must be a minimum of 10 cubic feet)	\$25
Energy Star® Refrigerator (>= to 10 cubic feet)	\$25
Inductive Range	\$25
Refrigerator or Freezer Recycling	\$25
Room Air Conditioner Recycling	\$25

More information on Barron Electric's programs can be found online at barronelectric.com in the rebates area. Programs expire December 16, 2022.