



Hwy 371 N.
Brainerd, MN 56401
1-800-648-9401
www.cwpower.com

March 16, 2026

Voting Options: Whether using the mail, voting online, or delivering the ballot to the Cooperative in person, please follow these instructions carefully.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CASTING YOUR VOTE

Dear Crow Wing Power Member,

The ballot format allows digital scanning and tabulation of the ballot. Your ballot will be tabulated by Survey and Ballot Systems Inc., an independent election service in Eden Prairie.

Enclosed are your 2026 Official Ballot, a Secrecy Envelope to place your completed ballot in, return envelopes and candidate profiles.

Online:

- **Vote** online by 10 a.m. on April 15, 2026. Go to www.directvote.net/cwp. Enter your individualized information printed on the detachable stub of the enclosed yellow return envelope marked "Official Ballot Use Only" and follow instructions given on the website.
- **QR Code:** From a mobile device, scan the QR code printed on the detachable stub of the enclosed yellow return envelope marked for "Official Ballot Use Only" and it will take you to your personal ballot page.
- **SmartHub:** Vote in the app or online.
 - App: Open your SmartHub app, login and click the "Vote Now" button.
 - Online: Login to your SmartHub account and click the "Vote Now" button.

Mail:

To be counted, mailed ballots must be sealed in the "Secrecy Envelope" and inserted into the final "Official Ballot Use Only" return envelope. Ballots must be received at the post office box designated on the yellow return envelope prior to 10:00 a.m., April 16, 2026. Read and follow directions carefully.

- Two official envelopes are enclosed: a white "Ballot Secrecy Envelope" and a yellow Business Reply Envelope marked "Official Ballot Use Only".
- Upon completing your ballot, insert the ballot into the white "Ballot Secrecy Envelope" and seal this envelope.
- Insert the sealed white "Secrecy Envelope" into the yellow "Official Ballot Use Only" return envelope. Tear off and discard the large stub on the back. It has your name and personal information for your verification and use only. Once removed, the bar coding on the yellow envelope flap will identify you as the official voter. Seal and mail.

Additional Details:

- Survey and Ballot Systems, an independent tabulation firm, is collecting and tabulating ballots. Security measures are in place to protect the confidentiality of your vote and to prevent duplicate voting.
- If you inadvertently vote both by paper and online, only the paper ballot will be counted.

Two Important Dates: Mailed ballots must be received at the post office box designated on the yellow return envelope by 10:00 a.m. April 16, or delivered in person at the Annual Business Meeting prior to 6:00 p.m. on April 16. Online ballots must be received by 10 a.m. April 15, 2026, one day prior to the meeting.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING FOR MEMBERS OF CROW WING COOPERATIVE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY BRAINERD, MN

The Annual Meeting for members of Crow Wing Cooperative Power and Light Company will be held at Heritage Church in Baxter, 13242 Berrywood Dr. Baxter, MN 56425 on Thursday, April 16, 2026.

The Annual Business Meeting will start at 6:30 p.m.

Business on the agenda includes:

1. The reports of Officers, Directors and Committees;
2. The election of three Directors;
3. Transaction of any other business that may properly come before this meeting.

Director election ballots, and this notice will be mailed to members in March.

DATED: February 26, 2026

/s/Bryan McCulloch
Secretary

The annual meeting process and format are subject to change.

DISTRICT 1AT-LARGE



Brian Brown,
Pequot Lakes, MN
brianbrown29@icloud.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

Parish trustee of St. Patrick's Catholic Church (2 years); Parish Council member at large of St. Patrick's Church (4 years); Member of Facilities Assessment Committee of the Basilica of St. Mary (2 years); Parent volunteer in Columbia Heights and Edina Public schools (8 years)

I'm running for the Crow Wing Power Board of Directors because I care deeply about the well-being of our community and the future we're building together. Like many of you, I want a cooperative we can rely on—one that keeps electricity affordable, invests wisely, and treats every member with respect.

Service has always been at the center of my life. As a parish trustee and former Member-at-Large on my parish council, I've learned how to listen, how to collaborate, and how to earn the trust of the people I represent. My work on the Facilities Assessment Committee for the Basilica of St. Mary taught me what it means to safeguard something important for the next generation. And as a longtime volunteer in my children's schools, I've seen firsthand how strong communities are built—one act of service at a time.

Professionally, I bring more than 25 years of experience as a registered Professional Engineer in electrical engineering. I understand the real challenges of delivering reliable power to 40,000 members, and I know how much rising electricity costs affect every household. I'm committed to using my expertise to protect reliability and keep rates reasonable.

I'm asking for your vote because I want to put my experience to work for all of us. Please vote for me as Member at Large for District 1.

Thank you

DISTRICT 1AT-LARGE



Eric J. Larson
Crosby, MN
esmlarson@gmail.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

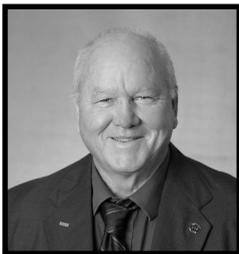
Member of committee and sing in choir at Church. Volunteer at Pass the Bread food shelf. Big fan of 9 year old granddaughter's hockey team.

If elected, I promise to represent the Cooperative and its members in an honest, ethical and trustworthy manner in every decision I am involved in making. I believe any projects or investments outside of normal operations of CW Power should be fully disclosed to the Cooperative members prior to any money being spent. One example of this is the Manganese mining project.

I worked at medical device and computer companies in the Twin Cities as a Quality Engineer and Regulatory Affairs manager for my entire career. I have been on many teams as a team leader and member. As team leader met with FDA to discuss Medical Device Reporting proposal which was later approved. Have authored many policies, procedures and validation documents. I believe honesty, collaboration, compromise and communication are very important for success.

I have a BA Physics (Hamline University) and BSEE (University of Minnesota).

DISTRICT 1AT-LARGE



Bryan McCulloch,
Fifty Lakes, MN
cwpmcculloch@gmail.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

McCulloch and Associates

*General Contracting/Rock Creek Excavation/
Landscaping 1981-2012. Emily Cooperative Board of
Directors (past president and vice president) 29 years,
past Fifty Lakes Council Member, past Boy Scout
Master (Troop 118), of Emily Outing Fifty Lakes &
Crosslake, church board member, Board of Directors
CWP Credit Union & People's Security, and currently
employed by Anderson Brother's. Presently serving
district one at large for CWP Board of Directors and
present secretary.*

My main purpose for serving is laid out in the articles VI and article II section 11 of the bylaws which states "I will support the constitution and the bylaws of the United States of America, the constitution and laws of the state of MN and the bylaws of CWP; I will faithfully discharge, according to the best of my abilities and duties of my offices, during such time as I am director of CWP; I will never knowingly do or cause to be done any act or deed which would not be in the best interest of the cooperative and members." While serving CWP director my fiduciary responsibility to the members, has always been my highest goal. We are proud to have been able to return ? million in capital credit checks of the years.

I believe my background leadership and experience helps me make significant contributions to CWP's success and I take my board of directors responsibility seriously. Please continue to let me serve you.

DISTRICT 1AT-LARGE



Mark R. Ness,
Pequot Lakes, MN
markness50@aol.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

*Previously: I was Commander MN
Air National Guard; Chairman of*

*the Board, MN Air National Guard Museum; Northwest
Airlines Crew Resource Manager; Adjunct Professor
College of St Thomas teaching courses pertaining to
"Masterful Leadership" emphasizing character/morality
element and the transparent leader; Captain/Instructor/
Examiner Pilot Northwest Airlines; Master of Public
Administration (MPA Degree) Hamline University, St
Paul, MN.*

I would look forward to serving on the Crow Wing Power Board of Directors as a consumer and as one who has a connection to the area I currently live. Being a native of Crow Wing County provides me with connections to long term friends and neighbors who provide grass roots input and advice resulting from local experience. I have learned to listen and manage expectations and produce relevant answers. My hope has always been to contribute to a focused, positive, well-organized and fully devoted team. Listening first and producing results that match the needs expressed by the community, the consumers and the employees. It would certainly be rewarding to work with and develop the kind of team that is totally committed; outwardly focused; and generously sensitive to adverse community concerns that show an appearance of self-motivations or corporate insensitivity. I believe my background as stated is very compatible to the environment that is pursued within the Crow Wing Power energy cooperative. Improvements can always be made, and good ideas can be gleaned from the community we serve. I look forward to solving difficult issues with a competent team of professionals that understand the meaning of teamwork, listening, and producing with unselfish and grateful attitudes toward customer, community, and environment.

DISTRICT 1A-T-LARGE



Jackson M. Purfeerst,
Crosslake, MN
jmppp10@gmail.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

*I currently serve as Mayor of
Crosslake and previously served*

two years on the Crosslake City Council. I am a trustee on the Crow Wing Power Board, president of my local lake association, and leader of the Minnesota Mayors Coalition, representing more than 270 mayors statewide. I also volunteer with the Crosslake Food Shelf and work alongside residents and civic partners to strengthen local decision-making and community trust, with a steady, transparent approach to leadership and community partnership.

My involvement with Crow Wing Power began in 2018, when I won the cooperative's essay contest and was selected to represent Crow Wing Power on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. That experience—alongside more than 2,400 students from across the country—gave me a firsthand understanding of how electric cooperatives serve their members, strengthen communities, and advocate nationally on energy issues.

In 2022, I was honored to return to Washington, D.C., as a Youth Tour alumni facilitator, once again representing Crow Wing Power and helping guide the next generation of cooperative leaders. In 2020, I was elected to serve on the Operation Round Up Board, where I currently serve as Treasurer and Secretary. In this role, I work alongside fellow board members to uphold transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of member-donated funds by ensuring contributions are directed through established review processes to vetted nonprofit organizations that benefit our communities. I am completing my final term on this board.

As mayor and in my cooperative service, I lead with transparency, open communication, and a commitment to building trust. As our cooperative continues to grow, we must do so thoughtfully and responsibly. I am committed to being a steady, member-focused voice on the board—bringing practical leadership, sound judgment, and a steady hand.

DISTRICT 2B



Harlan V. Johnson
Breezy Point, MN
harlan@hvjagency.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

Member Log Church, Crosslake,

Member and twice President of Central Lakes Rotary, Member and twice President NAIFA-MN Paul Bunyan Chapter - Brainerd, BOD NAIBIP-MN, MN Comprehensive Health Assoc., Founding Member BCBSM Ad Hoc Advisory Council, Member MNsure Health Industry Advisory Council, Chair Ambassadors North Brainerd Lakes Area Chamber, Crosslake Future Funding & Development Committee, Rotary Liasson to Pequot Lakes High School INTERACT CLUB, Graduate Life Underwriters Training Council (LUTCF), Participant 12 years Agent's Day on the hill MN Legislature

I spent summers since 1954 on South Bay of Crosslake, and year round resident of same since 1973, and have witnessed the legacy of Crow Wing Power and Light Employees fulfilling their mission of maintaining the power transmission, delivery, and restoration of the same after weather related events. I watched our Cooperative power utility proudly pursue, and proliferate the power grid in our districts. I look forward learning more, and serving my fellow Cooperative Members! My children all attended public school in Pine River, and Pequot Lakes, and most have chosen to stay and work in the area. In my spare time I've built a nice little cadre of barefoot waterskiers over the years in Crosslake and Itasca County. I don't 'Walk on water', ...but I come as close as possible, as often as possible, and cherish sharing the experience with others!

DISTRICT 2B



Don Lindgren,
Pequot Lakes, MN
lindgrenpiano@gmail.com
763-360-7707
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

Judy & I are from Minnesota having lived most recently in Paynesville and Akeley. We lived in Florida from 2019 – 2023. During that time, I was on the finance steering committee for our HOA at The Place at Corkscrew. We moved to Breezy Point in November 2023.

I have been retired since 2012. I feel my background and experience during my working career will bring a level of knowledge that will help steer Crow Wing Power Cooperative into the future. I have BS Civil Engineering from the University of North Dakota, 1974. I have obtained both a Professional Engineer designation (P.E.) as well as a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation (CPCU).

I have over 35 years of experience managing property risk for Fortune 500 clients with large commercial portfolios. I was the Minneapolis branch manager for Protection Mutual Insurance Company and led the sales and underwriting for our policyholders which generated over \$10 million in annual revenue. Among my key accounts were ALLETE, Great River Energy, Otter Tail Power Company, Montana-Dakota Utilities, Black Hills Corporation & NorthWestern Energy. I am very familiar with the utility business. Also note "Mutual" in the name. The company was owned by the policyholders – exactly like our Cooperative business model. I was instilled with a focus that everything you do is for the benefit of the customer.

From 1980 – 1987 I was Manager, Property Insurance for Dayton Hudson Corporation (now Target). I procured property insurance for all of their stores and directed their loss control programs.

DISTRICT 2B



Michael McDaid,
Pelican Lake, MN
michaelfmcdaid@gmail.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

I currently serve as Supervisor of Pelican Township, Secretary of the Lakes and Rivers Alliance (LARA) Board focused on lake management, and as a board member of the Pelican Lake Association. These roles reflect my long-standing commitment to community stewardship, governance, and environmental responsibility. Professionally, I am a retired IBM executive and a former partner with Ernst & Young, bringing extensive leadership, strategic, and fiduciary experience to public and nonprofit boards.

I am seeking election to the Board of Directors because I believe strongly in the cooperative model and the important role an energy cooperative plays in strengthening its members and the broader community. Reliable, affordable, and forward-looking energy services are essential to both economic vitality and quality of life, particularly in rural communities. I currently serve as Supervisor of Pelican Township, Secretary of the Lakes and Rivers Alliance (LARA) Board for lake and watershed management, and as a board member of the Pelican Lake Association. These roles have deepened my experience in public governance, collaborative decision-making, and balancing diverse stakeholder interests while keeping long-term stewardship at the forefront.

Professionally, I am a retired executive from IBM and a former partner with Ernst & Young. My career provided extensive experience in strategic planning, financial system reengineering, risk management, and supply chain enhancement—skills that directly translate to effective board service. I am comfortable evaluating complex issues, asking thoughtful questions, and supporting decisions that are in the best interests of the organization and its members. If elected, I will bring an independent, informed, and collaborative perspective to the Board, grounded in integrity and accountability. I am motivated to serve because I value strong local institutions and want to help ensure the Cooperative remains member-focused, financially sound, and well-positioned for the future.

DISTRICT 2B



John Quinlivan,
Pequot Lakes
john@gordon-james.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

In 2016, I started Orono Cares www.oronocares.org to help families in need during the holidays. Rotary. Chamber of Commerce, and the Economic Development Board.

Most important, I am a big supporter of Cooperatives, because the level of service is first class, and we've been a customer of CWP since 1997. I would like to think my educational and business background could be very beneficial to CWP. My experience serving on an Economic Development Board and the Housing First Minnesota Board will also be beneficial to CWP. I believe the future is bright for CWP, and I would like to be a part of that future.

DISTRICT 2B



**Todd Anthony
Roggenkamp,**
Breezy Point, MN
mnminker@tds.net
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

I am currently the Mayor of the City of Breezy Point. I am serving my second non-consecutive term for the city.

I would like to serve the members of Crow Wing Power district 2B, because I believe my educational background and leadership skills in my 25+ year career in education/management, work in volunteer organizations, and currently as the Mayor of Breezy Point will serve the members of the district well. If elected as the Director to serve District 2B, the members should know I will always look at what is best for the membership as a whole with regards to how they receive their energy from Crow Wing Power.

While at times, tough decisions will need to be made regarding how to best serve and support members in this ever-changing environment of energy use my efforts will stay committed to our members having their energy needs met in the most practical and economical way. As your director, I will be committed to making sure as board we work to have your co-op, continue to provide efficient operations and remain sustainable for the future. Things such as infrastructure, evolving regulations, technological transitions, and demographic shifts in our community will all play critical roles in determining this as we move forward together.

As someone who was born, raised, and now resides in this area having raised a family here, I understand the importance of Crow Wing Power continuing to build on a long history of providing great services and affordable energy to its members and ask for you to support me as the next director of district 2B.

DISTRICT 2B



Eric Spandl,
Crosslake, MN
espandl@comcast.net
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

*Heartland Credit Union- BoD,
Secretary; NCWSS- BoD,*

Secretary/Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, Site Selection, Local Arrangements; WSSA- Finance Committee; MCCA (ex-officio) BoD, Chair, Publicity Committee

My background includes significant experience in volunteer work with 501C3 and other organizations, ranging from committees through chair roles. As an employee of Land O'Lakes, a member drive cooperative, for 29 years, I have a legacy understanding of existing to serve members. Coupled with that is a strong science background (Ph.D.) that brings an added perspective- the ability to look at the system from a technical lens, and advocate for innovations that will deliver value for members. Energy is the cornerstone of our economy, impacting our daily lives. And, we need to account for growth of existing uses and plan for the future growth. As a member owned cooperative, it is critical that the business engages with members and aligns with their needs. So, what are some of the key needs? Reliable, sustainable, and affordable energy. My extensive communications background in writing, training, technical support, and business development can help foster connectivity with members, partners and external organizations. Plus, my experience includes national advocacy efforts working through professional and trade associations and included fly-ins to DC advocating for agricultural issues. Experience with diverse financials from scientific societies to the credit union, construction management and building operations, coupled with editing and review of Bylaws and MOPs adds another level of diversity to my qualifications.

DISTRICT 2B



Casey Traxler
Pequot Lakes, MN
traxstar@me.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

My involvement extends beyond

periodic participation—I serve as a continuous mentoring presence and guiding member within Veteran organizations. This sustained commitment has enabled me to: Mentor fellow veterans through transition challenges and career development. Lead fundraising initiatives to generate resources that directly improve veterans' quality of life. Contribute to organizational expansion efforts that broaden the reach and effectiveness of veteran support services. Provide strategic guidance informed by both military experience and long-term community engagement.

I have been deeply involved with veteran organizations since retiring from the Army in the mid-2000s, serving in leadership, mentoring, and volunteer capacities. My roles have included team leadership positions where I contributed to organizational expansion and strategic initiatives. I continuously mentor fellow veterans and have led fundraising efforts that directly support improving veterans' lives. This nearly two-decade commitment demonstrates sustained community engagement and leadership experience directly applicable to board governance.

As a proud Crow Wing Power member, I am eager to leverage this experience to help strengthen the services and offerings of an already stellar cooperative. My background in organizational growth, strategic planning, and community service positions me to contribute meaningfully to the co-op's continued success and member value.

DISTRICT 3A



Loren Beilke,
Baxter, MN
loren.beilke@gmail.com

**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

*My family has lived the Brainerd
Lakes area for over 25 years. Our*

*family has grown up here and complete school and
now has families of their own. I've been a member
of the Brainerd Lakes Rotary for over 26 years. I
have served many years as the president of our lake
association and am still active in looking out for our
White Sand Lake. We are also members of many area
outdoor activity groups.*

I am running for the Crow Wing Power Cooperative Board of Directors because I believe strongly in the value of local leadership, responsible stewardship, and the cooperative principles that keep our communities strong. As a long time member of Crow Wing Power, I understand the importance of reliable service, fair rates, and transparent decision making, and I am committed to representing our members with integrity and common sense leadership.

My priorities begin with maintaining a resilient and dependable electrical system. Reliable power is essential for homes, farms, and businesses across our region, and continued investment in modern infrastructure is critical to reducing outages and ensuring long term stability. I will support thoughtful planning that prioritizes system reliability while protecting members from unnecessary costs.

As energy technologies evolve, Crow Wing Power must take a balanced and practical approach to the future. I believe in exploring opportunities that strengthen reliability, maintain affordability, and prepare our grid for the demands of tomorrow—without placing undue financial burden on members.

Most importantly, a cooperative belongs to its members. I will work to ensure your voice is heard and that board decisions reflect the needs and values of the people we serve.

I started my career as an engineer and served in many roles including corporate president and then as a small business owner. I think that my experiences and skills give me more to contribute. I would be honored to earn your support.

DISTRICT 3A



Michael E Strange
Brainerd, MN
strange475@gmail.com

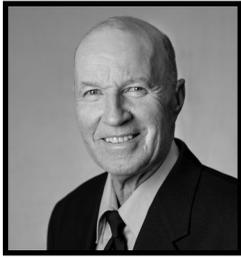
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

*Being involved in ministry for
several years, I have conducted*

*board meetings, drafted budgets and have been
involved in community outreach.*

This would be a wonderful opportunity to invest in, give back and to serve Crow Wing County area which has provided for my wife and I for the past 15 + years. And, I believe in the cooperative business model where the member-owners have a voice in how the cooperative operates. My goal would be to ensure that the Crow Wing Power cooperative continues to strive to fulfil its mission.

DISTRICT 3A



Dwight Thiesse,
Brainerd, MN 56401
cwpthiesse@gmail.com
**Major Activities/
Organizations or other
interest to public:**

Board member, Crow Wing County

*Historical Society, Crow Wing Power Credit Union,
People's Security; Past board member, Pierz Coop;
member Crow Wing County Farm Bureau; served in the
U.S. Army; American Legion member; and member of
Park United Methodist Church.*

I am a lifetime resident of rural Brainerd. My wife, Linda, and I raised two sons. My brother, Loren, and I operate a farm south of Brainerd.

The main challenge I've experienced as a Crow Wing Power Director has been to keep electricity affordable and reliable for our fellow members.

As state and federal regulation and mandates can place financial burdens on electric utilities,

I am proud of management and staff for their ability to maintain a well run Cooperative, and keeping costs down, while providing excellent reliability and service. Individually and through state and national cooperative associations, the board tries to communicate our concerns about legislation to our elected officials. I would encourage you, as co-op member to do the same.

It's been a pleasure to see the good work that Operation Round-Up has done for our region, since it's inception in 1996, about \$5 million has been donated to charitable projects and programs. Thank you to those that make it happen.

Because it has a vision and "team" concept of staff, employees and directors, Crow Wing Power has been very successful in operating a very strong cooperative.

I was given the privilege and responsibility to serve you, which I take very seriously. I would appreciate your continued support, to carry on the good work that is being done.



As a member of Crow Wing Power, you are more than a customer, you are an owner. Electric cooperatives are guided by the members they serve, and your voice plays an important role in shaping the direction and priorities of our Cooperative.

Our Board of Directors serves as the link between the membership and the Cooperative. They listen to your questions, represent your interests, and help guide decisions that impact the reliability, affordability, and future of your electric service. By participating in the election process, you uphold the democratic principles that define the cooperative model and ensure transparency and accountability in leadership.

As you have reviewed the candidate biographies and election details in this booklet, we encourage you to take the next step and cast your ballot. Please note the important deadlines and follow the voting instructions included in your election packet.

Thank you for being an engaged member of Crow Wing Power. Your participation strengthens our cooperative and helps ensure we continue serving our community effectively for generations to come.

- Crow Wing Cooperative Power and Light

Crow Wing Power's 2026 Annual Business Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2026. As a member-owned electric cooperative, this meeting serves as a vital occasion for members to engage in the governance of the organization.

The official meeting will commence at 6:30 p.m., following member check-in beginning at 5:00 p.m. Attendees will hear cooperative updates from CEO Tim Thompson, receive a brief update from Basin Electric leadership, and learn more from Crow Wing Power's officers and Board of Directors. Members will also have the opportunity to ask questions and hear the results of the Board of Director elections.

A light meal will be served prior to the start of the meeting starting at 5:00 p.m., providing a chance for members to gather and connect. To assist in meal and seating accommodations, members are kindly asked to RSVP by April 3, 2026.

In partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation, complimentary energy-saving trees will be offered to members in attendance—available in limited quantities on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cooperative staff will be on-site to assist members in identifying optimal planting locations that promote energy efficiency and maintain safety around electrical infrastructure.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 