

Meeting Highlights

December 2025

Crow Wing Power's Board of Directors conducted its regular monthly meeting

Thursday, December 18, 2025
A quorum of directors was present.

President Mark Ronnei opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following reports were given:

- CEO Report
- COO Report
- CFO Report

Directors reported on meetings they attended on behalf of the cooperative.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved December Consent Agenda.
- Accepted the November Financial Report.
- Approved Labor Contract.
- Approved Moving forward with new building site location.
- Approved Board of Trustee Appointments for Operation Round-Up®
- Approved Director Expense Reports for November 2025.

Members can review detailed minutes by logging into their SmartHub account. Log in is located on the homepage of our website.

Keeping Reliability at the Center of the Conversations

Minnesota has set one of the most aggressive carbon-free energy standards in the country, requiring utilities to achieve 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040. While the law allows continued operation of the state's three existing nuclear plants, a longstanding moratorium prohibits construction of new nuclear facilities. As those plants age and electricity demand continues to rise, it is reasonable and responsible to ask whether that policy still serves Minnesota's long-term needs.

The latest Long-Term Reliability Assessment from the North American Electric Reliability Corporation identifies growing reliability risks in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator region (MISO), which includes Minnesota. Demand for electricity is increasing, while dispatchable generation resources that provide consistent, around-the-clock power are retiring. Extreme cold snaps and prolonged heat waves only intensify those risks.

Today, nuclear energy operates at approximately 90% capacity and produces about half of Minnesota's carbon-free electricity. It is stable,

carbon-free, and capable of delivering power in real time when Minnesotans need it most. This is not about replacing wind and solar; those resources remain critical to our energy mix. But in a state with dramatic temperature swings, dependable baseload generation must be part of the equation if we are to meet carbon goals without compromising reliability.

Alongside the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), rural electric cooperatives are urging policymakers to reconsider the current moratorium and allow a bipartisan discussion about nuclear's role in achieving the 2040 standard.



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Scholarship Applications Due

March 31, 2026 | cwpower.com

Keeping Reliability at the Center of the Conversations cont.

As part of that commitment to informed dialogue, Crow Wing Power recently welcomed guests at a Nuclear Forum, hosted by the Rosenmeier Center at Central Lakes College. Industry leaders and experts shared insights on emerging technologies, Minnesota's readiness, and the opportunities and challenges ahead. By bringing these conversations to our community, we align with credible experts and provide members with access to balanced, fact-based information.

Member engagement is vital. I encourage you to stay informed, learn about Minnesota's energy

policies, and talk with your local legislators about their position on the nuclear moratorium. Our responsibility is clear: ensure a reliable, affordable, carbon-free future for the members we serve.

Your Cooperative, our commitment.

Tim Thompson

Tim Thompson

Chief Executive Officer

2026 ELECTION VOTING

Ballots for the Director elections will be mailed on March 16 to all members. The voting process will conclude at 6:00 p.m. of our Annual Business Meeting, scheduled for April 16, 2026, at Heritage Church where the elected directors will be announced.

Crow Wing Power retains the services of Survey and Ballot Systems, an independent contractor, to conduct the election in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.

Voting Opens March 16, 2026.

Visit:

cwpower.com/director-elections for election information and candidate bio information.

How To Vote:

Online

- **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.

Desktop: 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".

In Person:

To be counted, 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 Annual meeting prior to 6:00 p.m. on 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".



Come see us at the Home Show & Expo

March 20-21, 2026 Essentia Health Sports Center



BRainerd Lakes HOME SHOW & EXPO

RSVP to the Annual Business Meeting

A new time, a new format for 2026 Annual Meeting

To better serve our members and encourage greater participation, Crow Wing Power's Annual Meeting will move from its traditional summer date to April beginning in 2026. We hope this change avoids busy summer schedules and Saturday commitments, creating a more convenient opportunity for members to attend.

The 2026 Annual Meeting will be held Thursday, April 16, at Heritage Church in Baxter. Members are invited to join us at 5:00 p.m. for a light meal and fellowship, followed by the Annual Business Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Staff will provide Cooperative updates, and Board Chair Mark Ronnei will share key highlights, challenges, and

priorities for the year ahead. Director election results will be announced at the conclusion of the meeting.

As a member-owned cooperative, your voice matters. The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to engage, ask questions, and help shape the future of your Cooperative. A livestream option will be available for those unable to attend in person.

An RSVP is requested to assist with planning. Visit cwpower.com/events for details.

10 EASY WAYS TO \$AVE

Here are 10 habits you can tweak to save energy:

1. Use cold water to wash your clothes.
2. Unplug battery chargers when not in use.
3. Skip the heat-dry setting on your dishwasher.
4. Unplug appliances and electronics not in use.
5. Run full loads of laundry instead of several smaller ones.



6. When drying clothes, include a dry towel for the first 20 minutes.
7. Keep your refrigerator at 35° to 38°F and your freezer at 0°F.
8. Reduce the setting on your hot water heater.
9. Use smart power strips that shut off power to items not in use.
10. When buying new appliances, consider ENERGY STAR versions.

Learn more at:

 **Safe
Electricity.org**[®]