



OCTOBER 2026

A Century on the Water: Handberg's Marina Marks 100 Years

Handberg's Marina reached a milestone this year that few businesses ever see: 100 years in operation.

The family-owned marina near Crane Lake traces its history to 1926, when it began serving people traveling and recreating on the lakes of northern Minnesota. A century later, the business remains in the Handberg's family.

Much has changed during those 100 years.

Boats and motors have evolved, roads and technology have changed how people reach the area, and generations of visitors have come and gone. The marina has changed with them, while continuing to serve as a stopping point for people heading onto the interconnected lakes along the Minnesota-Canada border.

That longevity has also made Handberg's Marina part of the history of the Crane Lake area itself.

Over the decades, family members have grown up around the business before taking their own turns keeping it running. Customers have followed a similar pattern, with people who first visited as children eventually returning with children and grandchildren of their own.

Reaching the century mark offers a chance to look at that history not simply in years, but in generations.

For Lake Country Power, Handberg's Marina is one of many member-owned businesses scattered throughout a service territory where small businesses are often closely tied to the communities around them.

At Handberg's Marina, that connection has now lasted 100 years — through changing generations, changing technology and countless summers on the water.



Handberg's Marina celebrated its 100th anniversary with an event at its Crane Lake headquarters.



In 1969, Shirley and her husband Jim took over its operations from her parents, Gil and Edna.

Local Voices Shape Local Solutions

October is National Co-op Month

When you hear the word cooperative, what comes to mind? As your local electric co-op, I hope you think of Lake Country Power.

Regardless of the services offered, all cooperatives have one thing in common: they're led by the people they serve, and that simple idea makes a meaningful difference.

Cooperatives come in all shapes and sizes, each created to meet a specific need. Credit unions help members save and borrow money. Producer cooperatives help farmers bring their products to market. Retail cooperatives are owned by their shoppers or a membership of store owners, while housing cooperatives give residents a voice in managing their communities. And utility cooperatives like Lake Country Power provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to its members.

Unlike many businesses that answer to outside investors or shareholders, cooperatives are built for their members. Their goal isn't simply to earn a profit. It's to provide value, meet unique local needs and strengthen the communities they call home.

That's the co-op difference.

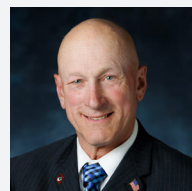
You'll find the co-op difference in the little things. It's the lineworkers restoring power after a storm. The employees

answering your questions when you call. The team members volunteering at community events. The board members who help guide decisions for the future.

Lake Country Power is your neighbor and local energy partner, and it's committed to serving this community for generations to come.

This National Co-op Month, we invite you to join us in celebrating the cooperative difference, because this co-op belongs to you. Your membership is what makes the mission possible, and it's what keeps LCP focused on serving the people and communities that matter most.

Dan Kingsley was elected to the LCP Board by members in District 6. He can be reached at 218-259-7366 or dkingsley@lcp.coop.



Sincerely,
Dan Kingsley,
District 6 Director

Board Meeting Highlights: July 28, 2026

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The Following Reports Were Given:

President Olson reported that he and all the Lake Country Power directors attended the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) District 2 meeting in Cohasset. He also attended a July event for Better in Our Back Yard.

General Manager Bakk reported on the July meeting of the Great River Energy (GRE) board, where issues of transmission project costs, rate design, growth and power supply were addressed. He also reported on meetings with regional utility providers on serving larger loads.

The Following Actions Were Taken:

Approved a 10-year financial forecast for the cooperative as required by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Rural Utility Services (RUS).

Approved Policy 324 on acceptable uses and security for artificial intelligence.

Approved a land sale for \$1,200 at the former Grand Lake Substation site.

Editor's Note: These board minutes have been condensed. To view a complete copy, visit www.lakecountrypower.coop under "My Cooperative." A SmartHub account is required. To request a printed copy, call (800) 421-9959.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: October 27 | November 24 (9:30 am at the Cohasset Service Center, Members Welcome)

DID YOU KNOW?

A new list of Unclaimed Capital Credits is available at www.lakecountrypower.coop/capital-credits



Military Personnel Disconnection Law

The 2007 Minnesota Legislature passed a law called the Military Personnel Disconnection Law. The law recognizes the value of military service and limits utility disconnections if a member of the household has been issued orders such as active duty, deployment, or for a permanent change in duty station during that period. To be eligible for disconnection protection, the member must contact the cooperative to request a "Military Personnel Disconnect Protection Form," meet income eligibility guidelines and set up a mutually acceptable payment schedule.

Before disconnecting service to military personnel in situations as listed above, the cooperative must provide the following information: Notice of proposed disconnection; statement explaining customers' rights and responsibilities; list of energy assistance providers; disconnect protection form and a statement explaining the payment plan to secure continued service.

Please contact Lake Country Power, if you have any questions about the "Military Personnel Disconnection Law" or energy assistance programs.



Minnesota Co-op Leaders Focus on Affordable, Reliable Power Amid Rising Demand



As Minnesota electric cooperatives navigate rising infrastructure costs, increasing demand for electricity and significant changes in the nation's energy landscape, affordability and reliability emerged as a theme during the Minnesota Rural Electric Association's Energy Issues Summit held August 5-6 in Bloomington, Minnesota.

New infrastructure often costs several times more than the assets it replaces. At the same time, electricity demand is expected to grow after nearly two decades of relatively flat growth. However, utilities now face unprecedented cost pressures, including inflation-driven increases in equipment and construction costs, aging power and transmission infrastructure, and the need to build new generation resources to meet future demand.

One of the key affordability challenges highlighted during the summit was the cost of building the generation and transmission infrastructure needed to meet future energy policies. Regional planning studies show that utilities in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) footprint will need to build a lot of generation to maintain reliability and satisfy future requirements.

Speakers also addressed grid reliability, transmission investments, federal policy changes, nuclear energy, cooperative governance and utility regulation. Despite the broad range of topics, many presentations reinforced the reality that affordability, reliability and resource adequacy are increasingly interconnected.

"Our member cooperatives are focused on planning for the future while keeping electricity reliable and affordable," said MREA CEO Darrick Moe. "The conversations at this year's Energy Issues Summit underscored the importance of thoughtful energy policy, long-term planning and continued investment in the electric system that powers Minnesota communities."

The annual Energy Issues Summit, hosted by MREA, the statewide association for electric cooperatives, brings together cooperative leaders and industry experts to discuss emerging trends affecting electric cooperatives and the communities they serve.

LCP Holding Online Fleet Auction in October

Lake Country Power is partnering with 2 Rivers Auctions to hold another online auction of fleet equipment and vehicles the co-op is liquidating. The online auction will be similar to how people submit bids through eBay and other online auctions.

Any interested and current co-op members or employees should register for a free user account at <https://2riversauctions.com/>.

The auction is open exclusively for active member-consumers and employees of Lake Country Power, and will open in mid-October. Members can visit www.lakecountrypower.coop/fleet-auction for updates as more information is available.

Only winning bidders will be required to pay for the items they've won. Winning bidders may pick up their items with proof of purchase from one of Lake Country Power's Mountain Iron, Cohasset and Kettle River service centers, depending on the location of the auction item.

Questions? Contact 2 Rivers Auctions at 218-780-8724.

AUCTION ITEMS

- 2013 Ford F150 (188,000 miles)
- 2021 Ford F-150 (over 200,000 miles)
- 2019 Aluma 8112 SR Utility Trailer
- 2017 Ford F150
- Wells Cargo Trailer
- 2009 Chevrolet Silverado ¾-ton with utility box and lift gate
- 2003 John Deere Skidsteer Model 240
- 2016 Honda Foreman 500 FE ATV
- 2016 Chevrolet Silverado

Additional equipment may be added to the online auction page.



A Summer Celebration for Our Members

Lake Country Power held its Member Appreciation Days picnics in Cohasset, Mountain Iron and Kettle River in August, where members enjoyed a meal, kid's games, informational sessions and bike giveaways.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Don't let phantom energy haunt your electric bill this October. Many electronics continue using electricity even when they're turned off. TVs, gaming systems, coffee makers and phone chargers can quietly draw power around the clock. While each device uses only a small amount, the energy waste can add up over time. Before heading out for Halloween fun, unplug devices you don't use regularly or plug them into a smart power strip that automatically cuts power when equipment is off. It's a simple trick that can help keep phantom energy waste in check.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Energy

LCP Members Get an Inside Look at GRE

Tour offered a close-up view of the facilities, technology and people behind wholesale electricity.



A busload of Lake Country Power member-owners recently toured several facilities and areas owned by Great River Energy, their cooperative’s wholesale power provider, to get a look at what it takes to make and deliver the power they receive.

Throughout one day, the group of members were able to tour Great River Energy’s headquarters in Maple Grove, the cooperative’s Elk River campus — including a peaking plant — as well as a transmission substation.

“Our members enjoyed the power supply tour at Great River Energy so much and learned a lot,” said Lake Country Power Public Relations Coordinator Tami Zaun. “Bus tours are a great way to get to know one another on a more personal level, which helps cultivate beneficial connections within the co-op community.”

Lake Country Power is a member-owner of Great River Energy.

Each stop along the way included presentations from several department representatives, including a welcome message from Vice President and Chief Corporate & Member Services Officer Lisa Orpen. In Maple Grove, members visited stations where they learned more about renewable energy; electric vehicles; and the process of buying, selling and managing risk in the wholesale energy market from experts in power supply, member services and power marketing, among others.

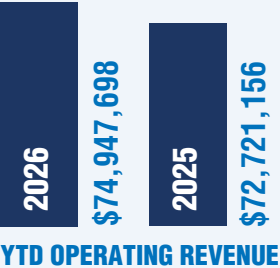
Once in Elk River, the group donned hard hats along with safety glasses to tour a peaking power plant. The day then wrapped up with a stop at a transmission substation to see where electricity begins its journey to homes and businesses.

Members reported that the tour was “informative” with portions of it offering a “better understanding” of the behind-the-scenes work that occurs to ensure them access to reliable, affordable power.

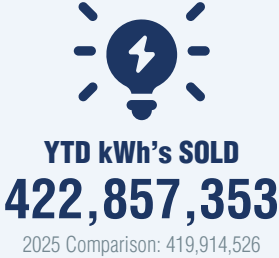
“It’s important to us as a cooperative that we offer educational opportunities to members who are interested in understanding more about where their power comes from,” said Daniel Becchetti, communications and marketing manager at Great River Energy. “That they also get to engage with and ask questions to the experts who work with their best interest in mind every day which adds another layer to the experience that we are proud to provide.”

By The Numbers | July 2026

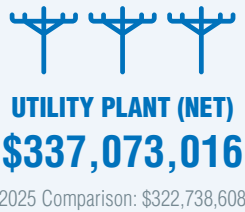
Lake Country Power is committed to responsibly managing resources to maintain the Cooperative’s financial stability. Below is a snapshot of the year-to-date unaudited financial report. A complete set of financial statements can be viewed at www.lakecountrypower.coop under “My Cooperative.”



	2026	2025
Cost of Purchased Power	\$38,836,499	\$37,088,036
Other Operating Expenses	\$32,725,193	\$30,776,489
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$71,561,692	\$67,864,525



	2026	2025
Operating Margins	\$3,386,007	\$4,856,630
Non-Operating Margins	\$1,035,102	\$1,313,296



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Directors are members of the cooperative and are elected to act in the best interests of the co-op with the same care that an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances.

Directors set policy, approve strategy and are charged with fiduciary responsibility of the cooperative. Directors do not oversee day-to-day LCP operations. Administration of maintenance, electric service and operations are the responsibility of employees and staff.

Members with questions or concerns about services, billing, outages or other service-related matters should call 1-800-421-9959.

Newsline

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Lake Country Power

An equal opportunity provider and employer.

Co-ops Raise \$69,507 for Minnesota's Specialty Burn Centers

The 21st Annual Burn Center Golf Tournament, hosted by the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), raised \$69,507 to support Minnesota's three specialty burn care facilities. The charity event was held July 24 at Pebble Creek Golf Club in Becker, Minnesota.

Bringing together line workers, electric cooperative employees, medical professionals and industry partners, the event underscores the electric cooperative community's commitment to supporting lifesaving medical facilities and the vital work they do.

As electric linework remains one of the most dangerous professions in the country, this year's tournament not only raised funds but also sought to increase awareness about the hazards of electrical contact accidents and the critical care burn centers provide.

Since the first Burn Center Golf Tournament in 2006, the Minnesota Rural Electric Association has raised more than \$700,000 in support of the burn centers at Regions Hospital, Hennepin County Medical Center and Essentia Health. These facilities deliver essential care to line workers and others who face serious risks while serving Minnesota communities.



A Call For More Recipes

Send us your favorite recipes to be featured in Newsline and receive a \$5 bill credit!

From family favorites and holiday traditions to quick weeknight meals, we'd love to see what's cooking in your kitchen.

Recipes can be emailed to jburnes@lcp.coop or sent to 8535 Park Ridge Dr., Mountain Iron, MN 55768.