



February 2024

# 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

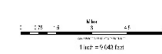
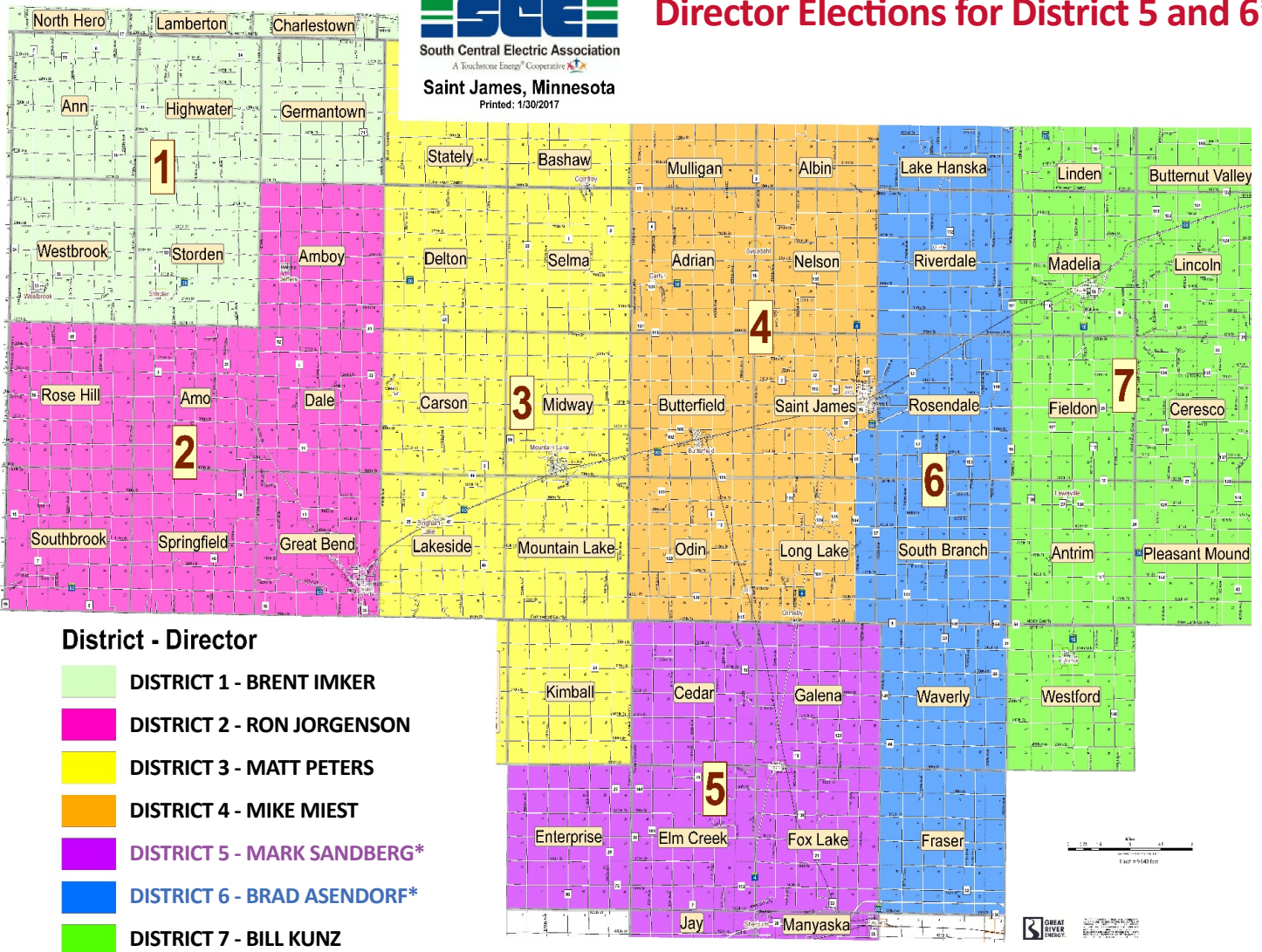
**Tuesday April 2, 2024**  
 Windom Community Center  
 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr., Windom

**Dinner 5:30pm**  
**Official Meeting 6:30pm**

Join us for South Central Electric Association's annual meeting on Tuesday April 2, 2024. Director elections will be held via mail-in ballot with results announced during the annual meeting. Members will receive ballots and official meeting notice in the mail the beginning of March.

*Door Prize & Prize Drawings for Meeting Attendees*

## Director Elections for District 5 and 6\*





# 2024 REBATE PROGRAMS

Recipient must be a South Central Electric member. Any checks or credits will be made in the name or account of the member. The program will end when funds are exhausted; additional rebates may be added at a later date. The completed applications will be processed on a first come first served basis as they are received in our office. Rebate applications can be requested by calling the St. James office or available on line at [www.southcentralelectric.com](http://www.southcentralelectric.com).

## REBATES:

Please see rebate applications for details.



*Must be an Energy Star® appliance to qualify.*

- Dehumidifier** .....\$20      Credit applied to the energy bill
- Air Source Heat Pumps** .....\$350      HSPF rating over 9.5    \$600
- Ductless Heat Pump** .....\$350      HSPF rating over 9.5    \$600
- Ground Source Heat Pump** .....\$350/ton (*Limit 10 tons*)
- Air Conditioner Tune Up** .....\$30
- Managed Electric Heat** .....\$20/kW  
Radio controlled, qualifies for discount of \$.031/kWh on system usage.  
Stored or dual fuel heat. Heat pumps are not eligible for this program.
- LED Yard Light**.....\$25/ea. limit 3

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL REBATES:

Rebates are available on a custom basis. Rebates will be based on kW reduction on retrofit projects. To be eligible for a rebate the project must have a minimum savings of 1kW. We do not have rebate programs for new construction. Call SCEA for information on these rebates.



## ONLINE PAYMENT & BILLING w/ SMARTHUB

Pay your bills on-line with South Central Electric's on-line bill payment system, SmartHub. Download the SmartHub app for your mobile device or tablet from the APP Store or Google Play.

To get started visit our web site [southcentralelectric.com](http://southcentralelectric.com) and click on the SmartHub logo. Once you are at the SmartHub site you'll have to sign up as a first time user by clicking the "New User" link and follow the prompts.



## SCEA WATER HEATER PROGRAM

SCEA's peak shave water heater program provides members with a Marathon water heater at a discounted price for participating in the load management program.

The cost for water heaters is \$750. This is a great value for members. SCEA pays the cost of the electrician to wire the water heater and radio control. The member would pay any costs incurred by a plumber.

# ★ Attention Students and Parents! ★

## Sophomores and Juniors Win a FREE Trip to Washington D.C.

Area sophomores and juniors have an opportunity to win an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. Students will travel with others from around Minnesota and the country as they visit the sites in and around our nation's capital. Over 1,500 delegates from electric cooperatives around the country visited Washington D.C. in 2023. The students visited with their congressional representatives, toured famous museums and made memories and friends that will last a lifetime.

### Don't miss this opportunity to make lifetime memories.

1. To enter the contest the student must live within the South Central Electric service area or attend one of the following schools: Butterfield/Odin, Comfrey, Madelia, Martin County West, Mt. Lake, Red Rock Central, St. James, Truman, Windom Area or Westbrook.
2. Each contestant must submit a contest application form and an essay on the following topic: *"How do you and your family benefit from electricity?"*
3. Applications are due at our St. James office by February 29, 2024 and the applicant must complete a personal interview on March 13, 2024. Interview times are between 4pm and 6pm.

### Prizes

1<sup>st</sup> All-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. June 18-23, 2024 (No substitute prize if unable to make the trip.)

2<sup>nd</sup> \$150 cash award and will serve as first alternate.

3<sup>rd</sup> \$100 cash award and will serve as second alternate.

Contest rules and application forms are available at our St. James office, on our website ([www.southcentralelectric.com](http://www.southcentralelectric.com)) or by calling 507-375-3164.

Learn more at the national Youth Tour website: [youthtour.coop](http://youthtour.coop) or check out the Minnesota Youth Tour Facebook page *Minnesota Rural Electric Association Washington D.C. Youth Tour*.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

### SENIORS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

\$1,000 Scholarship Available to SCEA Member Dependents

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

South Central Electric is honored to partner with Basin Electric to award a \$1,000 scholarship to a dependent of a South Central Electric member. The scholarship is available to high school seniors and college students enrolled full-time in an accredited two or four year college, university or vocational/technical school working on an undergraduate or master's degree. **These applicants are also eligible for scholarships through South Central Electric's Operation Round Up® program.**

**The scholarship deadline is February 24, 2024.**

Applications can be obtained at our St. James office, on our website ([www.southcentralelectric.com](http://www.southcentralelectric.com)) or by calling 507-375-3164.

# 2023 Work Plan Summary

Jeff Benson, Operations Manager

Each year the co-op works through a work plan on needed system updates and replacements. This is work that is planned in advance and takes place along with other jobs that come up during the year. It's part of improving South Central's Electric's distribution system to meet current and future needs along with providing increased reliability.

In Ann Township in Cottonwood County, we installed approximately four miles of single-phase underground to replace single-phase overhead line built in 1939. In Highwater Township, approximately one mile of single-phase underground was installed that replaced single-phase overhead line also built in 1939. Besides the age of the line, we had a large number of rejected poles leading to the need to upgrade the lines. In Midway Township, we installed 2 miles of three-phase 4/0 underground that replaced three-phase 1/0 underground installed in 1976 that had failed.

In Kimball Township in Jackson County, we installed approximately seven miles of single-phase underground that replaced single-phase overhead that was built in 1941.

**In Madelia Township in Watonwan County,** we rebuilt a three-phase overhead line with new 4/0 wire to strengthen the line to use as a potential back feed for circuits from other substations to restore power in a timely manner. The old line was 1/0 built in 1954. We also installed a half mile of three-phase 4/0 underground

line to strengthen a circuit coming from another substation. By installing the new underground, we did not have to rebuild one and a half miles of three-phase overhead line. In Antrim Township, we rebuilt three miles of three-phase 1/0 line built 1955 with three-phase 4/0 underground. This will also serve as a potential back feed for a line from another substation. **South of LaSalle** a three-phase line was run one mile to the south end of town to serve as a back feed for LaSalle.



*South of LaSalle a new underground three-phase line was run one mile to the south side of town to create a back feed for LaSalle. Pictured is the new three-phase switch cabinet near the Younger Brothers site.*

These projects were all completed along with resolving outages, repairs and member upgrades. We expect a busy 2024 with a number of member projects already on the board. If you are planning a service upgrade you need to talk to your electrician and us as soon as you can. We are still seeing some supply chain issues with a lot of our material. The sooner you let us know, the better we can plan to make sure your project gets completed.



*North of Madelia a three-phase 1/0 line built in 1954 was rebuilt with 4/0 line and a tie created to provide potential back feed from another substation to improve reliability. Pictured is the new overhead three phase tie just north of Madelia along Highway 15 with the new three-phase line running to the east.*



Official monthly newsletter

## South Central Electric

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(507) 375-3164

Outages: (888) 805-7232

### E-mail address:

sce@southcentralelectric.com

### Web:

www.southcentralelectric.com

### Office hours:

**7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Ron Horman, General Manager

### Board of Directors

President, Ron Jorgenson

Vice President, Michael Miest

Secretary, Brad Asendorf

Treasurer, Matt Peters

Brent Imker, Director

Mark Sandberg, Director

Bill Kunz, Director

The Board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at South Central Electric's building at 71176 Tiell Dr., St. James, MN.

Please see our website for a summary of the board meetings.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE!

[www.southcentralelectric.com](http://www.southcentralelectric.com)

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