



MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Serving Morton, Grant and Sioux counties

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- Your cooperative, your voice
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MAY
2026

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Goettle



Graff



Meyer



Weinberger



Miller



Wehri



Landeis



Quissell



Dogskin



Gardner

EMPOWERING OUR FUTURE:
High school scholarships awarded

Every year, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative powers the future by awarding scholarships to high school seniors within our service area. This initiative embodies our cooperative's unwavering commitment to community growth and celebrates the achievements of dependents of our members. By recognizing these students' outstanding accomplishments, we honor their drive, resilience and passion for their future.

This year, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric awarded 10 scholarships. Eight scholarships were given on behalf of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric to area seniors, while two scholarships were in partnership with Basin Electric Power Cooperative. We are fortunate to have partners who are investing in the future of our members.

This year's scholarship recipients are:

Basin Electric scholarships

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is pleased to announce the winners of a \$1,250 Basin Electric scholarship are Grace Goettle and Bennett Graff, both of Mandan. Grace is the daughter of Shane and Brenda Goettle. She plans to attend the University of Mary to study psychology and theology. Bennett is the son of Robert and Wendy Graff. He plans to attend the University of Alabama to study engineering.

Area high school scholarships

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric offered one \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from each of the high schools within our service area.

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Elgin-New Leipzig Public School – Summer Meyer plans to attend Bismarck State College (BSC) to become a teacher. She is the daughter of Mark and Tera.

Flasher Public School – Skye Weinberger plans to attend BSC to study nursing. She is the daughter of Paul and Becky.

Glen Ullin Public School – Austin Miller plans to attend BSC to study farm and ranch management. He is the son of Matthew.

Hebron Public School – Addison Wehri plans to attend BSC in pursuit of general education. She is the daughter of Jason and Claudia.

Mandan Public School – Abby Landeis plans to attend Winona State University to study athletic training and nutrition. She is the daughter of Sheldon and Karri.

New Salem-Almont Public School – Cheyanne Quissell plans to attend the University of North Dakota in pursuit of an occupational therapy degree. She is the daughter of Shaun.


Solen Public School – Miley Dogskin plans to attend BSC to study automotive technology. She is the daughter of Steven and Stacey.

Home school or outside Mor-Gran-Sou Electric service territory – Andrew Gardner plans to attend the University of Mary to study theology and education. He is the son of Will and Laura.

No applications were received from Selfridge Public School or Standing Rock Community School.

Other scholarships

Two \$500 scholarships were made available on behalf of 3C Construction and West Dakota Diesel and Hydraulics to applicants who plan to attend a certified vocational or technical school. No applications were received for the scholarships.

Congratulations to all who were chosen as this year's scholarship recipients as well as the class of 2026. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. 

Luck-of-the-Draw Scholarships available

If you are a graduating high school senior who is a dependent of a Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative member and was not chosen for a scholarship, we invite you to join us at our Annual Meeting for additional scholarship opportunities.

At our Annual Meeting in Mandan on June 11, two \$500 Luck-of-the-Draw Scholarship awards will be drawn. Students must RSVP to our Annual Meeting. Please visit our website at www.morghransou.com to learn more.

You're invited to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative's
**TOUCHSTONE ENERGY® MEMBER
APPRECIATION DAY**



MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OUT AT THE BALLPARK WITH THE BISMARCK LARKS!

DATE: SUNDAY, MAY 31

TIME: 6:05 PM (GATES OPEN AT 5:05 PM)

LOCATION: BISMARCK MUNICIPAL BALLPARK

Ticket options are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Secure your ticket today!

Your ticket is only \$5 as a thank you for being a Touchstone Energy Cooperative member.

Scan the QR code to the right to claim your \$5 ticket or visit morghransou.com



MANAGER'S MESSAGE: **Wildfire mitigation and planning**



Travis Kupper
Co-General Manager/CEO

Across the United States, the threat of wildfire has increased significantly in recent years. For electric utilities, the danger is all too real, as a power line contact can easily ignite dry vegetation, and high winds can accelerate the spread of wildfire.

As wildfire threats increase, electric cooperatives are creating detailed mitigation plans, which include strategic vegetation management, infrastructure and equipment upgrades, and sometimes public


safety power shutoffs.

Safety is our top priority. We've trained our crews to respond quickly and safely during emergency situations, and we're closely coordinating with local fire departments and emergency managers. We're also using mapping technology and weather monitoring tools to stay ahead of changing conditions.

Electric cooperatives are also utilizing new and developing technologies to safeguard their local grids. Some technologies help reduce the risk of fire and minimize structural damage if a fire does ignite.

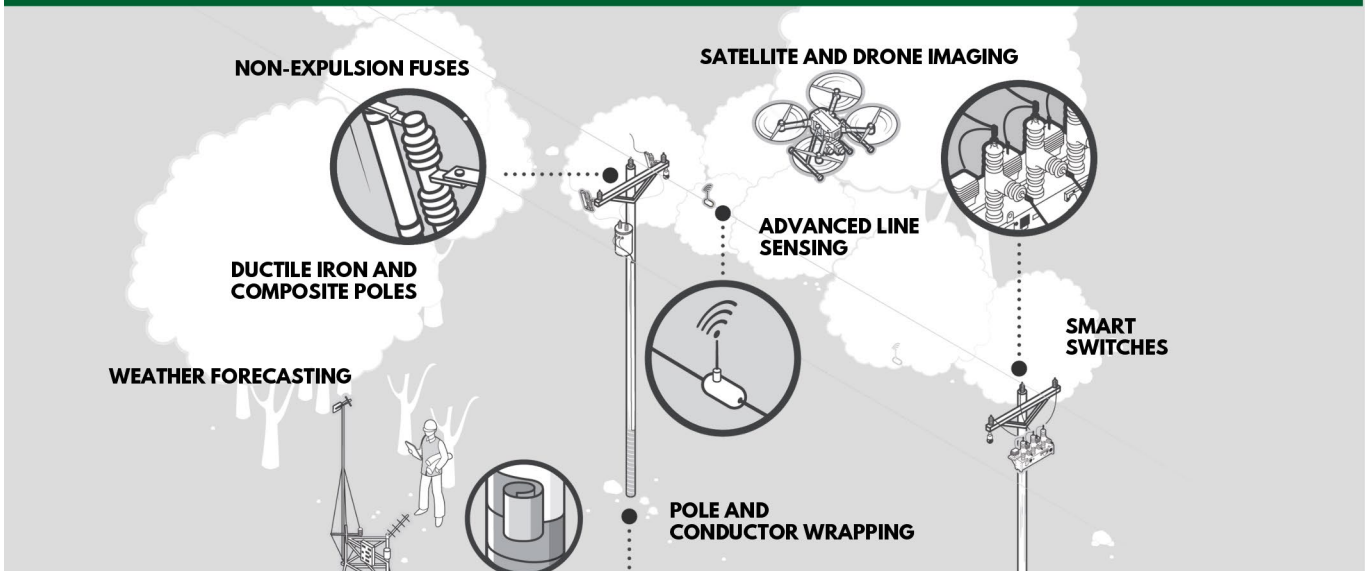
Our cooperative has been using advanced technology and specialized contractors to identify potential hotspots. We also employ infrared cameras at our substations to detect areas of abnormal heating before they become problems. In addition, our cooperative strategically deploys TripSaver and circuit reclosers during periods of elevated wildfire risk to enhance system protection and reduce the chance of a fire.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative was built on the values of reliability, service and community. By taking proactive steps today, we're working to ensure your power stays on and your family stays safe, no matter what challenges fire season may bring.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. 



FIRE MITIGATION TOOLS





MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD: **Your cooperative, your voice**



Steve Tomac

Board Chairperson

As your board of directors, one of our most important responsibilities is ensuring Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative remains strong, reliable and prepared for the future. Each year, the Annual Meeting gives us a chance to report to the members we serve. That's why your participation matters.


Unlike investor-owned utilities, our cooperative is guided by the people who use the power we provide. Your voice helps shape priorities, such as investing in

system reliability and making decisions that support the long-term health of our cooperative. The Annual Meeting is where those conversations happen openly and transparently.

At this year's meeting, you'll hear updates on the financial position of the cooperative and major projects underway, and learn about the challenges and opportunities ahead. You'll also have the chance to take part in the democratic process that sets cooperatives apart by electing directors, asking questions and helping guide the direction of the cooperative you own.

We also recognize that not everyone can attend in person, which is why Mor-Gran-Sou Electric made participation in the election of directors easier than ever. The director candidates have been selected by

the Nominating Committee and ballots will be mailed in May. Interviews with the director candidates can be found online by visiting our website or scanning the QR code below. Members can vote online, by mail-in paper ballot or in person at the Annual Meeting, giving you the flexibility to take part in cooperative governance in the way that works best for your schedule. Whether you cast your vote ahead of time or join us at the meeting, your participation plays an important role in shaping our cooperative's future.

We encourage you to attend, stay informed and stay engaged. Your involvement strengthens the cooperative and ensures we continue delivering safe, reliable, affordable electricity for generations to come. 



Join us on June 11 in Mandan for our Annual Meeting!

Members will soon receive an Annual Meeting packet in the mail. The packet includes meeting details, a ballot and voting instructions. Below is a preview of the board of director candidates. Scan the QR code below or visit our website to watch an introduction video on each candidate.



GRANT COUNTY CANDIDATE
Seth Johnston, Leith



MANDAN AREA CANDIDATE
Thomas Anseth, Mandan



MANDAN AREA CANDIDATE
Tess Schmidt, Mandan



SIoux COUNTY CANDIDATE
Katie Wirt, Selfridge

Scan here
with your
smartphone



MESSAGE FROM OPERATIONS: **Projects update**



Gary Fitterer

Manager of Operations

As Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative crews begin to prepare for summer construction projects across the service area, we'd like to share projects our crews have worked on. The mild weather has helped line crews advance various projects, such as underground power line conversion and line patrol and maintenance.

Solen Substation conversion

Last summer, line crews worked to convert 7 miles of three-phase overhead power line to three-phase underground cable from the Solen Substation, which feeds the town of Solen.

Crews completed this conversion and retired the overhead power line. Installation of underground cable helps add reliability to the system by reducing exposure of power lines to weather conditions, animals and other factors that may cause electric service disruptions.

and maintenance


Annually, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric crews perform line patrol. Line patrol is an inspection of cooperative infrastructure to identify and preemptively make repairs before they could cause an issue or power outage. During line patrol, crews note if something needs maintenance or immediate assistance.

Eight substations were scheduled for patrol this year. Due to the mild weather, crews completed maintenance they found along the way. Mor-Gran-Sou Electric line crews also maintained meters and changed out aged oil-circuit reclosers.

Employee safety

Safety is a high priority at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, as we continually strive to ensure safety. Employees attend training sessions and continue to take part in safety meetings. Cooperative equipment, such as personal protective equipment, insulated rubber gloves, hot sticks and other gear were inspected. Inspections occur as needed or annually.

In preparation for the summer, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is ordering and receiving material and obtaining easements for scheduled projects outlined in the 2026 construction work plan.

As we continue to work across the service area, we encourage you to report any issues or safety concerns you may see on Mor-Gran-Sou Electric's infrastructure by calling the office. 

Infrastructure inspections





SAFETY STARTS WITH ME: Electrical Safety Month



Jason Jahner
Area Foreman

Working in the rural electric industry Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative employees understand the dangers and risks associated with the industry. During National Electrical Safety Month, we want to ensure you are aware of the risks and understand what you can do to prevent injuries and outages.

“Safety is a top priority at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric,” says Jason Jahner, area foreman. “We work hard to do our part to keep our

communities safely powered, but when it comes to electrical safety, everyone has a part to play.”

Here are a few key reminders to help keep you safe:

- **Look up and look out.** Always be aware of overhead power lines when using ladders, moving grain

augers or operating large equipment. Contact with power lines can be deadly.

- **Call before you dig.** Whether you’re installing a fence, planting trees or starting a new building project, contacting 811 before you dig can prevent accidentally hitting underground utilities.
- **Don’t approach or touch downed power lines.** If you see a downed power line, stay far away and report it to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric immediately. Never assume a line is dead, even after severe weather.
- **Use equipment safely.** Check cords, outlets and tools for damage before use. Replace frayed wires and never overload outlets, especially in older buildings or barns.

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is committed to providing safe, reliable electric services, but electrical safety starts with each of us. Keeping these tips in mind, whether at home, in the shop or in a business, helps keep our communities safe and connected.



Discounts offered for Medora vacation

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative is able to offer its members a discount by being a Touchstone Energy® member. Simply call 1-800-MEDORA-1 and give the discount code of “TOUCH2026” for a 15% discount on all of the following during any night of the season.

- Medora Musical
- Pitchfork steak fondue
- Bully Pulpit Golf Course
- Gospel Bruch tickets
- Old Town Hall Theater shows

LODGING AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

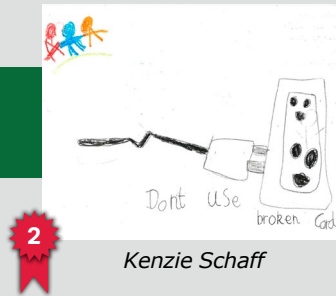
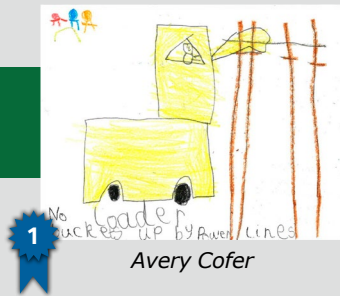
- Elkhorn Quarters
- Badlands Motel
- Rough Riders Hotel
- Hotel 1883

The code is good for reservations over the phone, online or in person. A green fees discount will be applied at check-in for a tee time at the golf course.

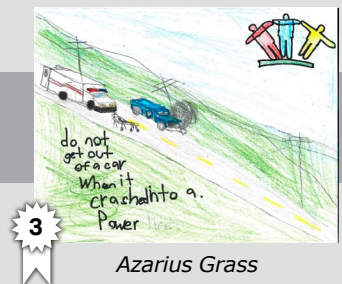
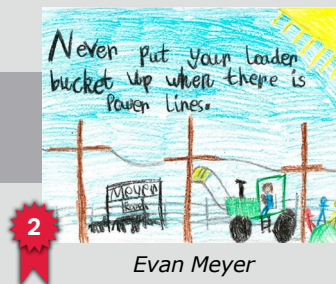


MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Preschool to kindergarten



Grades 1-3




Grades 4-6



Safety poster contest winners

Children in the Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative area grabbed their art supplies and blew us away with how they displayed staying safe at home or on the farm when around electricity. Around 80 posters were submitted and judged by our employees.

Each year, we look forward to seeing the entries we receive for the safety poster contest. No poster is quite like the other and they all demonstrate the variety of artistic abilities of some of our youngest members. Thank you to everyone who submitted a poster and congratulations to those who were awarded. 

Preschool to kindergarten

First – Avery Cofer, child of Caleb and Allison Cofer

Second – Kenzie Schaff, child of Casey and Kari Schaff

Third – Abby Meyer, child of Calvin and Ashley Meyer

First to third grade

First – August Deichert, child of Jessica and Andrew Deichert

Second – Evan Meyer, child of Calvin and Ashley Meyer

Third – Azarius Grass, dependent of Corrine Iron Shield

Fourth to sixth grade

First – Lillian Blend, child of Justin and Jessica Blend

Second – Clare Petersen, child of Andrew and Hayle Petersen

Third – Cannon Schaff, child of Kari and Casey Schaff



MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS Feb. 25

The board of directors meeting of Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative was held on Feb. 25 at the Mandan Service Center. Chair Steve Tomac called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. CT. A quorum was present. Also present were co-General Managers/CEOs Jason Bentz and Travis Kupper, Chief Financial Officer Alex Craigmile, Chief of Staff/Member Services Manager Julie Armijo, Interim General Counsel Andrew Fergel and Executive Assistant Connie Hill.

Consent agenda: The consent agenda was approved as presented.

Strategic items: Bentz and Kupper presented the co-general managers' report, which included updates on legislative topics from the district managers meeting, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) International Program, grant funding requests and other meetings. Director Chad Harrison was presented with NRECA's Director Gold credential. The managers also discussed service rules, regulations and fee schedules. Additionally, Basin Electric Power Cooperative reports were available for review.

Department reports: Craigmile provided a financial report, which included a balance sheet and income statement. Operations Manager Gary Fitterer was absent, but provided an operations report for review. Armijo provided a member services report on 2026 member appreciation events and the 2026 annual meeting. She also updated the board on the Nominating Committee, member survey and youth programs. Chief Information Officer Charlie Dunbar provided the board with a written report. Fergel provided a general counsel report on legal topics and his projects, such as regulatory matters, service rules and regulations, along with other items.

Discussion/general information: The board discussed the updated wildfire mitigation plan and bylaw amendments.

Executive session: The board entered into an executive session.

The meeting concluded with adjournment. Secretary-Treasurer Pam Geiger certified the accuracy of the minutes.

Next meeting date: The next meeting is at 9:30 a.m. CT on May 27 in Mandan.

Our Operation Round Up application deadline is soon approaching!

Do you know of a non-profit seeking grant funds?

They may qualify for Operation Round Up funding. Visit our morgransou.com for more information and to apply.

The next deadline is May 8.



MOR-GRAN-SOU
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

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Email us: info@morgransou.com
UNDERGROUND LINE LOCATES
800-795-0555 OR 811

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Chair.....Steve Tomac
Vice Chair.....Chad Harrison
Secretary-Treasurer..... Pam Geiger
Directors.....Mark Doll, Rodney Froelich,
Bob J. Leingang, Ryan Petrick,
Kathy Tokach, Casey Wells

MANAGEMENT

Co-GM/CEOTravis Kupper
Co-GM/CEO Jason Bentz

www.morgransou.com

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