

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: PLAYING IT SAFE ONLINE



In today's world, most of us don't leave the front door unlocked. We protect our homes, loved ones and valuables from intruders with locks, alarms and other security measures. Cybersecurity is no different. It's the practice of protecting other valuables, such as your identity, banking, health records and other sensitive information, from digital attacks and theft.

In addition to pumpkin spice lattes and crisper air, fall is the time of year we often see a rise in phishing scams. While taking necessary steps to protect our personal information is a year-round practice, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative uses this time to share helpful cybersecurity reminders across our team of employees.

Given our increased reliance on internet – connected devices and gadgets, I'd like to share a few cybersecurity tips and let you know how Mor-Gran-Sou Electric is working to boost our own cybersecurity efforts.

According to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency, an agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which is responsible for strengthening cybersecurity and infrastructure protection, these are the four best ways to keep you and your family safe online.

- 1. Turn on multi-factor authentication or two-step verification on your accounts.** The additional layer of protection makes it much harder for criminals to access your information. Even if hackers obtain your password, they may be unable to access your accounts if multistep verification is enabled.
- 2. Update your software.** This is one of the easiest ways to protect your personal data. When downloading a software update, make sure it's coming straight from the company that created it. Beware of fake popups that request urgent downloads. Better yet, turn on automatic updates.
- 3. Think before you click.** Most successful cyberattacks start with a phishing email. Don't take the bait when cyber

criminals go phishing. Avoid emails (or texts) that look too good to be true, oddly urgent, poorly crafted or include unusual requests.

4. Use strong passwords. Use long, unique and complex words or phrases. Consider using a password manager to save time. It works across all devices, protects your identity and notifies you of potential phishing websites.

For the young people in your household

Just as you would talk with your children about safety in the physical world, discuss ways to stay safe online. Help them understand the public nature of the internet. Young people need to know what is shared online stays online and is difficult (if not impossible) to take back. Just as you would guard your money or valuables, children need to learn to guard their personal information, especially on social networks. As a parent or guardian, help your children learn about and use the privacy and security settings on social networks and gaming sites.

Keeping electric grid and your data secure

We're doing our share on the cyber front. Part of offering excellent service is keeping that service secure and reliable. For Mor-Gran-Sou Electric, reliability means repairing wear-and-tear, upgrading our equipment to withstand storms and severe weather, and using technology and best practices to keep our system secure from cybersecurity issues. We also work together with co-ops across the country to develop new technologies and infrastructure, learn from each other and keep the grid's network secure.

While we can't stop a storm or predict every disruption, as a co-op, we do everything we can to keep the lights on and our members protected. Because if we all do our part, our interconnected world will be safer and more secure for everyone.

Travis Kupper, Co-General Manager/ CEO

Mor-Gran-Sou Electric

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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

Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Travis Kupper
Jason Bentz



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Are you looking for a way to serve the people of western North Dakota? Look no further, as Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative can help you fulfill that desire with director positions as well as bylaw and resolutions now being accepted for the annual meeting scheduled for June 13, 2024.

Board of director elections

A Mor-Gran-Sou Electric director term is a three-year commitment. Directors are limited to serving six consecutive three-year terms. A director then is not eligible for another six consecutive three-year terms until one year has elapsed. The following board positions will be elected at the upcoming annual meeting:

- At-large director position presently held by Steve Tomac
- Morton County director position presently held by Kathy Tokach
- Sioux County director position presently held by Chad Harrison

No nominations are accepted from the floor at the annual meeting, according to the bylaws. Instead, the board of directors appoints a Nominating Committee of five to nine members to represent the cooperative. These members will provide a list of qualified and willing candidates to the board for approval and inclusion on the ballot at the board of directors meeting scheduled for Feb. 28, 2024.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee (the committee) has been appointed by the board. The members of the

committee include Jennifer Bonogofsky, St. Anthony; Jackie Buckley, Mandan; Rosie Erhardt, Mandan; Glenda Gross, Selfridge; Garek Murphy, Fort Yates; Jim Neubauer, Mandan; Toby Olin, New Salem; Donald D. Roth, New Leipzig; and Yvonne Seidler, New Leipzig. The committee will meet for the first time at 7 p.m. CT Dec. 11 and another meeting has been scheduled for 7 p.m. CT Feb. 20, 2024.

For a person to be nominated, the member running for a board seat must submit the completed declaration of candidacy form to Mor-Gran-Sou Electric by 4 p.m. CT on Thursday, Feb. 15, 2024. All qualified and willing candidates who have completed and forwarded the declaration of candidacy form will be included in the list the committee will provide to the board.

Bylaws and resolutions for the annual meeting

To change any bylaws or propose resolutions, you must provide them in writing before the annual meeting on June 13, 2024. The Nominating Committee will review these proposals and inform the board. Please submit your changes in writing by Feb. 15, 2024, or present them in person at a Nominating Committee meeting.

If you or someone you know is interested in being nominated for a board position or to submit a bylaw amendment or resolution, please refer to the information below for deadlines and further information.

MOR-GRAN-SOU ELECTRIC CANDIDACY, BYLAW AND RESOLUTION INFORMATION

DEADLINE INFORMATION

Dec. 11, 2023 – Initial Nominating Committee Meeting, 7 p.m. CT, Flasher

Feb. 15, 2024 – Declaration of candidacy, bylaw and resolution submission deadline, submitted by 4 p.m. CT to the Flasher or Mandan office

Feb. 20, 2024 – Final Nominating Committee Meeting, 7 p.m. CT, Flasher

June 13, 2024 – Mor-Gran-Sou Electric annual meeting, Mandan

CONTACT INFORMATION

For board nominations, contact the Nominating Committee or Julie Armijo at Mor-Gran-Sou Electric.

Completed board declaration forms, bylaws and resolutions can be mailed to:
Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative,
P.O. Box 297, Flasher, ND, 58535-0297
or P.O. Box 1090, Mandan, ND, 58554-7090.

Forms can also be emailed to Julie at jarmijo@morgransou.com.

For additional information or questions, call Julie at 800-750-8212, 701-663-0297 or 701-597-3301.