

North Central's News

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General Manager Doyle Hazen

Risky Business Mitigating Risk Through Strategic Planning

Recently, North Central Public Power District (NCPD) went through a strategic planning session, facilitated by one of its banking services providers, the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. In that process, NCPD staff, directors and the facilitators spent one and a half days going over strategic issues and analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). The strategic planning process allows NCPD to focus resources, both human and physical, on project goals that are important to the District.

In the process of choosing important goals and addressing issues that impact the operation of the District, risk vs. benefit was constantly weighed. All businesses are faced with risk. Risk can be an opportunity, or it can be a threat. One of the strategic issues discussed in the planning process was NCPD's financial position and outlook. Financial decisions must be based on good information. NCPD relies on current financials and the historic trending analysis to see where it is at and where it is going. NCPD also looks to a third-party

rate analyst to give updates to the Cost of Service, Four Year Financial Projections, and Rate Studies.



for wholesale power, maintaining the system, and any administrative costs. The last Cost of Service study was finished in 2018 using, for the most part, the previous five years information through the 2017 numbers. The Cost of Service is integral to determining the rate levels and understanding the cost of everything.

Although NCPD does financials and runs historical data, the financial projections are prepared with the help of a rate analyst. The projection is done in conjunction with information from NCPD's four year work plan, strategic plan and fixed asset purchase plan. Due to the seasonality of NCPD's business and the impact that weather has on its revenues, a normalized projection of revenue is used to determine funding levels for

the District.

Based on the former information, NCPD's rates are set with assumptions that are provided to the rate analyst. Those assumptions "tune" the rates based on what the customers' needs are, how growth is trending and what strategic planning has determined is important for distributing electricity to NCPD's customers.

On February 27, 2023, NCPD's board of directors approved its most recent Strategic Plan. In the month of February, NCPD has engaged Utility Financial Solutions to do a new Cost of Service, Financial Projection and Rate Design. All of these are important for NCPD to have situational awareness so that good decisions are made.

As eluded to earlier, NCPD's business is essentially managing risk by having a clear picture of where it is going and understanding where it is currently. Having a good strategic plan and a constant awareness of the current position minimizes risk to the District and ultimately to its customers. You can't eliminate risk, but you can mitigate through understanding.

Contractor Hired for Tree Removal

North Central Public Power District (NCPD) has contracted C&N Firewood & Tree Removal, LLC, from Plainview, NE, to cut and remove trees in the villages of Verdigre and Royal. Trees are one of the leading causes of power outages. Tree trimming and removal is a proactive approach to this ongoing problem.

Customers are reminded to report any potential issues concerning trees and power lines. NCPD works continuously to ensure its customers have safe and reliable electric service.



Sealed Bids to be Taken

North Central Public Power District will be taking sealed bids for the following equipment:

2010 Dump Trailer. Custom built by S & W Welding. 14k GVRW. 18ft dump box with pintle hitch

Sealed bids must be submitted to:

North Central PPD
Attn: Operations Department
PO Box 90
Creighton, NE 68729
by: **May 15, 2023**

NCPD reserves the right to refuse all bids.

Managing Trees Under Power Lines and Updating No Spray List

Power outages can occur when trees grow into or fall on power lines. This is not only an inconvenience, but can be very costly.

North Central PPD manages these invasive trees by spraying under and around its lines. This helps to control the underbrush from growing into the lines and to give linemen better access to the poles. If you have property that needs to be on NCPD's No Spray List, please call the Operations Department at 402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060.

Brian York, NCPD ROW/Maintenance employee, will be working the Page Rural substation and the Verdigre substation.



Safety Tip

Safe
Electricity.org®

Do not trim trees/branches within 10 feet of a powerline or pole. Only certified line clearance tree trimmers are authorized to trim near powerlines.

Employees and Directors Recognized for Years of Service



Receiving Years of Service Awards from NCPD Board President Terry Strope at the 2023 Employee Banquet were Receptionist/Billing Clerk Teri Detlefsen - 10 years. Network Engineer Eric Schroeder - 5 years and Board Member Mary Ketelsen - 15 years, received their awards at the monthly board meeting.

Youth Energy Leadership Camp Application Available



Linda Sokol,
Energy Advisor

Every year North Central Public Power District (NCPPD) makes a trip to the Nebraska Rural Electric Association's Youth Energy Leadership Camp available to teen applicants. The camp will offer all the same activities, it will just be at a different location. As most of you have heard, the Nebraska State 4-H Camp in the Halsey National Forest, Halsey, NE, burned in a fire last year. This year's camp will be held at Camp Comeca in Cozad, NE, from Sunday, July 9 to Thursday, July 13, 2023. The camp can be viewed at comeca.camp.

If you have a student in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade that would like to attend, the deadline

for submitting an application is May 9, 2023. The Youth Energy Leadership Camp is established as an operating rural electric system and provides a "hands-on" approach to member-owned businesses. The students will join high school students from Nebraska and Wyoming, along with adult counselors and junior counselors. The adult counselors are employees of rural electric systems who donate their time and talents to the camp. The junior counselors are selected by their peers to return to next year's camp.

A highlight of the camp involves a tour of the Kingsley Hydro Station at Lake McConaughy and Gerald Gentleman Station, a coal-fired power plant at Sutherland, NE. Recreational activities include basketball, volleyball and canoeing, with a banquet and a dance.

An application form can be obtained on our website www.ncppd.com under the Youth Programs link, at your local school from your guidance counselor, or contact our office and we will mail or email it.

NCPPD's board of directors will review the camp applications and select which students will be invited to the camp. Students that attend the Leadership Camp are then eligible to apply for a chance to go to the NREA Youth Tour in Washington D.C.



Nebraska State 4-H Camp in the Halsey National Forest, Halsey, NE, was destroyed by a fire in 2022.

Rebate Program Awarded to Four Customers

The Department of Environment and Energy announced the 2022 Clean Diesel Rebate Program recipients: A total of 17 projects were awarded at the cost of \$325,041.60. Out of the 17 awarded, four were North Central Public Power District's customers. These projects came to a total \$74,398.04. This is a good program to apply for if you're planning to replace your diesel irrigation motor to an Electric motor. Contact Energy Adviser Linda Sokol for more information at 402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060.

From our homes to yours . . .

Flaky Reuben Bites

Ingredients

Rolls

- 1 can Crescent Rolls
- ¼ lb thinly sliced corned beef
- ½ cup finely shredded Swiss cheese (2 oz)
- ⅓ cup sauerkraut, well drained

Dipping Sauce

- ½ cup Thousand Island dressing
- 1 tbsp milk

Directions

Heat oven to 375°F. Unroll dough into 2 long rectangles. Press each to form 12-inch-long rectangle; press perforations to seal. Layer half of corned beef on each dough rectangle, cutting to fit if necessary. Top each with cheese and sauerkraut. Starting at long side, roll up each tightly; seal long edges. Place seam side down on ungreased cookie sheet; tuck edges under. Bake 12 to 14 minutes or until golden brown. Meanwhile, in small bowl, mix dipping sauce ingredients. To serve, cut warm rolls into 1-inch slices; place on serving platter. Serve with dipping sauce.





1409 Main St • PO Box 90 • Creighton, NE 68729-0090
www.ncppd.com • E-Mail: ncentral@ncppd.net
Customer Service: 402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060
Reporting Power Outage: 888-358-5112

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**NCPD's Office will be
CLOSED
May 29, 2023
in observance of
Memorial Day**



FOR SALE: Eston Gopher machine pull type. \$1500. Call 402-640-8524.

FOR SALE: Chevy bucket truck, 45 ft. high reach. \$11,000. Call 402-640-8524.

FOR SALE: Massey Ferguson 135 Tractor with finish mower. \$4,000. Call 402-720-0746.

Do you have something to sell or are you looking for something in particular? You may call, send or email (bargain.barn@ncppd.net) your description of what's for sale or what you are looking for to our office. The ad will run in the Bargain Barn section free for one month. Please include name and telephone number. No commercial ads will be accepted, personal items only.

Directors Take Oath of Office



Manager of Finance & Administration Brent Eggerling administers the Oath of Office to directors: appointed director James Kounovsky - Subdivision 7; and re-elected directors: Terry Strobe - Subdivision 4, and Linda Jedlicka - Subdivision 3.

Kounovsky Appointed Subdivision 7 Board Member

At North Central Public Power District's (NCPD) December 19, 2022, board meeting, James J. Kounovsky was appointed by the board of directors to fill the vacant position for Subdivision 7. The vacancy was the result of the redistricting of NCPD's Charter following the completion of the 2020 Census. Subdivision 7 was reassigned from an At-Large voting position to represent customers residing in Section 33 and the west half of 34 in North Dry Creek. This includes a major portion of Plainview and a portion of Section 4 and 5 north of Highway 13 in South Dry Creek. Kounovsky was seated on the board and took his oath of office representing Subdivision 7 at the January annual meeting. We welcome Jim to NCPD and look forward to working with him while he serves on the board.