



Osceola Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative
The power of human connections®



May 2026

Annual Meeting Review



Contact Us

Office:
1102 Egret Drive
P.O. Box 127
Sibley, IA 51249

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Phone:
Local: 712-754-2519
Toll Free: 888-754-2519

On evenings, weekends or holidays an answering service will accept power outage or emergency type calls only.

Online:
osceolaelectric.com

Take the Quiz

Read through the newsletter and submit the quiz on the back for a chance to win a \$10 bill credit. You can also email your answers to info@osceolaelectric.com

OEC Recipes

Submit your favorite Salsa Recipe for consideration to be printed in our August Newsletter. Submission deadline is July 20. Printed recipes are worth \$10 bill credit.



In observation of Memorial Day
Osceola Electric will be closed May 25.

The 87th Annual Meeting of the Members of Osceola Electric Cooperative, Inc., (OEC) was held March 21, 2026 at the Osceola Electric Cooperative Inc., office in Sibley. The board and staff served coffee, juice, and rolls prior to the business meeting.

President Terrence Clark called the meeting to order and welcomed members attending the meeting.

Nominating Committee Chairperson Ron Jacobs reported the following individuals had been nominated as candidates for Director. Area 6: Daniel Heilman and Nate Mayer; Area 7: Derek Ackerman and Matthew Wildeman. Voting was done by both mail-in ballots prior to the meeting and ballots cast at the Annual Meeting. The results of the Director balloting: Area 6 Daniel Heilman and Area 7 Derek Ackerman.

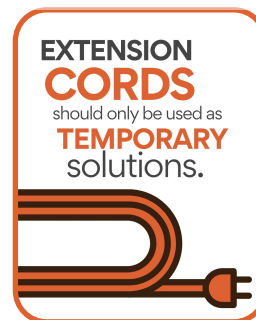
Dean Haspels, Secretary/Treasurer, gave the financial report. OEC had revenue from the sale of electricity \$10,241,702. Other services, interest, capital credits provided

OEC with a total revenue of \$10,510,778. OEC expenses from purchased power were \$7,009,244 or 71 percent of OEC expenses. Other expenses, operations, maintenance, consumer accounting and information, administrative, depreciation and interest expense totaled \$9,851,810 leaving margins of \$658,968 for 2025.

Manager Jeff TenNapel reported on the activities of the Cooperative. Construction Work Plan projects completed and an update on OEC line crew construction for 2025. Legislative and power supplier updates were reported on. Safety milestone of 2,410 days safe – no lost time away from work was discussed.

A reorganizational meeting was held. Officers are Terrence Clark as President, Derek Ackerman as Vice President, and Dean Haspels as Secretary/Treasurer. Also, three L&O Directors were elected: Adam Hoekstra, Dean Haspels and Terrence Clark.

May is Electrical Safety Month



Safety First With 811

Excavation safety

For professional excavators such as construction workers and contractors, ensuring safety is crucial. Beneath every site lies a network of utility lines — electric, water, gas and telecommunications. Striking these lines can cause:

- » Costly delays.
- » Expensive repairs.
- » Service disruptions to the community.
- » And most importantly, serious injury or death.

Contacting 811

Contacting 811 before digging helps prevent these risks.

When you contact 811, they will notify relevant utility companies to mark underground lines, free of charge, using colored flags or paint. This process usually only takes a few days.

Different colors are used to mark underground utilities, and each color is universal:

- » Red – electric
- » Orange – communications, telephone/CATV
- » Blue – potable water
- » Green – sewer/drainage
- » Yellow – gas/petroleum
- » Purple – reclaimed water



- » White – premark site of proposed excavation

Best practices for digging

After receiving utility markings, follow these practices:

- » Respect the marks. Dig carefully around them.
- » Maintain markings. Refresh if they fade or are removed.
- » Verify responses. Ensure all utilities have reported.
- » Hand dig in tolerance zones. Use hand tools within 18–24 inches of marked utilities.

Remember, 811 does not locate private utilities. Hire a private locator for systems including underground sprinklers, invisible fences, data communication systems or gas piping to a garage.

Training and communication

Train your team on excavation procedures and the importance of

contacting 811. Regular toolbox talks can reinforce safe practices and potentially save lives.

Failing to contact 811 is unsafe and often illegal. Many states have laws requiring excavators to use the 811 system and to premark proposed sites, with potential fines for non-compliance.

Your responsibility

Always contact 811 before any excavation, no matter what the project size. Once utilities are located, wear proper protective gear before digging.

Whether you're digging a foundation for a skyscraper or installing a fence post, check before you dig. It's free, easy and helps keep your crew and the community out of harm's way. Prioritizing 811 reflects your commitment to safety and professionalism. Stay informed, stay prepared, and stay safe!

RECare Customer Authorization Form

_____ I would like to make a one-time contribution to RECare.

My check is enclosed.

_____ I would like to contribute \$_____ per month.

I understand that this amount will be billed monthly.

My gift is a matching fund. The matching fund is _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Account # _____

RECare Program

Osceola Electric Cooperative's commitment to the communities we serve continues with the implementation of the RECare program. RECare is a voluntary energy assistance program that offers funds to local families who need assistance with their winter heating bills or in weatherization of homes of low income consumers of Osceola Electric Cooperative.

You can make a one-time contribution, or you may make a monthly contribution that will be automatically added to your monthly electric bill. You may also make your contribution part of a matching fund if you have access to one. Even a dollar a month pledge or contribution of any amount will help others! The program is administered by local community action agencies.

Mail the completed authorization form to: RECare, Osceola Electric, PO Box 127, Sibley, IA, 51249.

Understanding Energy Demand

The following article is for the purpose of understanding demand and purchasing. Written by Meghaan Evan who writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not for profit electric cooperatives.

You may not think you need to have an understanding of energy demand and purchasing, but do you ever look at your energy bill and wonder what it all means? If your answer to that question is "yes," then you might be interested to learn how demand impacts your utility bill.

To start, it is important to understand how electricity is made and how it is delivered to your home.

Before Osceola Electric Cooperative can send electricity to your home, that electricity needs to be generated by a Generation and Transmission cooperative (G&T). Once the electricity has been generated, it travels over high-voltage transmission lines to substations, where the voltage is reduced to a safer level. The electricity then travels over distribution power lines and finds its way into your home. So, while you pay your bill to us – your electric distribution cooperative – we don't actually generate the electricity you use. That is the job of the G&T.

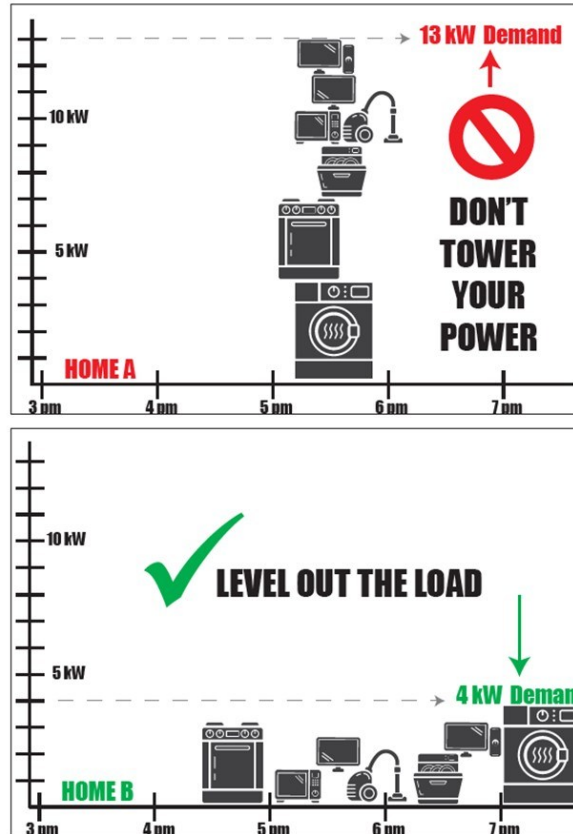
We do help to determine how much electricity our members need to power their homes and businesses, and you play a big part in determining how much electricity the G&T needs to create in order to keep the lights on in our community. That is where these terms "consumption" and "demand" come in.

Consumption is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh). Demand is measured in kilowatts (kW). A lightbulb "consumes" a certain number of watts, let's say 100 watts per hour. If that lightbulb stays on for 10 hours, it "demands" a certain number of kilowatts (in this case, 1 kW) from the generation station producing

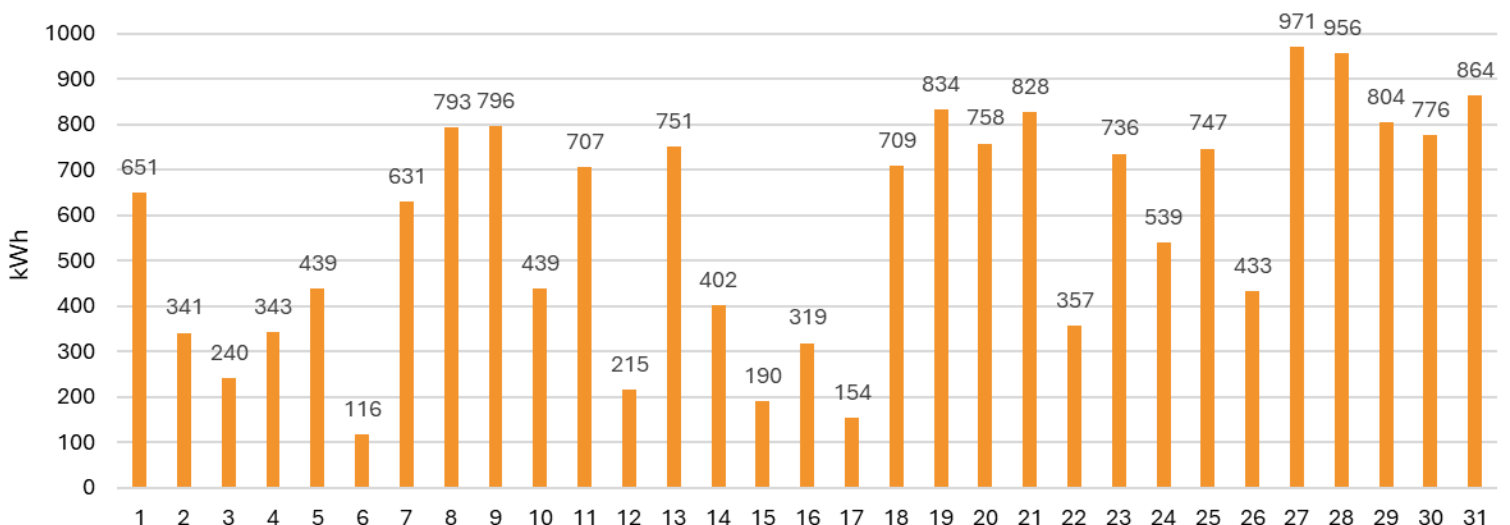
electricity. Now, if you turn on 10, 100-watt lightbulbs in your home for one hour, you are still consuming the same number of kWh. However, you are placing a demand on the utility to have those kW available to you over the course of one hour, instead of ten hours. This requires the generation and transmission plant to produce more power in less time in order to meet your demand.

OEC purchases kilowatt hours from the G&T based on the average demand of our members. Peak demand refers to when the demand for electricity is highest. For OEC as a whole this is typically during the evening when families return home from work or school, cook dinner and use appliances the most. Your peak demand is dependent on when you use the most electricity throughout the month. Your demand charges are calculated using the single highest 15-minute interval of power consumption over the billing cycle multiplied by the current kW rate.

Generating and distributing power can be a tricky and complicated business, but rest assured Osceola Electric Cooperative will always meet the necessary demand to provide safe, reliable and affordable electricity to your family.



March 2026 Solar Park Production



Bread Pudding by Shirley Senn

Bread Pudding:

- 5 cups bread cubes
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 2 cups milk
- Rasins if desired

Grease 2 qt casserole. Soak bread in milk. Add butter, sugar, eggs, salt, vanilla and cinnamon. Add raisins if desired. Place casserole in a larger pan of warm water.

Bake at 350° for 1 hour.

Vanilla Topping:

- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 tablespoons butter

Add sugar, salt, flour, vanilla, & butter to boiling water. Stir till thick. Spoon over bread pudding.



Basin Tour



Seats are filling up for the 2026 Basin Bus Tour. Call the office to reserve your seats now!

This experience offers a unique chance to learn more about how electric cooperatives operate, meet fellow members, and see the bigger picture of the energy industry all while enjoying time away.

This tour is scheduled for August 5-7 and seats are limited. Call the office to reserve your spot 712-754-2519 or for more information.

Employee Milestone



Osceola Electric Cooperative Board President, Terrence Clark, presented Kelly Slagter with a 5 year Service Award.

Congratulations, Kelly on reaching this milestone.

Questions or Complaints

Osceola Electric strives to provide excellent customer service to each of our members. If a member has a problem with their service, please write Osceola Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 127, Sibley, IA 51249, call toll free at 1-888-754-2519, or email us at info@osceolaelectric.com.

If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety or engineering

standards, or renewable energy and Osceola Electric does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Commission by calling (515) 725-7300, or toll-free 1-877-565-4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069, or by email to customer@iuc.iowa.gov

IOEC Quiz

Send in your completed quiz for your chance to win!
IOEC will draw 3 members to receive \$10 credit towards their electric bill. Congratulations to last month's winners: Marilyn Poppen, Bill Budden, and Keith Klaassen.

1. Electrical Safety Month is in _____.
2. On March 27 the solar park produced _____ kWh.
3. Always contact _____ before any excavation, no matter what the project size.

Name: _____

Account #: _____

Operating Statistics

March	2025	2026
Billed consumers, farm	1,153	1,152
Billed consumers, non-farm and others	125	128
Kilowatts sold, farm	2,626,633	2,653,871
Kilowatts sold, non-farm and others	6,023,366	5,590,139
Average consumption, farm	2,278	2,304
Average Consumption, non-farm	48,187	43,673
Average statement, farm	271.64	300.05
Average statement, non-farm and others	3,746.74	3,628.25
Total minimum bills	18	14
Outage time per consumer—minutes	46 1/9	4 4/9
Annual Meeting	March 2027	