



February 2025

# 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

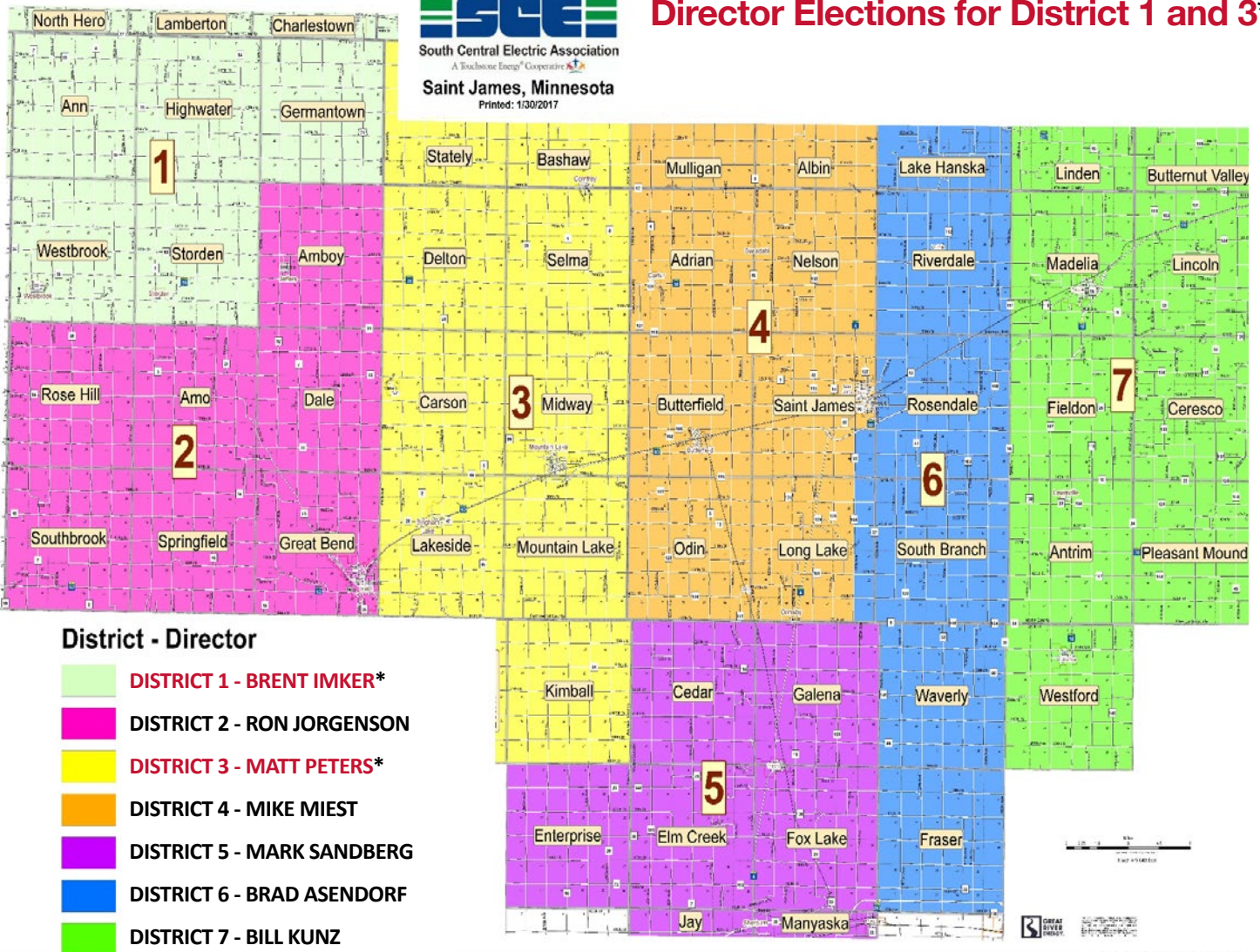
Windom Community Center  
 1750 Cottonwood Lake Dr., Windom

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

Join us for South Central Electric Association's annual meeting on Tuesday April 1, 2025. 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 1 and 3\*





# 2025 REBATE PROGRAMS

The 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 online at [www.southcentralelectric.com](http://www.southcentralelectric.com).

## REBATES:



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

Please see rebate applications for details.

- Dehumidifier** ..... **\$20** Credit applied to the energy bill
- Air Source Heat Pumps (ducted)** ..... **\$300** HSPF rating over 9.5 **\$500**
- Ductless/Mini-Split Heat Pump**..... **\$350**
- Ground Source Heat Pump**..... **\$300/ton** (*Limit 10 tons*)
- Air Conditioner Tune Up** ..... **\$30**
- Managed Electric Heat**..... **\$20/kW**  
Radio controlled, qualifies for a 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.

## 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.



## Ron Horman Announces Upcoming Retirement

South Central Electric Association Cooperative (SCEA) and Redwood Electric Cooperative (REC) announce the upcoming retirement of their shared CEO, Ron Horman. Mr. Horman has been at the head of SCEA and REC for over 13 years, and recently announced his plans to retire in the summer of 2025. SCEA and REC have now opened their search for their next shared CEO.

REC is based out of Clements, Minnesota, and SCEA is based in St. James, Minnesota. The cooperatives have shared a CEO for over 20 years, with Mr. Horman being the second such person to serve in a shared CEO role for the two co-ops. REC and SCEA have established a joint-board committee, who will conduct the search for the next CEO.

Details of the position can be found on the MREA website under the "Careers" tab, as well as on the respective REC and SCEA websites. A more detailed release celebrating the career of Mr. Horman will be shared nearer his retirement date.



# 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 2024. 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 Public or Christian, 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 21, 2025 and the applicant must complete a personal interview on February 26, 2025. Interview times are between 4pm and 6pm.

### Prizes

#### 1<sup>st</sup> All-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. June 16-21, 2025

*(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 19, 2025**



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 19, 2025.**

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.

# 2024 Work Plan Summary

Jeff Benson, Operations Manager

The Operations Department had another busy year replacing some older infrastructure and other projects throughout the service territory. All of this work hardens the infrastructure increasing the reliability of South Central Electric's distribution system.

In Germantown township of Cottonwood County we installed a single-phase aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR) overhead line to replace a line with numerous rejected poles that was built in 1939. About half a mile of single-phase underground cable was also installed. In Westbrook and Storden Townships along Highway 30, the transmission company will be replacing poles in 2025. South Central Electric began a project to bury the three-phase underbuilt line to remove it from the transmission poles. This project will be completed in the spring of 2025.

Several projects also took place in Watonwan County. In St. James Township a little over a mile of single-phase underground was installed along Highway 4 to remove it the overhead from the transmission line that Xcel Energy will be replacing in 2025. In Long Lake Township two miles of three-phase underground was installed. This replaced the three-phase overhead line that was first built as a single-phase in the early 1940s and converted to three-phase in the 1960s. This line still had some original poles in use. In South Branch Township

approximately 2 ¼ miles of overhead V-phase was replaced with underground three-phase. The line was originally built in 1938 and converted to V-phase in the 1960s. In addition, approximately 1 ½ miles of single-phase underground was installed to replace the overhead line built in 1938 containing some original poles.

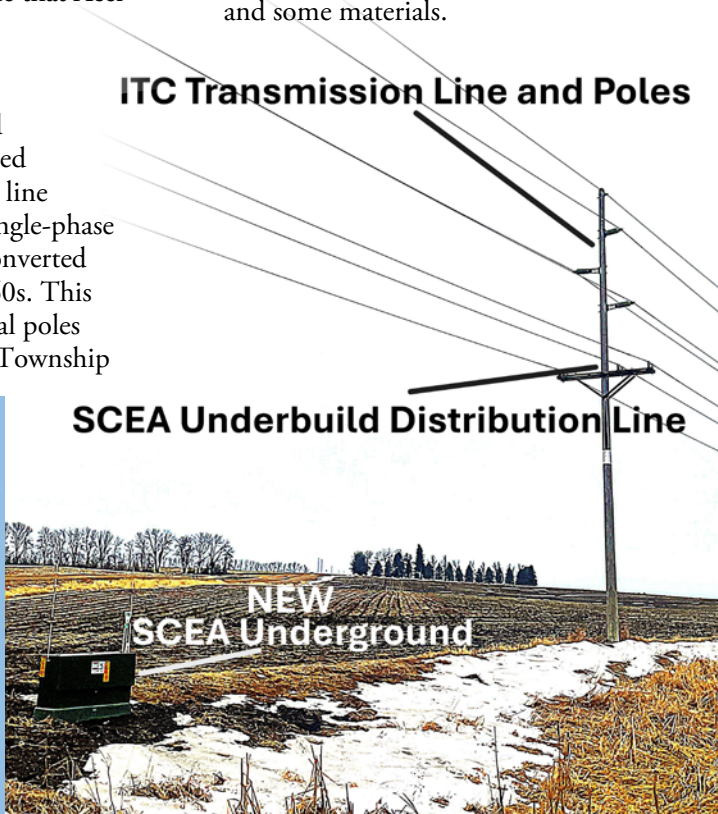
In Martin County, Galena Township, South Central installed 1 ½ miles of three-phase underground to replace an overhead line originally built in the early 1940s and converted to three-phase in the 1960s. Some original poles still existed on the line.

In addition to these projects, monthly substation inspections, repairing outages and annual inspections of our entire electric system are a part of everyday operations. We also completed member upgrades.

If you have a project that may need system upgrades, like going from single to multi-phase please contact us as soon as you can. We continue to see some extended lead times three-phase transformers, primary underground line and some materials.

## ITC Transmission Line and Poles

## SCEA Underbuild Distribution Line



SCEA is installing an underground distribution line along Highway 30 from east of Storden to Westbrook to remove the underbuilt line attached to ITC transmission poles. ITC plans on replacing these poles in 2025.



Official monthly newsletter

## South Central Electric

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### Web:

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### 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).

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OUR WEBSITE!

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