



Barron Electric Cooperative
 March 2024
 Photo by Susan Wallace

News FOR YOU...

Meet the Members Running for Districts 1, 5, and 7 at Barron Electric's 88th Annual Meeting

Members attending Barron Electric Cooperative's 88th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 23 will be voting for members to serve on Barron Electric's Board of Directors in Districts 1, 5, and 7. Incumbent Dave Olson has submitted his nomination forms for District 1. In District 5, John Blaskowski and Incumbent Larry Kuhl both submitted their nomination forms. In District 7, Incumbent Randy Cook has submitted his nomination forms. For a full candidate profile, visit www.barronelectric.com/annual-meeting.

Registration and breakfast will start at 8 a.m. at the Barron Area Community Center. The business meeting will start at 10 a.m. in the auditorium and includes reports and director elections. Jeremy Browning, Vice President of Generation at Dairyland Power Cooperative, will be the guest speaker.

More information can be found on pages 2-3 regarding Barron Electric's Annual Meeting.

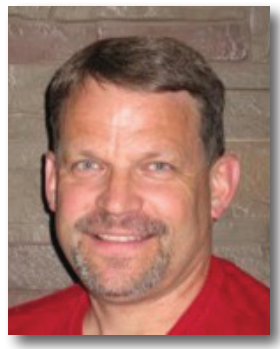
			Brooklyn	Gull Lake	Stinnett	Hayward	
Scott	Casey	Trego	Spring Brook	Bass Lake	Bass Lake		
Rusk	Evergreen	Spooner	Crystal	Stone Lake	Sand Lake		
Dewey	Bashaw	Beaver Brook	Madge	Birchwood			
Roosevelt	Barronett	Sarona	Long Lake	Birchwood			
Maple Plain	Lakeland	Bear Lake	Oak Grove	Cedar Lake			
Crystal Lake	Cumberland	Stanford	Rice Lake	Doyle			
Almena	Clinton	Barron	Stanley	Sumner	Strickland	Stubbs	
Clayton	Turtle Lake	Arland	Maple Grove	Prairie Lake	Chetek	Rusk	Big Bend
Clear Lake	Vance Creek	Prairie Farm	Dallas	Sioux Creek	Dovre	Sampson	
New Haven	Sheridan		Sand Creek				

District 1



Dave Olson
 Spooner

District 5



John Blaskowski
 Rice Lake



Larry Kuhl
 Cumberland

District 7



Randy Cook
 Cameron

Behind Every Meter is a Co-op Member!

Meet the Giles Family



The Giles Family, Austin, Megan, Easton and Fenton, were chosen as the winners of Barron Electric's family photo contest. Their business, Giles Excavating, LLC, will be featured at Barron Electric's 88th Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 23. Pursuing his lifelong dream, Austin started Giles Excavating in 2022 after working in that field for several years. Giles Excavating's mission is to provide high-quality excavating services to the Chetek area and surrounding communities. They are committed to their customer's satisfaction and project success. They offer lot and land clearing, general earthwork, trenching, grading and drainage solutions, logging and tree services, and demolition and removal. Custom construction, excavating, and grading work can be tailored to the unique needs of any project. The Giles family is proud to own and live on their family's century farm, where they own and manage a beef herd.

Meet the Giles Family, and learn more about Giles Excavating at Barron Electric's Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 23 starting at 8 a.m. at the Barron Area Community Center.



715-642-4335

gilesexcavating.com



GPS Project to Start This Spring



Global Mapping Solutions(GMS) will begin inventory of Barron Electric's system, which will include Global Positioning Systems(GPS) coordinates of all equipment on the system. This project will help improve the outage dispatch process and provide a safer electric system for line crews, contractors, members, and the public. Once completed, this should allow better communication from the cooperative to our membership during outages.

Global Mapping Solutions will start at a small substation, north of New Auburn. Once complete, they will start in the northern part of Barron Electric's service territory and move south. GMS will be on your property to inventory and take pictures of equipment, i.e. meters and transformers. GMS will use ATVs/UTVs and access the Right-of-Way by foot when necessary. Their vehicles will include magnetic signs with Barron Electric's logo, as pictured, and GMS crews will carry identification badges noting they are contracted by Barron Electric. There are no signs on the ATVs/UTVs.



If you have questions, please contact the Operations Department at 800-322-1008 or operations@barronelectric.com.

Join Us for Barron Electric Cooperative's 88th Annual Meeting

Barron Electric Cooperative's 88th Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, March 23 at the Barron Area Community Center, located at 800 Memorial Drive, Barron. Registration and breakfast will start at 8 a.m. in the gym. The Barron VFW Post 8338 will serve pancakes, eggs, sausage, and refreshments. Bring your March electric bill statement to the meeting to register.



Business Meeting

The business meeting will start at 10 a.m. in the auditorium. Director elections will be held for Districts 1, 5, and 7.

Prizes & Attendance Gift

There will be a drawing for 12 - \$100 cash prizes at the conclusion of the meeting. Members must be present to win. Each member and guest will receive a pound of cheese.

Food Donations Needed

Bring a food donation for the Prairie Farm Food Pantry. They are in need of cereal, personal care items, paper products, or monetary donations.

Designated Voters

Please contact the Member Service Department at 800-322-1008 or memberservices@barronelectric.com to request a form to designate a representative from your organization to vote at the annual meeting.

**Barron Electric's Annual Meeting will be held at:
Barron Area Community Center
800 Memorial Drive, Barron
715-537-6666 • thebacc.com**



Barron Electric's 88th Annual Meeting will be held on March 23 at the Barron Area Community Center Gym & Auditorium. The Barron VFW will serve a free breakfast including pancakes, eggs, sausage, and refreshments.

Official Notice

Barron Electric Cooperative's 88th Annual Meeting

Pursuant to the provision of the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Barron Electric Cooperative will be held Saturday, March 23, 2024 at the Barron Area Community Center in Barron with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. The business meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. to take action upon the following matters:

- To elect three directors to serve a three-year term in Districts 1, 5, and 7
- Presentation of reports
- To address all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments, thereof.

Dated this 1st day of February 2024

Scott Warwick, Secretary

Need a Ride to the Annual Meeting?

A shuttle service will be available to the annual meeting on Saturday, March 23 for those members living in the northern part of Barron Electric's service territory. The shuttle will leave at 8 a.m. from Barron Electric's Spooner office located at 1550 Paulson Drive. Please contact the Member Services Department by **March 15** at 800-322-1008 or memberservices@barronelectric.com to sign up.

*Condensed Board Minutes December 20, 2023



Richard Bol represents District 9 on Barron Electric's Board of Directors which includes the following townships:

Chetek, Dallas, Sioux Creek, Dovre, Sampson, and Sand Creek.

- A report of vouchers for the month was presented as part of the board packet as follows: #102546 through #102641 from CCF Bank in the amount of \$436,109 and capital credit estate checks in the amount of \$8,846. Total receipts in the office - \$1,470,235; total receipts by wire and ACH - \$201,887; disbursements by ACH, EFT, wire - \$921,365; transfer of funds was made for payroll - \$103,367 and power bill paid on December 27, 2023, in the amount of \$2,048,950.
- A membership list of 56 was presented and accepted without objection.

* View full board minutes on SmartHub at barronelectric.com.

Barron Electric's New Rate Schedule Reflected on March 1 Electric Bill

Barron Electric Cooperative works hard to keep rates stable and affordable. The increasing cost to provide safe, reliable power is being impacted by higher prices for equipment, supplies, interest, and services such as technology, software, engineering, and line upgrades. In the last three years, wholesale power costs have increased 9.5% and have influenced the need for a rate increase. Wholesale power costs account for 67% of a member's bill.

Barron Electric hired Power Systems Engineering to evaluate rates. The study indicated that the cost to provide service, Facilities Charge, is \$41 per month per residential member, whether or not any kilowatt hours are used. Based on this study, Barron Electric's Board of Directors approved a rate increase, effective on the March 1 electric bill. The average residential member using 1,200 kilowatt hours will see a 4.2% annual increase or an average of \$7.25 per month. This rate increase will help to keep the debt-to-equity ratio stable.

"Barron Electric's Board of Directors and staff work hard to keep expenses down while maintaining the goals of reliability and great customer service. We continue to make system improvements using technology for efficiency, reliability, and reducing outages," said Barron Electric's General Manager Aaron Torud. Barron Electric continues to maintain a lean workforce and reduces costs by obtaining multiple bids for materials, equipment and projects and work with vendors with the goal of locking in prices when they are low.

Resources to Help You with Your Electric Bill

Visit barronelectric.com for energy saving ideas. Members can contact the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program, which assists eligible households with their heating and electric bills.

Members in Barron, Burnett, Chippewa, Dunn, Washburn, and Polk Counties should contact:

- West Cap715-265-4271
- Rusk County715-485-8400
- Sawyer County715-634-4806

News FOR YOU...

Barron Electric Cooperative
Aaron Torud - General Manager
Carrie Baribeau—Editor
cbaribeau@barronelectric.com

Office Hours
7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Monday - Friday

1434 State Highway 25 North
PO Box 40 • Barron, WI 54812
(715) 537-3171
Toll Free: 1-800-322-1008

For Outages Only:
866-258-8722

www.barronelectric.com



Published for the members of Barron Electric.
If you have any comments regarding the newsletter, please e-mail cbaribeau@barronelectric.com

Barron Electric is an equal opportunity provider.

2024 Residential Rate Schedule

Effective 1-18-2024

Rate Class	Previous Rate	New Rate
Facilities Charge	\$34.50 per month	\$41.00 per month
Energy Charge/kWh (Dec-March)	\$0.0997 per kWh	\$0.1033 per kWh
Energy Charge/kWh (June-September)	\$0.1097 per kWh	\$0.1133 per kWh
Energy Charge/kWh (New) (April/May and October/November)		\$0.0933 per kWh
Heat Storage	\$0.0550 per kWh	\$0.0550 per kWh
Dual Fuel Heat and Interruptible Heat	\$0.0740 per kWh	\$0.0800 per kWh
Facilities Charge for Off-Peak	\$5.75 per month	\$5.75 per month

The new rate schedule will be reflected on the March 1 bill statement.