



NEWSLINE



Touchstone Energy®
The power of human connections

June 2021

Itasca-Mantrap's 80th Annual Meeting

The meeting will include director elections for districts 6 and 7, reports from the Board Chair and CEO, and an update on Itasca-Mantrap business. With our members' safety in mind, we will not serve a meal at this year's Annual Meeting.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021
4 - 4:30 P.M.

IN PERSON

Successfully registered members - watch your mail for an event ticket. Bring it to the Annual Meeting.

MEETING DETAILS

- Doors will open at 3:45 p.m.
- Meeting begins at 4 p.m.
- Your attendance ticket enters you into a drawing for the chance to win one of three \$100 bill credits!
- Ticket and masks will be required, and social distancing will be implemented.

**LINK WILL BE LIVE AT
3:30 PM ON JUNE 10!**



Watch our Annual Meeting Live!

Watch the livestreamed Annual Meeting! Keep informed with your electric cooperative.

HOW TO WATCH

- Visit our YouTube channel and access the livestream.
- Check itasca-mantrap.com or social media for the link to the livestream at 3:30 PM on June 10.



Friday, July 16

Century School Baseball Field, Park Rapids

Session 1 Time: 2:00 PM | Session 2 Time: 3:30 PM

SIGN UP FOR THIS FREE EVENT!

The Play Ball! Minnesota Baseball Clinic promotes the fun of baseball and softball to kids while teaching the fundamentals of hitting, throwing and defense. Event details:

- Registration is online at www.playballmn.com
- Kids need to bring a glove
- Sessions are for kids ages 6 to 12

It is important to register in advance in order to reserve a spot.



CEO Update - By Christine Fox, President-CEO

Now that summer is almost here, I am looking forward to more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the warmer weather. Summertime brings about many

of my favorite activities like cooking out with family and friends, afternoons on the water, and enjoying life.

Summer months also make conditions right for dangerous storms. These potential weather events can cause destruction to our electrical system, but I want you to know that Itasca-Mantrap crews are ready and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area.

When major storms knock out power, our crews take all necessary precautions before they work on any downed lines. I would encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during major storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency provides recommendations, listed below, that are a great starting point for storm and disaster

preparedness. Visit www.ready.gov for additional resources:

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, such as canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water, and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies including towelettes, soap and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your First Aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages, and other medical essentials. And make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener and a portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers, and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from a power surge and will also help prevent overloading the circuits during power restoration. If you plan to use

a small generator, make sure it is rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information and be sure to check Itasca-Mantrap's website or Facebook page for power restoration updates.

After the storm, avoid downed power lines and walking through flooded areas where power lines could be submerged. Allow ample room for utility crews to safely perform their jobs.

Advanced planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and can lessen the impact of the storm's effects. Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings and download our SmartHub app for ease in reporting an outage.

I am hoping that we make it through the season without a severe storm, but I am preparing just the same. I encourage you to do the same. Have a safe and wonderful summer!!

Thank you for allowing me to serve you!!

Meet the Board of Director Candidates

The incumbent directors for Districts 6 and 7 are unchallenged and elected by acclamation.

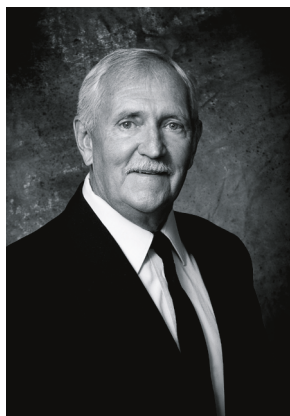
DISTRICT 6 (Three-year Term)



TIM KIVI (Incumbent)

"I like staying involved in the cooperative business. I come to the table with an open mind and bring a practical approach when deciding the direction the Cooperative will take into the future."

DISTRICT 7 (Three-year Term)



DAN BREITBACH (Incumbent)

"During my career as an electrician, I worked with Itasca-Mantrap for many years. My background helps me to be an informed director and enables me to make educated decisions for our cooperative. My knowledge and experience provide me with a deep understanding of the responsibility we have to help the Cooperative and our members. Decisions we make as a board are for the benefit of our members."

Operation Round Up Awards \$50,000

Thanks to the generosity of Itasca-Mantrap Members, the Itasca-Mantrap Operation Round Up® Trust Board recently awarded \$50,000 in Operation Round Up grants for 72 civic projects in the Itasca-Mantrap and surrounding area. Applications were received indicating a total need of more than \$130,000 for 83 community projects. Because of limited funding, all requests could not be granted.

Operation Round Up, a charitable program unique to electric co-ops, is designed to provide financial assistance to non-profit or community-based organizations that demonstrate a commitment to enhancing the quality of life in the local area served by Itasca-Mantrap. Since the program's inception in 2006, Operation Round Up and Itasca-Mantrap members have awarded more than \$1 million to local organizations.



The Operation Round Up Trust Board meets twice a year to select grant recipients from the applications received. The next application deadline is Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

Akeley Community Parks Committee	\$ 1,000	Special Education - Life Skills - Cooking in the Classroom	300
Akeley Regional Community Center (ARCC) Emergency Shelter	1,000	Special Olympics - Art Projects & Leisure Skills	300
Akeley/Nevis Community Food Shelf	2,500	Sr. High Basic Life Skills - Cooking on a Budget	500
All Veterans Memorial in Hubbard County Inc	1,000	Student Wellness	500
Calvary Lutheran Church - Pollinator Garden	400	Youth Art Outreach	200
Carsonville Fire & Rescue Dept*	4,000	Youth Baseball (Majors)	300
Central Minnesota Council, Boy Scouts	723	Youth Baseball (Minors)	300
EHCDFD	1,500	Northwoods Art Council	600
Family Safety Network*	2,500	Osage Bait & Tackle Senior Nutrition Meals	2,000
Friends of Itasca State Park	700	Park Rapids Area Hockey Association	500
GFWC Nevis Women's Club	400	Park Rapids Area Schools	
Heartland Arts (formerly Park Rapids Lakes Area Arts Council) - Art Leap	250	Alternative Learning Center: Driver's Permit Classes, Licenses and Vital Documents	725
Heartland Arts Inc. - Pioneer Park Mural	500	Alternative Learning Center: P.E. Activities	600
Heartland Homes, Options in Community Living Inc.*	1,000	Autism Spectrum Disorders Elementary Resource Room	120
Helping Hands through Century PTA	1,000	Can You Hear Me Now?	140
Hubbard County Historical Society	250	Classroom Flexible Seating Movement Options	106
Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District	500	Classroom Organization, Student Growth, & Plants	100
Lake Country Associates - "The Cottage"	1,000	Crafting in 2nd Grade	150
LSS of Minnesota/LSS Meals & Meals on Wheels/ Hubbard County	1,500	Creating Problem Solvers	148
LSS of Minnesota/LSS Meals & Meals on Wheels/ Menahga	1,000	Distance Learning Kindergarteners	130
Nevis Public Schools		EBD: Character education visual supports	195
Art Mentoring Program	500	Explorative Learning Through STEM	500
Earlier Readers Phonics Instruction	400	Flexible Seating	600
Flexible Classroom Seating	600	Hands on Learning Activities	250
PE Dept - Cross Country Ski Equipment	800	Just the Necessities	500
PE Dept - Starting Lifetime Activities Class	500	Learning Games for Student Engagement	208
Physics Lab Equipment	1,000	Molenaar's 3rd Grade Class	155
Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)	300	Positive Behavior Reinforcement	300
Post Prom 2021	750	PTA: Monster Miler-Family Event	300
Promoting a Healthy Environment & Lifestyle	300	Senior Slam 2021	750
Resilient Readers - Lending Library	400	2nd Pod Flex Learning Space	1,000
Sensory Room	300	9th Grade Orientation & Mentoring Program	2,000

Continued on page 4

Park Rapids Clay Dusters	500
Park Rapids Farmers Market	400
Park Rapids Figure Skating Club	350
Park Rapids Fire Department*	2,500
Park Rapids Post Prom	750
Park Rapids Youth Baseball	400

PEACE Parent Support Group	400
True Friends	750
Voyageurs Area Council - Boy Scouts of America	600
Walker Junior Olympic Volleyball Team	300

*Organization received CoBank's Sharing Success matching grant funds

TOTAL \$50,000

WHETHER TEMPS RISE OR FALL, YOUR ENERGY BILL WILL STAY COOL.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS UP TO **\$2,000**
REBATE WHEN YOU INSTALL A QUALIFYING
ENERGY-SAVING AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP!

Air Source Heat Pump	Promo Rebate
≥ 8.2 HSPF	\$1,000
≥ 9.0 HSPF	\$2,000
Ductless Air Source Heat Pump	Promo Rebate
≥ 9.0 HSPF	\$450



Air source heat pumps provide **home cooling and supplemental heating, using 72% less electricity** than conventional air conditioners and furnaces. Get up to a \$2,000 rebate when you install one.

Limited funds are available and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate amounts are subject to change without notice. Installed centrally ducted ASHPs must be separately metered & controlled and must be installed by a participating quality installation contractor to qualify for rebate.

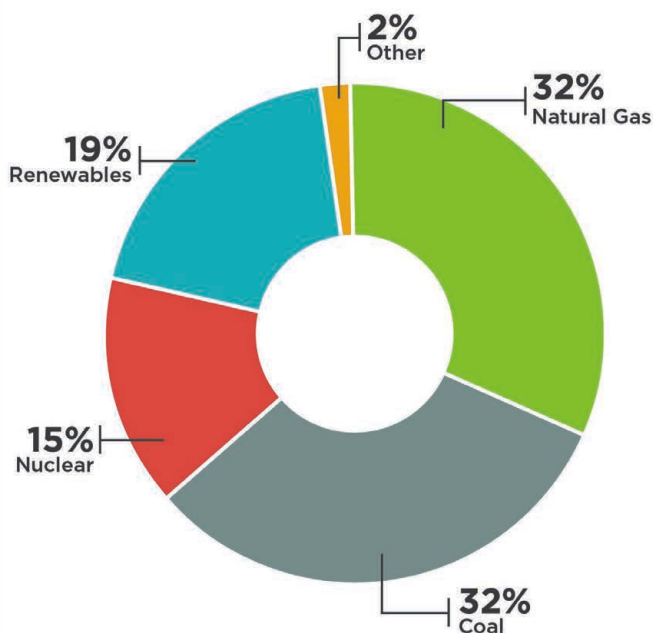


Co-op Energy Sources

Nationally, electric cooperatives use a variety of fuels to power consumer-members' homes and businesses.

This diverse fuel mix supplies co-op members with the safe, reliable and affordable power they depend on.

Source: National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (2019 data)



Operation Round Up Board Member Recognized for Service

Operation Round Up® Board Member, Trudy Maninga, received a Certificate of Appreciation for her six years of service to the Itasca-Mantrap Round Up Trust. Trudy served from 2015-2021.





Itasca-Mantrap Hosts “Week of the Young Child”

On April 15, Itasca-Mantrap participated in the “Week of the Young Child” program, sponsored by Park Rapids Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE). This event gives children an opportunity to visit participating businesses to take part in a variety of activities.

The “Week of the Young Child” event brought in just under 50 children & adults - including a couple of our lineworkers’ children! The kids had a great time at the event.

Lineworker Kevin George explained the

process to the children before joining his fellow linemen Dan Cox, Parry Eidsmoe, and Chad Grande in a demonstration of how a pole is placed and removed from the ground, and how a lineman reaches the top of the pole by climbing.

Introducing the NOVA Portal!

The NOVA Power Portal hosts all of the information for installing member-owned distributed generation. Browse interconnection information, read safety requirements, check the status of your project, and find information about installing your own renewable energy system.

Look for the NOVA Power Portal on the Renewable Energy page of our website at itasca-mantrap.com



Cogenerators and small power producers

Itasca-Mantrap Co-op. Electrical Ass’n. is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers who satisfy the conditions of a qualifying facility. Itasca-Mantrap will provide information to all interested Members, upon request, regarding rates and interconnection requirements.

An application for interconnection is required for a qualifying facility to interconnect and operate in parallel with the Cooperative’s distribution system and is subject to approval by the Cooperative. Any disputes over interconnection, sales and purchases

are subject to resolution by the Itasca-Mantrap Co-op. Electrical Ass’n. Board. Interested Members should contact Itasca-Mantrap at 218-732-3377 or toll free at 888-713-3377.



Board Report: Meeting Highlights

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Itasca-Mantrap Co-op. Electrical Ass'n. was held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Itasca-Mantrap office.

A quorum of directors was present.

Items discussed or Board action taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Heard the Operations and Safety report and the Marketing and Member Services report
- February financials were received and filed subject to audit.
- CEO Christine Fox gave her monthly CEO report.
- Discussed plans for Itasca-Mantrap's 80th Annual Meeting.
- Discussed the Operation Round Up directors whose terms are ending in 2021.
- Directors and CEO Christine Fox reported on meetings attended on behalf of the Cooperative.

The June meeting of the Board of Directors is Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

A dirty filter causes your air conditioner to work harder than necessary. Remember to change your air filter every month (or every two months) to prevent dust buildup, which can lead to even bigger problems.

Source: www.energy.gov



Happy 4th of July! Office will be closed Monday, July 5.



SmartHub App

Manage your account with ease by using the SmartHub online and mobile app! Access detailed usage reports, billing & payment information, outage reporting, and many more handy features.



ITASCA-MANTRAP COOPERATIVE

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OFFICE HOURS

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GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

1-800-252-1166

www.gopherstateonecall.org

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Dist. 1 – Brian Behrens, Director
Dist. 2 – Patricia Roehl, Director
Dist. 3 – Terrence Cook, Treasurer
Dist. 4 – Al Czezok, Asst Sec-Treas
Dist. 5 – Nancy M. Utke, Chair
Dist. 6 – Tim Kivi, Secretary
Dist. 7 – Dan Breitbach, Vice Chair
President-CEO – Christine Fox