



Troy Olson works for the city of Fairmont streets and parks department. A routine June 4 turned extraordinary when he used CPR to revive a man at a city park.

Olson uses training to save man's life

by Steve Downer

Troy Olson has trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) regularly throughout a 24 year military career and 15 years with the city of Fairmont. At about 11 a.m. Thursday, June 4, he used that training to save a life.

It started like any other day. Olson pulled into Amber Lake Park. There were a handful of vehicles scattered around the parking lot. He got to the unglamorous but necessary task of cleaning the men's bathroom. Then something unusual happened—a woman, who appeared to be in her 60s, walked in and asked for a blanket. She was frantic. She said her husband had fallen out of their vehicle.

Olson walked quickly out of the building with her.

Lifesaver: see page 4 please

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OPU unveils 're-purposed' power plant

Owatonna Public Utilities (OPU) June 18 unveiled its 're-purposed' downtown power plant, with an open house dedication ceremony. The plant and utility offices were damaged in a September 2010 flood, which led to a process to determine the facility's future. Strong community support and the iconic status of the building, coupled with a plan that made financial sense, secured the building's future. For more on the metamorphosis of aging power plant to stunning office space, see pages 6 and 7.



Halstad Municipal Utilities staff includes, from left to right: Tony Wolf, Isaac and Lucas Spaeth and Alli Tice. Lucas Spaeth is the utility superintendent and younger brother Isaac is a lineman.

Utility operations a family affair for Spaeth brothers in Halstad

by Steve Downer

Small municipal utilities have small electric crews, if they employ any linemen at all. Halstad Municipal Utilities isn't particularly unusual, with 337 electric customers, an office person and a three-person crew, including two linemen.

It is unusual in that the linemen are brothers: Lucas Spaeth is the superintendent; Isaac Spaeth is the lineman.

Working with your brother on a municipal utility crew in a small town could be a dream come true or it could

be a nightmare. So far so good for Halstad and the Spaeth brothers.

"No more wrestling," Lucas joked.

Lucas is 31 now but already has five years of experience as the Halstad superintendent. He is also a journeyman lineman. Isaac, 27, is an apprentice lineman. He was hired Sept. 15. They hail from Mahanomen, 60 miles to the east.

There are four Spaeth siblings.

Brothers: see page 5 please

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MMUA files comments on proceedings before state regulatory agencies

MMUA has recently filed comments to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission regarding ongoing dockets.

Combined Heat and Power

MMUA May 15 submitted comments regarding the state's draft Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Action Plan.

MMUA participated in the

CHP stakeholder meetings that provided the basis for the Draft Action Plan. MMUA said that the "Minnesota Combined Heat and Power Policies and Potential" report over-emphasized the "technical potential" for 3,049 megawatts of CHP in Minnesota. Rather than breaking down "technical potential" by utility sector, as the report does,

MMUA said a more useful analysis would have centered on the "economic potential" of CHP in Minnesota.

More troubling for municipal utilities, however, were certain concepts forwarded by stakeholders or outside groups during the process leading to the Draft CHP Action Plan.

One such concept was suggested as a "best practice" in materials prepared for the Minnesota Department of Energy Resources (DER) by the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP), which focused on the subject of standby tariffs. RAP suggested that "customers should be able to procure standby service from the open market." The DER repeated this suggestion nearly verbatim to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in its Jan. 30 report to the commission regarding a Generic Proceeding on Standby Service Tariffs, despite knowing that Minnesota law states "each electric utility shall have the exclusive right to

provide electric service at retail to each and every present and future customer in its assigned service area."

Municipal electric utilities and their individual, locally-determined tariffs will not be directly affected by the tariffs that will be produced through the PUC's generic standby tariff proceedings. MMUA thought it prudent, however, to state its concern.

Cogeneration and small power production

MMUA June 5 filed comments In the Matter of a Request for Dispute Resolution with Peoples' Energy Cooperative under the Cogeneration and Small Power Production Statute.

MMUA supported all of the points made in two filings with the commission by Peoples' Energy Cooperative (Peoples'). A monthly charge by cooperative electric associations or municipal utilities to recover costs associated with serving net metering or qualifying facilities is not precluded by any law. Peoples' and all other municipal and cooperative utilities are accountable to all of their customer-owners through their governing boards, city councils or local utility commissions. In regard to certain aspects of their utility operations, federal law governs or Minnesota statutes explicitly supersede local governing authorities. The subject of this proceeding is not one of those special situations, further noted MMUA.

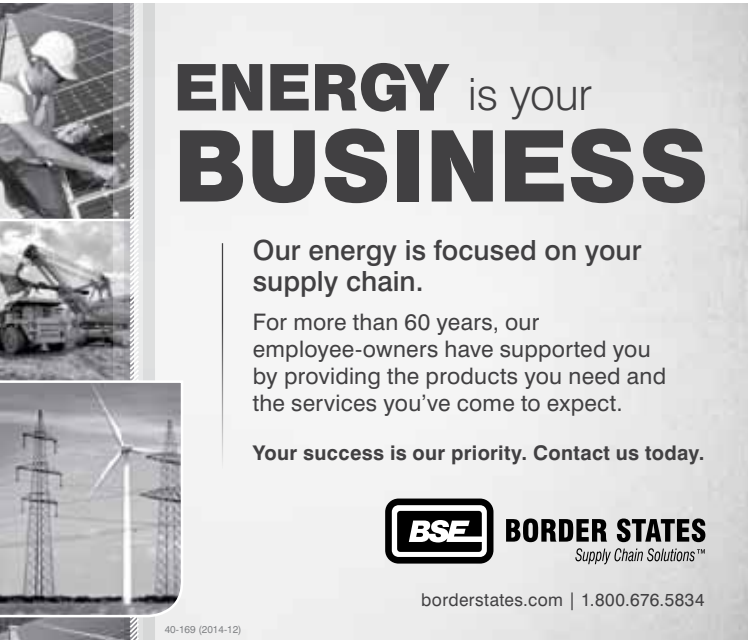
The Legislature has expressly intervened in the

rate-setting authorities of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and the cooperatives' and municipal utilities' boards, councils and commissions with regard to rates paid by all utilities for energy provided by their customers under Minnesota statutes, which appropriately establish state requirements in addition to those established federally under the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA).

The state has not established a billing credit option for customers of cooperative electric associations or municipal utilities (as it has for investor-owned utilities), nor has the state chosen to prohibit or limit cooperative electric associations or municipal utilities from imposing standby charges on net metered or qualifying facilities.

State law expressly lays out a specific size threshold below which generating customers may not be charged fees specifically by "public" (investor-owned) utilities, and it lays out specific conditions governing how larger facilities may be charged specifically by these utilities. The legislature has clearly indicated its intent that those limitations do not govern fees charged to generating customers of cooperative associations or municipal utilities.

That is not a shortcoming of the law but a wise and intended way to keep decision-making authority about a granular issue at the level near consumers through their local utility governing entities, said MMUA.



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APPA adopts new policy resolutions at Minneapolis annual convention

Members of the American Public Power Association (APPA) passed eight policy resolutions June 9 at the national conference in Minneapolis. All resolutions were then passed without amendment later that day at the business meeting, and have been added to the APPA Codification of Resolutions.

The resolutions include:

In Support of Legislative and Regulatory Reforms to Protect Utilities That Receive Coal by Rail (co-sponsored by MMUA).

APPA supports legislation that enhances the ability of the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to address the plight of captive shippers with regard to both freight

Washington Report

rates and services; and that it supports a full examination by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the STB, and Congress of service-related coal shortages at public power utilities.

In Support of Public Power Utilities' Use of Unmanned Aerial Aircraft in Utility-Related Operations Resolution.

APPA believes unmanned aerial aircraft (drones) could be beneficial to the operation of public power utilities, including for surveying electric power equipment, assessing damage, and aiding in

construction and repair; and that current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations and federal aviation laws have failed to keep pace with this emerging technology; and that FAA regulations and federal aviation laws should facilitate, not impede, the responsible use of drones by public power utilities.

In Support of the Right of Preference Customers to Be Protected from the Costs of Transmission Projects in the Western Area Power Administration and the Southwestern Area Power Administration areas.

APPA opposes cost increases to Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) and Southwest Area Power Administration (SWPA) customers that do not receive the direct benefits and services of transmission enhancements and new transmission construction authorized by federal law. APPA opposes cost increases to WAPA customers who do not receive the direct benefits and services of trans-

mission enhancements under the Transmission Infrastructure Program authorized by section 402 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. APPA urges SWPA and WAPA to adopt the policy of "cost causation," that is, he who causes the cost pays for it.

In Support of Equitable Treatment of Public Power Utilities Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act Resolution (co-sponsored by MMUA).

APPA supports the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to regulate coal combustion residuals (CCR) as non-hazardous waste under Subtitle D of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); and it supports legislation to address the flaws in EPA's final rule on issues such as the lack of state enforcement authority, the lack of state flexibility to establish site-specific corrective action remedies, and the tenuous status of the agency's determination that CCR is non-hazardous waste.

In Support of Affordable, Reliable Solar Power Deployment.

APPA takes the position that decisions related to deployment of solar power generation should be made at the local or state level, with a transparent discussion of the costs and benefits relative to other generation sources; and that community solar projects, while still sometimes more costly than most other types of power generation, can provide a relatively more affordable option than rooftop solar, and also can provide much greater reliability.

In Support of Expedited Federal Regulatory Review and Streamlined Permitting Processes.

APPA supports an efficient, streamlined and cost-conscious regulatory review and streamlined permitting process for both existing and new low- and zero-emission projects, and associated transmission and natural gas pipeline projects, necessary to meet local, state, regional, and federal energy- and climate change-related policies. APPA also supports requiring federal regulatory agencies with the ability to impose mandatory conditions on a project to work together in an expedited manner to facilitate the preservation and development of low- and zero-emission projects to reduce waste, minimize burdensome administrative requirements, and improve decision making. APPA also supports requiring federal agencies to clearly define the objective of each mandatory condition with an accompanying rationale and disclosure of impacts in an open and transparent manner thereby adhering to the same standard of disclosure and explanation required of stakeholders submitting mandatory conditions.

In Support of Legislation to Give the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission a Formal Role in Determining the Potential Reliability Impacts of Major Federal Regulations.

APPA believes the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) should be given the authority to analyze the potential reliability impacts of major proposed and final federal regulations; and APPA supports efforts by Congress to enact legislation that would provide FERC with a formal role in determining the potential reliability impacts on major proposed and final federal regulations.




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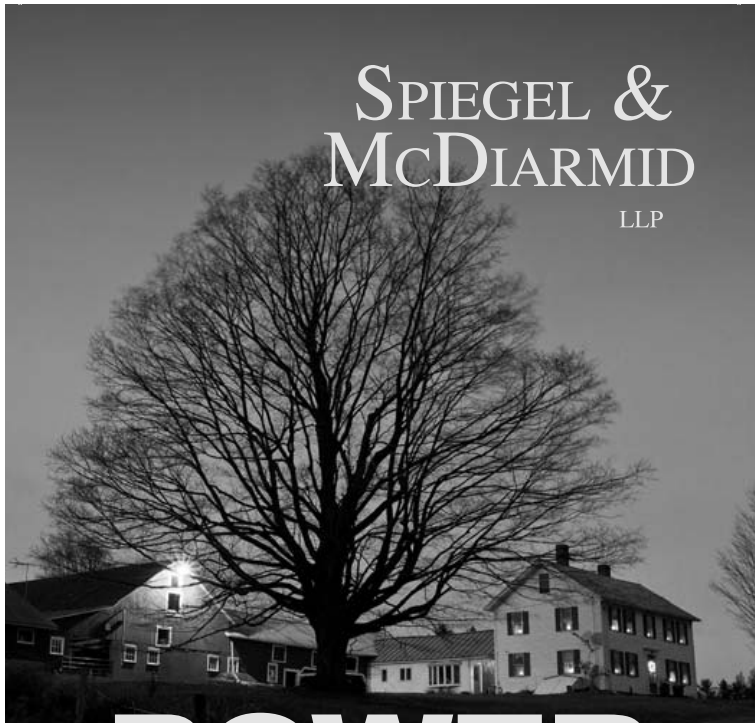
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Lifesaver: Training, muscle memory and desire to help others help save a life

continued from front page

The man had one leg in the cab and one underneath the vehicle, and was face down on the pavement. There was minor bleeding on the nose and face.

"I knew I had to get him out" of the vehicle, Olson said. He grabbed the man. He wasn't breathing. He was cold and blue. Olson handed the woman some unused cleaning rags to put under her husband's head.

Olson performed 30 chest compressions. He heard the man's ribs pop. He put his face down to listen for breath and checked for pulse. There were none. He performed another 30 chest compressions. He put his face down again.

"I could see his eyes twitching a little bit," Olson said. He felt a pulse and some breaths coming out. He held the man's hand and prayed, prayed out loud, thanking Jesus.

He asked the woman, "What's your husband's name?"

"Jim," she said.

Olson kept telling Jim he was going to be OK. His wife had called 911. She asked Olson what she could do. He told her to hold Jim's hand.

"I kept talking to him," Olson said. Jim's condition improved. The police arrived and observed. Jim started to talk. He became agitated and began to thrash.

The ambulance was there. Olson helped the paramedics place Jim on a flat stretcher. The ambulance crew and police took it from there.

The woman came over to Olson. She was crying. She hugged him.

"There was a pretty big lump my throat," Olson said. "God didn't want him today."

He was glad to have been used to save the man's life.

Olson credits training for his calm reaction to the stressful situation.

"It's training—muscle memory," he said. Some people who are familiar with CPR think going over it repeatedly is a waste of time, he said, but that misses the point of training yourself to react properly to a stressful situation.

When pressed into a stressful situation, he said, "I don't have to think about what I do." His military training helped prepare him. In Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Olson was a squad leader. There were situations where his mind was "going a million miles an hour," but he had to think clearly and get correct information out to others who could bring addi-

tional friendly force to bear.

The people he was communicating with in these situations would later ask how he could think clearly in dangerous, high-pressure situations. Olson said it came down to training and muscle memory.

Training on CPR with the city crew is the same thing, he said.

Olson has had occasion to perform CPR before.

His youngest daughter had airway obstruction issues as

an infant. He would regularly wake up to see her in distress. He would turn her onto her stomach and, using his hand, apply pressure between the shoulder blades to relieve the obstruction. For the first year of her life, she slept at his side.

He was glad he could help his daughter, and Jim.

He related an incident from Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was 'inside the wire.' A group of men, including his inter-

preter, carried a young boy, perhaps three, up to the barrier. The boy appeared lifeless. "Is he breathing?" Olson asked. He had stripped off his body armor and helmet and was ready to go over the wall to help.

The interpreter said the boy was breathing. The group went around to a gate and came in. The boy wasn't breathing. He was gone.

"I've always gone out of my way to help somebody," Ol-


son said, whether it's a car stranded on the side of the road or some other situation.

It's what you would have others do.

After saving Jim, Olson went back to work.

"I wasn't going to tell anybody," he said.

"The police told me," said Nick Lardy, who supervises Olson and the Fairmont parks and street department. "He's a pretty humble guy. (Jim) was lucky."



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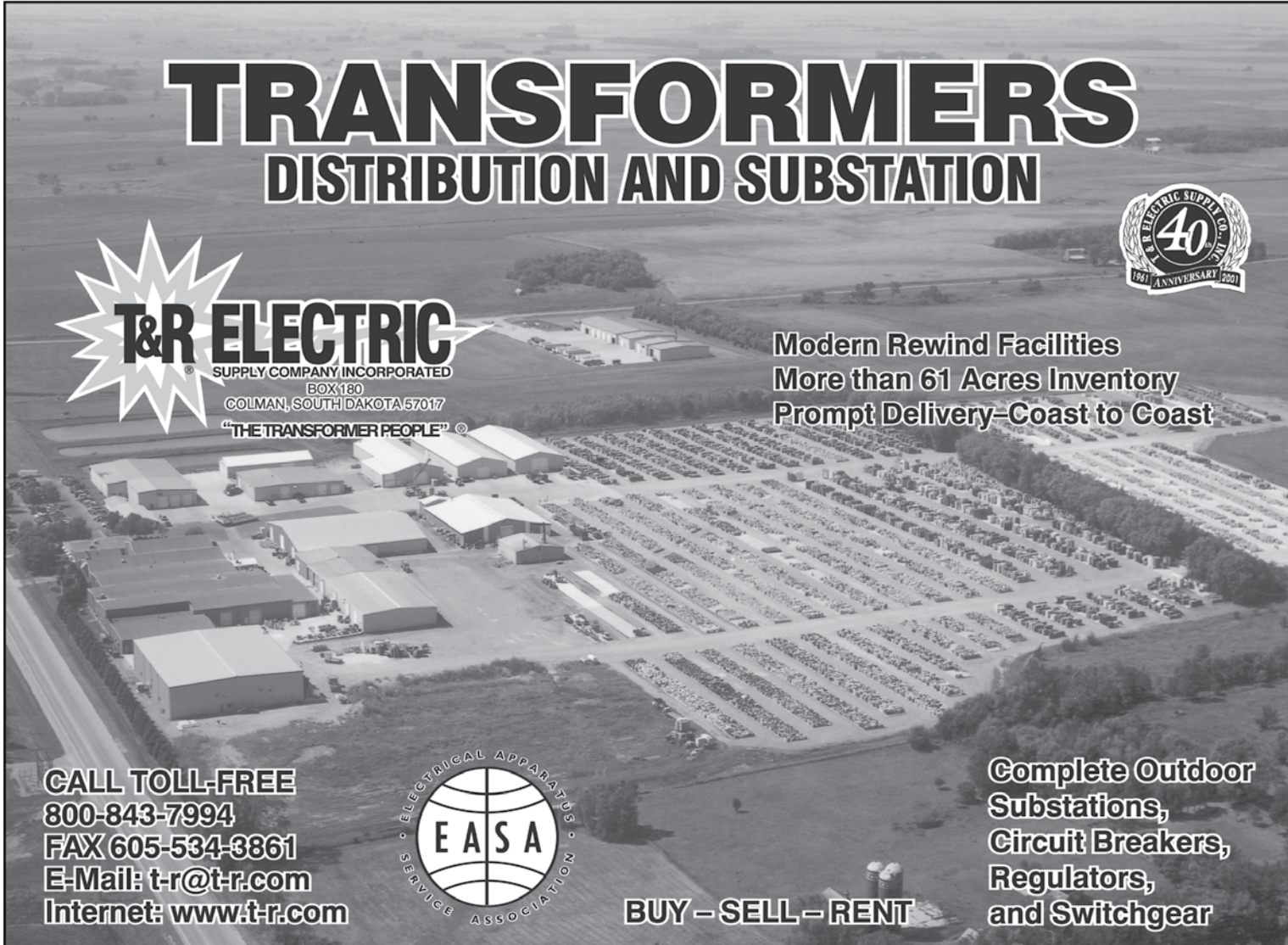
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Brothers:

continued from front page

"I knew we'd get along," Lucas said. "We're pretty close. We might have a disagreement, but no argument."

"Me and Lucas never got into it too bad," Isaac said.

It is possible that issues will arise, Lucas said. But as the superintendent, he realizes he "could have issues with everybody here." Knowing the people he manages and works with, however, he believes they will be able to

work through issues as they develop.

"We're pretty similar," he said of Isaac. "His work ethic is great. He's not afraid to get dirty."

The utility knew when it went looking for a lineman that, being a small municipal utility, finding a good one wouldn't be easy. An ad was developed and placed on websites and in various newspapers. Eight people applied, which was considered a good response.

There were good people ap-

plying, many with a mechanical background, but few were trained lineworkers.

Throughout the process, Lucas knew where he could find a good candidate. Isaac was working for a contractor. During this time, he said he never stopped looking for jobs on the MMUA website. He was in Bismarck, N.D., when Lucas called.

When the possibility of hiring a relative was broached, the three-member Halstad Commission had a mixed reaction. An apprentice, who had

gone through line school and was working with a contractor, was a prime candidate, but concern was expressed, said Lucas, in regards to "being the boss of your brother."

The Commission hashed it over with Lucas and let him call Isaac in for an interview, led by Mayor Ron Gotteberg, along with Office Coordinator Alli Tice and Operator Tony Wolff. Lucas sat in on the interview but didn't ask any questions.

After the interview, Isaac had an offer. He was tired of

being on the road. He talked to his wife. She supported the move. Three weeks later, he was in Halstad.

Isaac doesn't anticipate any problems. "When you come from a contractor, you appreciate what you have," he said. He walks three blocks to work and goes home for lunch. Hours that used to be spent on the road can now be spent with friends and family.

It appears to be working out well.

During a recent visit, Lucas got into his pickup and went looking for Isaac, who was reading meters. Isaac wasn't where Lucas thought he would be—he was farther along. When they met up, Lucas mentioned that it looked like Isaac was getting his jogging in. Isaac didn't say too much. He did have to take a few minutes to deliver Meals on Wheels before taking his own lunch, though.

Isaac has joined the fire department and is working toward becoming a licensed firefighter. His wife works in Grand Forks. They are involved in the community.

Steady system improvements

Much of the Halstad electric system is underground. The commission budgets money for upgrades every year and the crew tackles it as circumstances allow. They put in a block of primary distribution line this spring.

The distribution system voltage is 4,160 volts. As it is rebuilt, the crew is installing dual voltage transformers, anticipating any future voltage upgrade.

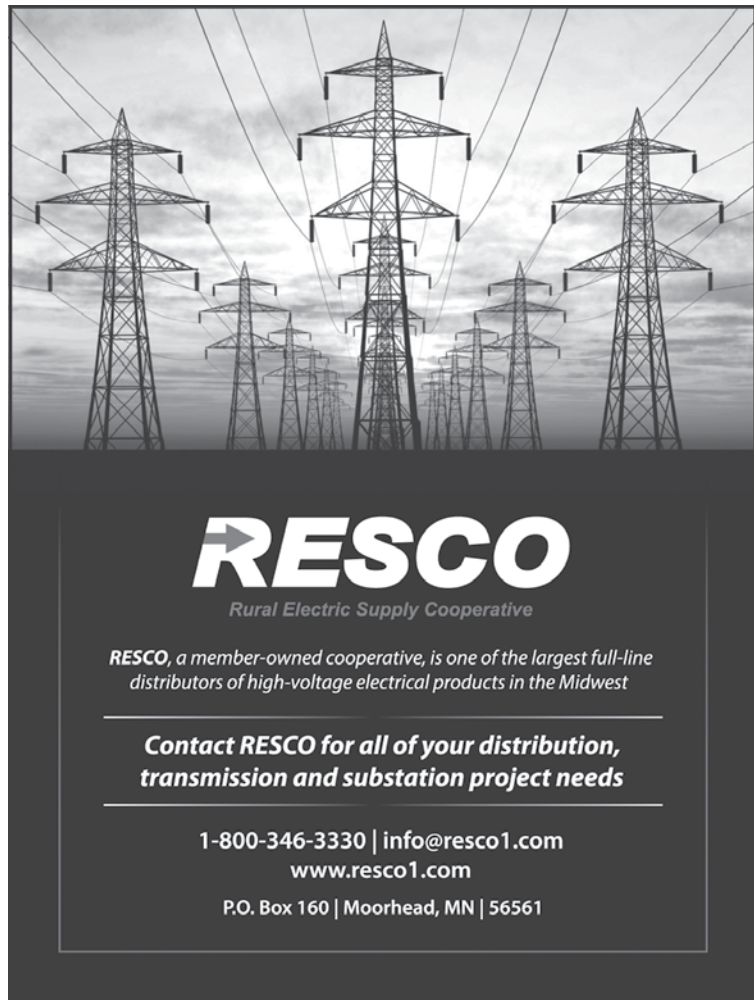
Lucas is a journeyman and knows the Halstad system. He is intent on keeping his newest employee current with training, and methodically going through and learning the local distribution system. The crew discusses what it is going to do throughout the day. Before line work, there is a "tailgate" session to discuss the work plan.

Lucas tells Isaac to work at his own pace, no rush.

"He's good to work for," Isaac said.

There was some concern about the brothers being gone at the same time. But with three people sharing on-call duties on a rotating basis, that is not a new problem. Mutual aid agreements are in place, if necessary.

The crew, which performs a variety of functions, has also been busy dealing with sewer work and road work. The water and wastewater systems are also in good condition.

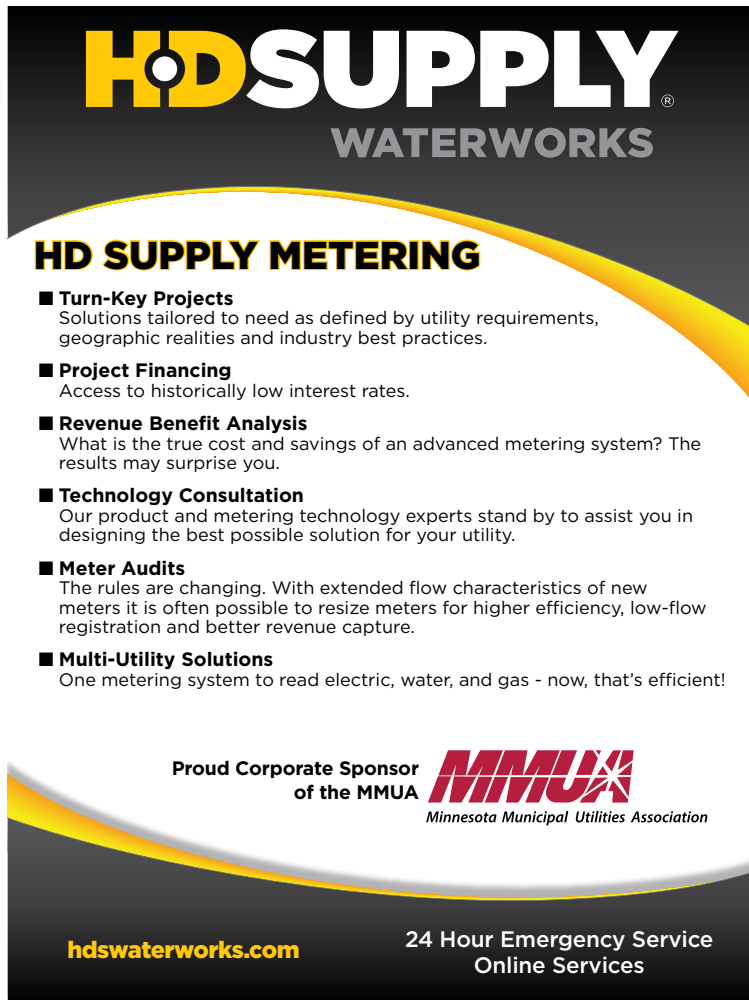


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OPU unveils ‘re-purposed’ downtown power plant with community open house

by **Steve Downer**

A number of attractive and functional municipal utility

headquarters buildings have been built in the last two decades. The most striking was

For more on the Owatonna Public Utilities re-purposed power plant, go to the ‘News’ section at www.mmua.org

officially unveiled Thursday, June 18, as Owatonna Public Utilities (OPU) held an open house dedication ceremony at its ‘re-purposed’ downtown power plant.

“I couldn’t be prouder,” said Owatonna Mayor Tom Kuntz, a former OPU power plant employee who rose through the ranks to become its general manager.

The plant once used waters from the Straight River for cooling. The river flooded in September 2010. The flood waters damaged pumps and other equipment beyond repair and made much of the office space unusable.

Affected departments were moved into temporary facilities in other buildings. Once the utility established continuity of operations, the question became: how to best bring operations back together under one roof?

The plant itself had long been relegated to running on a standby basis. Decommissioning was expected, sometime in the future. The flood forced its fate to the forefront of utility decision-making.

“The Owatonna Power Plant is a major icon in the city and OPU felt it was important to keep the building if possible,” said OPU General Manager Mark Fritsch said. “Overwhelming community support, the ability to fund this project without raising rates and a design that meets OPU’s functional needs have combined to make this project possible.”

“We obviously wanted to be downtown,” said OPU Commissioner Scott Schreiner. Re-purposing the power plant building had to make financial sense, he continued, and it was “very important that it not be a fortress for OPU, but open to the public.”

Several hundred tons of boilers, turbines and equipment were reduced to scrap metal and removed for salvage. There was a strong desire to preserve a sense of the building’s original purpose—Numerous items were saved for display in the updated building including gauges, boiler plates, turbine nameplates and other items of interest.

The outside of the building has been largely preserved. Inside, boiler support beams and columns co-exist with

office and customer service space—a link to the original industrial purpose of the building.

The project completes OPU’s recovery from the flood while preserving the power plant building. Non-profit organizations can use the facility as a meeting space during business hours. The third floor is unfinished and is available for a variety of potential uses.

OPU last relied on the plant’s output in the 1970s, before it signed an agreement to buy power from the South-

ern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA). The utility does maintain a combustion turbine generator at one of its two substations.

In March, SMMPA voted to approve installation of four 9,770 kilowatt natural gas-fired reciprocating engine generating units in Owatonna. The new plant will be located in the industrial park across the street from a substation. The new plant is expected to be completed in the fall of 2017. Total generating capacity will be 39.1 megawatts.

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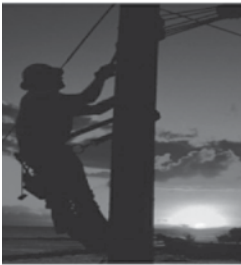
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The iconic power plant sign was taken down in 2012 for a complete makeover and upgrade. The major upgrade was replacement of neon letters with Light Emitting Diodes (LED) technology. The main portion of the building was constructed in phases including 1940, 1949 and 1969. The middle part of the building, which introduced the arched window to the plant, was built in 1929. The oldest portion of the building, to the left, was constructed in 1924. Below: part of the historical display, and a recent Steele County Historical Society award.



The third floor of the main power plant building has been left unfinished. The space is available for any number of potential uses.



The oldest part of the power plant building, which now serves as the south side entrance, was built in 1924.



OPU staff, including Dave Wavrin, conducted tours of the building.

Scenes from the OPU downtown power plant re-purposing open house

A September 2010 flood forced Owatonna Public Utilities to temporarily vacate its downtown power plant and office space. That disaster was turned into a community jewel, however, by ‘re-purposing’ the plant into utility offices and a variety of utility and community meeting spaces. A display of historical utility items greets a visitor walking walk along the hallway from the south entrance (pictured below). For more photos, see the ‘News’ section at www.mmua.org



photos by Steve Downner
Pictured above: Interior view of the main entryway.



The customer service area features bright colors and a schematic wall covering.

Three Minnesotans earn APPA national awards

Three Minnesotans won national awards June 9 at the American Public Power Association (APPA) National Conference at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

The three honorees were Brad Roos, General Manager, Marshall Municipal Utilities; Guy Swenson, TEC (Telephone, Electric, Cable) Manager, Barnesville Municipal Utilities; and Jennie Nelson, Customer Service Manager, Elk River Municipal Utilities Commission (ERMU).

Roos received the James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the electric utility industry and to public power.

Roos has been general manager of Marshall Municipal Utilities since 2003. He is a

third generation public power utility manager with more than 30 years of experience. Roos has served on the board of APPA and several regional associations. As chair of the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association government relations committee, Roos led the drafting of a public power renewable energy standard in 2007. Many aspects of this standard were incorporated into a state law.

He is a regular participant in APPA's Legislative Rally and is an effective and articulate spokesperson for public power.

Nelson, customer service manager at ERMU, received the Robert E. Roundtree Rising Star Award. This award is a scholarship presented to future leaders in public power. The recipient receives a

stipend to travel to an APPA conference or training program to advance their education and development in public power.

Nelson started at the utility in 2011 as a customer service specialist and immediately grasped the values of public power. She recognized that customer service is the overarching touch point with customers. She has come up through the ranks in the last four years and has gained the respect and support of her direct reports, fellow employees, management, and the ERMU Commission.

The leadership style that Nelson has developed is one of honesty, integrity, and forwardness. She quickly and professionally addressed any issues relating to her rapid ascension to her current position. She then rolled up her sleeves and led by example. She not only gained the respect and support of her direct reports, but also that of the management team and the Utilities Commission. Nelson has become the company resource on all things related to customer service for ERMU.

Swenson received an APPA Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award. This award recognizes managers of small utilities serving fewer than 2,500 meters. These managers have a very small staff and must assume multiple roles. The seven hats they must wear are: planning and design, administration, public relations, field supervision, accounting, human resources, and community leadership.

Swenson spearheaded an automated meter reading system, substation redesign, rate study, and a fiber-to-the-premises project. Under his direction, Barnesville was one of the first members of Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), the city's wholesale



Brad Roos of Marshall Municipal Utilities, center, received an APPA Jame D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award from DiFonzo and Stauffer.



Jennie Nelson of Elk River Municipal Utilities, center, received an APPA 'Rising Star' Award from APPA board chair Paula DiFonzo and past chair Gary Stauffer.



Guy Swenson of Barnesville received an APPA 'Seven Hats' Award.

electric provider, to take part in a Municipal Power Advantage study to inform the city

council and community of the value of public power. He also puts together the annual budgets and manages the utilities' funds throughout the year. He recently worked with MRES to conduct a rate study and then used the information from that rate study to work with the city council to establish a set amount to transfer from the utility to the general fund on an annual basis.

He is also always willing to help out in the field when needed. He has assisted with linework on various electric projects and has even helped with meter-reading when regular meter readers were not available.



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Wade Lovelette is retiring after 33 years with **Elk River Municipal Utilities**. A retirement open house was held in his honor June 30. MMUA thanks Lovelette for his support and involvement over the years, particularly in our job training and safety programs.

The Willmar Municipal Utilities Commission June 8 approved paying an average retail utility rate of 10.03 cents per kilowatt-hour (kwh) to utility customers who have a qualifying facility that has a capacity of producing less than 40 kilowatts of energy. The Commission approved the rate after a public hearing. The hearing was scheduled after the utility received an application for a residential solar panel facility.

Two members of the public spoke at the hearing. One said solar energy is a right and said policy was needed to support energy freedom for customers. Another person

Around the State

said solar energy was a public good and that distributed wind and solar energy were much more affordable than other forms of energy.

The Hibbing Public Utilities Commission recently updated its net energy rates. The utility formerly paid 7 cents per kwh for any excess energy produced by solar panels interconnected with its system. The utility made an adjustment to pay 9.4 cents per kwh, reflecting its current residential rates.

No customer at this time is producing enough to send energy back to the utility. Current solar customers include the fire department, public library, the state DNR and one residential customer.

The Rushford city council

May 26 approved a one-year moratorium for customers seeking to interconnect their own electric generating system to the municipal electric system. The recommendation came from the city's electric utility commission, which has reportedly been approached by customers wanting to install their own small generating systems.

The Cook County North Shore Hospital board declined to enter into a contract for service from the proposed **Grand Marais Biomass Heating District**. Economics and uncertainty over future energy developments played into the decision.

The hospital would have been approximately 30 percent of the heating district's load. The project has been studied since 2009 and its future is unclear at this point.

A piece of construction equipment struck a power line in **Spring Valley** on

June 9, causing an outage which lasted approximately three hours. The outage affected residents and numerous businesses.

The New Ulm Public Utilities Commission has approved a \$50 surcharge for noncompliance with sump pump regulations. The wastewater department will conduct sump pump inspections throughout the city in June. The surcharge would be applied to properties that refuse to respond or correct illegal discharges. Under the regulation, it is unlawful to discharge storm water, surface water, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters into any sanitary sewer.

The Spring Grove city council recently discussed increased wholesale electric

rates, including a peak hour rate charge. As a result, the council discussed replacing its meters with electronic meters that can capture usage at various time intervals. Further rate discussions were also expected.

A jury has awarded nearly \$2.5 million to Waverly dairy farmers who say stray voltage from their power company's faulty equipment cut deeply into their production.

After a long legal fight that included a ruling from the Minnesota Supreme Court, a jury in **Wright County** sided with farm owners against the Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association. They alleged that Wright-Hennepin's electrical system caused shocks to their cows because it was outdated and poorly maintained.

Committee accepting nominations for MMUA board

The MMUA Nominations and Awards Committee is now accepting nominations for the MMUA board of directors. Board members traditionally serve two three-year

terms. Three current board members will be up for re-election for a second three-year term.

Current board members who will be up for re-election

include: Elk River Municipal Utilities General Manager and MMUA President-Elect Troy Adams, Hawley Public Utilities Superintendent Kevin Berg, and City of Winthrop EDA Director Mark Erickson.

In selecting board nominees, the MMUA Nominations and Awards Committee will consider the following: personal integrity, independence and knowledge of the industry, providing a broad geographic balance on the Board representing all sizes and types of utility operations; a commitment to the promotion of municipal ownership of utilities; willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to the organization and the office; and a demonstration of interest in the affairs of the members and the Association through active participation and in furtherance of the goals and purposes of the Association.

Nominees must be designated representatives of member municipalities to be eligible for election. The Nominating Committee will not discriminate against age, race, sex, sexual preference or national origin in the nominating process.

Forms for submitting nominations to the MMUA board are available in the 'About' section of the MMUA website.

If you have any questions, you may contact Troy Adams, MMUA President-Elect and Nominations and Awards Committee chairperson, at 763-441-2020.

Nominations will be accepted through July 24, 2015.



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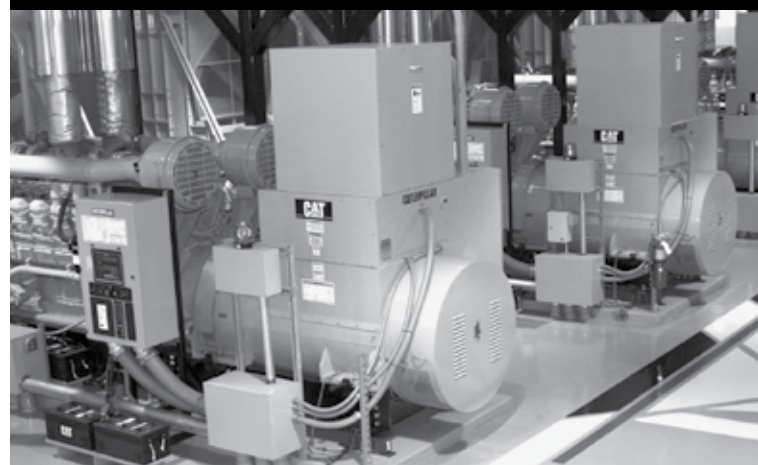
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- A broad range of knowledge and experience of design construction, operation, maintenance and sustainability of an electric generation, distribution and transmission system and of a water treatment plant, water tower and water main system.
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university and five years' experience in the utility field of Electric and Water or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Exceptional organizational and communication skills to lead the work within the Utility and coordinate with other City departments, plus engage, inform and correspond with the general public.
- Experience with financial statements desirable.

Delano prides itself on a "Spirit of Community" growing at a steady but limited pace to retain the small town atmosphere. Delano also boasts of one of the lowest tax rates in the State of Minnesota. Our schools have been ranked recently in Forbes magazine as the best schools for your housing dollars in the nation. The City of Delano is located within 30 minutes of Downtown Minneapolis. Submit resume: Email to Commission@delanomn.us. To learn more about us or this position call (612) 719-1704. Application deadline is open until filled. EOE.

Job Training and Safety Instructor - Electric
Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA) is accepting applications for an Electric Job Training & Safety Instructor.

Responsibilities

- This position will travel throughout the state of Minnesota instructing apprentice and journeyman lineworkers. As a member of the MMUA Safety Team, the successful candidate will have the opportunity to

mold the new public power workforce and reinforce top journeyman's work habits daily.

- Job Training & Safety Instructor – Electric and General Industry
- Primary instructor for MMUA's 4 year On-Site On-Demand Lineworker Apprenticeship Program
- Course instructor at MMUA Training Center, Marshall, MN

Position Requirements

- Applicant must have a strong technical lineworker background (Journeyman Lineworker)
- Graduate of accredited lineworker college preferred
- Applicant must have a strong understanding of safety standards, including OSHA 1910.269 and 1926 Subpart V
- Must have strong planning, organizational and time management skills
- Must have good communication skills and enjoy public speaking
- Applicant must have good computer skills; proficient in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Must have good driving record and be willing to travel

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Journey Lineworker

The City of Two Harbors is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Journey Lineworker. Under the general direction of the Electrical Superintendent, the Journey Lineworker performs skilled line and electrical work in the operation, maintenance and repair of overhead and underground electrical distribution systems; municipal power, water and wastewater treatment plants, natural gas system and other City operations. Desired minimum qualifications include:

- Graduation from high school or GED equivalent
- technical college training in electrical distribution/maintenance or apprenticeships or related work experience determined acceptable by the City.

Applications and a position description, which includes a list of duties and responsibilities are available at City Hall, or online @ www.ci.two-harbors.mn.us. Salary is \$26.47/hr. determined by the 2015 IBEW Local No. 31 Contract. Submit a City application and resume by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 10, 2015 to: City of Two Harbors, 522 First Avenue, Two Harbors, MN 55616. Telephone: (218) 834-5631.

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Moorhead Public Service (MPS) is accepting applications for a Dispatcher. This position operates SCADA and load management systems, dispatches electric and water crews, coordinates transmission line switching, monitors electrical systems, operates equipment to bring electrical systems and generation on and offline, and completes operating logs and reports. A two-year associate's degree in electrical technology or related field and one year of work-related experience are required. Preferred qualifications include training or experience with control systems software, such

as SCADA; familiarity with electric schematics, such as one-line diagrams; experience operating high-voltage breakers in switchgear; and/or experience with clearance procedures and training in switching procedures. This position is represented by IBEW. Union contract wages and benefits apply. The current wage is \$30.67 per hour at full scale. Benefits include pension (Minnesota Public Employee Retirement Association), low deductible health insurance (no cost for single coverage), and generous vacation and sick leave. Application form and job description are available at www.MPSUtility.com/employment; at

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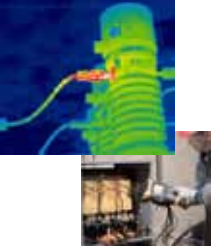
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For a complete and up-to-date listing, including Wanted and For Sale items, see the 'News/Classifieds' section at www.mmua.org



Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

Annual Summer Conference set for Aug. 17-19 at Breezy Point Resort

Minnesota's municipal utilities have been conducting their business annually since the association was formed in 1931. This business, along with educational and social offerings, occurs at the Summer Conference.

Breezy Point Resort is taking room reservations now. To register for the meeting, for more information and obtain MMUA's special room pricing, see www.mmua.org



Golf Tournament and Bike Ride

MMUA's popular golf tournament will be played on Breezy Point's newly acquired Deacon's Lodge golf course on Monday afternoon. The annual bike ride will be held at the same time. It will be an afternoon of fun and beautiful Minnesota scenery.

Events for Associate Members

One popular feature of the Summer Conference is the trade show. There are a number of other opportunities to get involved, as well. Associate members are invited to participate in the conference as hospitality room hosts, reception or break sponsors, as a meeting presenter, or in the trade show. For meeting and trade show information, see the 'Events' calendar at www.mmua.org. You may also contact Rita Kelly by email at rkelly@mmua.org

Sunday, August 16

7-9 pm | MMUA Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, August 17

8 am-noon | MMUA Board of Directors Meeting
noon-6 pm | Conference Registration Open
noon-1 pm | Check-in for Golf Tournament at Deacon's Lodge Golf Course
noon-12:30 pm | Check-in for Bike Ride
1 pm | Golf "Best Ball Scramble" Tournament (Deacon's Lodge Golf Course)
1 pm | Paul Bunyan Bike Trail Ride (meet in Nisswa)
5 pm | Resort Check-in
6:30 pm | Welcome Reception
7:30 pm | Outdoor BBQ

Tuesday, August 18

8 am | Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:15 am | *Public Power Forward: Public Power in the 21st Century*, Sue Kelly, American Public Power Association
9 am | *Meeting the Challenge: The New Energy Landscape*, Laura McCarten, Xcel Energy
10 am | *What's the Plan? 111(d) Process*, Bob Jagusch, MMUA
10:45 am | *Reliable & Secure Operation of the Bulk Power System*, Dan Skaar and Larry Koshire, Midwest Reliability Organization
1 pm | *The Washington Scene*, Michael Nolan, MMUA Washington Rep.



1:45 pm | *Wild Rice Water Quality Standards*, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
3 pm | *The Power of Partnership: A Unique & Effective Approach to Wellhead Protection*, Scott Hain, Worthington Public Utilities
3 pm | Trade Show Setup
3:45 pm | *RS Fiber: Network of Opportunities*, Mark Erickson, City of Winthrop
5 pm | *Trade Show and Reception*
7 pm | *Banquet and Awards*



Wednesday, August 19

(Meeting for Regular & Affiliate Members Only)
8 am | *MMUA Business Meeting*
8:30 am | *Managing the Rate Impacts of Distributed Generation*, Dave Berg, Dave Berg Consulting
9:15 am | *Solar-DG Task Force Report*, Troy Adams, Elk River Municipal Utilities and MMUA Staff
10:15 am | *Preparing for the 2016 Rodeo*, Mike Willetts, MMUA
11:00 am | *State Legislative Developments*, Bill Black and Amanda Duerr, MMUA and Doug Carnival, McGrann Shea
11:30 am | *Issues Round-Up*, Jack Kegel, Bob Jagusch and Mike Willetts, MMUA

MMUA Nominations and Awards Committee seeks individual, system recommendations

Doing an outstanding job locally is expected. So it often takes somebody from outside your community to recognize outstanding achievement.

At times, recognition of an individual is called for. These individuals can be utility employees, policymakers, or even a citizen. At other times, the utility as a whole should be recognized.

In addition, individuals outside of our cities and/or utilities often play significant roles in advancing the interests of public power. These people should also be recognized.

Those reasons, in part, are motivating factors behind the MMUA Awards and Recognition program.

The MMUA Nominations and Awards Committee and the MMUA Board of Directors have approved the following slate of awards.

While eligibility for the awards may vary somewhat, in general individuals and utilities must represent or be MMUA Regular Members. Individuals cannot receive the same award twice. Utilities can earn awards once every five years.

All nominations of MMUA's Awards and Recognition Program will be forwarded to the MMUA Nominations and Awards Committee for their consideration. Awards will be presented at the MMUA Annual Summer Conference Aug. 17-19.

MMUA Honorary Lifetime Membership

This prestigious award symbolizes a long professional life dedicated not only to the advancement of municipal utilities locally, but also for the betterment of our industry on a statewide basis.

Eligibility: Individuals who have concluded or are about to conclude a long and distinguished career in the municipal utility industry.

Criteria: Nominees should have:

- a long professional life dedicated to the achievement of excellence in the municipal utility industry;
- a strong record of involvement in MMUA and efforts on behalf of the betterment of the industry on a statewide basis.

Public Service Award

This award is given to a state or federal elected or appointed official who has been a strong supporter of MMUA and its members.

Eligibility: Any publicly elected or appointed official at the local, national or state level whose activities have advanced the objectives of public power.

Criteria: Nominees should have:

- made substantial contributions to public power;
- made contributions with lasting impact.

Community Service Award

This award is given to an individual who has performed long and well in support of a municipal utility at the local level.

Eligibility: An individual who has a long record of service to an MMUA member utility.

Criteria: An individual who has performed long and well at the local level, but who may not have the level of involvement with MMUA to merit a lifetime membership.

Distinguished Service Award

This award is given to individuals who perform outstanding service in support of the association and its goals.

Eligibility: Individuals who demonstrate leadership on various issues.

Criteria: Performance of outstanding service in support of the association or its goals.

Rising Star Award

This award is presented to an up-and-coming person associated with municipal utilities.

Eligibility: An employee of an MMUA member utility who has been employed for five or fewer years in his/her current position.

Criteria: A future leader who has demonstrated a dedication to the goals and principles of municipal utilities through problem solving, creativity, and job knowledge; a professional

who performs all job responsibilities in an outstanding manner, achieving high quality results, and has demonstrated interest in improving management and operational skills through continuing education.

System Innovation Award

This award is given to a utility that has demonstrated leadership and innovation in customer service, energy efficiency or renewables, technology, or other areas.

Eligibility: The utility must be an MMUA regular member system.

Criteria: Nominees should have achievement or sustained performance that:

- was widely recognized in the public power field;
- served to enhance public power's prestige;
- improved service to their communities;
- represented an earnest, coordinated effort on the part of the system.

Nomination forms for each award are available in the 'About' section of the MMUA website. Nominations must be received by July 24, 2015.

Please submit nomination forms to MMUA via fax at 763-551-0459, mail to 3025 Harbor Lane N., Suite 400 Plymouth, MN 55447. Nominations may also be emailed to Administrative Theresa Neddermeyer, tneddermeyer@mmua.org