

COOPERATIVE POWER

MONDAY, FEB. 12

NDAREC Headquarters

- 9 a.m. Resolutions Committee Meeting**
Conference Room 162
- 10 a.m. NDAREC Board Meeting**
Cooperative Center C
- 10 a.m. N.D. Managers Association Meeting**
NISC Ray Clouse Community Room
- 12 p.m. NDAREC Colleague Appreciation Luncheon**
Cooperative Center A and B
- 1 p.m. NDAREC Board Meeting reconvenes**
Cooperative Center C
- 1 p.m. N.D. Managers Association Meeting reconvenes**
NISC Ray Clouse Community Room
- 3:30 p.m. NDREC Foundation Meeting**
Conference Room 162
- 4:30-9 p.m. Complimentary shuttle bus service available**
- 5-7 p.m. NDAREC Welcome Reception**
Sponsored by CoBank
Baymont Inn & Suites

TUESDAY, FEB. 13

NDAREC Headquarters

- 7 a.m. Registration**
NDAREC headquarters
- 7-8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet**
Sponsored by National Information Solutions Cooperative
Baymont Inn & Suites
- 7:30 a.m. REPAC Silent Auction and NDREC Foundation Raffle**
-4 p.m.
- 9 a.m. Call to Order**
Bob Grant, president and presiding officer, NDAREC
Presentation and Posting of the American and North Dakota Flags
Amvets
National Anthem
Northern Lights Chorus, directed by **Mary Helvig**, rural development specialist, NDAREC
Pledge of Allegiance

Youth Tour Report

David Abel, 2024 N.D. Youth Leadership Council delegate, Verendrye Electric Cooperative

9:30 a.m. Challenges of Maintaining Reliability amid Energy Transition

John Moura, director of reliability assessment and performance analysis, North American Reliability Corporation (NERC)

There are ever-increasing challenges adversely impacting the reliability of the grid. In this presentation, industry expert Moura will share his insight regarding industry performance trends, emerging reliability risks, the overall health of the electric grid and mitigation strategies to consider in this energy transition.

10:15 a.m. In-Person Greetings from Rep. Kelly Armstrong

10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break

Sponsored by The Okonite Company

10:30 a.m. Credentials Committee Meeting

Room 162

10:45 a.m. Video remarks from Sen. John Hoeven

10:45 a.m. Cooperative Power – Report on 2023 NDAREC Work Plan Achievements

Bob Grant, president, and **Josh Kramer**, executive vice president and general manager, NDAREC

11:15 a.m. North Dakota Living: A Reliable 'Baseload' Communications Resource for 70 Years

Cally Peterson, North Dakota Living editor, NDAREC

Over 70 years, North Dakota's electric cooperatives have developed North Dakota Living into a trusted and reliable source of news, education and information. With eyes on the future, electric cooperative leaders convened a task force in 2023 to evaluate the statewide magazine and determine its value to the electric cooperative network. Key findings and recommendations from the North Dakota Living Study Committee will be shared.

11:30 a.m. The Pivotal Role of Property Taxes

This panel discussion will address the pivotal role property taxes play in funding vital community services, infrastructure and education, emphasizing this critical tool for local development and sustainability. We'll also review the NDAREC board position on

the North Dakota property tax elimination initiative filed in June 2023 and the impact this may have on rural areas of the state.

Michael Gilbertson, president of the Bismarck Park Board and assistant principal, Mandan Middle School

Rick Diegel, superintendent of Kidder County School District and Linton Public School

Neal Messer, Stark County Commissioner

Moderated by **Zac Smith**, communications and government relations director, NDAREC

12:15 p.m. Lunch

Sponsored by Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange

1 p.m. p.m. In-Person Greetings from Sen. Kevin Cramer

1:15 p.m. The Great Progression and the New Age of Artificial Intelligence and Energy

Peter Leyden, futurist and technology expert, Reinvent Futures

"The Great Progression" makes the case America and the world are heading into a time of fundamental system changes. These changes will lay the foundation for a new era of great progress, addressing many challenges of our time. This transformation will include historic booms in artificial intelligence, energy and bioengineering. Leyden lays out the probable story of America and the world in the next 25 years, helping people consider the many possibilities and potential risks with these new technologies.

Sponsored by National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation

1:15 p.m. Registration Deadline for Credentialed Delegates

2:15 p.m. NDAREC Business Session

Call and Notice of Meeting
Connie Bitz, secretary, NDAREC

Minutes of Previous Meeting
Connie Bitz, secretary, NDAREC

Credential Committee Report



Financial/Audit Report
Brenna Ohman, finance director, NDAREC

NRECA Report
Lynn Jacobson, director, NRECA

Election of Officers
• President
• Secretary

3 p.m. Refreshment Break
Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Dakota

3:15 p.m. NRECA International: It Starts with Power
Ingrid Hunsicker, senior program manager, NRECA International

NRECA International International uplifts rural communities in developing nations, by providing access to reliable and affordable electricity, establishing and strengthening electric cooperatives, offering tailored training programs and providing technical assistance. NRECA International's volunteer program engages skilled professionals from U.S. electric cooperatives, fostering knowledge exchange and supporting projects related to infrastructure enhancement and cooperative governance. These endeavors are often member-sponsored, driven by the collective contributions of electric cooperatives in the United States.

4:15 p.m. NDAREC Business Session reconvenes Resolutions
Deon Vilhaver, chairman, NDAREC Resolutions Committee

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment of NDAREC Business Session

4:30-9 p.m. Complimentary shuttle bus service available

5 p.m. Member Reception
Sponsored by Federated Rural Electric Insurance Exchange
Baymont Inn & Suites
Special entertainment by Dad Bod Band

6 p.m. Dinner and NDAREC Awards Banquet
Invocation
Chad Harrison, director, Mor-Gran-Sou Electric Cooperative

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14
NDAREC Headquarters

7-8 a.m. Breakfast Buffet
Sponsored by RESCO
Baymont Inn & Suites

8:30 a.m. REPAC Annual Report
Zac Smith, communications and government relations director, NDAREC

8:45 a.m. Electricity: Leading for a Reliable Future
Julie Fedorchak, president, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

The electricity sector is undergoing a top-to-bottom revolution, equating to unprecedented demand, less outage tolerance from the public and uncertainty surrounding long-term investments. How might we work together to lead through this transition?

9:15 a.m. The Opportunity to Dream Big
Rukaya Alrubaye, Youth Leadership Council national spokesperson, NRECA

Alrubaye will recount her family's journey to the United States and share how she overcame personal obstacles in pursuit of her goals and dreams.

9:45 a.m. Refreshment Break
Sponsored by Eide Bailly

10 a.m. Greetings from USDA Rural Development
Erin Oban, state director, USDA Rural Development

10:20 a.m. Where Would We Be Without You?
Lori Capouch, rural development director, NDAREC

Chartering a mission uniquely held by North Dakota's electric cooperatives, members have chosen to invest a portion of their profits in rural development, supporting the communities where they live, work and play. This commitment is nationally recognized. Looking back over the past 25 years reveals the benefits of this commitment.

10:30 a.m. REPAC Silent Auction and NDREC Foundation Raffle Closes

11:20 a.m. Special Remarks from Our President
Bob Grant, outgoing board president, NDAREC

11:30 a.m. Adjournment

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT
Rural Development Finance Corporation Annual Meeting – Baymont Inn & Suites

NDARECs
North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative



**COOPERATIVE
POWER**



NDARECs
North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

81st Annual Meeting
Feb. 12-14, 2024
NDAREC Headquarters
3201 Nygren Dr. N.W.
Mandan, ND

