

## MANAGER'S MESSAGE: DON'T WAIT - BE PREPARED BEFORE THE STORM



It's your worst-case scenario. A major storm was predicted and this time, the predictions were right. Many power lines are down, and your electricity may be out

for several days. You are low on everything—food, pet supplies, toilet paper, batteries, diapers and your medication.

Imagine how you would feel in this situation. While you can't predict which weather forecast will come true, you can plan ahead so when a severe weather event strikes, you have the tools and resources to effectively weather the storm. The Department of Homeland Security offers several resources to help you prepare for major weather events and natural disasters. Visit [www.ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan).

### Preparedness Actions and Items

- 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 portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are together in an easily accessible location.

### With advance warning

If a severe storm is expected with high winds and sustained rain, you may need to take extra steps to safeguard your home. Fully charge all cell phones, laptops and devices so you have maximum power in the event of a power outage. If you plan to use a small generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

### During a prolonged outage

In the event of an outage, turn off 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. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.

If utilizing a small generator for your household needs, in a safe, outside and well-ventilated area, consider using LED holiday lights to illuminate a living area. A strand of 100 white lights draws little energy yet produces considerable light. Solar lights also work, if they can receive some sunlight during the day for charging.

During thunderstorms, the American Red Cross recommends avoiding electrical equipment and land-based telephones. Use battery-powered TVs and radios instead. Keep away from windows. Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for emergency updates, or check Mor-Gran-Sou's Facebook page for 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 – including on your property.

### Power in planning

Advance 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. Act today, because there is power in planning.

Travis Kupper

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### Underground Line Locates

Toll-free: 1-800-795-0555 or 811

### Officers and Directors

Chair..... Steve Tomac  
Vice Chair..... Chad Harrison  
Secretary-Treasurer..... Pam Geiger

### Directors:

Mark Doll, Rodney Froelich,  
Bob J. Leingang, Ryan Petrick,  
Kathy Tokach, Casey Wells

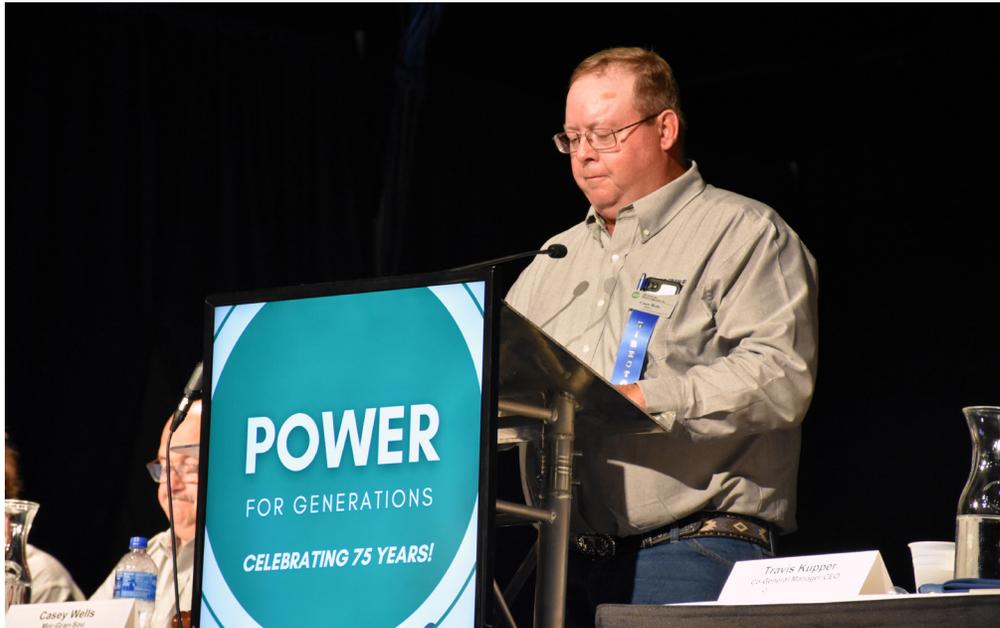
### Co-General Managers/CEOs:

Donald A. Franklund  
Travis Kupper



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative





## POWER FOR GENERATIONS: MEMBERS ATTEND 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

Members gathered with one another at the Prairie Knights Casino for Mor-Gran-Sou's 75th Annual Meeting.

Travis Kupper, Co-General Manager noted in his address to the membership, "We were founded when neighbors worked together to bring electricity to our rural and underserved areas. Back then, there were frequent meetings among neighbors to discuss the formation of the cooperative and once established, annual meetings were the must attend event of the year."

This year, over 250 individuals attended the annual meeting and enjoyed a complimentary meal. During the annual business meeting, directors were elected, a bylaw change was voted on and bill credits were won.

### Board Elections & Reports

Mor-Gran Sou Electric depends on the guidance and perspective of their members and board to help set priorities for the co-op and guide governance decisions. At the annual meeting, we raise issues for voting consideration by the general membership.

The board of directors is comprised of members who live and work in our service area, for they are in a

position to know where community investments are most needed. The membership fulfilled Cooperative Principle #2, democratic member control, by voting to fill the board positions. Voting this year took place by mail, electronically and in person which increased member participation. Those voted into a director position included Ryan Petrick, Grant County Director; Pam Geiger, Mandan Area Director; Mark Doll, Morton County Director.

We want to thank M. Curtis Feland, Scott Katus, and John Schmid who ran for a board position. Your interest in your Cooperative is what makes us strong.

"As we look to the future, we are confident in our ability to continue providing members with the reliable energy they have come to expect as our world becomes more electrified. We are prepared to power future generations as our overall energy consumption grows," said co-general manager, Travis Kupper during the cooperative update.

To learn more, read this month's issue of *North Dakota Living*.



## BILL CREDITS AWARDED TO MEMBERS

Members – thank you for participating in this year's annual meeting. Your voice is important to us, and we are glad you made it heard! Below is a list of the \$50 bill credits that were awarded for members who voted in person, online or by mail:

- Rosemary Barnhard, Solen
- Alberta Berger, St. Anthony
- Terrie Bingeman, Mandan
- Dusty Day, Mandan
- Alice Gangl, St. Anthony
- Joel Gartner, Glen Ullin
- Brittany Hearn, Mandan
- Russell Hoovestol, Mandan
- Morris Iszler, Elgin
- Scott Katus, Watauga
- Clairdon Koehly, Mandan
- Donnette Medicine Horse, Fort Yates
- David Motl, Mandan
- Eric Ohman, Mandan
- Arlene Riehl, Raleigh
- Michael Schaedler, Huff
- Frank Umber, McIntosh
- Jeff Vandenburg, Flasher
- Clyde Wetsch, Mandan
- Ryan Wisdom, Mandan

## BOARD REORGANIZATION

The board of directors held the reorganization meeting on July 27, in which Steve Tomac was elected as the Board Chair, Chad Harrison was re-elected as Vice-Chair, and Pam Geiger will continue as Secretary/Treasurer.