



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

June 2024

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 33, Number 6

OUTAGE RESTORATION



From the GM - Mark Johnson

My first spring season as a Nebraska resident was memorable.

Our state is still recovering from the severe weather events that happened in March, April, and May. This included two major ice storms impacting different areas of our state, and the May tornado activity. These storms have tested our resilience and reinforced the importance of effective outage management strategies in ensuring reliable electricity for our communities.

At Elkhorn, we were impacted by the ice storm that moved through our system at the end of March. Ice and wind conditions led to several transmission and distribution



Pictured above are poles down in Madison County north of Newman Grove during the ice storm at the end of March.

problems causing widespread outages in the eastern part of our district. Some residential services were out of power for close to 40 hours. I'd like to recognize the dedication of all our employees who worked diligently to safely restore power during this event.

We have robust outage man-

agement protocols in place to address storm-related outages promptly. Our first priority is always to ensure the safety of our employees while assessing the extent of the damage. Once it is safe to do so, our line technicians are deployed to assess and repair the affected areas. Collaboration with neighboring public power districts and utility partners is also vital during storm outages. We work closely with these entities to share resources, coordinate response efforts, and expedite restoration activities. During the March ice storm, Cuming County Public Power District graciously sent over 4 workers with 2 bucket trucks to assist our restoral effort.

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THE JUNE CONTEST WINNER

Share your favorite safety tip!

"Don't run your clothes dryer at night while sleeping," says Bonnie Kaye Schutz of Battie Creek.



The National Fire Protection Assoc. reports between 2014-2016 an average of 13,820 home fires involved clothing dryers or washing machines. Leading to 13 deaths, 344 injuries, and \$233 million in property damage!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Second Quarter Funding



Customers that round up their bill each month make a big impact on their communities. To the right you can see how much each community in the ERPPD footprint benefits from Operation Round Up.

Together these contributions help to build strong, connected, communities where our customers live, grow and prosper.

If you know of an organization that has an activity, project or needs funding for a special item, go to erppd.com/Community Fund and fill out an application.

Applications for 3rd quarter funding will be taken until **July 22, 2024**.

Community Development Fund Requests and Awards (May 2024)

Organization	Project	Location	Amount Awarded
Battle Creek Community Development	Pool Shade Structures	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Battel Creek Fire & Rescue	Nomex Hoods	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Battle Creek Post Prom	Post Prom	Battle Creek	\$50.00
Battle Creek Summer City Fest	2024 BC Summer City Fest	Battle Creek	\$500.00
Clearwater Chamber of Commerce	Clearwater Concert Inflatables	Clearwater	\$500.00
Clearwater Historical Society	Displays for Memorabilia	Clearwater	\$500.00
Son's of the American Legion Post 267	Flag Cases	Clearwater	\$1,000.00
Veteran Park Volunteers	Clearwater Veterans Park	Clearwater	\$1,000.00
Elgin Community Club	Vetch Day Carnival	Elgin	\$500.00
Elgin Community Foundation	Scholarships	Elgin	\$1,000.00
Ewing Young Members Club	Ewing Summer Festival 2024	Ewing	\$500.00
Neligh-Oakdale Volleyball	Volleyball Equipment	Neligh	\$250.00
Neligh Rescue	EMS Gear	Neligh	\$1,000.00
Neligh Young Men's Club	Old Mill Days Fireworks	Neligh	\$500.00
Norfolk TeamMates	Background Checks	Norfolk	\$500.00
St. John Lutheran Church	2024 Scuba Vacation Bible School	Battle Creek	\$250.00
Summerland Softball	Softball Field Renovations	Orchard	\$1,000.00
Tilden Young Men's Club	Tilden Prairie Days Fireworks	Tilden	\$500.00
Lucy Yost Eagle Scout Project	Markers for Heroes	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
			\$12,550.00

Third Quarter	Application Deadline July 22, 2024	Board Meeting Date: August 5, 2024
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Subdivision I Board of Directors Opening

The Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Board of Directors announces it has a Subdivision I vacancy to fulfill two years of a six-year term.

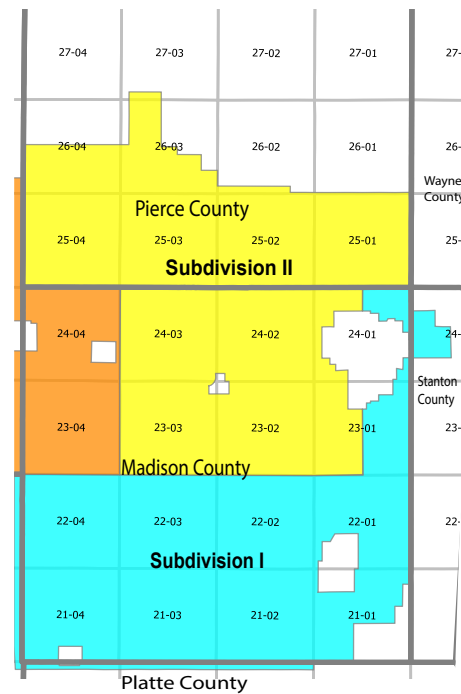
Those interested in applying will need to meet statutory requirements: "A candidate for director shall be a registered voter residing within the chartered territory or subdivision as defined in the charter of the district or a retail customer duly certified in accordance with subsection (3) of section 70-604.03".

Candidates should also be able to

attend the monthly board meetings generally held the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 am to 2 pm as well as other meetings and educational offerings.

Those interested in applying for this position should submit an application or letter of interest: in person - Attn.: Board of Directors, 206 N. 4th, Battle Creek; by mail - Board of Directors ERPPD, P.O. Box 310, Battle Creek NE, 68715; or e-mail - mjohnson@erppd.com, no later than **4:30 p.m. Monday, July 2, 2024**.

For more information please see Career Opportunities at erppd.com or contact Mark Johnson at 800-675-2185.



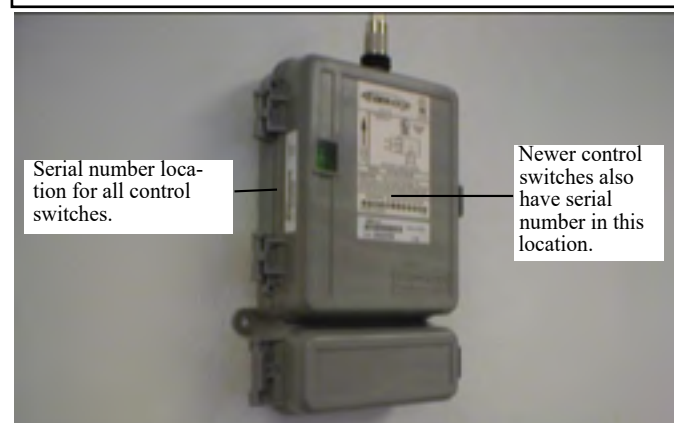
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SUMMER IRRIGATION AND LOAD MGMT.

Tips for Keeping Your System Running Smoothly:

- **Check Fuses:** Perform a system check before the irrigation season begins to make sure you have power. There may be fuses that need replaced.
- **Motor Savers:** Have your electrician install a three-phase motor saver on your system. Most three-phase pump motors monitor a single phase allowing continued operation during potentially damaging conditions on the remaining phases.
- **Power Factor Corrective Capacitors:** Capacitors installed at the pump panel will lead to several important customer benefits, such as:
 - Guarding against low voltages on startup
 - Helping maintain your system's voltage at a proper level while running
 - Lessening the chance of dimming your neighbor's lights when the motor starts
 - Reducing service amperage and heating due to a poor power factor
 - Prolonging the life of your motor and electrical equipment
 - Reducing demand (measured horsepower) billed on your well
 - Reducing kilowatt-hours billed by improved efficiency practices
 - Maximizing the output of the electricity purchased
- **Autostart:** An autostart component installed on your system can maximize the amount of pumping by automatically starting your system following a period of control, a blink or other power disruption on the electrical system.
- **Text or E-mail Control Notifications:** We can use this service to notify you by text or e-mail when the radio signal has been sent to control your individual well. Another notification will be sent when the radio signal has been sent to restore the individual system at the end of the control period.

If you have any questions on the items above, or questions related to energy efficiency, please call our office at 800-675-2185 and ask to speak with our Energy Services Representative, Brian Suckstorf. You can also find valuable energy information by visiting our website (www.erppd.com) and clicking on the "Energy" or "Irrigation" tabs at the top of the page.



If you need to call the office with an issue with your irrigation system, please have the serial number of the switch available so that staff can assist you better.

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ENERGYWISESM

Use less. Spend less. Do more.

Again this year, there is a \$500 incentive for irrigators to replace all of an irrigations system's existing outlet components such as sprinkler heads, sprayers, rotators, plates, pads and nozzles, and regulators on qualified systems.

To qualify, the system must be a minimum of four (4) sections in length with water supplied by an all-electric pumping system. The majority of the system's existing nozzles, sprayers or sprinkler heads must be at least five (5) years old. For verification, a copy of the pivot's most-recent sprinkler/nozzle report (usually kept inside the pivot control panel) must be provided with a completed application and qualifying proof-of-purchase documentation.

You will want to check out all the energy savings incentives for agriculture on the ERPPD website.

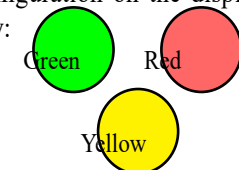
Call 800-675-2185 and ask for Brian Suckstorf for more information on the incentive or go to erppd.com and click on the EnergyWiseSM button.

Lights have meaning

Three LED lights on the control box have particular significance.

- Red - No Control
- Red and Green - Control
- Yellow - Signal Test (has no effect)

The light configuration on the display appears this way:



If the lights are not working, please check the fuses before calling ERPPD's outage number at 800-675-2185.

Check on Irrigation Control Status

June 1-Sept. 15

Phone:
1-800-238-0185
OR
Internet:
www.erppd.com
(click on "Irrigation Control")

OUTAGE RESTORATION CON'T.

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Communication and technology play significant roles during storm outages. We utilize multiple communication channels, including social media and website updates, to keep our customers informed about outage restoration progress. This transparency helps manage customer expectations and reduces uncertainty during challenging times. We have invested in our distribution system and continually look to utilize new technology that brings additional value to our customers. This includes our new metering system and other monitoring and control devices that provide us with near real-time data on our grid's performance. This technology enables us to identify outages more accurately, isolate affected areas, and prioritize restoration efforts based on critical infrastructure and customer impact.

Another tool we use during outage restoration is our Outage Map (lower right). This is a Geographic Information System (GIS) map of our district. Internally, this map is linked with a variety of endpoints/inputs and allows us to monitor several different aspects of our distribution system. We are excited to announce that we have published a "view-only" version of this Outage Map to our website (red box upper right). This version of the GIS Outage Map will display any active outages throughout our district and the rough location of those outages. You can find this map on the home page of our website. During future large outages, we will be sharing this map on our restoration updates through our social media channels.

Widespread power outages present unique challenges for both our customers and our organization. Rest assured, when the next storm hits our area, we will be ready and willing to respond.



 <p>206 N 4TH ST PO Box 310 Battle Creek, NE 68715</p>	 <p>General Manager: Mark Johnson CFO/Office Manager: Carmen Christensen Operations Manager: Todd Knutson</p> <p>Connect with us Online:</p>   <p>www.erpdp.com SCAN ME</p>	<p>Board of Directors</p> <p>Subdivision I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Miller, President • Dennis Kuchar, Treasurer • Hunter Frisch, Director <p>Subdivision II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Means, Secretary • Jerrell Dolesh, Director • Rod Zohner, Director <p>Subdivision III</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Thiele, Vice President • David Hoefer, Director • Raymond Payne, Director
<p>Office Hours: M - F 8:00AM - 4:30 PM</p> <p>Customer Service: 402-675-2185 For Outages: 1-800-675-2185</p>		