

Spotlight

April 2023



Work Zone Awareness Week Sheds Light on Safety

National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 17–21, 2023, is a good time to learn more about work zone safety; however, work zone safety should be observed 365 days a year to save lives.

Cars or trucks that speed through a work zone not only endanger workers on the ground. Driving too fast or too close to a work truck can also put an elevated worker in danger by causing their raised bucket to move or sway.

Streets and highways are lined with power poles and electrical equipment, and narrow roadways often require crews like ours to place their equipment in or near traffic lanes. Be alert to utility and other work zone crews for their safety and yours. Besides

our crews, you might encounter road workers, other utility crews, tree trimmers or first responders working in or on the side of the road.

According to the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, 774 fatal crashes and 857 deaths occurred in work zone crashes in 2020 (at the writing of this article, data was not available for 2021). Many other work zone crashes result in injuries. In 2020, 102,000 work zone crashes occurred.

Remember, slow down when approaching a work zone and move over for first responders and work crews. Do your part to help everyone return home safely at the end of the day.

To help keep roadside crews safe:

- Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment and workers.
- Be patient. Traffic delays are sometimes unavoidable, so allow time for unexpected setbacks.
- Obey all signs and road crew flag instructions.
- Merge early and be courteous to other drivers.
- Use your headlights at dusk and during inclement weather.
- Minimize distractions. Avoid activities such as texting, operating a radio, applying makeup or eating.

Operation Round Up

Operation Round Up® uses the power of cooperation to provide much needed grant dollars for community projects, 501©3 organizations and non-profit groups within the Dunn Energy Cooperative service territory.

If you, or a group you are a part of, are interested in applying for an Operation Round Up grant, you can find the application and our Giving Guidelines on our website at www.dunnenergy.com or by emailing

Jolene for an application at jolene@dunnenergy.com. Grant applications are due March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31 and reviewed shortly thereafter.

Thank you for your interest. Let's show the community the Power of Change!



February 2023 Board Meeting Highlights

Monthly Reports:

The Operations report discussed the importance of continuing education and how several linemen attended trainings throughout the month, including the MREC Annual Rural Energy Conference, a Key Persons, apparatus, warehouse and other workshops as well as the Annual Diggers Hotline update. Crews are continuing to work on regular maintenance of the system, as well as getting materials ordered for the 2023 work plan projects.

The team lead report on Energy Services contained information on the monitoring, maintenance, and software upgrades for the metering system. It was also reported that Dunn Energy currently has 13 applications for solar interconnection awaiting installation and there was a profit of just over \$1,200 on the level 3 electric vehicle charger in 2022.

The board had a safety update from the Safety Compliance Officer who went over national averages of reportable injuries, while noting that we only had one reportable injury in 2022 and no vehicle accidents. The Safety & Compliance Officer also reviewed the 2023 Safety Improvement Plan (SIP).

The CFO reported that financially, January kWh sales were off about 4.24% from budget due to a very mild month weather-wise. This resulted in revenue being 3.55% below budget. A survey from the DEC auditors regarding the Form 990 was also taken during the financial portion of the meeting.

The CEO/General Manager gave an overview on day-to-day operations. The line extension fees were discussed as the current cost structure isn't recovering the target amount on new services installations, especially the seasonal accounts. Staff is working on different cost recovery calculations to bring the board this spring.

The following items were approved:

- Minutes of the January 2023 Board meeting
- Capital credit estate payout for deceased members
- Audit committee report of all checks, ACH payments, wire transfers, credit card statements, and investments accounts
- Policy 538 - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Other Business:

Director Zwiefelhofer reported on Dairyland Power activities for the month.

Reviewed the monthly report of new Cooperative members.

Reviewed the monthly governance video that discussed the Business Judgement Rule

WHAT'S THE ORANGE SIGN FOR?



It's not a suggestion. It's the law.

Speeding through a work zone is not worth losing your life or taking someone else's.

National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 17-21, 2023, is a good time to learn more about work zone safety. However, work zones should be observed every day of the year to save lives.

2020 Work Zone Statistics*

Crashes and Injuries



Estimated total crashes
102,000



Estimated injuries
44,000

Fatalities



857
Total fatalities



244 Fatalities involving
commercial motor vehicles

Pedestrian Fatalities in Work Zones



105 Pedestrians
(non-workers)



51 Pedestrian workers

Do your part to help everyone return home safely. The orange sign is not meant for everyone else; it is meant for everyone.



*most recent data available

Sources: National Work Zone Awareness Week (nwzaw.org), National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, American Traffic Safety Services Association

Safe
Electricity.org®