

MAY 2025



ANNUAL MEETING HONORS LINEMEN

Event also gives a look back at 2024 and highlights current state of MPE



MPE Board President Liz McIntyre

MPE celebrated its 75th Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 26, by paying tribute to our linemen, gifting a custom cast iron skillet to the first 150 members in attendance, and by recognizing our co-op's accomplishments from 2024.

Linemen and other staff in the Operations Department hosted activity tables for youth to get hands-on experience in various aspects of a lineman's tools and work – from bucket rides (as seen in the photo above), to wearing personal protective equipment, to popping balloons with a three-phase pole. A total of 17 youth completed all five stations to earn a gift certificate to The Foundry and be entered to win among two gift certificates for local experiences.

With more than \$12,000 in vendor sponsorships supporting the meeting, MPE was able to provide for members the free breakfast buffet, the 150 cast iron skillets, gift bags with local goods, and raffle prized that included gift certificates for products from five of our area ranchers. Attendance exceeded that from last year's meeting with 193 members and a total attendance of 275.

"To the linemen, I am humbled by your work...thank you for keeping our lights on and doing it safely! In 2024, the average Mountain Parks meter was 'on' all but 2.46 hours of the year. That's electricity 99.97% of the time, delivered to 23,000 meters spread over 4,000 square miles..."

MPE'S TOP FOUR HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

1. A successful power supply transition

MPE buys its power from Guzman Energy, as of Feb. 1, 2025.

MPE's team "invested many many hours into developing a good strong, open, honest, and mutually-beneficial relationship with the Guzman team," said CEO Virginia Harman. President Liz McIntyre said the "new 20-year fixed rate power supply agreement will help provide more stable rates for our members."

2. \$100 million grant from New ERA

Funding will help support and strengthen MPE for 20 years.

"Truly a once-in-a-generation opportunity," said Harman, that will also include an additional \$100,000 in annual funding for our community for the next 10 years through the community benefits plan that is a part of MPE's New ERA obligation. MPE continues on the steps necessary to start receiving payments.

3. Fiber network and partnership with Conexon

Conexon bringing a fiber-to-the-premise internet solution.

McIntyre highlighted the "turning on" of MPE's fiber network and said Conexon will make fiber high-speed internet available for all members is "an effort reminiscent of rural electrification."

4. 344 million kWh of electricity delivered to members

A lot of energy with no lost time incidents or injuries.

"Supply balanced with demand every instant. Electricity at the touch of a switch, the turn of a knob or the sense of movement," McIntyre explained. "Line work is dangerous. Safety is Mountain Parks number one priority. The delivery of 344 million kWh this past year without serious incident is a testament to the dedication of our linemen, substation techs, and engineering staff."



Virginia Harman thanks linemen Bryce Poppe and Chase Gaines, as well as those not pictured – Isiah Herod, Blake Juergens, and Daylon Frentress – for representing MPE while participating in the Light Up Navajo project.



Nathan Klindt, metering superintendent, right, visits with an MPE member and a fellow veteran, who is holding his new MPE iron skillet.

More highlights from last year in the 2024 Annual Report:
www.MPEI.com/Annual-Report-2024

RECOGNIZING MPE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AT ANNUAL MEETING



MPE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS HONORED

28 local students awarded a total of \$82,500 from UCC Fund

The MPE Scholarship Program recently awarded scholarships to 28 applicants for a total of \$82,500 in Academic and Trade School scholarships from the Unclaimed Capital Credits Fund. Scholarship recipients were recognized at MPE's 75th Annual Meeting (group photo is below).

The volunteer MPE Scholarship Committee had a challenging task this year as they had more than 50 scholarship applications to review. The Academic Scholarship is the standard scholarship for college-bound students or those continuing in their post-secondary education. Among the award recipients were four non-traditional students or those continuing in their college programs. The Scholarship Committee utilized the total annual budget of \$75,000 for Academic Scholarships for the following awards:

- Evelyn Amaya of West Grand High School – \$3,000
- Dana Bell of Middle Park High School – \$4,000
- Gunnar Bjerken of Middle Park High School – \$3,000
- Eli Boomer of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- Luci Bruchez of West Grand High School – \$2,500
- Nathan Chua of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- Travis Churchill of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- Sabra Forquer of Middle Park High School – \$3,000
- Callie Freitag of West Grand High School – \$2,500
- Kaylee Hoover of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- Savannah Martin of Colorado Early College – \$3,000
- Taylor Martinson of West Grand High School – \$3,000
- Rigger McKay of North Park High School – \$3,000
- Van Mont of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- Dallas Morgan of North Park High School – \$4,000
- Ellen Osborne – college student – \$2,500
- Nicole Periolat – college student – \$2,500
- Gavin Pittington of North Park High School – \$2,500
- Christopher Reyes of North Park High School – \$2,500
- August Roehrs of Middle Park High School – \$3,000
- Kadin Starr of Middle Park High School – \$4,000
- Teagan Trott of West Grand High School – \$4,000
- Paige Vecchiarelli of Middle Park High School – \$3,000
- Zandra Walker – college student – \$2,500
- Simon Wilcox of Middle Park High School – \$2,500
- McKenzie Winchester – college student – \$3,500

The committee also awarded funds to two Trade School applicants:

- Jacob Zeleznikar of Middle Park High School – \$4,000
- Stella York of Middle Park High School – \$2,500

In their required essays, the winning applicants shared stories of how in their childhoods they have overcome challenges and sometimes tragedies, but their hopes and dreams have remained in focus and were even inspired and enriched by their life experiences. They are going into a wide range of fields that include aerospace engineering, veterinary science, several in various medical professions, agriculture, sports medicine, and business.

Starting in 2024, MPE expanded the Scholarship Program to include three categories – Academic, Trade School, and Energy Industry. Applications will continue to be accepted while funds remain available in the Trade School and Energy Industry categories. Visit www.MPEI.com/Scholarships for more information.



'MANAGING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGES'

MPE's new CFO presents solid financial position for co-op



MPE Chief Financial Officer Eric Jones

CFO Eric Jones comes to MPE having spent the past 8 years as General Manager for a company that owned and managed 10 water and wastewater utilities in Arizona. In his role, Eric either managed or directly supported most aspects of the business. He has also served for 5 years on the finance committee at his children's charter school and was Board Treasurer for 2 years. He holds an MBA from the University of Denver and a BS in Business Administration from Colorado State University. Eric and his wife, Karol, have been married for over 20 years and have two kids – a daughter who graduates high school this spring and a son who is finishing his sophomore year in high school. The family has owned a home in Granby for just over 6 years and have establishing strong roots in the area. Eric's favorite outdoor activities are mountain biking and pheasant hunting. He also enjoys reading and is most fond of his black Labrador, Boone.

Closing statement of Eric Jones' Annual Meeting Finance Report

As your new CFO, it's exciting to stand before you and share where we are financially. Thanks to a dedicated team and strong internal processes, we received a clean audit – no small feat considering the scale of financial activity over the past 2 years.

Our balance sheet is strong, with 52% equity to total assets – well above our policy minimum of 35% – and our 5.1% total margin reflects steady, responsible operations. We allocated \$1.8 million in capital credits to our members, a core part of what it means to be a cooperative.

Looking ahead, we're managing transformational changes. The \$100 million New ERA grant is historic, especially for a co-op with \$120 million in total assets. While the termination of our power contract required a significant investment, our overall financial position remains solid. With three more grant opportunities on the horizon – worth another \$11.5 million – we are positioning ourselves for long-term financial strength and sustainability.

I look forward to continuing this journey with you and earning your trust as we navigate this exciting chapter together.

DRONES TO INSPECT POWER POLES THIS SUMMER

In June and July, a contractor for MPE – SAM, LLC – will be completing a drone-based aerial inspection of all of MPE's overhead distribution system.

Inspection operations will only take place inside the distribution power line rights-of-way. The American-made drones will be piloted by trained and vetted pilots. No disruption of service will occur.

This comprehensive snapshot of the entire system within a single season has likely never been done before. It is made possible by MPE earning nearly \$380,000 in grant funds from the Colorado Energy Office and Department of Energy. This will be a major step forward in reliability, wildfire mitigation, and safety for MPE's system.

