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Form 990

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public

Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.IRS.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2015 , and ending 12-31-2015

B Check if applicable

☐ Address change

☐ Name change

☐ Initial return

☐ Final return/terminated

☐ Amended return

☐ Application pending

C Name of organization

Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc

Doing business as

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address)

3312 42nd Street S No 200

Room/suite

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

Fargo, ND 58104

F Name and address of principal officer

Chad Sapa

3312 42nd Street S No 200

Fargo, ND 58104

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates?

☐ Yes

☒ No

H(b) Are all subordinates included?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If "No," attach a list (see instructions)

H(c) Group exemption number

D Employer identification number

45-0115790

E Telephone number

(701) 356-4400

G Gross receipts \$ 117,199,072

I Tax-exempt status

☐ 501(c)(3)

☒ 501(c) (12)

☐ (insert no)

☐ 4947(a)(1) or

☐ 527

J Website:

www.kwh.com

K Form of organization

☒ Corporation

☐ Trust

☐ Association

☐ Other

L Year of formation

1937

M State of legal domicile

ND

Part I	Summary																	
Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities Meet our members' needs with excellent service consisting of reliable and affordable energy																	
	2 Check this box ☐ if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets																	
	<table><tr><td> 3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) </td><td> 3 </td><td> 9 </td></tr><tr><td> 4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) </td><td> 4 </td><td> 9 </td></tr><tr><td> 5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a) </td><td> 5 </td><td> 110 </td></tr><tr><td> 6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) </td><td> 6 </td><td> 0 </td></tr><tr><td> 7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 </td><td> 7a </td><td> 0 </td></tr><tr><td> b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34 </td><td> 7b </td><td> 0 </td></tr></table>	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	9	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	9	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2015 (Part V, line 2a)	5	110	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0	b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b
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	<table><tr><th rowspan="9">Expenses</th><th rowspan="8"></th><td>76,793</td><td>85,872</td></tr><tr><td>8,738,484</td><td>5,523,922</td></tr><tr><td>9,791,654</td><td>10,552,086</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>96,838,922</td><td>99,139,064</td></tr><tr><td>115,445,853</td><td>115,300,944</td></tr><tr><td>-1,998,494</td><td>1,661,893</td></tr></table>	Expenses		76,793	85,872	8,738,484	5,523,922	9,791,654	10,552,086	0	0			96,838,922	99,139,064	115,445,853	115,300,944	-1,998,494
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				138,470,517	138,579,648													
		84,887,799	91,131,078															

Part II

Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Sign Here

Signature of officer

2016-05-31

Date

Chad Sapa CFO

Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name

LISA CHAFFEE CPA

Preparer's signature

LISA CHAFFEE CPA

Date

2016-05-31

Check ☐ if self-employed

PTIN

P00193453

Firm's name

EIDE BAILLY LLP

Firm's EIN

45-0250958

Firm's address

4310 17TH AVE S PO BOX 2545

FARGO, ND 581082545

Phone no

(701) 239-8500

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)

☒ Yes

☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat No 11282Y

Form990(2015)

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III ☐

1

Briefly describe the organization's mission

The mission of Cass County Electric Cooperative To serve our members' energy needs with reliable electric service while delivering the values of cooperative membership in an ever-changing world

2

Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

3

Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

4

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

4a

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

Sale of electric energy to 45,353 accounts at year end 2015

4b

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c

(Code) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d

Other program services (Describe in Schedule O)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e

Total program service expenses ▶

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	1	No
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors (see instructions)?	2	No
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I	3	No
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	4	
5 Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	5	No
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I 	6	No
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II 	7	No
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III 	8	No
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV 	9	Yes
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V 	10	No
11 If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
a Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI. 	11a	Yes
b Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII 	11b	No
c Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII 	11c	No
d Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX 	11d	No
e Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	11e	Yes
f Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X 	11f	Yes
12a Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII 	12a	No
b Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional 	12b	Yes
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E	13	No
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	No
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV	14b	No
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV	15	No
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV	16	No
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I (see instructions)	17	No
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II	18	No
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III	19	No
20a Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? If "Yes," complete Schedule H	20a	No
b If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?	20b	

Part IV

Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i>	21	Yes	
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i>	22		No
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i>	23	Yes	
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a</i>	24a		No
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?	24b		
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?	24c		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?	24d		
25a	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25a		
b	Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i>	25b		
26	Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i>	26		No
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i>	27		No
28	Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)			
a	A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28a		No
b	A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28b		No
c	An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i>	28c		No
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	29		No
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i>	30		No
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i> . .	31		No
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i>	32		No
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i>	33		No
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1</i>	34	Yes	
35a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	35a	Yes	
b	If 'Yes' to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	35b		
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i>	36		
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i> . . .	37		No
38	Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O	38	Yes	

Part V

Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V

		Yes	No			
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096. Enter -0- if not applicable.	1a	145			
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable.	1b	0			
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	1c	Yes			
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return.	2a	110			
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file (see instructions).	2b	Yes			
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	3a			No	
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No" to line 3b, provide an explanation in Schedule O.	3b				
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	4a			No	
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See instructions for filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).					
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?	5a			No	
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	5b			No	
c	If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T?	5c				
6a	Does the organization have annual gross receipts that are normally greater than \$100,000, and did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible as charitable contributions?	6a			No	
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?	6b				
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).					
a	Did the organization receive a payment in excess of \$75 made partly as a contribution and partly for goods and services provided to the payor?	7a				
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?	7b				
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?	7c				
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year.	7d				
e	Did the organization receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	7e				
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	7f				
g	If the organization received a contribution of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?	7g				
h	If the organization received a contribution of cars, boats, airplanes, or other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C?	7h				
8	Sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. Did a donor advised fund maintained by the sponsoring organization have excess business holdings at any time during the year?	8				
9a	Did the sponsoring organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?	9a				
b	Did the sponsoring organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?	9b				
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter					
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12.	10a				
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities.	10b				
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter					
a	Gross income from members or shareholders.	11a	117,937,964			
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them).	11b	1,149,164			
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a				
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year.	12b				
13	Section 501(c)(29) qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers.					
a	Is the organization licensed to issue qualified health plans in more than one state? Note. See the instructions for additional information the organization must report on Schedule O.	13a				
b	Enter the amount of reserves the organization is required to maintain by the states in which the organization is licensed to issue qualified health plans.	13b				
c	Enter the amount of reserves on hand.	13c				
14a	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the tax year?	14a			No	
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O.	14b				

Part VI

Governance, Management, and Disclosure

For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI

Section A. Governing Body and Management

			Yes	No
1a	Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year	1a	9	
	If there are material differences in voting rights among members of the governing body, or if the governing body delegated broad authority to an executive committee or similar committee, explain in Schedule O			
b	Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent	1b	9	
2	Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?	2	Yes	
3	Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?	3		No
4	Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?	4		No
5	Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets?	5		No
6	Did the organization have members or stockholders?	6	Yes	
7a	Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body?	7a	Yes	
b	Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body?	7b	Yes	
8	Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following			
a	The governing body?	8a	Yes	
b	Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	8b		No
9	Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O	9		No

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

			Yes	No
10a	Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?	10a		No
b	If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes?	10b		
11a	Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	11a	Yes	
b	Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990			
12a	Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	12a	Yes	
b	Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	12b	Yes	
c	Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done	12c	Yes	
13	Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	13	Yes	
14	Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	14	Yes	
15	Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?			
a	The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	15a	Yes	
b	Other officers or key employees of the organization	15b		No
	If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions)			
16a	Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?	16a		No
b	If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?	16b		

Section C. Disclosure

17	List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed
18	Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply. ☐ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request ☐ Other (explain in Schedule O)
19	Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year
20	State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records Chad Sapa 3312 42nd St S Ste 200 Fargo, ND 58104 (701) 356-4400

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

☐ Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W- 2/1099- MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W- 2/1099- MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) Wendy Loucks Chairman	7 80 0 10	X		X				14,310	0	0
(2) Russell Berg Vice Chairman	5 80 0 10	X		X				13,960	0	0
(3) John Froelich Secretary	4 20 0 10	X		X				12,710	0	0
(4) Sid Berg Treasurer	8 60 0 10	X		X				10,210	0	0
(5) Douglas Anderson Director	5 10 0 10	X						13,710	0	0
(6) Steve Swiontek Director	3 00 0 10	X						10,960	0	0
(7) Glenn Mitzel Director	4 00 0 10	X						11,485	0	0
(8) Jeffrey Triebold Director	3 80 0 10	X						12,460	0	0
(9) Marcy Svenningsen Director	6 80 0 10	X						14,985	0	0
(10) Scott Handy CEO	41 70			X				242,473	0	42,512
(11) Chad Sapa CFO	44 20			X				218,185	0	127,689
(12) Tim Sanden CIO/VP Info Tech	45 90				X			176,963	0	144,706
(13) Marshal Albright VP of Member & Energy Svcs	42 00					X		160,911	0	188,243
(14) Bradley Schmidt VP Engineering & Operation	42 30					X		190,597	0	37,272

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

[illegible]

1b	Sub-Total			
c	Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A			
d	Total (add lines 1b and 1c)	1,425,087	0	701,096

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization ► 8

		Yes	No
3	Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		
		3	No
4	For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		
		4	Yes
5	Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		
		5	No

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
MPM Construction PO Box 202 Horace, ND 58047	Electrical Contractor	1,765,182
Jerry's Excavating PO Box 809 Casselton, ND 58012	Electrical Contractor	954,356
Carr's Tree Service PO Box 250 Ottertail, MN 56571	Tree Clearing	466,321
Moritz Excavating 1114 10th St SW Valley City, ND 58072	Electrical Contractor	340,369
Dakota Hills Electric 520 Spruce St Kindred, ND 58051	Electrical Contractor	318,704

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization ► 9

Part VIII

Statement of Revenue

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1a	Federated campaigns	1a				
	b	Membership dues	1b				
	c	Fundraising events	1c				
	d	Related organizations	1d				
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e				
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f				
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$					
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f					
Program Service Revenue			Business Code				
	2a	Sale of Electricity	221000	115,783,792	115,783,792		
	b	Capital Credits	221000	304,151	304,151		
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue					
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		116,087,943			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		625,128		625,128	
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . .					
	5	Royalties					
	6a	Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
			468,812				
			b	Less rental expenses	236,235		
			c	Rental income or (loss)	232,577		
	d	Net rental income or (loss)		232,577		232,577	
	7a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
			b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses			
			c	Gain or (loss)			
	d	Net gain or (loss)					
	8a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18	a				
	b	Less direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . .					
	9a	Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19	a				
	b	Less direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . .					
	10a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a				
			17,189				
			b	Less cost of goods sold	b	0	
	c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . .		17,189	17,189		
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
11a							
b							
c							
d	All other revenue						
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d						
12	Total revenue. See Instructions		116,962,837	116,105,132	0	857,705	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns All other organizations must complete column (A)

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.		(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1	Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments See Part IV, line 21	85,872			
2	Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals See Part IV, line 22				
3	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4	Benefits paid to or for members	5,523,922			
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	924,408			
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7	Other salaries and wages	7,609,696			
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	1,411,254			
9	Other employee benefits				
10	Payroll taxes	606,728			
11	Fees for services (non-employees)				
a	Management				
b	Legal				
c	Accounting				
d	Lobbying				
e	Professional fundraising services See Part IV, line 17				
f	Investment management fees				
g	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)				
12	Advertising and promotion				
13	Office expenses				
14	Information technology				
15	Royalties				
16	Occupancy				
17	Travel				
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings				
20	Interest	4,638,476			
21	Payments to affiliates				
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	6,404,259			
23	Insurance				
24	Other expenses Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O)				
a	Cost of Power	85,045,036			
b	Distribution	6,560,400			
c	Administrative and Gene	3,372,387			
d	Customer Service & Sale	2,842,246			
e	All other expenses	-9,723,740			
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	115,300,944			
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation Check here ☐ if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

Part X

Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part X

☐

				(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			1	
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments		11,447,151	2	9,415,360
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net			3	
	4	Accounts receivable, net		13,232,996	4	11,866,620
	5	Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L				
				0	5	
	6	Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions). Complete Part II of Schedule L				
					6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net			7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use		2,512,151	8	2,491,733
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges		3,217,432	9	2,698,815
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment—cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 245,847,785			
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 58,761,385	174,759,060	10c	187,086,400
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities		4,328,147	11	2,910,467
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		195,616	12	194,320
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		7,577,455	13	7,673,979
Liabilities	14	Intangible assets			14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11		6,088,308	15	5,373,032
	16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)		223,358,316	16	229,710,726
	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses		11,286,540	17	11,236,217
	18	Grants payable			18	
	19	Deferred revenue		6,208,429	19	5,752,915
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities			20	
	21	Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		14,428	21	15,286
	22	Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L			22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		115,940,797	23	116,169,343
Net Assets or Fund Balances	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties			24	
	25	Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24). Complete Part X of Schedule D		5,020,323	25	5,405,887
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25		138,470,517	26	138,579,648
		Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☐ and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.				
	27	Unrestricted net assets			27	
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets			28	
	29	Permanently restricted net assets			29	
		Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here ☒ and complete lines 30 through 34.				
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		0	30	0
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund		13,731,308	31	15,055,298
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		71,156,491	32	76,075,780
	33	Total net assets or fund balances		84,887,799	33	91,131,078
	34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances		223,358,316	34	229,710,726

Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

1	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	116,962,837
2	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	115,300,944
3	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	1,661,893
4	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A))	4	84,887,799
5	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	5	-51,436
6	Donated services and use of facilities	6	
7	Investment expenses	7	
8	Prior period adjustments	8	
9	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	9	4,632,822
10	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	10	91,131,078

Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O		
2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2a	No
2b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant? If "Yes," check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both ☐ Separate basis ☒ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis	2b	Yes
2c If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant? If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O	2c	Yes
3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?	3a	No
3b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits	3b	

SCHEDULE D
(Form 990)

Supplemental Financial Statements

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.
► Attach to Form 990.

Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc

Employer identification number
45-0115790

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1	Total number at end of year	
2	Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)	
3	Aggregate value of grants from (during year)	
4	Aggregate value at end of year	
5	Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
6	Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit? ☐ Yes ☐ No	

Part II Conservation Easements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1

Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

☐ Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education) ☐ Preservation of an historically important land area
☐ Protection of natural habitat ☐ Preservation of a certified historic structure
☐ Preservation of open space

2

Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year
a	Total number of conservation easements
b	Total acreage restricted by conservation easements
c	Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)
d	Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register

3

Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ► _____

4

Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5

Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6

Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► _____

7

Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year
► \$ _____

8

Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9

In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

b

If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

(i)

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

(ii)

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ _____

2

If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

a

Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1

► \$ _____

b

Assets included in Form 990, Part X

► \$ _____

Part III

Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets

(continued)

3

Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)

a

☐ Public exhibition

b

☐ Scholarly research

c

☐ Preservation for future generations

d

☐ Loan or exchange programs

e

☐ Other

4

Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII

5

During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Part IV

Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a

Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?

☐ Yes

☒ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table

c

Beginning balance

d

Additions during the year

e

Distributions during the year

f

Ending balance

	Amount
1c	
1d	
1e	
1f	

2a

Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?

☒ Yes

☐ No

b

If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII

☒

Part V

Endowment Funds.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a)Current year	(b)Prior year	b (c)Two years back	(d)Three years back	(e)Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2

Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as

a

Board designated or quasi-endowment

☐

b

Permanent endowment

☐

c

Temporarily restricted endowment

☐

The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%

3a

Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by

(i) unrelated organizations

(ii) related organizations

	Yes	No
3a(i)		
3a(ii)		
3b		

b

If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

☐

4

Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI

Land, Buildings, and Equipment.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' to Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a)Cost or other basis (investment)	(b)Cost or other basis (other)	Accumulated (c)depreciation	(d)Book value
1a Land		610,710		610,710
b Buildings		15,988,444	5,428,254	10,560,190
c Leasehold improvements				
d Equipment		219,080,655	53,333,131	165,747,524
e Other		10,167,976		10,167,976
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				187,086,400

Part XI

Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	1	116,961,542
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12		
a	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	2a	
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d	-1,295
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	-1,295
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	116,962,837
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	0
5	Total revenue Add lines 3 and 4c.(This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12)	5	116,962,837

Part XII

Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	1	109,777,022
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25		
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	
b	Prior year adjustments	2b	
c	Other losses	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	2d	
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	0
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	109,777,022
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	
b	Other (Describe in Part XIII)	4b	5,523,922
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	5,523,922
5	Total expenses Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18)	5	115,300,944

Part XIII

Supplemental Information

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Part IV, Line 2b	The members of the Cooperative can elect to round up their monthly electric bill to the next dollar. These funds collected from the membership are held in a Cooperative account until they are released to the SERVE Foundation. These funds are transferred directly to the SERVE Foundation on a monthly basis. Funds that exist at the end of year are a result of a timing difference in the receipt of the funds and the release of them to the SERVE Foundation. For the year ended December 31, 2015 the account held \$15,286.
Part X, Line 2	The Cooperative is exempt from income taxes under Section 501 (c)(12). The Cooperative is annually required to file a Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax (Form 990) with the IRS. The Subsidiary is a taxable corporation and provides for income taxes based on income reported in the financial statements. The Cooperative evaluates its tax positions that have been taken or are expected to be taken on income tax returns to determine if an accrual is necessary for uncertain tax positions. As of December 31, 2015 and 2014, the unrecognized tax benefit accrual was zero. The Cooperative will recognize future accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense if incurred. The Cooperative and Subsidiary are no longer subject to Federal tax examination by tax authorities for years before 2012 and state examinations for years before 2012.
Part XI, Line 2d - Other Adjustments	Equity Earnings from SERVE Co. on F/S -1,295
Part XII, Line 4b - Other Adjustments	Patronage Capital Credits Allocated During Current Year 5,523,922

[illegible]

Schedule I
(Form 990)

Department of the
Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,
Governments and Individuals in the United States

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule I (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization
Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc

Employer identification number
45-0115790

Part I

General Information on Grants and Assistance

- 1

Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2

Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States

Part II

Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section if applicable	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of non-cash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
ND Chapter of Dollars for (1) Scholars PO Box 5509 Bismarck, ND 58501	37-1517987	501(c)(3)	8,000				Education
Greater Fargo-Moorhead Economic Development (2) Corporation 51 Broadway Suite 500 Fargo, ND 58102	45-6011769	501(c)(3)	50,000				Local Economic Growth
(3)							Heritage Center Expansion

2

Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table

2

3

Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table

0

Part III

Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22
Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed

(a)Type of grant or assistance	(b)Number of recipients	(c)Amount of cash grant	(d)Amount of non-cash assistance	(e)Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f)Description of non-cash assistance

Part IV

Supplemental Information. Provide the information required in Part I, line 2, Part III, column (b), and any other additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
Part I, Line 2	The organization receives notification from ND Dollars for Scholars of the scholarship recipients. The organization is a member in the Greater Fargo-Moorhead Economic Development Corporation. They receive reports as to how the grant money is spent by the GFMEDC.

Schedule J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

▶ Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc

Employer identification number
45-0115790

Part I

Questions Regarding Compensation

		Yes	No
1a	Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items. ☐ First-class or charter travel ☐ Travel for companions ☐ Tax idemnification and gross-up payments ☐ Discretionary spending account ☐ Housing allowance or residence for personal use ☐ Payments for business use of personal residence ☐ Health or social club dues or initiation fees ☐ Personal services (e g , maid, chauffeur, chef)		
b	If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain	1b	
2	Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?	2	
3	Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III. ☒ Compensation committee ☐ Independent compensation consultant ☒ Form 990 of other organizations ☐ Written employment contract ☒ Compensation survey or study ☒ Approval by the board or compensation committee		
4	During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a with respect to the filing organization or a related organization		
a	Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?	4a	No
b	Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?	4b	No
c	Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.	4c	No
	Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.		
5	For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of		
a	The organization?	5a	
b	Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.	5b	
6	For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of		
a	The organization?	6a	
b	Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.	6b	
7	For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.	7	
8	Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.	8	
9	If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	9	

Part II

Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii) Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column(B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		Base (i) compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
1 Scott HandyCEO	(i)	231,142	2,400	8,931	19,320	23,192	284,985	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Chad SapaCFO	(i)	172,549	26,625	19,011	104,809	22,880	345,874	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Tim Sanden CIO/VP Info Tech	(i)	140,694	21,390	14,879	123,076	21,630	321,669	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Marshal Albright VP of Member & Energy Svcs	(i)	130,346	19,456	11,109	168,913	19,330	349,154	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Bradley Schmidt VP Engineering & Operation	(i)	159,149	23,964	7,484	15,542	21,730	227,869	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Ronald Ness Manager of System Operations	(i)	107,634	1,031	1,656	71,548	6,796	188,665	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Charles Ames Construction Supervisor	(i)	104,527	919	1,269	44,908	7,636	159,259	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part III **Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.**
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.
**▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at
www.irs.gov/form990.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc	Employer identification number 45-0115790
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Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 2	All board members have a business relationship as they all serve on the board of a related organization which is taxable as a corporation

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 6	CCEC has one class of members. A person is eligible to become a member of the cooperative effective the date the person initially uses or requests to use electric service and meets the requirements set forth in Article I of the Cooperative's Bylaws.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 7a	One member, one vote CCEC members have the right and authority to elect the Board of Directors Three directors stand for election each year at the annual business meeting Members also have the right to request a special meeting of the membership w hen the request is based on valid member demand Members may consider, vote or act upon other matters as provided by applicable laws

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 7b	CCEC membership has the right and authority to have the final decision role on the following matters **The disposition of cooperative assets if the proposed sale is over 5% of total assets during a 12-month period No less than two-thirds of the entire membership must approve the proposed transfer, **A proposed merger or consolidation, a majority of the members present and voting in person at the member meeting must approve the consolidation or merger

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section A, line 8b	The Board of Directors is the sole body with governing authority over the Cooperative. All committees serve in an advisory capacity. Appropriate records are maintained of proceedings at all governance meetings as well as its advisory standing committees.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 11	Board policy 202 regarding Tax Status/Reporting establishes that follow ing the initial preparation of the draft Form 990, the CFO and President/CEO must review the report and submit it to the Board of Directors for approval The Board must approve the completed Form 990 before it is filed

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 12c	CCEC Policy 110 Conflict of Interest requires Directors and employees of the Cooperative to disclose annually **The receipt of any gifts, fees, loans or favors with a value in excess of \$100, **Any business transaction that may be considered in competition with the cooperative or deemed a conflict of interest, **The policy also prohibits the use of non-public corporate information for financial or business opportunity benefit ***Action Should a conflict be disclosed the board must provide the director an opportunity to comment orally and in writing regarding the information or fact before making a determination If the board determines that a director is not in compliance with the policy the board will act appropriately including the possibility of sanction, disqualification and/or removal Legal counsel reviews disclosures Individuals with a conflict must abstain from voting

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section B, line 15a	At the board reorganization meeting held annually, the board reviews director compensation and benefits. The next review of director compensation will be done in 2016. The most current NRECA Director Compensation Survey is provided for review. Note: this survey is done every other year (most current 2015) and was provided to the board in April 2016. A new survey will be conducted in 2017. A CEO evaluation of compensation is done annually by the Board of Directors during an executive session; the CEO is not present during the meeting. As established by Board Policy 105.4, the Board Compensation Committee collects, verifies and analyzes comparative data on compensation which is then provided and reviewed by the board (executive session minutes are kept by legal counsel). The board Chairman is responsible for discussing the outcome of the evaluation with the CEO. The last CEO evaluation occurred in November 2015. An annual performance appraisal is required for all employees; the appraisals on top management personnel are completed by the President/CEO in accordance with Board Policy 224. Local, regional and national wage and salary data is used to determine the wage scale, which is approved annually by the Board of Directors.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VI, Section C, line 19	The Cooperative's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation are posted on the website (www.kwh.com). A paper copy is made available to any member upon request. The financial statements are mailed to all members of the Cooperative in the annual report issue of Cooperative's official newsletter, The Highline Notes. The Conflict of Interest Policy is available to the public upon request.

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Functional Expense, Line 24e	Other Expenses- The salaries, pension, and payroll taxes reported on lines 5-10 are already included in distribution expense, administrative & general expense and customer expense Therefore, these amounts are being subtracted out as an other deduction on line 24e in the amount of \$(10,552,086)

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part IX, Functional Expense, Line 4	Benefits Paid to Members- The Cooperative has interpreted the instructions to Part IX, Line 4, to mean patronage capital allocated for the year, rather than patronage capital retired This is consistent with the Bylaws of the Cooperative

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part XI, line 9	Retired Capital Credits to Patrons -889,805 Equity Earning From SERVE Co -1,295 Patronage Capital Credits Allocated During Current Year 5,523,922

Return Reference	Explanation
Form 990, Part VII, Column F	Estimated Amount of Other Compensation - Included in deferred compensation is the current year estimated increase in the actuarial value of the defined benefit plan for the following employees Chad Sapa \$58,552, Tim Sanden \$84,356, Marshal Albright \$133,798, Charles Ames \$21,616, and Ronald Ness \$45,409 These amounts are estimates in the increase of the value of the plan and are not current year expenses of the Cooperative The current year expense for this defined benefit plan are as follows Chad Sapa \$35,418, Tim Sanden \$29,922, Marshal Albright \$27,202, Charles Ames \$17,638, and Ronald Ness \$20,366 Because Part IX, line 5 captures only the current year expense of the defined benefit plan of the Cooperative, the compensation in Part IX, line 5 is less than that reported in Part VII

SCHEDULE R
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Related Organizations and Unrelated Partnerships

▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33, 34, 35b, 36, or 37.

▶ Attach to Form 990.▶ Information about Schedule R (Form 990) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization
Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc

Employer identification number
45-0115790

Part I Identification of Disregarded Entities Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 33.

(a) Name, address, and EIN (if applicable) of disregarded entity	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Total income	(e) End-of-year assets	(f) Direct controlling entity

Part II Identification of Related Tax-Exempt Organizations Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related tax-exempt organizations during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Exempt Code section	(e) Public charity status (if section 501(c)(3))	(f) Direct controlling entity	(g) Section 512(b)(13) controlled entity?	
						Yes	No

Part III

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Partnership

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a partnership during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Predominant income(related, unrelated, excluded from tax under sections 512- 514)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of-year assets	(h) Disproportionate allocations?		(i) Code V-UBI amount in box 20 of Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)	(j) General or managing partner?		(k) Percentage ownership
							Yes	No		Yes	No	

Part IV

Identification of Related Organizations Taxable as a Corporation or Trust

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34 because it had one or more related organizations treated as a corporation or trust during the tax year.

(a) Name, address, and EIN of related organization	(b) Primary activity	(c) Legal domicile (state or foreign country)	(d) Direct controlling entity	(e) Type of entity (C corp, S corp, or trust)	(f) Share of total income	(g) Share of end-of- year assets	(h) Percentage ownership	(i) Section 512 (b)(13) controlled entity?	
								Yes	No
Southeast Rural Vision (1)Enterprises Co 3312 42nd St S Ste 200 Fargo, ND 581048608 45-0436356	Merchandise Sales, Generator Leasing	ND	Cass County Electric Cooperative Inc	C		65,436	100 000 %	Yes	

Part V

Transactions With Related Organizations

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 34, 35b, or 36.

Note. Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III, or IV of this schedule

1 During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?

a Receipt of (i) interest, (ii)annuities, (iii)royalties, or(iv)rent from a controlled entity

b Gift, grant, or capital contribution to related organization(s)

c Gift, grant, or capital contribution from related organization(s)

d Loans or loan guarantees to or for related organization(s)

e Loans or loan guarantees by related organization(s)

f Dividends from related organization(s)

g Sale of assets to related organization(s)

h Purchase of assets from related organization(s)

i Exchange of assets with related organization(s)

j Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to related organization(s)

k Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from related organization(s)

l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for related organization(s)

m Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by related organization(s)

n Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets with related organization(s)

o Sharing of paid employees with related organization(s)

p Reimbursement paid to related organization(s) for expenses

q Reimbursement paid by related organization(s) for expenses

r Other transfer of cash or property to related organization(s)

s Other transfer of cash or property from related organization(s)

Yes

No

1a

1b

1c

1d

1e

1f

1g

1h

1i

1j

1k

1l

1m

1n

1o

1p

1q

1r

1s

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

No

2 If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds

(a) Name of related organization	(b) Transaction type (a-s)	(c) Amount involved	(d) Method of determining amount involved

Schedule R (Form 990) 2015

Part VI Unrelated Organizations Taxable as a Partnership Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 37.

Provide the following information for each entity taxed as a partnership through which the organization conducted more than five percent of its activities (measured by total assets or gross revenue) that was not a related organization. See instructions regarding exclusion for certain investment partnerships.

[illegible]

Part VII

Supplemental Information

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule R (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation
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