## **Operations Update:**

## **Summer Construction Season**



Ken Carda

kcarda@byelectric.com

We are ramping up our summer construction season, and we're already off to a busy start.

This summer we have a few large projects we will be working on including the road move on Highway 46 towards Irene. We are replacing 5 miles of cable from 444th ave to 449th ave. In that same neck of the woods, we will be converting 12-15 miles of overhead to underground line.

Another large project is building new services near Deer Bvld. Two new campgrounds are being constructed this spring as well as a retirement summer home community. This is also the time of year that we start hearing about new irrigation services and primary line replacement for existing irrigation services.

Later this summer, we will continue working on our large 600 amp project from Gavins substation to Oak Hills. If you remember, that is our project to install large single phase and three phase cabinets that can handle higher amps to keep up with the load growth in the west Yankton lake area.

Earlier this spring, the linemen were busy changing out poles after our 2020 pole inspection, adding new services, replacing cable for irrigation services, and retiring old services.

Our electricians have also been extremely busy. They are continuously troubleshooting and taking miscellaneous service calls. Wes Kloucek has taken over our Load Control Receiver change out project while Kevin Meyer has been doing some irrigation

Nathan Kloucek (left) and Gunnar Dally trenching in a new service

panel work, trenching secondary lines for consumers, replacing old wire, and helping convert overhead lines to underground.

So far the lumber shortages haven't affected our co-op very much. However ordering material is an ongoing battle. For example, our transformers currently have 20-30 weeks of lead time, and our meter pedestals have up to a year of lead time. We are hoping we have enough supply to hold us through the rest of the year. But due to the national shortages and long delivery times, it is extremely important that you contact us early with any projects you have going on!

