



Farmers' Electric Board of Trustees Appoints Nominating Committees

The Board of Trustees in their April 27, 2021 meeting appointed the 2021 Trustee Candidate Nominating Committees as follows:

District No. 1 (Clovis), will meet on May 20, 2021, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Committee Members:

Billy Tate
Lance Starbuck
Delbert Sours

District No. 4 (Santa Rosa), will meet on May 21, 2021, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Committee Members:

Andy Mardrid
David Sanchez
Max Tenorio

District No. 6 (Broadview/Grady), will meet on May 24, 2021, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Committee Members:

Jay Lynn Blackburn
Rachel Armstrong
Todd Northcutt

The Cooperative's Bylaws state, "A nominating committee consisting of three members from each district from which a trustee is to be elected shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees not less than 60 days (May 25, 2021) or more than 120 days (March 26, 2021) before the Annual Meeting. Each committee shall meet no less than 45 days (June 9, 2021) before the annual meeting and select one nominee for trustee from their district. The nomination shall be posted at the principal office of the Cooperative immediately following the committee meeting."

In order to be eligible to become or remain a trustee, a person must:

- (a) Be a member of the Cooperative.
- (b) Be a bona fide resident of his/her trustee district and a permanent occupant receiving electrical service from the Cooperative at his primary residential abode.
- (c) Not be in any way employed by a major supplier of electric energy or merchandise to the Cooperative.
- (d) Not be employed by or have a close relative employed by the Cooperative in any position.

These Positions Are For Three-Year Terms

Furthermore, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Cooperative, any qualified member of the Cooperative residing in Districts 1, 4, or 6 wishing to be on the Annual Meeting ballot as a candidate, may do so by petition. Article IV, Section 3(d) reads: "Any fifty (50) members, in good standing with the Cooperative, residing in a district from which a trustee is to be elected, may make nominations by petition for a trustee from that district, providing such nominating petition is filed in the principal office of the Cooperative not less than 20 days prior to the annual meeting."

The filing deadline this year is July 2. If you have any questions, call Lance R. Adkins at (800) 445-8541 or (575) 762-4466 in Clovis.

Manager's Message will return next month

Wildfire Safety Tips

Unlike many natural disasters, most wildfires are caused by people – and can also be prevented by people. Meteorologists are not yet able to forecast wildfire outbreaks, so people in fire-prone areas like ours should plan ahead and prepare to evacuate with little notice.

Here are some tips on how to prevent wildfires and what to do if you're caught in the middle of one:

How to Prevent a Wildfire

- Contact 911, the Sheriff's office, or your local fire department if you notice an unattended or out-of-control fire.
- When camping, take care when using and fueling lanterns, stoves, and heaters. Make sure lighting and heating devices are cool before refueling. Avoid spilling flammable liquids and store fuel away from appliances.
- Do not discard cigarettes, matches, and smoking materials from any moving vehicles.
- Use fireworks responsibly and follow local laws and ordinances. Always have a water source ready.
- When pulling a trailer, make sure the slack on the emergency chain is not dragging. A chain being drug on asphalt will cause sparks to fly and could start a fire. Also, the catalytic converter, part of your exhaust system on your car, gets very hot. During normal operation, the catalytic converter routinely reaches temperatures of 1200 degrees F. If you pull over to the side of the road, make sure the underside of your vehicle is not touching tall, dry brush.
- Follow local ordinances when burning yard waste. Avoid backyard burning in windy conditions, and keep a shovel, water, and fire retardant nearby to keep fires in check. Remove all flammables from yard when burning.



Evacuation Tips

- If advised to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Know your evacuation route ahead of time and prepare an evacuation checklist and emergency supplies.
- Wear protective clothing and footwear to protect yourself from flying sparks and ashes.

Before you leave, prepare your home (if time permits)

- Remove combustibles, including firewood, yard waste, BBQ grills, and fuel cans from your yard.
- Close all windows, vents, and doors to prevent draft.
- Shut off natural gas, propane, or fuel oil supplies.

See **WILDFIRES** on **PAGE 4**

Board of Trustees:
Mike West
President
George Dodge
Vice President
Donnie Bidegain
Secretary-Treasurer
Justin Barnes
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Judy Smith
Trustee
Ernest Riley
Trustee
Pat Woods
Trustee

General Manager:
Lance R. Adkins

POWER SOURCE

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We are on-call 24 hours each day, 365 days each year, to serve your electric power needs

To Report
 an Outage Call:

Clovis
 (575) 762-4466
Fort Sumner
 (575) 355-2291
Santa Rosa
 (575) 472-3971
Toll Free
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Easy DIY Ideas From Ask this Old House

Save money on these energy efficient practices

Upgrade Your HVAC Filter

Still using those blue filters, made of spun fiberglass, in your furnace? Trade up to pleated ones, which have a tighter weave, greater surface area, and an electrostatic coating, allowing them to capture at least twice as much allergy-triggering dust and pollen, and other tiny particles. Could also extend the life of your equipment. Remember to replace the filter every three months at a minimum.



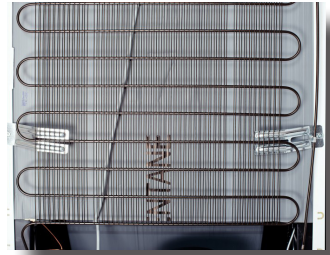
Flush a Tank-Type Water Heater

Sediment buildup in a tank saps heater efficiency and costs you money. It can also shorten the life of your electric heating elements and the tank itself. To get rid of it, shut off the power (breaker panel or disconnect) or gas to the tank, then cool its water by opening the hot-water tap on a sink faucet for a few minutes. Close the heater's water supply valve, run a garden hose from the tank's drain valve to the outside or a drain valve. When the flow stops, stir up the sediment in the bottom of the tank by briefly opening then closing in cycles the water supply valve. Drain and repeat until only clean water comes out. On an electric water heater, this would be the perfect time to change your top and bottom elements. Just make sure you have them on-hand and the water has stopped draining. Now close the drain valve, open the supply valve. Once the tank is refilled, turn on the power or gas.



Do Your Fridge a Favor

A refrigerator can't do a good job of dissipating heat and keeping its contents cold if its coils are covered in greasy dust. Those dirty coils also cost you a few bucks each month in higher energy bills. It will also cause your fridge to run longer, shortening its useful life. To clean a refrigerator with bottom-front grilles, unplug the cover and remove the accumulated dust with a vacuum and coil-cleaning brush. If the coils are in the back, as shown, unplug and roll it out, then give the coils a clean sweep. Don't forget to plug it back in.



FEC is the local underwriter of *Ask This Old House*. New episodes can be seen on KENW TV on **Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 PM.** Find the library of past episodes here: <https://www.thisoldhouse.com/ask-this-old-house>



The moratorium on disconnects associated with the New Mexico Health order has ended. If you have an **outstanding balance** with FEC, contact us today to make arrangements to pay. We will be happy to work with you. Please call (800) 445-8541 and ask to speak to someone in Billing.

There is also additional "Utility Payment" aid available through the state's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). Under ERAP, New Mexico residents (those that are renters) can apply for assistance with: rent, utility bills, water and sewer, fuel oil, firewood, pellets, and expenses related to housing costs such as hotel/motel costs.



For more information, go to renthelpnm.org

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- Fill any large vessels – pools, hot tubs, garbage cans, or tubs with water to slow or discourage fire.

If Caught in a Wildfire

- Don't try to outrun the blaze. Instead, look for a body of water such as pond, river, playa, or cattle tank in which to crouch.
- If there is no water nearby, find a depressed, cleared area with little vegetation, lie low to the ground, and cover your body with wet clothing, a blanket, or soil. Stay low and covered until the fire passes.
- Protect your lungs by breathing air closest to the ground, through a moist cloth, if possible, to avoid inhaling smoke.

Plant A Tree!

By planting trees in and around your property, you could help save money on air conditioning in the very near future and at the same time add value to, while beautifying your home.

Strategically placed trees can block your home from the hot summer sun well enough to reflect savings on your summer cooling bills.

Here's how:

- Plant ash, oak, Bradford Pear other trees on the west and south sides of a home to cast shade on walls or windows that would otherwise soak up the hot sun. When these trees lose their leaves in the winter, they'll let the sun's rays help warm your home through solar heating.
- Block strong winds from whipping around your home

83rd Annual Meeting of Members

July 24, 2021
Santa Rosa, New Mexico

**Date and location of the Annual Meeting are subject to change based on the current NM Health Order*

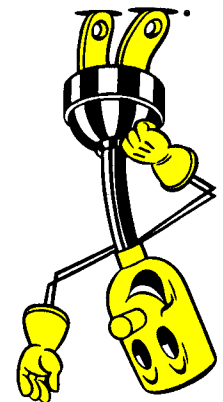


by planting rows of evergreens near your home.

- Locate trees near windows.
- Work with a landscaper or nursery to choose the right tree for your location and soil type.
- Choose trees that will grow tall and provide ample shade. Be sure to plant them far away from overhead power lines.



Before you dig, call New Mexico One-Call Center (811) to make sure no power lines or other utilities are buried where you plan on planting.



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