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POWER SOURCE



"Owned By Those We Serve"

February 2011 Vol. 15 No. 02

Farmers' Electric Board of Trustees Appoints Nominating Committees



The Board of Trustees in the January 25, 2011 meeting appointed the 2011 Trustee Candidate Nominating Committees as follows:

District No. 3 (Ft. Sumner), will meet at the FEC office in Ft. Sumner, NM, on February 17, 2011, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Committee Members:

- Alan Caraway
- Ellis Jones
- Randel Mansell

District No. 5 (Tucumcari/Ragland), will meet at K-Bob's Restaurant, Tucumcari, NM, on February 18, 2011, beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Committee Members:

- Pablo Lopez
- David Hale
- Doyle Frasier

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 (March 1, 2011) or more than 120 days (December 31, 2010) before the Annual Meeting. Each committee shall meet no less than 45 days (March 16, 2011) 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 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 3 or 5 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, (husband and wife constitute only one (1) member) 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, provided 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 April 8, 2011. If you have any questions, call Lance R. Adkins at 1-800-445-8541 or 762-4466 in Clovis.

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Manager's Message... will return next month

Bright Recognized for Leadership in Safety

Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives (OAEC) administers safety training for all of New Mexico's 16 distribution cooperatives, including Farmers' Electric Cooperative (FEC).

In honor of those linemen who have been killed or injured on the job, OAEC has instituted the "Long Rope" Safety and Attitude Award. Each Co-op is asked to nominate a lineman from their service area that possess and adheres to the following qualities:

- Safety is part of the job – a priority
- Safety rules are necessary
- Never use short-cuts
- Good listener
- Leads by example
- Good teacher
- Open to change
- Not affected by peer pressure
- Always looking for safer ways
- Participates in safety meetings



Larry Bright (left) is presented with the "Long Rope Safety Attitude Award" by OCEC's Safety Instructor, Mark McMakin at FEC's January safety meeting

The objective is to give recognition to a person at each Co-op who is a leader in safety and actually walks the walk. This year, Larry Bright, FEC Manager of Operations, was nominated and received this prestigious award. Larry, who was promoted to his current position after spending many years on the Clovis linecrew was, "surprised by being awarded the Long Rope." "It is a true honor to be nominated by your peers." When asked about the importance of adhering to safety, Larry responded, "safety is vital in our business. Not only is it important for each employee to work in accordance with our safety rules and procedures themselves, they also have an obligation to look out for each other." When asked what he could take from this experience Larry replied, "no matter what kind of program the Co-op has in place for safety training, and it has come a long way, accidents can still happen." "We want to continue to do all we can through improved training and awareness in order to try and prevent them from happening."

Larry is the fourth FEC employee to be awarded the "Long Rope" award. Past honorees include Bucky Minton, Rudy Casaus, and most recently, Glenn Holland.

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Early Bird Gets the Worm

For those of you planning on attending our 73rd Annual Meeting of Members, here's an extra little incentive to get you there early. We will give the first 50 registered members a special, "early bird" gift. We really don't want you to know what it is yet, so we are keeping it a secret. *More information on the Annual Meeting can be found at the bottom of this page.*

Attention Members!

Protection from winter shut-off ends **March 15, 2011**. To avoid potential disconnection of services, please contact Farmers' Electric Cooperative at 1-800-445-8541 to make arrangements for payment. Para informacion en español llámé 1-800-445-8541.

Safety Basics to Teach Your Kids

- Never climb utility poles or play on fences around substations.
- If you are touching water, never touch electrical devices such as light switches, hair dryers, curling irons, mixers, or toasters.
- Keep kites away from power lines, and never fly metallic balloons outside.
- Don't put your fingers in light bulb sockets.
- If you see a downed power line, stay away!
- Tell someone if you see a frayed cord.
- Don't climb a tree that has power lines running through or too near it.

Powerful Connection

Your telephone is a powerful tool. Especially when it comes to Farmers' Electric. Because we place a very high value on your opinion, we want to hear what you think about our service. We also want to know how we are doing as your neighbor and as part of your community. So, pick up your phone once in a while and give us a call. You may have a great idea on how to improve our service, or you may just want to let us know we're doing a pretty good job. Most people think you get power from us, but the truth is, we really get our power from you.



73rd Annual Meeting Date Set: Plan Now To Attend!

We look forward to visiting with you on Saturday, April 30, 2011, at the Cooperative's 73rd Annual Meeting of Members. The meeting will be held in Grady, New Mexico, at the Grady High School gym. Door prizes will be awarded and lunch will be served following the meeting.

Because Farmers' Electric is locally owned and operated, your involvement is crucial. Mark your calendar today and plan to attend the Annual Meeting of *your* electric cooperative.

-Registration: 9:30 to 10:30 am

-Business Meeting: 10:30 am

- Reports of Officers, Trustees, and Committees
- Election of Trustees from Districts 3 and 5
- Door Prizes for Adults and Children

Lunch will be served, following the business meeting, (approximately 11:30 am)



