

SANGRE DE CRISTO ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Outlet

FEBRUARY 2019



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Your community electric service provider.



SAVE THE DATE:

SDCEA Annual Meeting
June 20, 2019
Cliff Lanes, Westcliffe.

Details to follow.

DIRECTOR VACANCY AND CANDIDACY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNUAL MEETING

The board of directors of Sangre de Cristo Electric Association set June 20, 2019, for the cooperative's 79th Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held in Westcliffe.

Members of the cooperative will vote on two director positions, act on financial data for the year 2018 and consider any other business that may come before the meeting.

DIRECTOR SEATS

Fremont County incumbent director Geoffrey Gerk is running for election to his seat. Custer County incumbent Donald Kaufman will not seek re-election.

Members will vote on director candidates by voice vote at the annual meeting or by mail if the race is contested.

All director candidates are nominated by petition. Fifteen or more current members of the cooperative must sign each nomination petition. Any member interested in running for a director seat should review the following guidelines and pick up an official nomination petition at the cooperative's headquarters in Buena Vista. Members must reside within the director district to be considered for nomination.

Nomination petitions are due by close of business Monday, May 6, 2019.

CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

Directors of rural electric cooperatives establish policy and provide leadership in a complex, technical and ever-changing industry. They do not deal with day-to-day operations of the cooperative and do not work in the cooperative office on a daily basis. Directors attend a minimum of one board meeting per month and may attend other meetings or training programs held outside Sangre de Cristo's service territory or out of state. In addition, rural electric directors spend a considerable amount of time reading co-op and industry material

and maintaining a current knowledge of industry trends. Consider the following qualifications and responsibilities when choosing a member for nomination or when deciding to run for a director position.

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for directorship, a person shall:

- Be a member of the cooperative or an individual authorized by an entity member;
- Be a resident of the designated director district;
- Have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts; and
- Disclose all monetary and in-kind contributions and expenditures directly or indirectly to or from his/her campaign for election to the board.

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a director who:

- Has failed to report all monetary and in-kind contributions and/or expenditures.
- Has been convicted of, is pleading guilty to, or had pleaded guilty to a felony.

Is or has been within the five years preceding June 20, 2019:

- Employed by Sangre de Cristo Electric or the spouse of an employee.
- Employed by or has a significant financial interest in a business that sells or provides commodities, products or services to the cooperative.
- Employed by or a full or partial owner of an electric or natural gas utility, a propane company, or a renewable/alternative energy company, or has a significant financial interest in an entity that regularly competes with Sangre de Cristo, any entity that the cooperative controls or in which it has a substantial interest.

- A close relative of an incumbent director or present employee of the cooperative or a person living in the same household as an existing employee or director.
- Fired from the cooperative, involved in a lawsuit against the cooperative, received a severance package from or was laid off from the cooperative, or is the spouse of an employee or former employee involved in the same.
- Involved in a contractual relationship with the cooperative or the spouse of any person so involved.

Directors serve without salary but may be allowed fair remuneration for their time actually spent in the service of the cooperative as directors, consistent with rural electric cooperative practice. Candidates should agree to serve the entire term of office for which they are elected. The position of director shall not be used to further any political ambition, and directors must be capable of representing the entire membership on an impartial basis.

RESPONSIBILITIES

A director must be willing to:

- Promote and safeguard the interests of the cooperative;
- Expend the effort necessary to understand the cooperative's problems and provide the needed judgment to reach decisions in constantly changing circumstances;
- Support all official decisions and actions made or taken by the board;
- Study information in reports submitted to the board;
- Contribute to the development of statements on board functions and responsibilities, and work toward their constant improvement;
- Objectively evaluate and consider the questions and problems which face the cooperative;
- Stay informed of the cooperative's ideals and objectives, and study and analyze the policies, plans and problems which result from efforts to achieve those ideals and objectives;

- Keep informed on and aware of the attitudes of members, employees and the general public toward the cooperative's objectives and policies;
- Inform all interested persons about the cooperative's ideals, objectives, programs and services; and
- Attend classes to attain NRECA director certification within the first full three-year term of office and work toward NRECA board leadership certification within the second or third term.

PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

A director candidate should display the following personal qualifications:

- Good business record and possession of sound business judgment;
- Demonstrated capacity for leadership and reputation for honesty and good judgment;
- Demonstrated capacity for working with others; and
- Ideals and objectives compatible with cooperative philosophy and principles.

REBATES

Sangre de Cristo Electric Association, Inc. and its power supplier, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc., have teamed up to bring you rebates for installing Energy Star-rated water heaters and Energy Star-rated appliances.

Want to learn more? Go to our website, myelectric.coop, click on Save Energy & Money and head to the rebates tab.



**SDCEA WILL BE CLOSED
FEBRUARY 18**
in observance of
Presidents Day.



Have an **OUTAGE** to report?

Don't hesitate to call 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412. A live operator will assist you 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

DO NOT email your outage information or post your outage information on social media. SDCEA cannot monitor that information effectively, especially after hours. The only way to be sure we know you have an outage is to phone it in.

CHECK IN WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Sangre de Cristo Electric is on
FACEBOOK AND TWITTER



FACEBOOK:

Sangre de Cristo Electric Assn., Inc
@SDCEA.Inc



TWITTER:

SangredeCristoElec
@SDCEA_Inc



WEBSITE:

myelectric.coop

Steve Eggleston Retires



- ▲ SDCEA Line Superintendent Ryan Doke and Steve Eggleston.
- ◀ Steve Eggleston (far right) celebrated his retirement with family and co-workers at the end of 2018.

Steve Eggleston, staking technician III, retired from Sangre de Cristo Electric Association at the end of 2018. Steve had a 30-year career at the co-op, during which he oversaw site plans to bring electricity to new projects, relocation of lines and the construction of line

upgrades throughout SDCEA's service territory in central Colorado. He worked with property owners, project managers and organizations such as CDOT on the details of proposed projects, secured easements and otherwise ensured projects were ready for construction.

He opted for a low-key send-off — a chicken-fried steak luncheon — which he shared with his family and his co-workers.

Congratulations, Steve!



IS YOUR **CONTACT INFO** UP TO DATE?

If you changed your phone number or email address since taking service with Sangre de Cristo Electric Association, please update your information with us.

Without a current phone number or email address, we cannot get in touch with you to let you know about planned outages, to confirm power has been restored in the event of an unplanned outage or to let you know about possible issues with your billing, such as expired credit cards on auto pay accounts.

You may go to our website, myelectric.coop, to the login box to create an account with updated information, or you may update information online if you already have an account.

Would you like to check in with us instead? Call us Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 719-395-2412 or toll-free 844-395-2412.



February 2019

Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

LAUNDRY TIP:

Dry towels and heavier cottons separately from lighter-weight clothing. You'll spend less time running the dryer for lighter-weight items, which saves energy.

Source: energy.gov



WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEE: **Lucas Montgomery**

Lucas Montgomery joined Sangre de Cristo Electric Association January 1 as an apprentice lineman based in Westcliffe.

Lucas attended school in Dodge City, Kansas, and was previously employed as a lineworker in Seagraves, Texas. He is a native of Lamar, Colorado.

Lucas is married to Trisha and is settling in and looking forward to enjoying the outdoors now that he has returned to Colorado with hunting, fishing and four-wheeling. Welcome, Lucas!

INSULATING YOUR ATTIC is Like a Stocking Cap for Your Home

As you add a fuzzy hat, scarf and gloves to your wardrobe to help keep you warm this winter, remember your home needs to weather colder temperatures as well. Proper home insulation is an important step in saving money on your energy bill and making you comfortable in your home as the temperatures dip into the single digits or below this winter.

If your home feels drafty and could use more insulation, always start at the top since the majority of heat loss in a home is through the roof. Start with the attic or ceiling and work your way down through the walls toward the basement or crawl space. If you start adding insulation at the lowest level (basement or crawl space) and work your way up, upper floors could feel cool or drafty in the winter months since extra insulation below will cause the cool air to rise.

While addressing your home's insulation is one of the more costly expenditures you can make to save on your utility bill, it's the biggest bang for your energy buck, paying for itself in the long run.

Many utilities offer energy audits to assess your home's overall efficiency — not just insulation. Walk-through evaluations are usually free and blower door tests may or may not be complimentary. In addition, many co-ops offer online interactive home energy efficiency tools and a bill calculator to project energy costs.

Safe Electricity offers other ways to help reduce energy costs this winter:

- If you don't have one, consider installing a programmable or smart thermostat. Both are programmable, but a smart thermostat allows you to monitor temperatures from your cell phone, even if you're not home. The smart version includes other features, such as adaptive technology, which

adjusts the temperature based on your heating and cooling history.

- Caulk windows and door frames that leak air. Also replace or update door seals if they are old or ineffective.
- Bundle up and turn down your thermostat. For every degree you turn it down, you can save up to 3 percent on your energy bill.
- If you do use a portable space heater, use it judiciously and safely. Using one for long lengths of time can cause your energy bill to spike since it draws so much power to run. If you use it continuously, it can add \$100 or more to your monthly energy bill. Space heaters touted as energy efficient aren't necessarily so; they may just cycle off more often.

- If you can, turn down your water heater a few degrees; 120 degrees or less is recommended, especially with small children, to prevent accidental scalds.

For more energy-saving tips, go to SafeElectricity.org.

Precaution for Pipes

During extreme cold snaps, prevent water pipes from freezing by keeping faucets turned on slightly so water drips from the tap. Know how to shut off water valves just in case a pipe bursts.

Average Prices for Residential Electricity

2017 figures, in cents per kWh

