

EMPIRE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

Echoes of the Empire

FEBRUARY 2023

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EEA 2023 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

BY JOSH DELLINGER GENERAL MANAGER



JOSH DELLINGER

Empire Electric Association's 2023 annual member meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 15, at EEA's Engineering and Operations Center, located at 23999 Road L.4, Cortez, Colorado. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. This will be a business meeting only. Members who attend will get a \$10 credit on their electric bill.

The EEA Board considered the present board district composition at its December 2022 meeting and determined that no changes to board district boundaries are needed at this time. As of December 2022, the district with the most members had 1,940; the district with the least members had 1,835; and the average number of members per district was 1,901.

There are two board seats up for election this year: District 5 (Kent Lindsay, incumbent) and District 6 (David Sitton, incumbent). The winning candidates will serve a four-year term. In order to serve on EEA's seven-member board of directors, candidates must meet the following bylaw qualifications. The director shall:

- Be a member of the cooperative for at least one (1) year immediately prior to becoming a director.
- Be a bona fide resident of the district represented for at least one-hundred twenty (120) days prior to becoming a director, which means that the person must be a permanent occupant receiving electric service from the cooperative at his or her primary residential abode.
- Be a citizen of the United States of America and a registered voter in the person's director district.
- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

- Not be an employee of the cooperative.
 - Complete campaign contributions reports in accordance with Policy 31 – Campaign Contributions Reporting.
- Districts 5 and 6 are generally described as follows:

DISTRICT 5

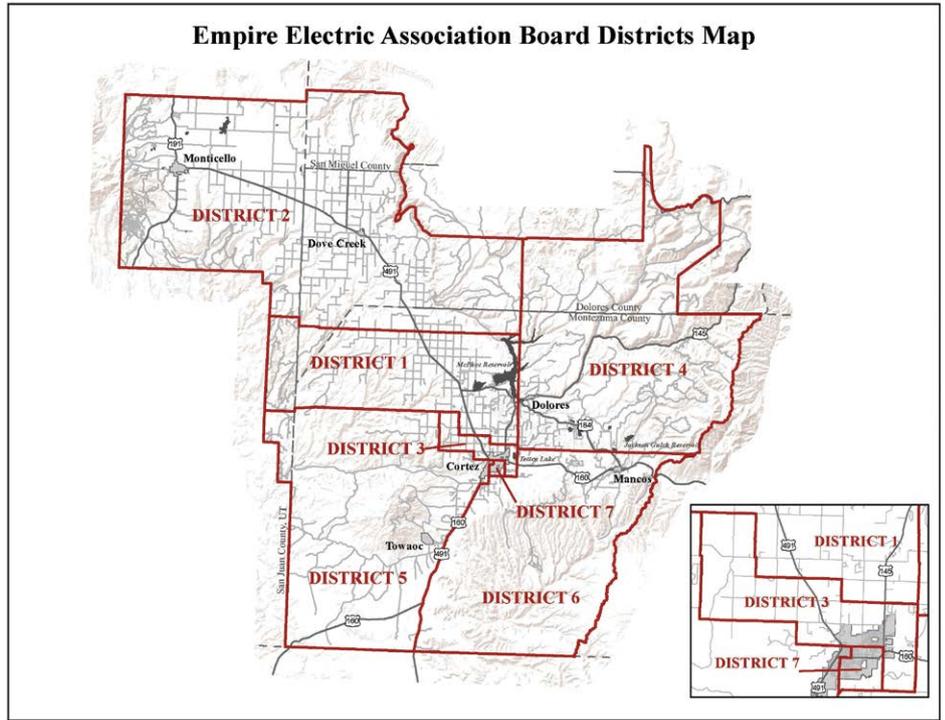
Generally, district 5 is the southwestern portion of the service area including Towaoc, and a portion of the city of Cortez. The eastern boundary is US 160/491 from the New Mexico border to its intersection with Road G. The boundary then travels east along Road G until its intersection with Road 25. From there, it travels north along Road 25, continuing on S. Oak St. then S. Maple St., until its intersection with Main St. The boundary then travels east on Main St. until its intersection with Washington St., where it then travels north on Washington St. until its intersection with Empire St. The boundary then travels west on Empire St. until road's end, then generally continues west along section lines and Road K until its intersection with Road 23. From there it travels north on Road 23 to its intersection with Road L, then west on Road L and continues generally west along section lines to the midpoint of the southern edge of T36N R17W S15. From there it travels north along section mid-lines (generally consistent with Road 18) to its intersection with Road S, then west along Road S to road's end, and then continues west along section lines to the western edge of the service area. From there, the district boundary travels south and then east along the service area boundary to the point of beginning.

DISTRICT 6

District 6 is generally the southeastern portion of the service area including the town of Mancos. The eastern boundary is the eastern boundary of the service area. The northern boundary generally follows section mid-lines beginning at T36N R11W S18 and continues west (eventually coincident with Road L) to the mid-point of T36N R15W S17. From there the boundary follows section mid-lines south (coincident with Road 29 for part of the route) until it intersects with Road H. The boundary then travels west along Road H until it intersects Road 25. From there it travels south along Road 25 to the intersection with Road G, then west along Road G to the intersection with US 160/491, and then south along US 160/491 to the southern boundary of the service area. From there the district boundary travels east along the southern boundary of the service area to the point of beginning.

Candidates may be nominated by petition only and such petitions must include the signatures of at least fifteen (15) members of the cooperative whose bona fide residences are within the candidate's district. Qualifying candidates may pick up a nominating petition from our main office during normal business hours. Petitions will be available beginning on March 17, 2023, and must be submitted to EEA by April 17, 2023. The secretary will post a list of qualifying nominees in our main office at the end of the workday on April 18, 2023.

Each member of the cooperative is entitled to one vote on all



issues properly brought before the membership, including the election of directors. Members may vote either in-person at the annual meeting or through mail-in ballots provided by the cooperative. Mail-in ballots will be mailed to members on or before May 31, 2023. In order to be counted, mail-in ballots shall be received by Survey and Ballot Systems (EEA's election contractor) no later than 5 p.m. on June 9, 2023. All members are strongly encouraged to vote.

If you have additional questions about this year's election, annual meeting or any other cooperative business, please visit our website at eea.coop or give us a call at 970-565-4444. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.



Co-op Photo Contest Winner
 "La Platas at Sunrise" by Grant Roe

Monthly Calendar

- February 2 – Groundhog Day
- February 10 – EEA's board meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at its headquarters in Cortez. The agenda is posted 10 days in advance of the meeting at eea.coop. Members may attend in person or remotely. Instructions to attend remotely are included on the agenda.
- February 14 – Valentine's Day
- February 15 – Scholarship Applications due. Apply at eea.coop or contact your guidance counselor at your high school.
- February 20 – Presidents Day

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Do you have a home office? Set equipment such as printers and scanners to automatically switch to sleep or energy-saver mode when not in use. In addition to saving energy, the equipment will stay cooler, which will help extend its life.

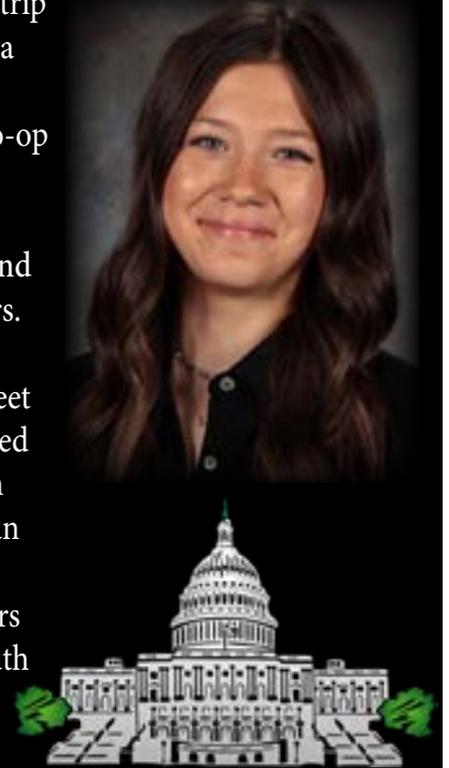
Another way to save in the home office is to use energy efficient lamps for task lighting. Small lamps use less energy than whole-room lighting.



Congratulations Shayla Pehrson!

Winner of 2023 Empire Electric Washington D.C. Youth Tour Trip!

The Washington D.C. Youth Tour is a trip of a lifetime for a lucky student. Shayla will start her trip by flying to Denver where she will be one of 30 electric co-op students from all over the state. The students will tour the Colorado State Capitol, meet Colorado Legislators, and learn about electric co-ops and careers. The Colorado students will fly on to Washington, D.C., where they will meet co-op students from all over the United States. Shayla's days will be filled with tours, memorials, museums, American history and amazing experiences. This trip is open to high school juniors in the EEA service territory. 2024 Youth Trip applications will be available September 1, 2023 at eea.coop



▲ Totten Lake solar generation facility began producing power in December.

Totten Lake Solar Begins Production

The Totten Lake solar generation facility was completed and started producing power in December 2022. The facility has a peak power capacity of 2.2 megawatts and can produce enough power to supply the annual energy requirements for 714 average Empire Electric Association member homes. The facility was developed and constructed by OneEnergy Renewables and is owned and operated by Greenbacker Capital Management. EEA purchases the energy production from the facility at an economically favorable rate that helps reduce all EEA members' rates. Construction continues at the Montezuma and Rocky Ford generation facilities with target completion dates of early summer 2023.



RECYCLING YOUR ELECTRONICS

WAIT! Before you recycle or donate your unwanted electronics, consider these tips from the EPA. **BEFORE** you donate or recycle:

- 1 Delete and destroy all personal information from the device.
- 2 Remove batteries for separate recycling.
- 3 Check with the manufacturer or with local or major retailers for recycling options.
- 4 Consider upgrading your current computer's hardware or software instead.

Did you know? Recycling one million laptops saves the energy equivalent to the electricity used by more than 3,500 U.S. homes in a year!

For every million cell phones we recycle, we can recover...

- 35 thousand pounds of copper
- 772 pounds of silver
- 75 pounds of gold
- 33 pounds of palladium

 Safe Electricity.org

Apply for an Empire Electric Scholarship

More information and applications are available at eea.coop
Due February 15, 2023




- \$1000 Adult
- \$1000 Student
- \$1000 Lineman
- \$500 Electrical Trade Related

EEA provides financial assistance to its members from an unclaimed patronage capital credit fund.

EEA 2023 Energy Efficiency Incentives Changes



EEA will provide incentives for:

- Air Source Heat Pumps (Mini-Splits)
- Heat Pump Water Heaters - Energy Star® Certified - 30 gallon min.
- Electric Vehicle Chargers
- Outdoor Power Equipment including Ebikes
- Clothes Dryers - Energy Star® Certified
- Smart Thermostats
- Refrigerator or Freezer Recycling

EEA will no longer offer incentives for:

- Residential LED Lighting
- Clothes Washers
- Refrigerators and Freezers
- Electric Resistance Water Heaters



For more details on the 2023 incentive program and online applications, go to eea.coop



LOVE YOUR PETS?

Keep Furry Friends Safe Around Electricity

Pet proof your home much like you would for a baby or toddler. If you suspect your pet has been shocked or burned, take it to the vet right away. Owners may not realize a pet has been shocked until a few hours later when it has trouble breathing. Other symptoms include ulcers in the mouth and lesions on the tongue and gums.