

# *enchantment*

The Voice of New Mexico's  
Rural Electric Cooperatives

**OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

APRIL 2022



## **Spirit of Community**

Santa Rosa opens its arms to all,  
even the notorious Billy the Kid

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Santa Rosa became a popular rest stop for  
tourists headed to Albuquerque or beyond. "Get  
your kicks on Route 66" became their new  
mantra. PHOTO BY TREKKERIMAGES LLC



# Otero County Electric Cooperative



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## Chief Executive Officer

Mario Romero

## Cloudcroft Office

404 Burro Ave. • P.O. Box 227  
Cloudcroft, NM 88317  
575-682-2521

## Carrizozo Office

507 Twelfth St. • P.O. Box 669  
Carrizozo, NM 88301  
575-648-2352

## Alto Office

1135 Hwy. 48 • P.O. Box 1135  
Alto, NM 88312  
575-336-4550

## Emergency and Outages

800-548-4660

Fax: 575-682-3109

Website: [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com)

## Office Hours

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (M-F)

## Board of Trustees

### President

Charles Mulcock, SE District

### Vice President

Denny Burnett, SE District

### Secretary

Marty Mills, Central District

### Treasurer

Scott Shafer, NW District

Kenny Blazer, SW District

Bill Bird, NE District

Cheri Hass, Central District

David Powers, NE District

Tim Rabon, SW District

Preston Stone, NW District

## Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 9 a.m. at the cooperative.

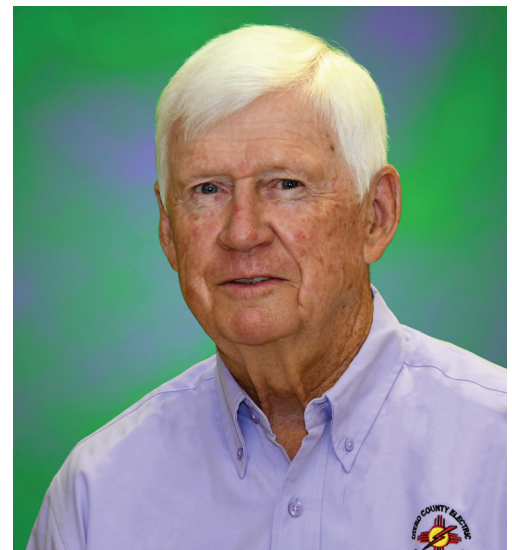
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Meet Your Trustees

David Powers grew up in Albuquerque, where his first job was as a grocery store sacker making 64 cents an hour. Upon graduation from high school, he went to work for the Santa Fe Railway as an electrical apprentice, then took a job with Del Webb Corp. as a building engineer. This job was perfect for David because it was at night and allowed him to attend the University of New Mexico during the day to pursue his education in the field of electrical engineering.

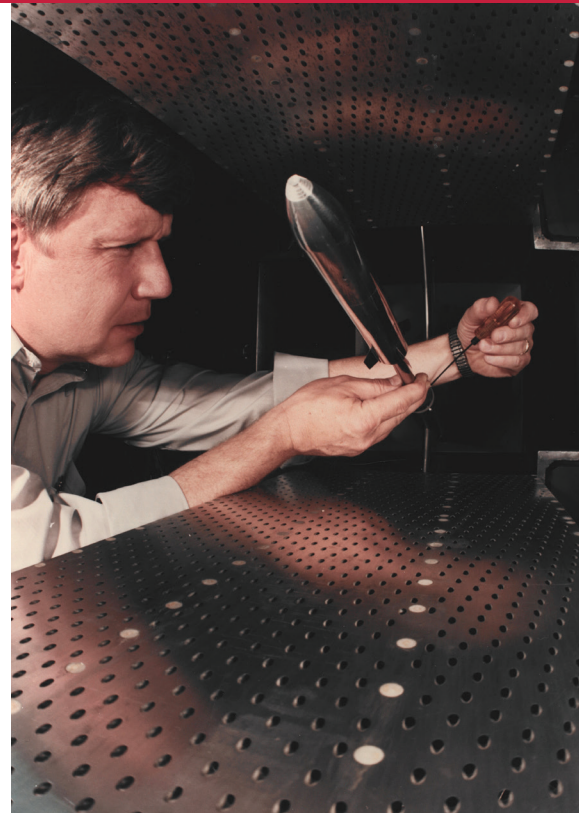
David went to work for Sandia National Laboratories in the Aerodynamics Division. He was responsible for the design, implementation and data acquisition of the electrical control systems for the Trisonic and Calibration Wind Tunnels. He was also in charge of data interface and collection at various external wind tunnel testing sites, including NASA Ames Research Center and NASA Langley. He was an electronics instructor for the SNLA Out-of-Hours Program for 20 years, where he taught courses in DC and AC fundamentals.



After working 32 years for SNLA, David retired. He and his wife, Gloria, made Alto their permanent home. They have been married for 38 years and have five children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

David has volunteered in his community. He was a ski instructor for the Ski Apache Adaptive Sports Program, is a current member of the Alto Lakes Golf & Country Club, Board Candidate Nominating Commission and has served on the club's Long-Range Planning Commission,





**OPPOSITE:** David Powers sits at the control console he designed to improve tunnel operations. **ABOVE:** David and his wife, Gloria. **RIGHT:** David installs a model of the B83 multi-option bomb in the test section of SNLA's Trisonic Wind Tunnel.

Golf and Greens Commission, Men's Golf Association and the club's board of directors. He is also the lead sound, light and video operator at First Christian Church in Ruidoso.

David was elected to the OCEC board in August 2019 to fill a position left vacant after longtime OCEC Trustee Fred Hansen's passing. Upon his election, it was suggested David take courses offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for co-op directors. He completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director Program and praises the invaluable knowledge gained about electric cooperatives through these classes.

One of David's favorite programs offered by the co-op is the OCEC Education Foundation, which was started in 1989 and has helped hundreds of students fulfill their dream of attending college. Since that time, more than \$1 million in scholarship money has been awarded to local graduates pursuing a degree or certification program at a New Mexico college or vocational school.

David believes OCEC's mission statement says it all: Otero County Electric Cooperative Inc. is committed to providing its members with the lowest cost, highest

quality and most reliable electric power, consistent with sound and cost-effective business practices, and collaborate with its members to provide the resources and services that may be beneficial to our members and to the citizens of the communities we serve.

"One thought I always have upon entering the boardroom is my fiduciary responsibility as a cooperative director," David says.

## Fast Facts About David

Favorite TV Show: Star Trek (the original series)

Favorite Movie: Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Singer: Neil Diamond

Biggest Pet Peeve: Drivers not signaling when turning.

**Otero County Electric  
offices are closed  
Good Friday, April 15.**

