

# *enchantment*

The Voice of New Mexico's  
Rural Electric Cooperatives


**OTERO COUNTY  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

MAY 2025

## **Power Life Safely**

Every May, Electrical Safety Month serves as a vital reminder of the importance of preventing electrical hazards in the kitchen and around the house **Page 14**



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 12th 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 at 8:30 a.m. the third Friday of the month at the cooperative.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE

# ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY, AUG. 2

CLOUDCROFT HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

Mark your calendars for the Otero County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on Saturday, Aug. 2.

## 2025 Election Information

Three positions on the Otero County Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees are up for election. Elections will take place at the annual meeting of the members Saturday, Aug. 2, in the Cloudcroft High School gymnasium in Cloudcroft.

Trustees holding positions expiring in 2025 are:

- Denny Burnett, Southeast District
- Marty Mills, Central District
- David Powers, Northeast District
- Tim Rabon, Southwest District

Those elected for these positions will serve a three-year term ending in 2028.

## Article IV, Section 3 of the Bylaws states:

SECTION 3. Nominations. Nominations for Trustees to be elected shall be by Petition signed by fifteen or more members acting together, and who are bona fide residents of the district for which the nomination is made. The Petition shall be filed not less than twenty-five (25) days or more than forty-five (45) days before the date of the Meeting of the Members in which Trustees are to be elected. Nominations for the position of Trustee from the floor, at the Annual Meeting of Members, are not allowed.

The secretary shall include with the notice of the meeting, at least ten (10) days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of Trustees to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates. Notwithstanding anything contained in this SECTION, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this SECTION shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any election of Trustee.

Petition forms are available for pickup in any of OCEC's local offices in Cloudcroft, Alto or Carrizozo or can be downloaded on [www.ocec-inc.com](http://www.ocec-inc.com) beginning June 1. According to the dates outlined in the bylaws, petitions will only be accepted between Wednesday, June 18, and Tuesday, July 8. Completed petitions may be turned in at any OCEC office. ■

*Sorry, we're*  
**CLOSED**

Otero County Electric Cooperative offices are closed Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day and Friday, July 4, for Independence Day.



# Keep Line Crews Safe

Understanding nighttime operations during power outages helps your community

Our electric line crews work around the clock to keep your power running, even in the darkest of nights. You may see them late at night, equipped with flashlights, spotlights and vehicles with flashing lights as they survey and patrol power lines. Their work helps identify and resolve power outages quickly, ensuring your electric service is restored as soon as possible.

## Nighttime Operations

Our crews are required to work in varied weather conditions and at all hours of the day during outages. Their presence in your area at night may raise questions or concerns, but they pose no threat to you or your home.

Our line crews are your neighbors and dedicated professionals committed to restoring power and maintaining the integrity of our electrical systems.

In some situations, line crews may use UTVs with spotlights to more easily navigate rough terrain and locate the source of the outage. This level of vigilance is crucial for efficient service restoration and ensuring the safety of everyone involved during nighttime operations.

## Crew Safety Is Our Priority

While our crews are focused on restoring your power, their safety is our utmost priority. If their safety is compromised



Otero County Electric Cooperative line crews often work through the night to restore power during power outages.

by any individuals while performing their duties, we are obligated to halt all restoration efforts until daylight.

This precaution is necessary not only to protect our workers but also to ensure our response team can work effectively and without fear of distraction or danger. Unfortunately, such a pause could mean some members may experience longer outages, which we strive to avoid.

## What You Can Do

If you see our crew working at night, we kindly ask for your understanding and support. Please remember:

- They are working diligently to restore your power.
- Allow them space, and refrain from approaching them while they work.
- Report any unsafe behaviors or situations to the authorities immediately.

Your cooperation is vital in ensuring their safety and the efficiency of their work.

We are here to serve you around the clock, and our commitment to your electric service remains steadfast. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach out to our customer service team at any OCEC office. ■