



# ENCHANTMENT

THE VOICE OF NEW MEXICO'S RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

## OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MAY/JUNE 2026

### A Comet, a Calling, a Form of Immortality


Dr. Alan Hale—who codiscovered a comet in the 1990s—reflects on scientific impact, global attention and legacy **Page 12**



Alan Hale and members of the Astronomical Society of Las Cruces gather in October 2024 at a comet-watching star party for Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS at The Village at Northrise in Las Cruces. PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW MEXICO STATE SEN. JEFF STEINBORN

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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**Website:** ocec-inc.com

**Office Hours**  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

## 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.

# ANNUAL MEETING

**SATURDAY, AUG. 1**  
CLOUDCROFT HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM



Mark your calendars for the Otero County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting on Saturday, Aug. 1.

### 2026 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. 1, in the Cloudcroft High School gymnasium in Cloudcroft.

Trustees holding positions expiring in 2026 are:

- Cheri Hass, Central District
- Bill Bird, Northeast District
- Kenny Blazer, Southwest District

Those elected for these positions will serve a three-year term ending in 2029.

### 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 ocec-inc.com beginning June 1. According to the dates outlined in the bylaws, petitions will only be accepted between Wednesday, June 17, and Tuesday, July 7. Completed petitions may be turned in at any OCEC office. ■

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

Otero County Electric Cooperative offices are closed Monday, May 25, for Memorial Day and Friday, July 3, in observance of Independence Day.

ADOBE STOCK ILLUSTRATION BY ALWIE99D

OTERO COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

# 2026 ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS



**AUGUST 1, 2026**

REGISTRATION - 8:30 AM  
BUSINESS MEETING - 10:00 AM

CLOUDCROFT HIGH SCHOOL GYM



ELECTION OF TRUSTEES  
DOOR PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS  
BARBEQUE LUNCH

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