



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

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.

2021 Annual Meeting of the Members

Your 2021 Otero County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting of the Members is Saturday, August 7, at Cloudcroft High School Gymnasium in Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the business meeting begins at 10 a.m. Lunch follows immediately after the business meeting.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn about issues facing OCEC, receive an awesome registration gift, eat a delicious barbecue lunch, and get a chance to win a nice door prize. We look forward to seeing you there!

There will be a special drive-thru registration at OCEC headquarters for members who don't feel comfortable attending the meeting, but still want to participate.

Please note, it may be necessary to change to a drive-thru meeting if there is a change to public health or other emergency orders. Any change to the meeting will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

2021 Election Information

Six positions on the Otero County Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees are up for election. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, August 7, 2021, in the Cloudcroft High School Gymnasium in Cloudcroft, New Mexico.

Trustees holding the positions that expired in 2020 are listed below. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an annual meeting was not held in 2020, so the election of these positions was postponed until the next in-person meeting could be held. Trustees elected for these positions will serve a two-year term ending in 2023. They are Cheri Hass, Central District; Bill Bird, Northeast District; and Kenny Blazer, Southwest District.

Trustees holding the positions expiring in 2021 are Preston Stone, Northwest District; Charlie Mulcock, Southeast District; and Scott Shafer, Northwest District. Directors elected for these positions will serve a three-year term ending in 2024.

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, is 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 in any of our offices in Cloudcroft, Alto or Carrizozo, or may be downloaded at www.ocec-inc.com. According to the dates outlined in the bylaws, petitions will only be accepted between Wednesday, June 23, 2021, and Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Completed petitions may be turned in at any OCEC office.



Play It Safe Outdoors

ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY JENKOATAMAN

Follow common-sense rules to help you and your family enjoy the outdoors safely

By Pam Blair

The arrival of warmer weather signals the start of outdoor pursuits—everything from flying a kite to cutting the grass. While enjoying yourself outside, make sure you follow electrical safety rules.

Violating them could have deadly results. All it takes for electricity carried through power lines to find its way to the ground is a conductor. That can be almost anything—even you.

A kite, a tall piece of machinery, a television antenna, a metal ladder, an irrigation pipe, a damp wooden pole or a human body that touches both the wire and ground will complete the circuit and conduct electricity.

To prevent you or a loved one from becoming a victim of an electrical accident, follow these tips:

- When overhead power lines are nearby, use wooden or fiberglass ladders—not metal. Never place a ladder or antenna where it can fall into a power line, and look before you lift.
- Before digging, call and make sure you won't come in contact with power lines or any other utility equipment.
- Never fly kites, model airplanes or metallic balloons near power lines, or in stormy weather. Use only dry string. Avoid using metal or wire on kites. If your kite or balloon gets caught on power lines, don't try to untangle it. Call your utility.
- Inspect power tools before each use for frayed cords, broken plugs, and cracked or broken housings. Make sure tools or extension cords used outdoors are marked for that use. Be sure amperage ratings of extension cords are higher than the needs

or ratings of the products they are used with.

- Never remove the third prong of a three-pronged plug. If possible, convert two-pronged outlets to fit three-pronged plugs, using an adapter with a ground tab.
- Don't try to repair electrical products yourself.
- Keep outdoor outlets and electrical products covered and dry between uses. Never use electrically operated power tools in the rain or in wet conditions. Even morning dew can turn electricity into a serious shock hazard. If an electrical product falls into water, unplug it first. Do not reach in for it.
- Know the location of circuit breakers or fuses. Make sure you can easily and quickly reach them.
- Put a ground-fault circuit interrupter between your electric power source and your electric product. In case of a short circuit, it can cut off power in less than a second.
- Don't plant tall-growing trees under lines. If a tree has lines running through it, don't climb it.
- Teach your children to stay away from utility substation fences and pad-mounted transformers, and to heed danger signs displayed on high-voltage equipment.
- Stay away from downed power lines. If a power line falls on your car, stay inside unless the car catches fire. If that happens, jump clear of the car without touching metal and the ground at the same time. If someone comes in contact with a live outdoor power line, call the utility immediately so the power can be turned off. Never attempt to move the victim or the power line.