

Serve your electric co-op as a director

KEM's annual meeting scheduled for June 2017

It's time to consider serving as a board director for KEM Electric Cooperative.

The initial commitment is a three-year term. Board meetings are the fourth Tuesday of every month.

At the annual meeting in June, three board positions will be elected:

- The District 4 position presently held by **Victor "Chuck" Wald**;
- The District 5 position presently held by **Dean Dewald**;
- One At Large position presently held by **Carmen Essig**.

If you would like to place your name on the ballot, pick up a petition at the KEM office.

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

To learn more about the process or for information on what is required of a director, call the KEM office.

All qualified and willing candidates must complete and submit the petition by the date on the back.

KEM CO-OP Calendar:

- ▶ April Fool's day: **April 1st**
- ▶ All-employee meeting: **The office will be closed April 7th**
- ▶ Good Friday: **The office will be closed April 14th**
- ▶ Lineman Appreciation Day: **April 10th**
- ▶ KEM Electric board meeting: **April 25th**
- ▶ Administrative Professionals Day: **April 26th**

Lives on the line

By Meghaan Evans

Every year, we take time to thank our lineworkers who work hard to keep the lights on in our local communities.

Nine lineworkers maintain 3,028 miles of line in KEM Electric Cooperative's service territory, and without them, our world would be dark. They include Jeffrey Gefre, Paul Hewitt, Tim Dockter, Dave Twardoski, Gerald Zink, Martin Messer, Dale Nagel, Kevin Horner and Austin Ohlhauser.

We depend on our entire staff to keep KEM Electric Cooperative running smoothly, but on April 10, we honor all lineworkers who often find themselves in challenging situations, so our lives may be brighter and safer. These brave employees repair damaged lines and maintain critical infrastructure for our communities. Without their hard work and commitment to the job, our co-op would not thrive. No matter the time – day or night, weekday or weekend – if the lights go out, so do they.

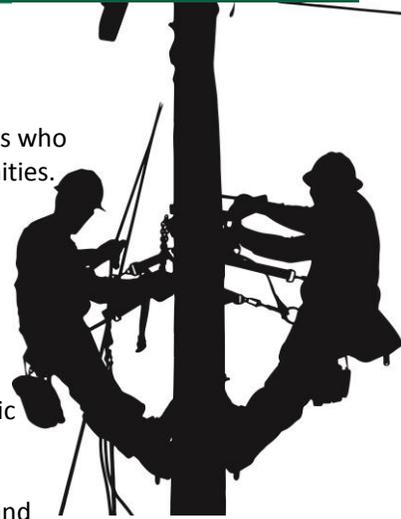
Perhaps you have seen them raising their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains, or in freezing, icy conditions. They work around the clock until electricity is restored to every member in our co-op community.

In addition to aiding members in our local service territory, lineworkers often volunteer when a neighboring community, county or state needs assistance after a major power outage occurs.

Our lineworkers are brave, committed and critical to our success. This year, we will celebrate them by providing lunch at the office.

We hope you will join us in thanking the many lineworkers – both locally and around the world – who light our lives. Remember, your power works because they do! Use #ThankALineman on social media to show your support.

Meghaan Evans writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.



Employees learn cancer prevention through project HOPE

The week of March 20-24, KEM employees participated in project HOPE, a community-wellness event designed to educate employees about healthy lifestyles, cancer prevention, early detection, and promote hope for a healthier tomorrow.

Participating employees donated \$10 each and raised awareness by wearing a specific color each day that represented a different type of cancer.

Featured cancers included skin cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer and lung cancer. The last day of project HOPE week, we celebrated survivors!

All proceeds from project HOPE support the Bismarck Cancer Center Foundation. Donations stay local and are used to support cancer patients with financial, transportation, lodging, emotional and additional needs.

For more information: <https://www.bismarckcancercenterfoundation.com/>

Also in the April issue of *North Dakota Living*:

- Winner Winner! Meet the young cooperative members who won recent essay and poster contests.
- Tree planting guide and tree trimming explained.
- Call 811 before you dig.
- Plan your field safety.
- Board meeting minutes & more

