

MANAGER'S MESSAGE: THE COOPERATIVE WAY



In the dynamic landscape of energy, our electric cooperative stands as a testament to the power of progress. I am thrilled to share insights into what makes us more than just an energy provider. We are a cooperative, shaped by the collective efforts and aspirations of each member.

Have you ever wondered about the origins of electric cooperatives? The cooperative movement emerged in response to the need

for rural electrification during the early to mid-20th century. Communities, often overlooked by traditional utilities, came together, pooled resources and formed cooperatives to bring electricity to their homes. This grassroots movement laid the foundation for our cooperative principles, emphasizing community, equality and shared prosperity.

Cooperative 101: The core principles

- **Member ownership:** In our cooperative, you're not just a consumer. You're a member and avital part of our success story. Your membership means ownership, and every member, regardless of the size of his or her contribution, has a say in the decisions that shape our cooperative's path.
- **Democracy in action:** Our cooperative operates on democratic principles, ensuring your voice matters. Through

the election of representatives, we guarantee your interests are at the forefront of our decision-making processes. You will be able to exercise your voice at the upcoming annual meeting on Tuesday, June 11.

- **Local control:** No two counties are alike, which we understand. That's why our cooperative believes in local control. Decisions are made by those who understand the unique needs and challenges of our local area, ensuring tailor-made solutions for you.
- **Local commitment:** We're not just about delivering electricity; we're committed to enhancing the overall well-being of our service area. Our initiatives extend beyond kilowatts, encompassing programs like scholarships, Operation Round Up and other grant opportunities.

As we stand on the shoulders of this cooperative history, remember you are not just a member; you are an essential participant in a movement that's been shaping the future for decades. ⚡



Travis Kupper, Co-General Manager/ CEO



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Participate in our member satisfaction survey and play a vital role in shaping the future of our services. Scan the QR code with your phone for more information and to complete the survey.

As a gesture of appreciation for your valuable input, participants who choose to provide their contact information will also be entered into a giveaway for a chance to win Medora Musical Tickets and a KEM gift basket.

OFFICERS

Chair.....Victor "Chuck" Wald
Vice Chair..... John Beck
Secretary-Treasurer.....Carter Vander Wal

DIRECTORS:

Dean Dewald • Neil Meidinger
Carmen Essig • Vacant

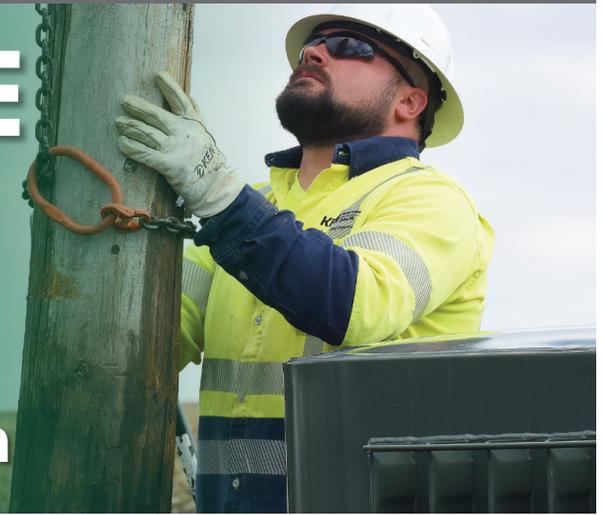
CO-GENERAL MANAGERS/CEOS:

Travis Kupper
Jason Bentz

SAVE THE DATE

KEM Electric Annual Meeting

Tuesday, June 11 in Linton



INTERESTED IN SERVING? JOIN THE KEM ELECTRIC BOARD AND POWER THE FUTURE

Are you a dedicated leader with a deep connection to our rural community? We invite you to be a driving force behind positive change by joining the KEM Electric Cooperative board of directors.

KEM Electric currently has an at-large vacant seat, along with District 1 and District 2 positions up for election.

Why join our board?

Running for a board of director position for an electric cooperative can be a meaningful and impactful decision. Here are just a few reasons to join:

- **Make a difference:** Contribute to decisions that impact our energy future.
- **Community engagement:** Collaborate with like-minded individuals dedicated to community growth.
- **Professional growth:** Enhance your leadership skills and network.

Who we're looking for

We're seeking individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences and perspectives who share our commitment to serving the members of KEM Electric.

Ideal candidates should have:

- Leadership and strategic thinking skills
- A commitment to our communities/service area
- Strong communication and collaboration abilities

If you're ready to make a meaningful impact, we encourage you to visit www.kemelectric.com to learn more. Nomination petitions are open and must be turned in by the end of day on March 13.

For inquiries or more information, please contact Marcy Sanders at 701-254-4666 or email msanders@kemelectric.com. ⚡

404. Member Petition-Form Information

(a) Each petition shall contain the following:

1. The name of the member nominee.
2. The director position for which the member nominee shall run.
3. The printed names, addresses and telephone numbers, date of signature and original signatures of each member signing the petition.
4. At least 10 signatures of the members of the respective district, or members at large, as the case may be.

(b) In the case of joint members, the signature of one or more than one joint member shall constitute one joint member.

(c) Firms, associations, corporations or body politics shall have the right to place one signature on a petition, the same as other members, by the signature of a duly appointed representative.

(d) Petitions may not be circulated or signed more than 60 days before the date when petitions must be filed

pursuant to this bylaw. Any signatures to a nominating petition obtained more than 60 days before that date may not be counted.

(e) All petitions must be filed at the principal offices of the cooperative not less than 90 days prior to the date of the meeting of the members, as fixed by the board of directors.

(f) After verifying that a petition complies with this bylaw, the secretary of the board of directors shall post a list of nominations for directors at the principal office of the cooperative at least 60 days before the meeting of the members.

If you would like to place your name on the ballot, pick up a petition at the KEM Electric Cooperative office or download a petition from the cooperative website at www.kemelectric.com. Petitions become available on Jan. 13. Petitions must be returned to the cooperative office no later than March 13. As a reminder, nominations from the floor will not be accepted.