

# Powerline Press

## NEWSLETTER



A Supplement of Oklahoma Living Published by Lake Region Electric Cooperative for its members. **February 2024**

# 2024 Board of Trustees Election



2023 Annual Meeting at Hulbert High School

Lake Region Electric Cooperative (LREC) is your member-owned rural electric cooperative. It belongs to you and your fellow members. LREC's success depends on the guidance of its board of trustees, comprised of seven democratically elected individuals from the membership.

Each April, LREC holds its Annual Meeting of members. It is an opportunity for members to gather together and vote on their co-op representation. LREC is accepting nominations from eligible candidates who are interested in running and serving on the cooperative's board of trustees. We have two board seats whose terms will expire this year. The co-op membership will vote to select the two positions to serve a three-year term at this year's Annual Meeting on **April 27, 2024**. The Annual Meeting will look similar to last year's, with several drive-thru lanes for quick and easy voting at the Hulbert High School. We will publish more details on the Annual Meeting as these become available. 818600

### ▶ WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS?

Must live within service territory for over a year and be a member in good standing. Complete outline in Article IV, Section 3 can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

### ▶ HOW DO I RUN FOR THE BOARD?

If you're interested in serving on LREC's Board of Trustees, get started by picking up a petition at our headquarters in Hulbert. Once your membership is confirmed, you will get a petition form and must collect at least 15 member signatures.

### ▶ WHEN CAN I PICK UP A PETITION?

Petition can be picked up February 27. Petition and signatures must be turned in no later than March 22, 2024.

### ▶ WHEN ARE THE ELECTIONS?

LREC's Board of Trustees Election will conclude with the Annual Meeting on Saturday, **April 27, 2024**. Members will vote in person at the Annual Meeting drive-thru format.

**Candidate Qualification Bylaws Printed on page 2 ▶**

# LREC Bylaws and Eligibility Qualifications to Run for the Board

## Policy Content

### I. General Legal Requirements

Basic law provides that a person to be eligible for election or appointment to, and to serve on, the cooperative's board shall, among other things:

- A. Be obedient to the cooperative by adhering to all applicable requirements of law, the cooperative's articles and bylaws, and the cooperative's duly made decisions;
- B. Be loyal to the cooperative, acting at all times in good faith for its best interests;
- C. Be unaffected by any continuing and substantial personal interest that is in conflict with the best interests of the cooperative;
- D. Be possessed of the minimal knowledge and skills necessary to manage the affairs of the cooperative;
- E. Be willing to devote such time and effort to his or her duties as a trustee as may be necessary to manage the cooperative's business and affairs.

### II. Bylaw Requirements

**Article IV, Section 3** of the cooperative's bylaws provides that a person, to be eligible to serve on the cooperative's Board, shall meet certain qualification requirements.

### III. Procedures for Policy Implementation

This Policy shall be implemented as follows:

- A. It shall be timely explained each year in the cooperative's newsletter.
- B. Immediately after receipt of any nomination by petition, the cooperative shall furnish the nominee with a copy of the policy to ensure that he or she is qualified in accordance with it.

- C. The board, in filling any vacancies occurring on the board, shall ensure that an appointee is first fully apprised of this policy and is qualified in accordance with it.
- D. In any event, all individuals actually nominated or being considered for appointment as directors shall, prior to election or appointment, be requested to read this policy and, to then execute the affirmation form. If a potential appointee or nominee refuses to execute the affirmation form or qualifies his execution in any manner that the board considers being inimical to the best interests of the cooperative, the appointment shall be withheld or, as to the nominee, the board may inform the members of such fact prior to the election or disqualify the nominee, whichever it determines to do with the facts and circumstances existing.
- E. In any event, the board shall not allow voting on any nominee, or it shall refuse to seat any nominee elected, as the case may be, who is determined by it to be ineligible under this policy; and it shall remove from office any incumbent who is determined by it to have lost or never had eligibility under this policy.
- F. Timely every year prior to the annual meeting of the cooperative, each incumbent whose office is not up for election at the forthcoming annual member meeting shall be requested to review this policy and to execute or re-execute, as the case may be, the affirmation form.

### Responsibility

The board shall be responsible for the enforcement of this policy.

## Eligibility Qualifications (Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3)

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee of the cooperative who:

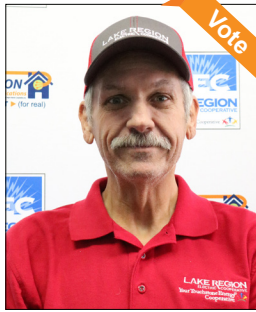
- (A) has not continuously been, for at least one (1) year prior to his nomination, or who ceases after his election to be, a member in good standing of the cooperative, receiving service there at his primary residential abode; or
- (B) is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy, or supplies to the cooperative, or a business primarily engaged in selling electrical or plumbing appliances, fixtures or supplies to the members of the cooperative, or
- (C) has been employed by the cooperative within a five-year period from the date of employment termination, or
- (D) is a close relative of an employee or trustee of the cooperative, or
- (E) is the incumbent of or candidate for an elected public office in connection with which a salary or compensation in excess of \$100 is paid.

"Close relative" means a person who by blood or in law, including step, half, foster, and adoptive kin, is either spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece of the principal. Close relative shall also include more distant relatives who are members of the same household of an existing employee or trustee. The term "spouse" shall also mean persons who are living together in a conjugal relationship, even though not legally married.



# Your Current LREC Board

LREC's board is comprised of seven trustees. Trustees serve three-year terms on the board. Below are your board representatives. The orange **Vote** corner banner denotes board members up for re-election.



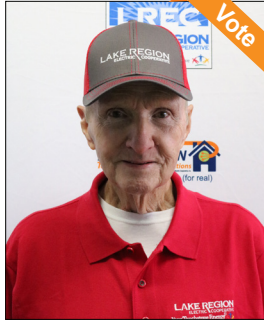
Scott Manes, President



Lynn Lamons, Vice-President



Randall Shankle, Secretary - Treasurer



Jack Teague, Asst. Secretary - Treasurer



James Walls, Trustee



Dianna Mayfield, Trustee



Gary Cooper, Trustee

- 1 Tuesday, February 27:** Nominating petition packets are available at the Hulbert office. Please note, nomination packets cannot be made available before February 27.
- 2 Friday, March 22:** Deadline to return nomination petition packets, including 15 member signatures and candidate profile information.
- 3 Friday, April 1:** Printing of April Newsletter with official Annual Meeting notice, schedule, and nominees information for board election.

## SCHOLARSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

New year, new opportunities! LREC is now accepting scholarship applications until **March 29th**. The co-op will start offering two **\$2,500 scholarships** yearly for high school seniors who reside in or attend school in the LREC service area.

Juanita Keener, LREC Youth Coordinator, said, "At LREC, our purpose is to power our communities. Our poles and wires connect our communities and light up local homes and businesses, but our purpose means so much more than that. Through our scholarship program, we also power bright futures for the next generation."

The scholarship selection process consists of two parts. First, applicants must complete and submit an application and essay to LREC before March 29th. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. The top 15 essays will then advance to the second part of the scholarship process, which includes an in-person interview before a panel of judges. Scholarship finalists will be notified of the interview date, time, and location. The winners will be announced on the day of the final judging.

To review the application and eligibility requirements, please visit [www.lrecok.coop/scholarships](http://www.lrecok.coop/scholarships) or contact **Juanita Keener** at **918-772-6940**.



# \$16,397 in Member Rebates for 2023



**Electric Water Heaters**  
25 | \$3,750



**Window Unit**  
7 | \$315

## Rebate Reminder

You save, we pay. Members can get money back for installing and completing a rebate. We offer several rebates on; programmable thermostats, electric water heaters, mini-split air conditioners, heat pump heating, cooling system, and an EV home charging station.



**Smart Thermostat**  
16 | \$795



**Energy Audit**  
4 | \$700

LREC also offers a commercial business lighting rebate available for schools, commercial, industrial and agricultural business members.



**Mini Split Heat Pump**  
8 | \$2,137



**Heat Pump Water Heater**  
1 | \$500

Visit our website to view all our current rebates at: [www.lrecok.coop/rebates](http://www.lrecok.coop/rebates)



**Air Source Heat Pump**  
11 | \$7,200



**EV Home Charging Station**  
4 | \$1,000

**Rebate Reminder - LREC offers a \$250 rebate for installation of an EV Home Charging Station.**

## COST OF RUNNING A SPACE HEATER

When temperatures drop, it's a common solution to plug in a portable space heater. Multiple electric plug-in space heaters are no more efficient than other heating sources, and another thing to note is that all electric space heaters are (1,500 watts). Before you purchase an electric plug-in space heater, consider the operating costs. Use the formula provided to calculate the operating costs of an electric space heater.

Watts ÷ 1,000 x \$0.08 kWh (LREC rate) x hours of operations					
	Watts	Cost per kWh	Running hrs per day	Cost per Day	Cost for 30 days
Space Heater	1,500	\$0.08 kWh	24	\$2.88	\$86.40

One space heater can add nearly \$90 a month to your bill. If you must use a space heater, choose a newer model, with multiple settings, and operate on the lowest watts setting. Only use to heat spaces temporarily.

### Your Board of Trustees

Scott Manes.....President  
Lynn Lamons.....Vice-President  
Randall Shankle.....Secretary-Treasurer  
Jack Teague.....Asst. Secretary-Treasurer  
James Walls ..... Trustee  
Gary Cooper ..... Trustee  
Dianna Mayfield.....Trustee  
Tina Glory-Jordan .....Attorney

### Staff

John Lee.....CEO  
Ben McCollum .....Director of Finance  
Leisa Walker.....Sr Director of Accounting  
Logan Pleasant.....Director of Operations  
Jarrod Welch.....Director of Fiber & IT  
Glen Clark .....Director of Marketing

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Telephone

800-364-LREC or  
918-772-2526

### Website:

[www.lrecok.coop](http://www.lrecok.coop)  
[www.lakeregionfiber.com](http://www.lakeregionfiber.com)

### Locations

Hulbert, Wagoner &  
Tahlequah, OK.

### Main Office Address

P.O. Box 127  
Hulbert, OK 74441

### Hidden Account Number

Look for your account number hidden in this issue of the *Powerline Press*. If you find your number, Lake Region Electric will credit your next bill. To claim your credit, notify LREC's Hulbert office by phone during the month of publication.

The amount increases by \$10 with each issue your prize goes unclaimed to a maximum of \$50.

**Cooperative bylaws** are available upon request at Lake Region Electric Cooperative's office in Hulbert.