

Powerline Press

NEWSLETTER



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

1761 Attend LREC Annual Meeting



The 75th Anniversary LREC Drive-Through Annual Meeting of 2024 was a resounding success! Despite the threat of rain, the weather held, blessing Hulbert with a beautiful day. LREC witnessed an impressive turnout, with **1,761** members registering and actively participating, ensuring their voices were heard through the election of two board members to represent them on the co-op's Board of Trustees. A business quorum was met with 5% of the registered members in attendance.

In the trustee election, three candidates vied for two available positions. Following the tally of votes, Scott Manes and Jack Teague received the most votes, earning the seats to serve a three-year term on the LREC Board of Trustees. The election operates on an at-large basis, with the two candidates securing the highest number of votes claiming victory. Board election results: Scott Manes 1,363, Jack Teague 1,104, and Stanley Young 544 votes.

The membership approved last year's business meeting minutes. As a token of appreciation, all registered members who participated in the voting process received a \$30 bill credit and a commemorative 75th Anniversary Mug.

Randy Jones of Fort Gibson won the grand prize of \$1,000, Jimmy Carey of Hulbert secured \$500, and Celia Lozano of Tahlequah won \$250.

LREC's CEO, John Lee, expressed his gratitude to all the members who attended this year and all the employees who helped with the Annual Meeting.

"LREC is a non-profit electric cooperative that puts its members first and serves over 26,210 electric meters and over 12,300 fiber subscribers in seven counties in northeast Oklahoma. Excellent customer service, strong financial condition, and rate stability have been among the top drivers directing LREC long-range planning and day-to-day operations," added John Lee, CEO.

2024 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- **1,761** registered members were in attendance.
- **Scott Manes** and **Jack Teague** were elected to remain on the board (3 year term).

- LREC business meeting announced healthy financial successes. With non-operating revenues LREC ended the fiscal year with \$7,070,060 in margins.

Annual Meeting *Prize Winners*

If you did not attend this year's Annual Meeting, you missed a great chance to win CASH! Every year, Lake Region randomly chooses prize winners after the Annual Meeting. This year's top prize winners are listed below. Be sure to attend LREC's Annual Meeting every April to get your chance to be the next big cash winner. Prize winners do not need to be present to win; they must be registered members at the Annual Meeting to be entered in the prize drawing. Thank you to everyone who attended this year.



\$1,000 Randy Jones of Fort Gibson



\$500 Jimmy Carey of Hulbert



\$250 Celia Lozano of Tahlequah



Watch!



Get a bird's eye view (drone video) from this year's Annual Meeting.
www.lrecok.coop/2024-annual-meeting-results

CONCERN *for* COMMUNITY

ICTC Tahlequah Career Fair

JuaNita Keener, a Lake Region Member Services employee, had a blast at last month's Tahlequah ICTC campus career fair. Lake Region is always ready to step in and help our community events succeed and share more about our industry. We love talking about electric distribution and fiber internet. Thank you to everyone who stopped by our table.

Careers > www.lrecok.coop/careers



Spring Storms Highlight Critical Role of Lineworkers



LREC lineworkers work long hours replacing broken poles in Wagoner County during power restoration in early May 2024.

The saying goes, “April showers bring May tornadoes and storms,” and this spring has proven true. In late April, LREC service territory was hit hard in Wagoner County with storm damage, and again in early May, there were 99 total broken poles during both storms. While

LREC and LRTC are always striving to prevent outages, these types of storms do happen, and this highlights the critical role your Lake Region lineworkers and operations employees play. At Lake Region, we depend on 24 electric linemen, 11 fiber tech linemen, 6 right-of-way tree-trimming employees, and several employees working phones, dispatch center, and warehouse

personnel. These employees spend extended hours, days, and nights away from families working to restore our member’s power. Linemen worked in rough terrain, from the water-saturated ground, and hot, humid temperatures to fallen trees on roads.

Thanks to their efforts and some mutual aid contractors, LREC members were only impacted by outages for a couple of days. Please join LREC in showing appreciation for your Lake Region lineworker and operation employees. 2933202

Take a moment to send a note of gratitude to your lineworker or operations employee. Their 24/7 commitment ensures our lives don’t skip a beat, and we have electric and high-speed internet.



Dear Lake Region Lineworkers,

Sincerely,

Return this slip to us at LREC:
516 S Lake Region Rd
Hulbert, OK 74441

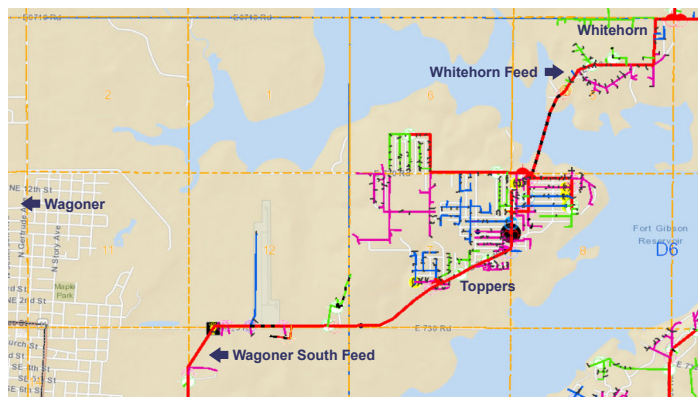


Lake Region contractors boring electric three phase line under Ft Gibson Lake, Whitehorn area over to Toppers back in the fall of 2023.

Helping Storm Restoration Through Strategic Tie-Lines

During storm restoration on April 28, LREC utilized an added electric tie-line under Ft Gibson Lake to restore power to the Toppers community in a couple of hours. This is an example of your co-op work plan in action. The work plan is to identify areas that are at risk for extended outages due to limited access and develop plans to bring electricity into this area from other directions. This project, Whitehorn Cove over to Toppers under Ft Gibson Lake feed, took nearly four years of planning, permitting, and construction.

“Before installing the new under-lake tie-line, our electrical lines only had a single way of delivering electricity into the Toppers area. If anything happens to that line, our members would be out of power for the full repair work. During the April storm damage, we had five broken poles near railroad tracks south of Wagoner. This damage would normally take more than a full working day to restore. Once we knew what the cause of the outage was, we were able to bring power back to the area in under 2 hours from re-routing Toppers electricity from Whitehorn,” said Logan Pleasant, LREC Director of Operations.



These tie-lines are very beneficial to our membership; this is one reason Lake Region invests in this type of redundancy. A backfeed is where we have electricity coming into an area from two different directions with a point in the middle that is cut in two with some type of switch. If there is damage that causes an outage on one side or the other, we can cut the line in two near where the damage has occurred and then close the switch in the middle to re-energize the line between that middle point and the damage. These types of backfeed options are extremely beneficial to our members for rapid power restoration when an extended outage occurs.

Your Board of Trustees

Scott Manes.....President
Lynn Lamons.....Vice-President
Randall Shankle.....Secretary-Treasurer
Jack Teague.....Asst. Secretary-Treasurer
James WallsTrustee
Gary CooperTrustee
Dianna Mayfield.....Trustee
Tina Glory-JordanAttorney

Staff

John Lee.....CEO
Ben McCollumDirector of Finance
Leisa Walker.....Sr Director of Accounting
Logan Pleasant.....Director of Operations
Jarrod Welch.....Director of Fiber & IT
Glen ClarkDirector 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
www.lakeregionfiber.com

Locations

Hulbert, Wagoner &
Tahlequah, OK.

Main Office Address

P.O. Box 127
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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.