

Powerline Press

NEWSLETTER



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

February 2020

How Can You Help Guide Your Co-op?

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

2020 Board Election Information

Lake Region Electric Cooperative is accepting nominations from eligible candidates who are interested in running for the cooperative's board of trustees. LREC members will have the opportunity to vote for two trustees at the cooperative's annual meeting of the membership, Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Hulbert Public School.

Becoming a Candidate

Pick up a nomination petition packet starting February 25, 2020, at LREC's main office in Hulbert during regular business hours. Complete the packet and return all required documents, including 15 member signatures supporting your candidacy no later than 3:00 PM, March 20, 2020. If all qualifications have been met, you will be notified of your candidacy.

Candidate Qualifications

Specific minimal qualifications are required by basic law and the cooperative's bylaws for one to be eligible for election or appointed to and to serve on the cooperative's board of trustees.

It is the ultimate legal responsibility of the board to ensure that these requirements are met and in compliance. If the board should determine that an incumbent, nominee, or potential appointee lacks or has lost any of the necessary legal qualifications, it is the duty of the board to remove such incumbent or to declare such nominee or potential appointee ineligible for election, whichever may be the case.

By adopting, publishing and appropriately disseminating this policy in our member newsletter, it is the board's respectful hope that trustee incumbents, nominees, or potential appointees will not only be fully apprised of these requirements, but mindful of their importance in deciding whether to continue or commence service on the board.

Eligibility qualification continued on page 2

LREC Hulbert Headquarters

516 S Lake Region Rd, Hulbert
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.



EVERY CO-OP MEMBER HAS A VOICE.

LREC Bylaws and eligibility qualifications to run for the Board

Eligibility qualification continued from page 1

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. And 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.

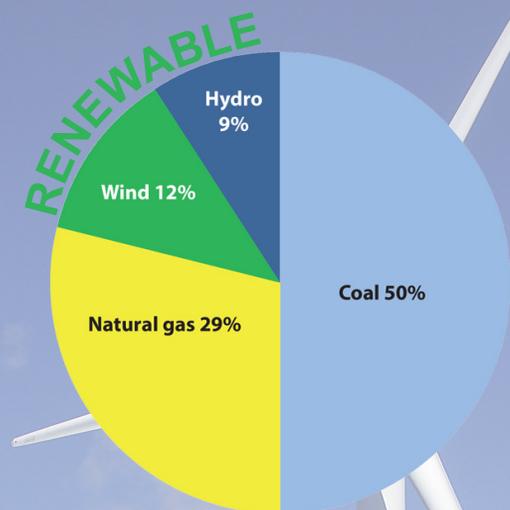
New Employee



Please help us in welcoming our newest fiber tech, Justin Owen. Justin was an intern with Lake Region for several months last year before graduating from OSU IT high voltage school. Justin has accepted a job with our fiber subsidiary helping keep our members connected on our fiber-to-the-home network. Justin lives on Lake Region electric lines in Inola, with his parents. 5030200

“I enjoyed working with all the fiber crew while I was here for my internship, that is one reason I took the job,” said Justin. Outside of work, Justin enjoys shooting pool and is always up for a good game.

2019 Generation Report



Data collected from Associated Electric Co-op reflects power generated for the 2019 year.

Stay Safe on Winter Roads

Winter months can bring snow, ice, and windy conditions, which create additional hazards for drivers. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration, 25 percent of weather related vehicle crashes occur on snowy or icy pavement. Should an accident occur, it is essential to be prepared. While automobile crashes always present danger, when electricity is involved, the decisions made in the moments after the accident are especially crucial. Use these tips for Safe Electricity and stay safe on winter roads.

Pack an emergency kit that includes blankets, flares, a flashlight, and a window scraper. It's always a good idea to add extra water and high-calorie snacks. If you are stranded in your car after an accident, watch for signs of frostbite or hypothermia. Do not stay in one position for too long, stay awake, and do not overexert yourself as this could put a strain on your heart.



Due to the potential for a winter storm to bring down power lines, individuals should only venture outside if absolutely necessary. Slow down when driving in icy conditions, and always keep your eyes on the road to look out for hazardous conditions or downed power lines. Also watch for debris near down poles and lines, as it may be energized as well.

Keep in mind that a downed line does not need to be sparking to be energized. It is best to assume all low and downed lines and energized and dangerous. Never drive over a downed line because it could pull down the pole and other equipment, causing additional hazards. If you see a downed line, do not get out of your car. Contact 911 and LREC immediately to report the issue.

For more info on electrical safety, visit SafeElectricity.org

Member Photo Contest

New for 2020, an LREC Photo Contest! A \$50 energy credit prize will be awarded at the end of the year to the member with the best photo. Lake Region is looking for great photos of our beautiful scenery, local landscapes, interesting buildings, structures, barns, livestock, power lines, and rural life. Please submit photos to pics@lrecok.coop. Lake Region may use your photos in our newsletter, website, or social media. By submitting a photo, you are granting LREC permissions to use the image. We are looking forward to seeing colorful Oklahoma through your lens.



Submit your beautiful photos to LREC throughout 2020

Rules for 2020

- This year's theme is outdoor rural life. All photos must be from Oklahoma.
- Winners cannot win more than once.
- A full list of rules are posted at www.lrecok.coop/2020photocontest
- Submit photos to pics@lrecok.coop

Your Board of Trustees

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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.lrecok.net

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.



Are you signed up for the fastest, most reliable internet.

Phase two fiber expansion zones construction has started! Visit our website to see new zones. Pre-register for Lake Region Fiber - with speeds up to **500 Mbps** - Today! Don't trust us, take a peek at what a fellow member said about Lake Region new fiber.

"I have had Lake Region fiber for 1 year now and could not be happier; I didn't realize how much time poor internet was costing me - until I experienced great service from Lake Region! Tell all your friends and their friends!"

Pre-register today

- ▶ visit register.lrecoknet
- ▶ call 918-772-2526
- ▶ or stop by your local LREC office



FAST INTERNET ▶ (for real)