

Honoring Those Who Keep the Lights On



MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ROBERT A. LOTH III

HELP WANTED: APPLICANTS MUST BE COMFORTABLE WORKING 40 feet in the air for long hours in all types of weather and dangerous conditions while providing excellent customer service.

That doesn't sound like a job many of us would sign up for, but fortunately for Central Texas Electric Cooperative and its members, we have a team of folks who embrace that challenge—our linemen.



On Monday, April 9, Lineman Appreciation Day, Central Texas EC will join cooperatives from across the nation in recognizing the employees who keep the lights on.

Electric linemen do not often receive the recognition they deserve. Linemen across our service territory work every day building and repairing lines to ensure the overall reliability of the system. They are the unsung heroes who stand at the ready to respond to outages caused by storms, accidents and anything else that may knock out power. They are the ones

who, through their tireless efforts, help ensure the system reliability of your member-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperative.

Perhaps you have seen them rising in their bucket trucks in howling winds and torrential rains, or in freezing, icy conditions—working around the clock near high-voltage power lines until electricity is restored to every member in our co-op community.

Our linemen, as well as linemen from all across the nation, truly deserve this special day of recognition.

We recognize all electric linemen and crew members for the services they perform around the clock, often in dangerous conditions, so that our members can enjoy the conveniences and safety electricity provides.

On April 9, please join us by taking a moment to personally thank a lineman for the work he or she does.

CENTRAL TEXAS EC
FEBRUARY 13

Regular Board Meeting Recap

Meeting called to order and prayer offered.

- Approved:** Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held January 23
- Approved:** January 9–February 5 Membership List and Membership Conversions
- Reviewed:** Safety Report for 12 Months ended December 31, 2017
- Reviewed:** Financial and Statistical Reports for 12 Months ended December 31, 2017
- Approved:** 2018 Budget
- Discussed:** Property and Liability Insurance Renewal Options
- Discussed:** Clarification on Director Compensation for Committee Meetings
- Discussed:** Committee Reports
- Discussed:** Director Appointees for 2018 Credentials and Election Committee and 2018 Scholarship Committee
- Reviewed:** Board Policy No. 4
- Approved:** Distribution of Membership List in accordance with Section 9 of Bylaws
- Approved:** NRECA and Touchstone Energy Cooperative Membership Dues

Meeting adjourned.



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2018 District Meetings Scheduled

AT THE JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, BOARD MEMBERS APPROVED THE schedule for this year’s district membership meetings. The meetings will be held as follows:

MONDAY, JUNE 4

District 6 (San Saba County area)
Cherokee High School Cafeteria

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

District 3 (Mason, McCulloch, Menard and northern Kimble counties area)
Mason Junior High School Cafeteria
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

District 2 (Kerr, Real and southern Kimble counties area)
Ingram Elementary School Cafeteria

MONDAY, JUNE 11

District 4 (Llano County area)
Llano High School Auditorium
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

District 1 (Kendall County area)
Comfort High School Auditorium
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

District 5 (Gillespie and Blanco counties area)
Gillespie County Fair Grounds
DIRECTOR NOMINEE ELECTION

Meetings will be held in each district, but only districts 1, 3, 4 and 5 will elect candidates for the board of directors. Districts 2 and 6 will still meet to exchange information between co-op management and members. Official meeting announcements will be included in the May issue of *Texas Co-op Power*. The names of all candidates whose applications were approved by the credentials and election committee in March will be listed on the district meeting notice mailed to all cooperative members. The issue also will contain each member’s official registration information. Watch for it and save it to bring with you to your June district meeting.

Central Texas Electric Cooperative

Fredericksburg (headquarters)

386 Friendship Lane
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Llano

1410 E. State Highway 29, Llano

Kingsland

Nob Hill Subdivision
706 Cottonwood St., Kingsland

Mason

1881 E. State Highway 29, Mason

Office Hours

8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday–Friday

Website

ctec.coop

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Robert A. Loth III

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W.C. “Dub” Stewart, President, *Llano County*
Allen Goodwin, Vice President, *Kendall County*
Doyle Bode, Secretary, *Gillespie County*
Tim Lehmborg, Treasurer, *Gillespie County*
Jack Asbill, *Mason County*
Rex Brand, *Kerr County*
Tommy Duncan, *Llano County*
Mark Hahn, *Mason County*
Stanley Keese, *Llano County*
James Low, *San Saba County*
Charles E. Pearson, *Gillespie County*

Emergency Contact

To report electric service interruptions, please call the Central Texas Electric Cooperative office in your area at the numbers listed below:

FREDERICKSBURG AREA

(830) 997-2126

1-800-900-CTEC (2832)

including Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Blanco, Real and Kimble counties

LLANO AND SAN SABA AREAS

(325) 247-4191

THE LAKES AREA

(325) 388-4542

8 a.m.–5 p.m.

(325) 247-4191

after business hours

MASON AREA

(325) 347-6314

including McCulloch, Menard and Kimble counties

Voting at District Meetings

CENTRAL TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S DISTRICT MEETINGS are scheduled to take place in each of the co-op's six districts this June. Elections will be held in Mason, Llano, Comfort and Fredericksburg as part of the process for selecting nominees for directors from those districts.

Voting In-Person Only

Under the co-op's bylaws, voting by proxy is not allowed at district meetings. Because of the prohibition on proxy voting, a person holding power of attorney for a member cannot use that instrument to vote at a district meeting.



Joint Memberships

CTEC bylaws provide that a married couple may establish a joint membership, and when they do so, either spouse may vote for the membership. This includes the right to vote at district meetings. However, it is important to note that not all memberships established for married couples are set up as joint memberships. The option belongs to the person or persons filling out the application for service with the co-op. In addition to its effect on voting, joint membership creates specific legal rights with regard to the membership account.

Members can determine whether they hold a joint membership by calling their local co-op office. If a membership is not a joint membership, the spouse of a member will be allowed to vote for the membership (with approved identification) unless the owner of a single membership has indicated in writing that such a privilege is not to be allowed.

Converting to a Joint Membership

A membership can be converted to a joint membership by written request of the member and execution of a membership

agreement by the member and his or her spouse. These converted memberships must be approved by the co-op's board of directors. In accordance with the bylaws, for a joint membership to be voted as such at a district meeting, the converted membership must be approved on or before the second Tuesday in May preceding the district meeting. To meet this deadline for 2018 district meetings, requests to convert memberships to joint memberships must be submitted so they are received in the co-op headquarters office no later 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 8.

Firms, Associations and Corporations

Authorized representatives of businesses, community clubs, churches, trusts and similar organizations that hold co-op memberships are permitted to vote at district meetings.

Call Now To Clarify Voting Status

Questions about the status of a membership account as a joint or individual account can be directed to the CTEC Member Services Department at 1-800-900-2832. In Fredericksburg, the local number is (830) 997-2126. As noted above, a member does have the right to convert an individual membership to a joint membership by completing a new membership application, but because the application must be approved, strict deadlines must be observed. In other circumstances, it may be appropriate to set up a membership as a business or

trust account, enabling an authorized representative of the business or trust to cast the member's vote.

Questions about these arrangements can also be answered by calling the phone numbers shown above.

District Meeting Voting Summary

- ▶ Members must be present to vote at the meeting. Proxy votes are not allowed.
- ▶ At all member meetings, the spouse of a member will be allowed to vote the membership, whether single or joint, unless the owner of a single membership has indicated in writing that such voting privilege is not to be allowed.
- ▶ Under the bylaws, requests to convert single memberships to joint memberships must be approved by the board of directors at their meeting on the second Tuesday in May. To meet this deadline for the 2018 district meetings, these requests must be submitted to CTEC headquarters no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 8.
- ▶ Call CTEC if you have any questions about voting your membership.



You've Got
Friends in
High Places.

Celebrate Lineman Appreciation Day on April 9.
#ThankALineman



Central Texas Electric Co-op

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Gillespie County Introduces Adopt-a-County Road Program

GILLESPIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT has introduced for the first time the Adopt-a-County Road program in an attempt to help maintain the natural beauty of our county landscape. The program is modeled after the well-known Adopt-a-Highway program established by the Texas Department of Transportation. The Gillespie program is focused on county roads whereas the TxDOT program applies to state highways.

The Adopt-a-County Road program officially kicked off November 1, 2017. The application form and all documentation are posted on the Gillespie County website at gillespiecounty.org. At this time, the county is encouraging and requesting the public (groups and individuals) to adopt and volunteer to pick up litter four times per year along 2-mile stretches of a county road of your choice.

In return, the county will:

- ▶ Work with the participating sponsor to identify the specific section of county road to be adopted.
- ▶ Erect at least one sign on the adopted section with participant's name or affiliation.
- ▶ Provide safety information, trash bags, traffic control signs and safety vests.

How To Apply

- ▶ Print and complete a simple application from the county website or request one from your precinct commissioner.
- ▶ Submit your completed application to the Rural Addressing Department located in the courthouse basement, room 106, or email it to litterprogram@gillespiecounty.org
- ▶ Your county commissioner will contact you to get your Adopt-a-County Road program started.

Thank you for your community support.



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Did You Know?

April is Keep America Beautiful Month, recalling Lady Bird Johnson's rich legacy of protecting and beautifying our national lands and her advocacy for the wild, natural beauty of Texas in particular.



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Power Tip

Smart landscaping can lower your electric bills. Shade for your air conditioner can trim 10 percent off your cooling costs. Trees on the east and west sides of your home also provide beneficial shade to help keep your home cooler.

GILLESPIE COUNTY RURAL ADDRESSING DEPARTMENT

101 W. Main St., Mail Unit #9, Room B-106
Fredericksburg, TX 78624-3700

Phone: (830) 997-1726, **Fax:** (830) 997-9867

Email application: litterprogram@gillespiecounty.org

County website: gillespiecounty.org

Facebook: Gillespie Organizers Against Litter (GOAL)

Granville Heading to DC



Editor's note: This essay earned Morgyn Granville, a junior at Fredericksburg High School, a trip to Washington, D.C., in Central Texas Electric Cooperative's Government-in-Action Youth Tour contest. Her essay is the first in a series of winning compositions that will be printed in Texas Co-op Power. The views expressed in this essay are not necessarily those of Central Texas Electric Cooperative.

Smart Grid Technology: Morphing the Future of Electricity

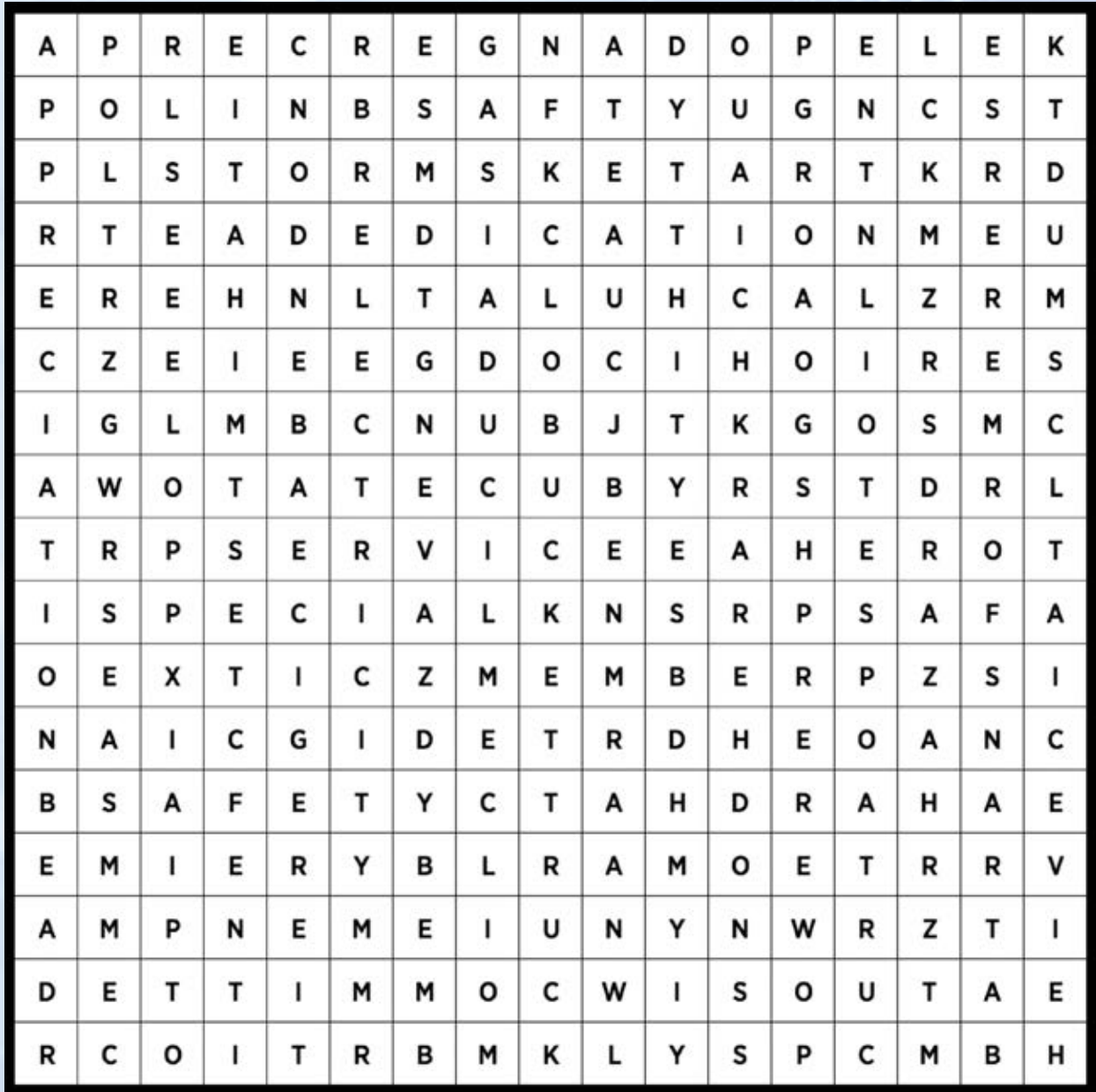
IMAGINE THE EARLY 1940S IN RURAL CENTRAL TEXAS. A WEARY housewife wipes beads of perspiration from her brow as the early dawn trickles through the shutters. It's early, but the sweltering heat already owns the morning. Today was to be the day that "a new friend named Electricity" would light up her world and make firing up the woodstove on a stifling hot day a thing of the past. Strange-looking lightbulbs hang in every room, and a shiny, new electrical clothes iron sits on a shelf—just waiting. She is hoping to avoid another day of aching muscles from carrying in loads of wood to keep the stove going long enough to keep the irons hot and get clothes pressed, but it is not to be. As the long day drifts into night—fall that brings small relief from the heat, she reluctantly reaches for a match to light the coal oil lamp for her four children to read by, squelching her disappointment. As if by magic, the lightbulb over her kitchen table suddenly flickers once, twice and then every corner of the room is fully illuminated—more brightly than she had even imagined! The Rural Electrification Act had finally made its way to her area and would drastically change her 1940s world, much like smart grid technology will morph the face of electricity and how it is utilized some 70-plus years later and beyond.

Smart grid technology is an electrical grid that includes a variety of operational and energy measures, including smart meters, appliances, renewable energy and energy-efficient resources. Smart grid technology is a greener technology that provides a transition to a lower carbon footprint. It will enable replacement of our world's aging equipment and will truly modernize the way electricity is produced, transported and ultimately delivered to consumers. Overall, it more effectively integrates and will support greater usage of renewable energy sources such as hydro-, solar and wind power. It will empower consumers with real-time information about their energy consumption, enabling them to better manage usage. By increasing efficiency, electricity costs are projected to be lowered, and the likelihood of burnouts and surges will decrease. Smart grid technology sets a critical foundation for reducing greenhouse gasses and will make the use of electricity greener as a whole on a global scale.

Just as the Rural Electrification Act brought electricity to rural areas and drastically changed the lives of people across the U.S. amidst World War II, smart grid technology is poised to revolutionize how electricity is utilized globally for decades to come. From cities to the countryside, smart grid technology will enable energy providers from large urban electrical power plants to rural electrical co-ops to more effectively plan infrastructure, forecast energy needs, better manage the electric grid, enhance operational efficiencies, and enable delivery of electricity to the right places at the right times. Smart grid technology will allow these entities to increase reliability and meet the ever-increasing demand for electric power worldwide.

LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

Word Search



Help Willie Wiredhand find these words in the puzzle box.

APPRECIATION
BUCKET TRUCK
CLIMB
COMMITTED
DANGER
DEDICATION

ELECTRICITY
ENERGIZED
HARD HAT
HAZARDS
HELP
HERO

LINE
LINEMAN
MEMBER
OUTAGE
POLE
POWER

SAFETY
SERVICE
SPECIAL
STORMS
THANKS
TRANSFORMER



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FROM
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PER MONTH



Central Texas Electric Co-op

Local: 830-992-2240

Toll Free: 888-297-1340

www.ctesc.net

Viasat[™]

All Plans require a 24 month commitment and \$9.95 monthly Lease Service Plan fee. Service not available in all Central Texas Electric Co-op areas. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time. Speeds are "up to", not guaranteed, and will vary. On the Unlimited Bronze, Silver and Gold service plans, after 40, 60, or 100 GB of data usage, respectively, Viasat may prioritize your data behind other customers during network congestion. Viasat is service mark of Viasat Inc. CTESC Internet Services is a subsidiary of Central Texas Electric Co-op.