

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



WELCOME TO COLEMAN COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE'S 83rd annual meeting. This is our first (and hopefully last) non-face-to-face annual meeting. Our concern for the health of our members, their guests and our employees led to the decision to cancel our annual meeting. At the time of that decision, we were unsure how things would look in July.

We know, however, that preventive maintenance pays off in the long term. While our co-op strengthens financially, we will continue to upgrade our system.

We were fortunate enough to qualify for a Paycheck Protection Program loan to keep our employees working through the COVID-19 pandemic. With continual planning and maintenance, we have been able to operate with only an adjustment to our customer charge. This was due to a decision made in 2017 in keeping with our commitment to do everything we can to keep your rates reasonable.

Coleman County EC continues to serve our communities. We award scholarships, support Youth Tour and are starting to take applications for Operation Round Up. In these trying times, it's gratifying to help those in our co-op thrive.

Our staff training program is of foremost importance to all of us. We must strive to keep our employees healthy and hopefully happy, too. We have completed our advanced metering infrastructure, which differs from automatic meter reading in that it enables two-way communication between meters and the co-op. We can shut off and turn on meters

from headquarters, which is cheaper, quicker and safer than doing it manually. We are also advancing our technology in other fields. Hopefully you have all visited our website, where you can get current information and report outages. We want to make every effort to engage our members through every kind of media possible.

One of the Seven Cooperative Principles, on which all co-ops are founded, is Democratic Member Control. This means one member, one vote and enables all of us to have a voice in our co-op leadership. We had a hard decision to make about elections for this year. It was easier to make when our three directors agreed to run again. With no opposition, our board decided that there was no need for elections this year. When things return to normal, we'll look forward to returning to a regular face-to-face annual meeting, complete with elections and lots of prizes.

The CCEC board is happy to announce that we will retire to our membership **\$835,322.11** in capital credits this year. This consists of **\$511,138.30** from Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, our generation and transmission cooperative, and **\$324,183.81** from Coleman County EC.

We will continue to provide reliable and cost-effective service to all our members. Our co-op is owned by you, the members, and our board and employees work for YOU. Please let us know of any concerns related to your electric service.

Thank you.

Bob Fuchs

BOB FUCHS, PRESIDENT



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF CHANGE AND CHALLENGE. WITH that being said, we've been able to complete our goals this year because of our dedicated employees and our loyal membership. COVID-19 presented challenges with social distancing and less face-to-face communication, but we have navigated those challenges, as described by Board President Bob Fuchs in his report on Page 18. Thank you for being a member of Coleman County Electric Cooperative, and we look forward to providing your electric service.



Clint Gardner

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO REPORT THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF YOUR cooperative for 2019. Coleman County Electric Cooperative is in very good financial condition, with kilowatt-hour sales increasing in 2019 by approximately 37 million kWh and an increase in revenue of more than \$800,000. This increase in usage gave us an operating margin at the end of the year of more than **\$2,833,262**.

The CCEC Board of Directors has once again voted to return capital credits to active members as an electric bill credit; inactive members will receive a check in the mail. This year, including capital credits from Golden Spread Electric Cooperative, our generation and transmission co-op, we are returning capital credits to the membership in the amount of \$835,322.11. This amount represents the 1986 allocation of \$324,183.81 by Coleman County EC and the 2019 capital credits return of \$511,138.30 by Golden Spread EC. For more information or should you have questions about your cooperative, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

Thank you.



Darla Wise

DARLA WISE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

Coleman County Electric Cooperative

3300 N. Highway 84 • P.O. Box 860
Coleman, TX 76834

*Operating in Brown, Callahan, Coke,
Coleman, Concho, Runnels, Taylor and
Tom Green counties*

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER

Clint Gardner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Lange, *District 1*

Roger Kruse, Vice President, *District 2*

Darla Wise, Secretary-Treasurer, *District 6*

David Wright, *District 3*

Les Dobbins Jr., *District 4*

Brent McMillan, *District 5*

Bob Fuchs, President, *District 7*

Contact Us

CALL US AT

(325) 625-2128 local

1-800-560-2128 toll-free

AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY

1-800-560-2128 toll-free

FIND US ON THE WEB

colemanelectric.org

ANNUAL MEETING CANCELED

Due to safety concerns for our members and employees because of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Coleman County Electric Cooperative Annual Meeting has been canceled.



Watch for Signs of Heat Illness

WITH SUMMER COMES LOTS OF FUN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES—WHETHER YOU'RE LYING BY the pool or playing on a baseball field. Keep heat stress at bay by knowing how to prevent heat-related illnesses and recognize the symptoms in yourself and others.

Heatstroke

The most serious of heat illnesses, heatstroke can be deadly and swift. Your body temperature could rise to 106 degrees or more in as little as 10–15 minutes. Heatstroke happens when your body's temperature rises rapidly, but it cannot sweat quickly enough to cool itself. Symptoms include hot, dry skin or the opposite, profuse sweating; hallucinations; chills; throbbing headache; confusion or dizziness; and slurred speech.

If you see someone with symptoms of heatstroke, immediately call 911 and move the person to a shady area. Try misting the person with cold water, soaking his or her clothes, and fanning him or her until help arrives.

Heat Exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is the result of heavy sweating—extreme loss of salt and water. People prone to heat exhaustion include the elderly, those with high blood pressure and people who work in hot conditions. Besides excessive sweating, symptoms include extreme weakness or fatigue, dizziness and confusion, nausea, clammy skin, muscle cramps, and shallow, rapid breathing.

If a person suffers from heat exhaustion, move him or her to a shaded area or an indoor space with air conditioning. The victim should drink cool, nonalcoholic beverages and take a cool shower or bath.

Heat Syncope

Sunbathers may be prone to heat syncope, which is dizziness or fainting after lying (or standing) for long periods of time. Dehydration can contribute to an episode of heat syncope, so keep a water bottle handy when you head to the beach.

If you feel dizzy after lying for a long time, sit or lie back down in a cool place and sip on a cool beverage—water, sports drinks or clear juice.



JULY HOLIDAYS

Independence Day

Saturday, July 4

Our offices will be closed Friday, July 3, in observance of the holiday.

Pecan Pie Day

Sunday, July 12

Ice Cream Day

Sunday, July 19

Co-ops Warn of COVID-19 Scams



GENEBE LISTOCK.COM

PROTECT AGAINST SCAMS

- ▶ Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers or any others that appear suspicious.
- ▶ Never share your personal or financial information via email or text message or over the phone.
- ▶ Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.
- ▶ Scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding. Remember that government agencies will never call you to ask for personal information or money.
- ▶ Do not click any links in messages. If a friend sends you a message with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure their accounts weren't compromised.
- ▶ Always check on a charity (for example, by calling or looking at its actual website) before donating.

AS THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC CONTINUES TO AFFECT THE United States, scammers have seized the opportunity to prey on consumers, including electric co-op members in Texas.

The Federal Communications Commission has received reports of scam and hoax text message campaigns and scam robocalls offering free home testing kits, promoting bogus cures, selling health insurance and exploiting virus-related fears.

Scammers sometimes call to say that an electric bill is past due and try to collect personal information, such as Social Security numbers, or immediate payment through wire transfers, prepaid debit cards, gift cards or other untraceable currency. Members should be especially wary if anyone comes to your door to collect payment.

When Coleman County Electric Cooperative calls you, we will have your name and address; our member service representatives will not ask for that information over the phone. Never give out personal information to a stranger over the phone or at the door, and don't let strangers inside your home.

If you are suspicious or feel threatened by a caller or visitor, call law enforcement immediately. If you get a call from a scammer pretending to be from your electric cooperative, hang up and call Coleman County EC directly.

Other opportunists are offering air conditioning duct cleaning as a way to "protect" your home and family from the virus.

The FCC also warns of an increase in messaging scams, in which an email or text may falsely advertise a cure or an offer to be tested for coronavirus. Do not click on these links.

Some text scams impersonate government agencies. The FCC has learned of a text scam claiming to be from the "FCC Financial Care Center," offering \$30,000 in COVID-19 relief. There is no such FCC program.

The Better Business Bureau warns of text message scammers impersonating the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and informing recipients that they must take a "mandatory online COVID-19 test" or that diabetic patients can receive a free testing kit and blood glucose monitor using an included link. Again, don't click the link.

Text message hoaxes may claim that the government will order a mandatory national two-week quarantine or instruct you to go out and stock up on supplies. These fake messages may even appear to be from a "next-door neighbor."

Fraudsters are also preying on financial fears. The FCC is aware of scams based on COVID-19 work-from-home opportunities, student loan repayment plans and debt consolidation offers. Small businesses are also getting scam calls about virus-related funding or loans.

If you think you've been a victim of a coronavirus scam, contact law enforcement immediately.