

Your monthly report from Your Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A new day dawns as SEC enters into its 75th year of operation.

(Photo credits: Rauni Montoya)

75th Anniversary of SEC to be celebrated at 2020 Annual Member Meeting

Incorporated on March 3, 1945, SEC's original mission was to extend power to rural areas. In 2020, we celebrate 75 years of maintaining this mission. While many things have changed over the past 75 years, one thing that hasn't changed is our commitment to our members. This milestone, not achieved by many business institutions, is due in part to the cooperative business model. SEC has weathered the test of time because of the commitment by our Members and their engagement with *their* cooperative. For this, we say "Thank You!"



We look forward to another 75 years of serving you, as well as celebrating this achievement with each of you on **Saturday, April 18, 2020** at *Your* Annual Meeting!

Come and celebrate with us at the Annual Member Meeting. We will review the achievements of the past year and share our goals for the future. Also, at this year's meeting, there will be elections for two (2) Trustees - one from District 2 and one from District 3. If you reside in one of these districts and are interested, you can become a candidate for your district's position.



The general area for these districts follow: District 2 - areas around and including Magdalena and Alamo; District 3 - the city limits of Socorro.

As mentioned in the January 2020 *enchantment* magazine, you have until January 31, 2020 to complete and file an "Affidavit Declaring Candidacy" if you are interested in being a candidate for the office of Trustee for the SEC Board.

You can find this form on our website or come by our office and ask for one. This form must be returned to the SEC office no later than January 31, 2020 by 4:30 p.m.

Your
**SOCORRO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Spotlight on TEAM SEC - Meet our Staff, Your Neighbors

Tony Lopez, Lead Line Foreman based in our Socorro office, joined SEC over 25 years ago. As a graduate of Magdalena High School, Tony spent the first years after graduation as a seasonal Wild land Firefighter for the Forest Service. Tony became interested in SEC because he wanted a permanent job, and had heard great things about SEC. In May 1994, he started SEC's Lineman Apprentice Program. With his successful completion of the apprenticeship program, he achieved Journeyman Lineman status, and with subsequent promotions over the years, he earned his current title of Lead Line Foreman.

Tony is a very familiar face to our Members having spent his whole life in Socorro County. He looks forward to interacting with the Members daily. In fact, "helping out his neighbors" has been the focus of his many years at SEC.

He believes the cooperative is a great place to work, it offers stability of employment to local residents who choose to live and work here with a good team of co-workers and great benefits. Tony says he never gets bored as each day brings new and fresh challenges in keeping the "lights on".



Tony Lopez
Lead Line Foreman

CONTACT US

WEBSITE

www.socorroelectric.com

PHONE

800-351-7575 or 575-835-0560

PAYING YOUR BILL

You can make your payment over the phone by check or major credit card, 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week with our IVR phone system at no charge.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

REPORTING AN OUTAGE

Before reporting a power outage, please check the circuit breakers in your house first. If you still do not have power after checking your breakers, please call **(575) 835-0560, (800) 351-7575 or 855-881-8159**.

If you get a busy signal, it is an indication that someone else is experiencing an outage as well; however please continue to call, this will help us pinpoint the problem.

MEMBER SERVICE/BILLING

Marilyn Madrid - Member Service Supervisor
575-835-0560 Ext 1504

ACCOUNTING

Rauni Montoya - Accounting Supervisor
575-835-0560 Ext 2502

LINE EXTENSIONS

Bill Harris - Staking Technician
575-835-0560 Ext 2503

MARKETING & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jimmy Capps - Director of Communications & Public Affairs - 575-838-9724
jcapps@socorroelectric.com

December 2019 Board Report - the Board....

- completed a full agenda including review of departmental reports from the General Manager, accounting, operations and Member Services.
(for further details visit our website at www.socorroelectric.com to view the video and read the minutes of this meeting.)
- set the next Board Meeting for January 29, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Responsibilities and Compensation for Trustees

Periodically we receive questions about the duties of and compensation for the members of the SEC Board of Trustees. The primary duties of the Board are (1) to approve the annual budget, (2) hire a General Manager, (3) establish rates that will ensure that all financial requirements of RUS and other lenders are satisfied, (4) approve the operational policies that the General Manager and employees are to follow as they run the day-to-day operations of SEC, (5) hire legal counsel as necessary, and (6) hire auditors to annually review the financial operations of the cooperative.

These Trustees, spend many, many hours in oversight of the operations of SEC and as most are new to our distinctive industry, they are required to attend many hours of training to learn about the unique nature of an electric utility operating under the cooperative business model.

The Trustees receive \$150 per day when they are conducting business on behalf of SEC, even if they have several meetings in one day which happens frequently. This can be Board Meetings, specialized training sessions, committee meetings or special meetings of our Statewide, Regional, or National organizations. They also receive the IRS approved mileage reimbursement rate for driving to these various functions and reimbursement for meals, lodging or other forms of transportation.

While the same medical, dental, vision and life insurance benefits that SEC employees receive are offered to Trustees, the Trustees must pay the premiums for these coverages and they can only have the coverage while they are an active Trustee. Currently there are no Trustees receiving any medical benefits. Once a Trustee leaves the Board, they are not eligible for any compensation or benefits.

For more information on Trustee Compensation, see Section 5.11 Trustee Compensation in the SEC By-Laws, at www.socorroelectric.com/bylaws, and Board Policy 116 at www.socorroelectric.com/boardpolicies.

*Our offices will be closed
February 17th, 2020
for Presidents' Day.*

