

SWRE POWER SOURCE

A Supplement to Oklahoma Living



PLANNING TO UPGRADE YOUR SERVICE? CALL US FIRST.

Southwest Rural Electric is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable electricity to our members, but we need your help! In an effort to preserve all three pillars of our mission statement, we are asking you to contact us first before adding additional usage to your meter.

Overloading your meter (and consequently your transformer) can have financial consequences and present safety risks.

For example, if you plan to add a water well or other equipment to your existing irrigation service, please let us know before the install. Commercial loads should always notify us if/when they have plans to expand.

It is very important that residential members contact us if you are planning to purchase an electric vehicle or if you are running a business out of your home that would require more kilowatt-hour usage than a standard residence. Both scenarios require an upgrade in transformer size and switching to a commercial rate class may be required in some situations.

Adding load to an improperly-sized transformer can cause the transformer to explode, cause damage to the distribution system and appliances in the home/business, and put lineworkers at risk. Any equipment that is damaged because of an overloaded meter will be at the expense of the member.

Working together with your co-op keeps our communities safe, our service reliable and electricity affordable for the members on our lines!



— Your Co-op Purpose —

SAVE THE DATE: SWRE'S 89TH ANNUAL MEETING

While being a “member” and “customer” might sound like the same thing, they’re not. The difference is more than just semantics. It’s a mindset.

Being a “customer” is passive: you pay a bill, get a service and the relationship ends there. But being a member is active. It’s about participating in something bigger than yourself. Own your membership. RE:MEMBER – your cooperative belongs to you.

The best and most convenient way to get involved with your co-op is to attend Annual Meeting. Mark your calendar and make plans to participate in our drive-thru Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 6 from 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in Altus, OK and Vernon, TX!

As a member-owner, your participation matters. Electric cooperatives are guided by the voices of the members they serve. Make sure you have a valid mailing address on file with SWRE and check your mailbox for more information on the event coming soon. We hope to see you there!

BYLAW REVISION PROPOSAL

Members at the 89th Annual Meeting will have the opportunity to vote to approve a bylaw change affecting district meetings. For your consideration, the board of directors recommends amending the meeting period required for district meetings from 30 days to 45 days following the annual meeting of members. This amendment would allow co-op staff additional time for advertising and preparing proper notification for members when their district is up for re-election. The board has also included additional language in the district meeting sections of the bylaws to be consistent with annual meeting requirements and notification procedures.

The proposed changes are highlighted in red on the following pages for you to review before Annual Meeting this October. These changes, if approved by the membership, would go into effect immediately. A complete copy of the bylaws is available online at SWRE.com/Bylaws or at SWRE headquarters in Tipton, Oklahoma.

A great deal of time, effort and thoughtful consideration has been given to these revisions. For questions, please reach out to co-op staff or the board of directors. As a member-owner of the co-op, you have a voice and are invited to participate in the business of the cooperative!

The proposed changes have been highlighted in red below. A full copy of the bylaws is available at SWRE.com/Bylaws. Members present at the 2026 Annual Meeting will vote electronically to approve these revisions.

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES BY DISTRICT

I. Trustees shall be divided into three groups. Trustees representing district 1 and 7 shall be elected in a given year. Those trustees representing Districts 2, 5 and 8 shall be elected in the next succeeding year. Those trustees representing districts 3 and 6 shall be elected in the next subsequent year and thereafter in that sequence.

II. **The board of trustees shall fix a date which shall not be less than fourteen days nor more than thirty forty-five days following the annual meeting of members**, for the holding of district meetings for the purpose of electing by ballot, by and from the members for each district residing therein, a trustee to serve as trustee of the cooperative. **Failure to hold a district meeting at the designated time and place shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the cooperative.**

III. Trustees shall be elected from the respective districts as the terms of the trustees so elected expire to serve for a term of three years, and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. The board of trustees shall call the annual district meetings of members and cause notice of such district meeting to be mailed by the secretary to each member not less than **seven ten** days before the meetings, which call and notice shall specify the district to which the member belongs and set forth the time and place thereof. In like manner, thereafter, a district meeting of members shall be called by the board of trustees in each district for the year in which the term of office of its trustee expires, as set forth. Each such district meeting shall be called to order by the trustee representing such district, or in his absence, by such other person as may be designated by the president. The members shall then proceed to elect a chairman who shall be someone other than a trustee, and a secretary to act for the duration of the meeting.

IV. Notice of Candidacy. Any member of a district desiring to be a candidate for election as Trustee from that district shall file during normal office hours with the Secretary of the Cooperative written notice, on a form provided by the Secretary, of their candidacy and intention to stand for election to the office of Trustee from their district. The filing period shall be held on the last consecutive Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the Month of October. All candidates meeting the requirements of Section 4, Article IV shall be certified by the Secretary as candidates. Only persons filing written notice of their candidacy and intention to stand for election shall be eligible for election at said meeting. If no member files

such written notice of candidacy and intention to stand for election with the Secretary within the time prescribed above, then the office shall be declared vacant by the Board of Trustees at their next regular meeting, and said office shall be filled by vote of the Board at such meeting, without regard to any provisions herein regarding nominations and election of Trustees.

(Effective August 12, 2024)

V. The presence of at least fifteen percent of the members of the cooperative residing in such district at such duly called district meeting shall constitute a quorum. Proxy voting shall not be permitted at such district meetings. The member in each district receiving the highest number of votes at the election held at such district meeting shall be elected a trustee of the cooperative for a term of three years and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VII, SECTION 2

NOTICE OF DISTRICT MEETING AT WHICH A TRUSTEE WILL BE ELECTED

I. **The board of trustees shall fix a date which shall not be less than fourteen days nor more than thirty forty-five days following the annual meeting of members**, for the holding of district meetings for the purpose of electing by ballot, by and from the members for each district residing therein, a trustee to serve as trustee of the cooperative. **Failure to hold a district meeting at the designated time and place shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the cooperative.**

II. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting at which a trustee is to be elected, must be delivered not less than ten days before such district meeting. **If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to each member at his address as it appears on the records of the cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. In case of a joint membership, notice given to either husband or wife shall be deemed notice to both. The failure of any member to receive notice of a district meeting of the members shall not invalidate any actions which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.**

III. Such meetings shall also be open for discussion of any matters pertaining to the business of the Cooperative regardless of whether or not such matters were listed in the notice of the meeting, except no final action may be taken on any issue other than the election of the trustee.

IT PAYS TO BE A CO-OP MEMBER

Board of directors to retire approximately \$350,000 in capital credits to a portion of members who had active electric service with the cooperative in 1996.

Southwest Rural Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative. Each of its members have a share in the ownership, construction, maintenance and prosperity of the co-op — through capital credits.

A benefit of cooperative membership is the share in margins the cooperative earns. Unlike investor-owned utility companies that strive to generate profits for shareholders, electric cooperatives like SWRE operate on an at-cost basis. Any operating margins made by SWRE are returned to the co-op's member-owners. Capital credits represent a member's return on investment.

We encourage members who receive capital credit checks in September to deposit them within 90 days or call us if your contact information has changed. Uncashed capital credit checks will be voided after 90 days following the co-op's policy.

Learn more at [SWRE.com/Capital-Credits](https://www.swre.com/Capital-Credits).

Operation
Round Up
SWRE
Charitable Foundation

COMMUNITY GRANTS AVAILABLE

SWRE would like to invite organizations operating inside its service area to apply for grant funding through the co-op's charitable foundation, Operation Round Up. Grant distributions are made possible by the generous co-op members who voluntarily "round up" their electric bills to the nearest whole dollar each month.

Areas of Assistance: Communities, Education & Youth, Senior Citizens, Emergency Assistance, Individuals in Need

View the grant guidelines and apply online at [SWRE.com/RoundUp](https://www.swre.com/RoundUp) by October 1, 2026.

SWRE

Southwest Rural Electric

P.O. Box 310 • 700 N. Broadway

Tipton, OK 73570-0310

Headquarters: 1-800-256-7973

Chief Executive Officer

Dan Lambert

Board of Directors

Don Ellis District 1

Corwin Petzold District 2

Don Proctor, Sec. District 3

Dan Elsener, Pres. District 5

Ronnie Swan, Vice Pres..District 6

Si Schur District 7

Carl BrockriedeDistrict 8

Bill Pay Options:

24/7 Bill Pay: 1-855-940-3943

SmartHub App or SWRE.com

Outage Reports:

24/7 Hotline: 1-833-590-0353

SmartHub App

SWRE is an equal opportunity provider and employer. SWRE *Power Source* is published monthly for distribution to members of SWRE.