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SWRE POWER SOURCE

A Supplement to Oklahoma Living





OKLAHOMA'S ELECTRIC CO-OPS HELP LIGHT UP THE NAVAJO NATION

Displaying the cooperative spirit, ten lineworkers representing five electric cooperatives in Oklahoma returned from the Navajo Nation where they worked for seven days bringing first-time access to electricity to Navajo families. Lineworkers worked in the district of Shiprock, New Mexico alongside the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) electric crews to build powerlines in a high desert-like region.

“We got to turn on power for some families for the first time. The smiles on the kids’ faces and elderly ladies ... that’s not something you forget. There is nothing quite like providing electricity to someone for the very first time,” said Reid Trout, lineman volunteer with Cimarron Electric Cooperative based in Kingfisher, Oklahoma.

The Light Up Navajo project began in 2019 as an initiative of NTUA and the American Public Power Association (APPA). Since then, the program has expanded and electric cooperatives from various states have joined in this humanitarian initiative. To date, the project has brought power to 900-plus homes in Navajo Nation where more than 10,000 of the 56,000 homes do not have electricity.

“It is a privilege for Oklahoma’s electric cooperatives to send volunteers to power families in the Navajo Nation,” said Nicki Fuller, General Manager/CEO of the Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives and former APPA board member. “Every home and business in our country should have power, which brings forth quality of life. We are honored to help in this worthwhile mission.”

The following lineworkers were the first ones from Oklahoma’s electric cooperatives participating in this project:

Jayson Cross, Central Rural Electric Cooperative, Stillwater-OK
Kyle Williams, Central Rural Electric Cooperative, Stillwater-OK
Zac Smith, Cimarron Electric Cooperative, Kingfisher-OK
Jack Taylor, Cimarron Electric Cooperative, Kingfisher-OK
Reid Trout, Cimarron Electric Cooperative, Kingfisher-OK
Chase Blackburn, CKenergy Electric Cooperative, Binger-OK
Tanner Ingram, CKenergy Electric Cooperative, Binger-OK
Leith Burkhalter, Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Durant-OK
Kelby Boyd, Southwest Rural Electric Association, Tipton-OK
Stetson Ryan, Southwest Rural Electric Association, Tipton-OK

The Navajo Nation extends into the states of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico covering over 27,000 square miles. NTUA serves on average about five customers per mile, but the Light Up Navajo homes are among the hardest to reach as families are living in isolated homesteads for generations.

“We are incredibly grateful for co-op volunteers who traveling from Oklahoma and all parts of the country to be a part of this initiative that is life-changing for families and the volunteers who help to improve the standard of life,” said Deenise Becenti, NTUA government and public affairs manager. “It’s power for today, tomorrow and the day after that. It’s for generations forward.”

News release by Anna Politano, Director of Public Relations & Communications, Okla. Assn. of Electric Co-ops (OAEC)

Photos courtesy of OAEC & Kelby Boyd, Construction Foreman

DISTRICT MEETINGS

District meetings are held each year for members to discuss issues and/or elect representatives to the SWRE Board of Directors. Only members living within the district can vote during a district meeting. A district meeting is held for each district every third year. Notification of time and location of the meetings will be mailed to SWRE members in these districts as specified in the SWRE Bylaws.

District 1

Incumbent: Don Ellis

Date: November 3, 6 p.m.

Location: Roosevelt Senior Citizens Center

District 7

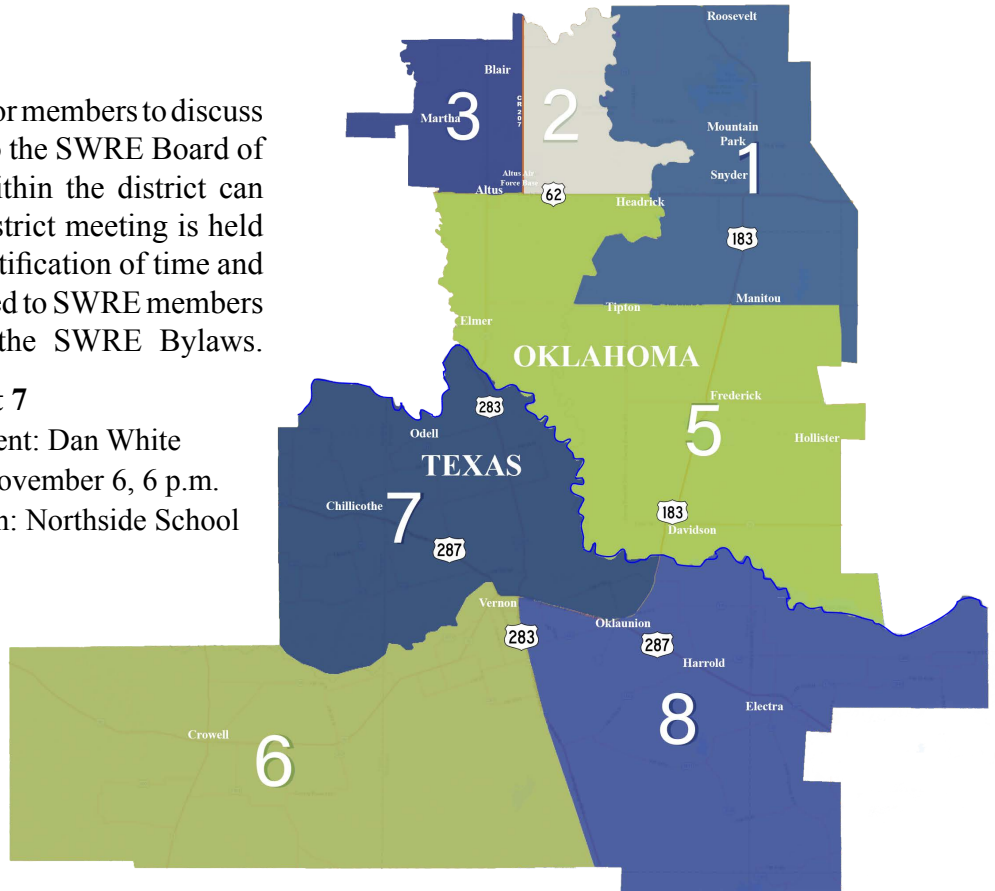
Incumbent: Dan White

Date: November 6, 6 p.m.

Location: Northside School

TRUSTEE FILING PERIOD

The district filing period for trustees is the last consecutive Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in the month of October (October 27-29). Members in these districts have the opportunity to file as a candidate for trustee during the filing period. Qualifications, filing requirements and selection procedures for SWRE directors are stipulated in the SWRE Bylaws which are available at SWRE.com/Bylaws or by request at the SWRE office.





NOTICE TO MEMBERS:

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

EFFECTIVE
NOV. 1, 2025

Effective November 1, 2025, Southwest Rural Electric will no longer accept credit card payments for accounts outside of the residential rate classes. This change is being made to help reduce costs for the cooperative and its members as a whole. Each time a member pays by credit card, the co-op pays processing fees to the credit card companies. These fees add up to thousands of dollars each year—costs that are shared by all members. By limiting credit card payments to residential accounts, SWRE can lower operating expenses and keep rates more affordable for everyone.

Rates Eligible to Pay with Credit Card:

- Single Phase Residential
- All-Electric Residential
- Single Phase Residential Minimum-Use

Rates Ineligible to Pay with Credit Card:

- Public Building
- Three Phase
- Single Phase Small Commercial
- Cotton Gin
- Irrigation
- Large Power Secondary
- Large Power Primary
- Large Power Time-of-Use

**CALL US AT 1-800-256-7973
TO UPDATE YOUR PAYMENT METHOD**

**Convenient options available:
Automatic Bank Draft, ACH, Check, Cash or Money Order**

Southwest Rural Electric

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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

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**WE'RE
PROUD TO
POWER YOU.**