



# 2016 Annual Meeting of the Membership

Saturday, October 8, 2016  
Comanche City Park

*Cultivating a Brighter Future*



TEXAS CO-OP POWER

COMANCHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

**To the member addressed:**

You are hereby given official notice that the Annual Meeting of Comanche Electric Cooperative, will be held at Comanche City Park in Comanche, Texas, on Saturday, October 8, 2016, at 10 a.m.

Three members are to be elected at this meeting as directors for three-year terms, along with other business that might come before the meeting.

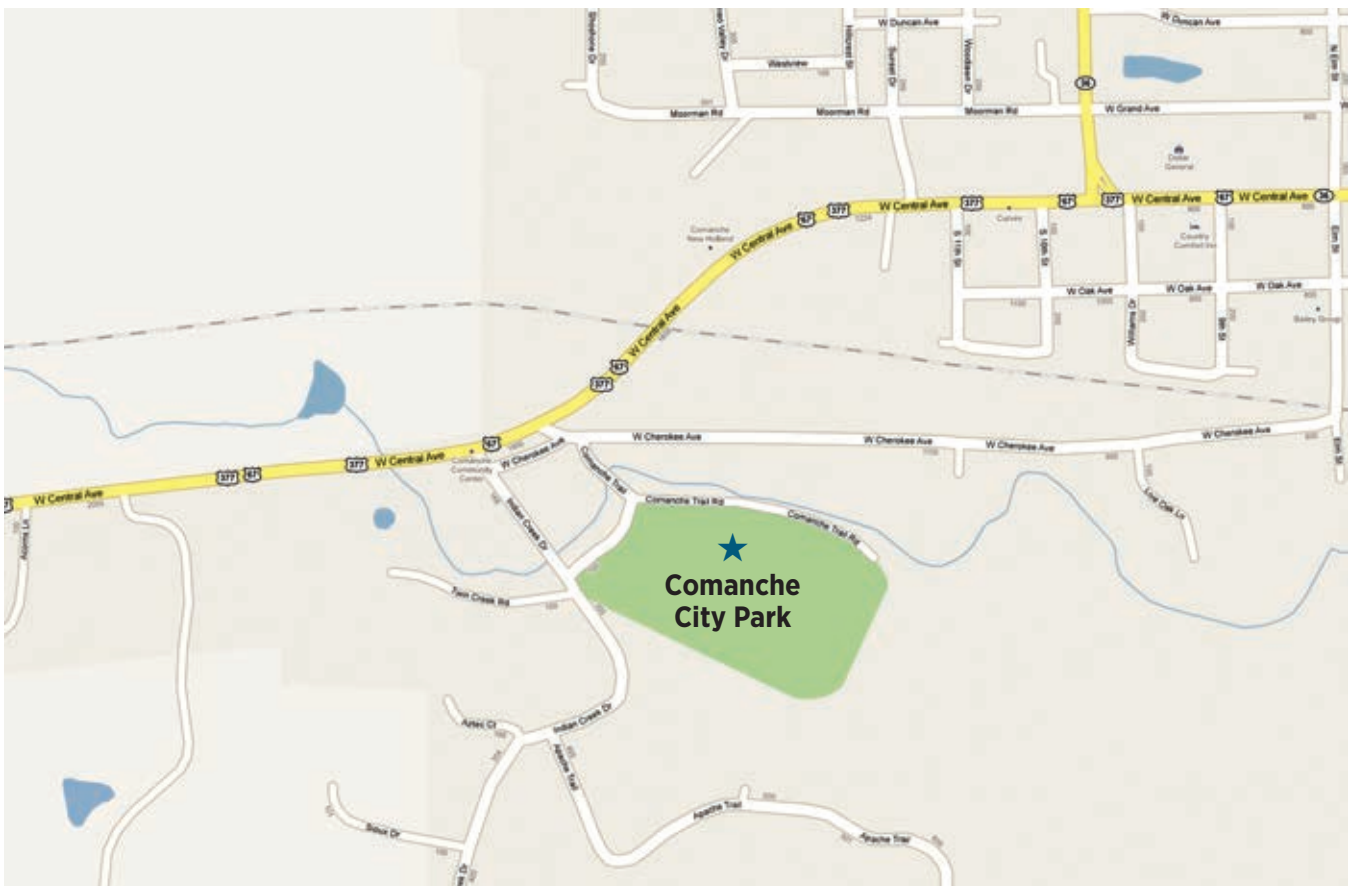
We urge you to be present for this meeting **Saturday, October 8, 2016, at 10 a.m. at Comanche City Park in Comanche.**

Registration begins at 9 a.m. and will close when the call for the vote is made.

*Ruby Solomon*

**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

## COMANCHE CITY PARK



# BYLAW EXCERPTS

## ARTICLE II – MEETINGS

**SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETINGS.** The Annual Meeting of Members shall be held at such time during each month of October as the Board of Directors may direct and such meeting shall be held at Comanche, Texas, unless otherwise specified by the membership at the Annual Meeting, in which case, the next succeeding Annual Meeting shall be held any place within the territorial service area served by the Cooperative, as may be decided by the membership, for the purpose of electing directors, passing upon reports of the previous fiscal year and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting.

If election of directors should not be held upon the day designated or determined for annual meeting, or before adjournment thereof, then the Board of Directors shall cause such election to be held at a special meeting of the members within sixty (60) days thereafter. Failure to hold an annual meeting at the designated time or any irregularity in the holding thereof shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative and shall not void matters taken up and disposed of at such meeting; however, such matters are voidable upon a reasonable showing of resultant harm to any member.

**SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS.** Special meetings of the members may be called by the President, by the Board of Directors, or by a majority thereof, by a petition signed by not less than one-tenth (1/10) of all members or such other officers or persons as may be provided in the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws, and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members may be held at any place within the territorial area served by the Cooperative, as shall be specified in the notice of the special meeting.

Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, should circumstances transpire so that an insufficient number of Board members remain to call a special meeting, then and in that event a special meeting can be called by either the attorney for the Cooperative or by the chief financial officer of the Cooperative, with the same notice provisions as those provided for any special meeting.

**SECTION 3. NOTICE OF MEMBERS' MEETING.** Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or by the persons calling the meeting, to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at his, her or its address as same appears on the records of the Cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.

**SECTION 4. QUORUM.** At least one hundred fifty (150) of the members present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

**SECTION 5. VOTING.** For the purpose of voting, each member of the Cooperative shall be entitled to one (1) vote, upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present, all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person, except as otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or these Bylaws. In case of a joint membership, either the husband or wife may vote, but only one may vote.

(a) No person or entity shall have the right to vote at any meeting unless such person or entity is then a member and is paying at least a minimum bill.

(b) Every person entitled to vote or execute consents may do so either in person or by mail if authorized by Board of Directors.

(c) Ballots may be received from members voting in person or by mail if authorized by the Board of Directors.

(d) At the annual meeting of the membership, the President, with the approval of the membership, shall appoint three (3) persons to serve as election judges, who shall be competent and trustworthy members of this Cooperative, but not an officer or director thereof, who shall be charged with the duty of conducting the election of directors and certifying the results thereof, and who shall be responsible for the conduct of the election and the preservation of the ballots.

The election judges so appointed shall have the authority to appoint such persons as they may deem necessary for the purpose of counting the ballots.

All ballots shall be placed and stored in a substantial metal box, securely locked, and shall remain in the custody of said election judges until said ballot box shall be ordered to be emptied by the Board of Directors. Should no contest of the election and no question as to its validity be raised within sixty (60) days from the date of the election, then the election judges shall turn said ballot box over to the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors shall cause said ballot box to be emptied and its contents destroyed.

**SECTION 6. NO PROXIES.** Members shall vote only in person or by mail-in ballot if authorized by the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting. No proxy voting shall be allowed.

# PROGRAM

**OCTOBER 8, 2016**

*Comanche City Park, Comanche*

**9-10 A.M.**

### Registration and Health Fair

*Health Fair closes PROMPTLY at 10 a.m.*

*Ashley Griffin with Ashley's Twist and Paint does balloon art and face painting for our youngest members!*

### Refreshments

### Entertainment

*The Class of '57*

### Presentation of Colors

*Boy Scouts of America*

### National Anthem

*Carissa Cole*

**10 A.M.**

### Call to Order

### Invocation

### Introduction of Directors and Special Guests

### Report of Officers

### Report on Quorum

### Reading of Notice, Proof of Publication

### Reading of Last Year's Minutes

### Election of Directors

### Manager's Report

### Election Judges' Report

### Unfinished Business

### New Business

### Drawing for Door Prizes

### Adjourn

**11 A.M.**

### Catfish and Chicken Lunch

*Provided by J.C. Cook, Cook's Fish Barn*

*Handicap provisions made available upon request.*



**TEAR OFF THIS CARD, AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO YOUR ANNUAL MEETING.**  
THIS IS YOUR **REGISTRATION CARD** AND **TICKET FOR DOOR PRIZES.**

*(Cannot be duplicated)*

COMANCHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
**NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS**

**District meetings for nominating candidates for directors were held as follows:**

The meeting for District 3 was held August 15 at Perkins Middle School in De Leon. A quorum was present, and members nominated Ruby Solomon.

The meeting for District 5 was held August 18 in the cafeteria of May ISD. A quorum was present, and members nominated Troy Stewart.

The meeting for District 6 was held August 22 at the Scranton Community Center. A quorum was present, and members nominated Loren Stroebel.

**Nominations may be made from the floor  
at the annual membership meeting October 8.**

**ABOUT YOUR NOMINEES**

**DISTRICT 3**



**RUBY SOLOMON**

*Comanche County  
(Highway 36  
northwest from  
Comanche thence  
east to Highway 16)*

Ruby Solomon has served on Comanche Electric Cooperative's board of directors since August 2004, representing District 3. She also serves as secretary-treasurer of the board. Solomon is a lifelong resident of the De Leon area, where she and husband Jerry have been members of the co-op for more than 50 years. They spend much of their time enjoying quality time with their grandchildren and family.

**DISTRICT 5**



**TROY STEWART**

*Brown County  
north of Highway  
67 and east or  
north of Pecan  
Bayou*

Troy Stewart resides 5 miles south of May and has been a member of the May community his entire life. Along with farming and ranching, he raises horses and does auctioneering. Stewart was married to the late Joan Stewart and is the father of one son, Will, who also lives in May. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of May and has been a member of Comanche Electric Cooperative for 25 years.

**DISTRICT 6**



**LOREN STROEBEL**

*Eastland and  
Callahan counties  
less that portion  
of Eastland County  
east or north of  
Highway 6*

Loren Stroebel has served on Comanche Electric Cooperative's board of directors since 1993, representing District 6. Stroebel and wife Nora live and work on their ranch south of Cisco. Stroebel also does some construction work. The Stroebels are active in their church.

# On the Line With Co-op Linemen



## MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER ALAN LESLEY

**IMAGINE SEEING** a classified ad for a job that reads like this: “Lineworker Wanted: Long and unpredictable hours, hazardous working conditions. Requires some weekend and holiday work. Must be able to learn com-

plex technical operations, work under extreme pressure and deal with people under difficult conditions—all with a smile.”

You’d think a job description like this would scare people off, wouldn’t you? But not all people. These demanding jobs attract dedicated people. Highly skilled people. People who know that they’ll be out in the middle of the night, working long hours in driving storms, all to make our lives better. These intrepid people are Comanche Electric Cooperative linemen.

To be ready to respond no matter the situation or weather conditions, electric cooperative lineworkers in Texas take advantage of dozens of training opportunities and safety courses offered annually by our statewide association, Texas Electric Cooperatives. Our lineworkers go through regular training to ensure that they can work safely and proficiently with specialized equipment. The equipment gets tested regularly, too.

Lineworkers also focus on safety; the lives of co-workers are on the line. For linemen, there can be no slip-ups or careless actions on the job. Mistakes can cost a limb or a life. That’s one of the reasons linemen form a brotherhood. When you put your life in the hands of co-workers every day, they become more than colleagues. They’re family.

That sense of family extends throughout the co-op’s service area. Like the rest of the co-op’s employees, linemen are generally fellow members of your co-op; they’re neighbors and friends, and they look out for their community. Your comfort and safety are big reasons that our linemen take such pride in a tough job.

Comanche EC lineworkers are the heart of Co-op Country. If you agree, give our hometown heroes a big thumbs-up when you see them at work—or shake their hands and thank them when you see them in the grocery store or at the annual meeting October 8.

They expect no special recognition. It’s reward enough for them to know your family is safe and warm, regardless of the weather. Nevertheless, we’d like to thank our lineworkers for their hard work and dedication.



*Cultivating a Brighter  
Future Through  
Equal Voting Rights*



Attend the 78th Annual Meeting of the Membership on Saturday, October 8th.

Cast your vote and have your voice heard. One member, one vote! See following pages for details.

FUN, FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE

# 2016 Annual Meeting of the Membership

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 AT COMANCHE CITY PARK  
REGISTRATION: 9-10 A.M.**

## Entertainment

For the adults, Class of '57 will once again be bringing us an assorted medley of 1950s rock 'n' roll, plus a little bit of country. For the younger set, Ashley's Twist and Paint will provide face painting and balloon art.

## Free Cholesterol Testing at Health Fair

For the 10th year, CECA will again be offering the annual Members Health Fair. Comanche County Medical Clinic will offer free cholesterol testing. Included in the test will be cholesterol, triglycerides, HDL, LDL and cardiac ratio risk. Health professionals also will administer flu shots for a small fee. A number of other health-related vendors also will be in attendance.

## Snack

CECA employees will be on hand to offer popcorn and drinks.

## Listen

The business meeting starts at 10 a.m. with reports from CECA's general manager and directors.

## Ask

You will have the opportunity before, during and after the meeting to speak to CECA's staff and board, get energy-related tips from our member services team and ask any questions you might have.

## Vote

The following members have been nominated as director candidates:

**District 3:** Ruby Solomon

**District 5:** Troy Stewart

**District 6:** Loren Stroebel

Directors are nominated from the district in which they reside, but they serve members in all districts. This means that you don't have to live in their district to vote.

## Win

Drawings will be held for a multitude of exciting gifts, including energy credits and a big-screen TV.

## Eat

Cook's Fish Barn will once again tempt our taste buds with delicious fried fish and all the trimmings.



P.O. Box 729, Comanche, TX 76442

Operating in Brown, Callahan, Comanche, Eastland, Mills, Shackelford and Stephens counties

## HEADQUARTERS

201 W. Wrights Ave.  
Comanche, TX 76442

## EARLY OFFICE

1801 CR 338  
Early, TX 76801

## EASTLAND OFFICE

1311 W. Main St.  
Eastland, TX 76448

## OFFICE HOURS

**Comanche Office:** Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Early Office:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., closed 1-2 p.m.

**Eastland Office:** Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

## General Manager

Alan Lesley

## Board of Directors

Randy Denning, District 1  
Pete McDougal, District 2  
Ruby Solomon, District 3  
Monty Carlisle, District 4  
Troy Stewart, District 5  
Loren Stroebel, District 6  
Phil Taylor, District 7

## Report an Outage

CECA crews are available 24/7 in the event of a power quality issue by calling 1-800-915-2533.

## Contact Us

### CALL US

1-800-915-2533 toll-free

### FIND US ON THE WEB

[www.cecacoop.com](http://www.cecacoop.com)



[facebook.com/CECA.coop](https://facebook.com/CECA.coop)



## BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2014 and 2015

### ASSETS: WHAT WE OWN

	2014	2015
Electric Lines, Equipment, Property and Buildings	\$ 78,452,159	\$ 77,299,621
Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation	<u>(19,678,772)</u>	<u>(16,846,719)</u>
Net Utility Plant	58,773,387	60,452,902
Nonutility Plant	0	0
Cash	159,175	278,219
Investments in Associated Organizations	13,177,224	13,415,045
Other Investments	115,952	717,950
Accounts Receivable	529,761	311,505
Construction Materials and Supplies on Hand	487,614	505,839
Miscellaneous Prepayments and Other Debits	<u>1,831,004</u>	<u>1,426,393</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 75,074,117</b>	<b>\$ 77,107,853</b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH: WHAT WE OWE

Long-Term Obligations	\$ 87,908,792	\$ 89,878,792
Less-Payments When Due	<u>(49,753,292)</u>	<u>(50,310,648)</u>
Balance Due and Principal	38,155,500	39,568,144
Accounts Payable for Power, Materials, Supplies, Etc.	1,929,917	2,178,165
Deferred Credits	<u>2,957,999</u>	<u>2,762,405</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$43,043,416</b>	<b>\$44,508,714</b>
Membership Fees	167,180	168,395
Patronage Capital and Other Equities	<u>31,863,521</u>	<u>32,430,744</u>
<b>TOTAL NET WORTH</b>	<b><u>32,030,701</u></b>	<b><u>32,599,139</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH</b>	<b>\$75,074,117</b>	<b>\$77,107,853</b>

## COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

### Income and Expenses

INCOME: WHERE IT CAME FROM	2014	%	2015	%
Electricity Sales	\$26,749,873	92.2	\$24,044,772	93.5
Service Charges and Other Revenues	627,731	2.2	640,187	2.5
Nonoperating and Interest	<u>1,615,690</u>	<u>5.6</u>	<u>1,034,733</u>	<u>4.0</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$28,993,294</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$25,719,692</b>	<b>100</b>

### EXPENSES: WHERE IT WENT

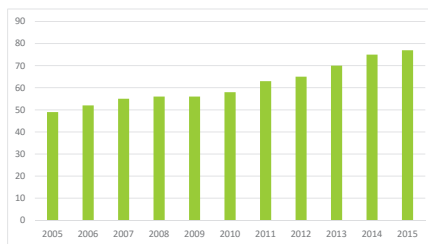
Purchased Power	\$17,184,249	59.1	\$14,531,169	56.5
Operating and Maintaining	5,207,074	18.0	5,703,945	22.2
Depreciation Expense	2,538,238	8.8	2,258,920	8.8
Interest on Long-Term Debt	<u>1,753,956</u>	6.1	<u>1,859,716</u>	7.2
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$26,683,517</b>		<b>\$24,353,750</b>	
MEMBERS CAPITAL CREDITS (Margins)	<u>2,309,777</u>	<u>8.0</u>	<u>1,365,942</u>	<u>5.3</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES AND CAPITAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$28,993,294</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$25,719,692</b>	<b>100</b>

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	2014	2015
KWh Purchased	259,815,783	264,071,901
Cost of Power Purchased	\$17,184,249	\$14,531,169
KWh Sold	243,262,222	244,028,142
KWh Billing	\$26,749,873	\$24,044,772
Average Bill	\$135.09	\$120.55
Miles Energized	4,860	4,909
Connected Meters	16,501	16,621
Average KWh Used	1,229	1,223
New Services Connected	311	220
Miles of New Construction	45.05	8.24
Man-hours Worked	112,463	111,558
Employees	47	48
Miles Driven by Cooperative Vehicles	536,847	530,397
Hours Lost Due to Accidents	8.00	-
Number Lost-time Accidents	1.00	-
Hours Worked Since Last Lost-time Accident	42,187	153,745

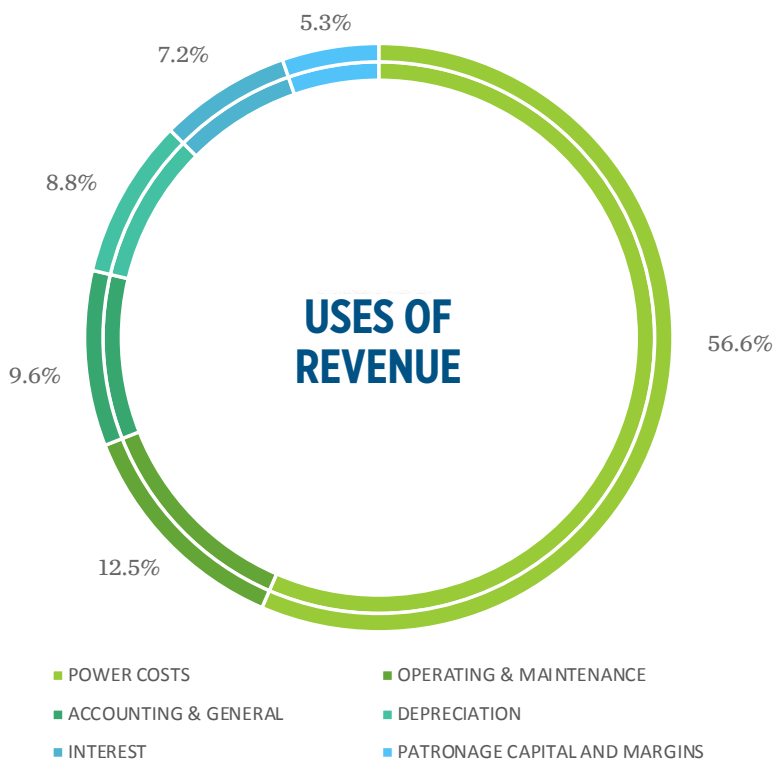
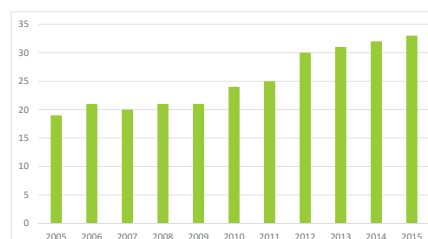
## ASSETS

In Millions of Dollars—Last 10 Years



## EQUITY

In Millions of Dollars—Last 10 Years

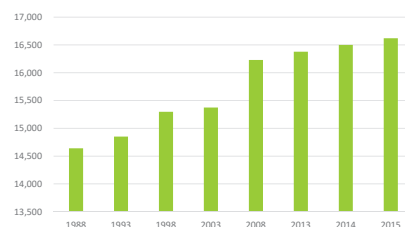


## KWH SALES

In Millions—Last 10 Years



## CONNECTED METERS



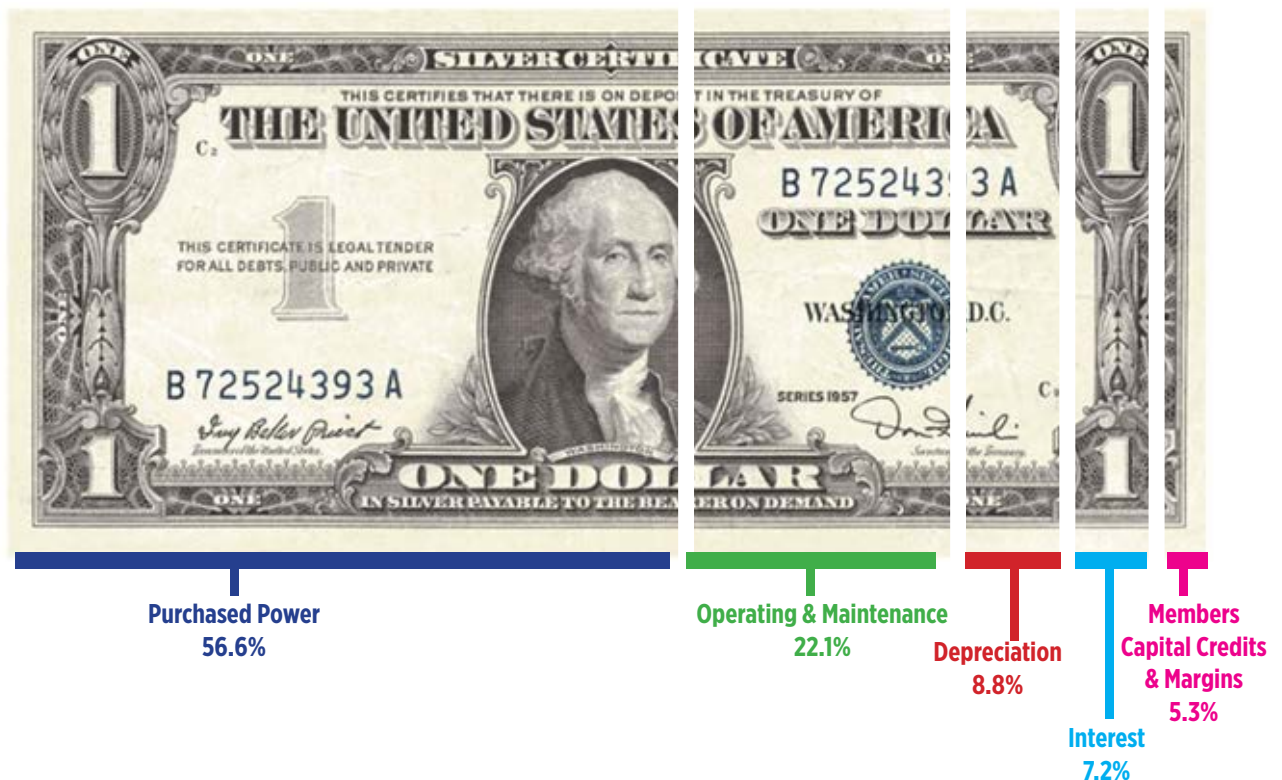
BACKGROUND: AMPPOOL | SHUTTERSTOCK.COM



## WHERE YOUR REVENUE CAME FROM IN 2015



## WHERE YOUR REVENUE WENT IN 2015



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**RANDY DENNING**  
District 1



**PETE MCDUGAL**  
District 2



**RUBY SOLOMON**  
District 3



**MONTY CARLISLE**  
District 4



**TROY STEWART**  
District 5



**LOREN STROEBEL**  
District 6



**PHIL TAYLOR**  
District 7



**ALAN LESLEY**  
General Manager

## EMPLOYEES

Over the years, Comanche Electric Cooperative has attracted and kept employees who are loyal and dedicated to the work of bringing dependable electric service to the members. We have some employees with many years of experience and expertise, some who have fewer years of experience and are training for additional responsibilities, and some who are just beginning. Employees listed represent 694 years of experience.

Name	Position	Years of Service
Greg Beaty	1st Class Lineman	14
George Campbell	1st Class Lineman	29
Brenda Carroll	Payroll/Work Order Specialist	19
David Cisneroz	PC Specialist	6
Guy Clawson Jr.	Staking Technician	9
Brandon Cook	1st Class Lineman	11
Monty Cunningham	Mechanic	4
Kellie Deters	Director of Inside Operations	26
Shirley Dukes	Communications/Public Information	26
Doug Erwin	Director of Member Services	30
Rachel Ford	Human Resource Specialist/Benefit Admin.	9
Chad Foreman	Director of IT	10
Jennifer Hanson	Dispatch/System Operator	17
Ryan Harris	Apprentice Lineman	2
Larry Hatley	Safety Coordinator	29
Billy Henry	Meter Coordinator/AMR Supervisor	39
Mirna Hernandez	Customer Service Representative	1
Tommy Hesbrook	2nd Class Lineman	6
Riley Hilliard	Member Service Representative	1
Nancy Isham	Executive Secretary	33
Mary Johnson	Purchasing	18
Kendall Keith	1st Class Lineman	20
Brandon Kidwell	Dispatch	2
Shane Kinnamon	Dispatch	2

Name	Position	Years of Service
Alan Lesley	General Manager	18
Jim Lester	Engineering/Mapping/Dispatch	20
Oracio Lopez	Service Lineman	14
Dahlia Martinez	Customer Service Representative	7 months
Mariza Martinez	Customer Service Representative	1
Pam McClain	Dispatch	16
Larry Morgan	District Foreman	33
Chad Newman	Grounds Maintenance	15
Dale Ogle	Warehouse	11
Timothy Pallette	1st Class Lineman	18
Tommy Patterson	Meter Technician	14
Bobby Reed	1st Class Lineman	33
Justin Riley	Working Crew Foreman	9
Scott Rutledge	2nd Class Lineman	9
Jake Schwartz	3rd Class Lineman	3
Thomas Stevens	3rd Class Lineman	4
Keith Steward	Lineman/Power Quality	13
Eddie Strube	Director of Outside Operations	34
Adam Tally	Service Lineman	9
Shelley Thedford	Billing Supervisor/Collection Officer	17
Josh Walls	Apprentice Lineman	1
Elizabeth Weathermon	Assistant Accountant	4
William Works	Working Crew Foreman	35

# Bills and Gordon Attend D.C. Trip

**REAGAN BILLS AND SIERRA GORDON** were chosen as the 2016 delegates to represent CECA on the Government-in-Action Youth Tour trip to Washington, D.C.

Bills and Gordon traveled to Austin on June 8, where they met 125 other students from all over Texas. The next day, the group headed to downtown Austin for a packed schedule, including tours of the Texas State Capitol, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and the Texas State Cemetery.

On Friday morning, the group awoke before dawn and traveled to the airport to begin their journey to Washington, D.C.

After arriving at our nation's capital, students learned about electric cooperatives, American history and U.S. government. They participated in National Youth Day, visited with their elected officials in the House and Senate, and explored the sights in Washington, D.C. A few of the many places the students toured were the Washington National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, the Lincoln and Vietnam War Veterans memorials, Mount Vernon, Union Station and several of the Smithsonian Institution's museums. They also had time to shop, dance and go on a boat cruise.

Adam Tally, a lineman for CECA, accompanied the students



**Reagan Bills, left, and Sierra Gordon saw the U.S. Capitol on the 2016 Government-in-Action Youth Tour.**

as one of the chaperones on their 10-day adventure.

Any sophomore, junior or senior attending one of the 25 high schools within CECA's service territory is eligible to win this trip of a lifetime. Watch for details in an upcoming issue of *Texas Co-op Power*, visit [ceca.coop](http://ceca.coop) and [TexasYouthTour.com](http://TexasYouthTour.com), "Like" CECA at [facebook.com/ceca](https://www.facebook.com/ceca), or call the CECA member services department at 1-800-915-2533 for more information on this amazing trip, as well as other opportunities for students.



# Honoring our Volunteer Fire Departments



**THIS YEAR, 24 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS** in our seven-county service territory received donations from CECA totaling \$6,000. Each year, CECA offers all area VFDs an opportunity to claim an annual donation.

“The volunteer fire departments and the firefighters that make them up are extremely valuable assets to us,” said Alan Lesley, CECA general manager. “The quick response of their hardworking teams continue to save costs in protecting lines and poles, not to mention the invaluable work they do for our members. I consider it an honor to partner with them.”

We at the electric cooperative realize that here in our little part of rural Texas, a large percentage of our fire departments are volunteer-based, depending on local governments and citizens for their support.

At times, firefighters’ jobs are challenging and risky. Few could forget late 2005 and early 2006 when devastating wildfires consumed a large portion of the CECA service territory. A total of 669 wildfires raged across Texas between December 2005 and April 2006, according to the Texas Forest Service.

This particular fire season totaled 515 days in length, and resulted in the loss of 734 homes and 1,320 other structures. As if that were not enough, the fires took the lives of 17 civilians and two firefighters.

In the CECA service territory, the towns of Cross Plains and Carbon were the hardest hit. In Cross Plains, the raging wildfires killed two residents, destroyed 110 homes, many businesses, the First Methodist Church and 6,835 acres of land. The community of Carbon lost 41 homes. The loss of farm and ranch land was substantial, with a total of 35,300 acres consumed by the blaze. Though not of this magnitude, additional fires popped up all across our service territory, taxing our fire departments and firefighters.

In the 10 years since that overwhelming fire season, our service territory has witnessed countless individual fires and some additional fire seasons that were, for the most part, slightly less damaging. Through it all, we have relied on our area volunteer firefighters, and they have fought valiantly to keep everyone in our surrounding areas safe.

