

Meet New Trustee, Russell Bell

Russell Bell was appointed to the Otero County Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees at the November 2017 board meeting. Bell is a longtime resident of Mescalero and will serve as trustee for the Southwest District through August 2020.



YOU HAVE OPTIONS TO PAY YOUR OCEC ELECTRIC BILL

- ▶ Mail your payment with the envelope enclosed in your bill.
- ▶ Pay at your local office with cash, card or check.
- ▶ Payment drop boxes conveniently located at each office.
- ▶ Online access to your account at www.ocec-inc.com.
- ▶ Bill payment kiosks are located in Mescalero, Capitan, Tularosa, and Cloudcroft. See website for exact locations. You can pay with cash, card or check at the kiosks. You need your account number.
- ▶ By phone through an interactive voice response system by calling 844-846-2695.
- ▶ Through an app on your mobile phone. Search SmartHub in your app store or visit www.smarthubapp.com to download.

Start the New Year with Some Co-op History

The history of Otero County Electric Cooperative began in October 1939 in the Texas Hotel (which is now the antique shop). Ray Daniels, MD Brantley, LA Hendrix, CM Bell, Ora Swope, JM Walker, John Mershon, Angie Cleve, and JB Runyan came together to form the first board of trustees. Together, they instated the first bylaws and issued the first membership certificates at \$5. Line construction started shortly thereafter.

Using a Space Heater to Keep Warm?



Space heaters are a great way to warm specific rooms in your home without having to crank up the thermostat, but using space heaters doesn't come without risk! Use the tips below to keep your home safe.

- Plug your space heater directly into the wall outlet, never an extension cord.
- Buy a unit with an automatic shutoff in case the unit tips over.
- Don't place your heater near curtains, clothing, furniture or bedding.
- Don't put your space heater in your bathroom. The moisture can damage the unit, which could cause it to malfunction.

Benefits of the Co-op Connections Card

As a member of Otero County Electric Co-op, a Touchstone Energy cooperative, you get discounts on products and services from participating businesses. The Co-op Connections Card is absolutely free.



Here's what you get:

- ✓ Great discounts from businesses in your community, including dining, shopping, automotive and much more.
- ✓ Big savings when you shop online.
- ✓ Printable coupons for groceries.
- ✓ Discounts on prescriptions, eyeglasses, contact lenses, dental care, imaging scans, and hearing aids.

Here's what you do:

- ✓ Visit www.ocec-inc.com, select Programs Tab, then Co-op Connections to print your customized Co-op Connections card.
- ✓ Show your card at participating locations and start saving!

If you have questions, call our office at 800-548-4660.



Happy New Year from Otero County Electric Cooperative

Our offices will be closed Monday, January 1, to allow employees to ring in the new year with their families. To report an outage, call 800-548-4660

Board of Trustees



Charles Mulcock
President • SE District



Matt Flotte
Vice President • Cent. District



Denny Burnett
Secretary • SE District



Scott Shafer
Treasurer • NW District



Russell Bell
Trustee • SW District



Bill Bird
Trustee • NE District



Fred Hansen
Trustee • NE District



Marty Mills
Trustee • Central District



Tim Rabon
Trustee • SW District



Preston Stone
Trustee • NW District

Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the cooperative.



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General Manager • Mario Romero

Website Address
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Office Hours
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (M-F)