

JUNE 2026

country living

FOR MEMBERS OF EAST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MY CO-OP IS



the Annual Meeting You Don't Want to Miss!

WHEN

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24th

Drive-Thru: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In-Person: 5 - 7 p.m.

Business Meeting: 7 p.m.

WHERE

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

1801 E. 4th St., Okmulgee

notes from the chair

Price Does Matter



By Lowell Hobbs, President, East Central Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees

Lowell Hobbs, District 2
President

Larry Harvey, District 1
Vice President

Dwight Luther, District 7
Secretary / Treasurer

Jim Hall, District 6
Assistant Sec. / Treasurer

Max Shoemake, District 3

Michael Vernnon, District 4

Jay Emerson, District 5

To learn more about your elected trustees, or to view a district map, please visit ecoec.com.

To contact your trustee, please call 918-756-0833.

East Central Electric Co-op could be compared to our turnpike system in Oklahoma. Turner Turnpike was the first in Oklahoma and connected Tulsa to Oklahoma City with fast, convenient and safer travel, costing only a few coins tossed in the basket of the toll booth. Soon additional toll roads were built to other parts of the state for faster uninterrupted travel, but with additional cost. You can still get to Tulsa and Oklahoma City without paying the toll, but it takes longer on a two-lane road. Over the last 80 plus years our electric service has improved our lives immensely, but at a cost.

We could still burn wood for heat, do without air conditioning, use kerosene lamps and travel by wagon at less cost than the way we live now. I know you think I am stupid to write that but as our way of life has improved so has the cost. I lived during those times of no phone, no electricity, and no running

water in the house and I don't want to relive those years. I am willing to pay more for the many amenities we enjoy today than to do without them.

On another note – take notice our ECE meetings for districts 1,3, and 6 have been completed. At this writing, I don't know who will be the candidates in district 1 and 3. I do know Jim Hall, incumbent, plans to file for his District 6. Larry and Max are retiring, so for sure we will have 2 new board members to be elected at annual meeting on June 24. Please come and be a part of it by voting for the candidate of your choice – Remember with candidates in the 3 districts you can vote for 1 candidate in each of the three 3 districts.

In the last few years, we have had 2 new neighbors move-in – Both named John. This story is about a different John than the last story. Second John had enough land that he wanted to buy

some cattle and join our friend group of cowboys and cowgirls. He did not have a cowboy hat but wanted one so he would come nearer to "fitting in". Our whole group journeyed to Ft. Worth to the ranch rodeo and a visit to Cowtown at the older Ft. Worth Stockyards. John asked if I would help him select a hat and added that price was not a limiting factor. He wanted a quality hat, that price didn't matter. We were all in Ryan's Western Store when I saw John coming toward me carrying a really nice-looking hat. I could tell by looking that he had selected a high-quality hat and I told him so. He handed me the hat and as I looked inside at the price of \$5,000 and revealed that to him, he almost fainted then exclaimed quite loud – Price does matter!

Lowell Hobbs represents ECE District 2. To reach him, please call his cellphone at 918-695-5289.

ONE MEMBER, ONE VOTE

On the Ballot: Candidates for Board District 1, 3 & 6

Candidate filing is complete. The list of candidates for each district will be included in the official notice mailed to each members' home. Candidate bios and introductory videos are available online at ecoec.com/2026-annual-meeting.

REGISTRATION GIFTS & PRIZES

\$20 BILL CREDIT

Every co-op member who registers at Annual Meeting, whether through the drive-thru or by attending our in-person event, will receive \$20 off their next electric bill.

GIFT BAGS

Every co-op member who attends Annual Meeting will receive a gift bag containing your 2025 Annual Report, information about co-op goods and services, and an ecoLINK cap. Be sure to grab your goodies.

ALL REGISTREE DRAWING FOR:

Grand Prize - \$1,000

Two Winners - \$500

Three Winners - One free year of 1GB ecoLINK Service

Four Winners - Three free months of 1GB ecoLINK Service

Ten Winners - One free month of 1GB ecoLINK Service

60 Winners - \$100



GAMES & BALLOONS

Our in-person event will have games, virtual reality experiences, and balloon animals that are sure to delight all ages.

COOL CAR CONTEST

Drive your cool vehicle through our drive-thru Annual Meeting. A co-op employee will take a picture of your car and at the end of the day all of the coolest rides will be compiled into a Facebook post. Anyone can go on Facebook to vote for the favorite. The car with the most likes by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 1, will win \$50 off their next electric bill.

STAY-TO-WIN

We will have a special prize drawing of two \$100 bill credits, exclusively for those co-op members who attend our in-person business meeting at 7 p.m.

RECIPE CONTEST

Your favorite recipe could win \$25 off your electric bill. Bring it to Annual Meeting with your name and account number to enter.

PARTICIPATE HOW YOU CHOOSE

DRIVE-THRU ANNUAL MEETING



Annual Meeting in 15 minutes or less.

Drive up, collect your goodies, register, vote, and be on your way. Do it on your schedule, any time between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

South Entrance to OSUIT Campus,
by Pistol Pete.

IN-PERSON ANNUAL MEETING



Our activities inside Covelle Hall offer co-op members the opportunity to converse with board members and employees, experience virtual reality and fun kids games, and have the chance to win additional prizes.

Registration & Voting: 5 - 7 p.m.
Scholarship Presentation: 6:30 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7 p.m.



Enter OSUIT campus here off of 4th street!

Facility Rules: Service Animals Only, please leave pets at home.