



An Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer

101 Main, P.O. Box 230, Scott City, KS 67871
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WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWS

WHEATLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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John Sullivan

Trustee

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Trustee

DISTRICT OFFICES

Garden City — 620-275-0261

2005 W. Fulton, P.O. Box 973
Garden City, KS 67846

Great Bend — 620-793-4223

200 10th St., P.O. Box 1446
Great Bend, KS 67530

Harper — 620-896-7090

906 Central, P.O. Box 247
Harper, KS 67058

Leoti — 620-375-2632

101 W. F St., P.O. Box 966
Leoti, KS 67861

Scott City-Main — 620-872-5885

101 S. Main St., P.O. Box 230
Scott City, KS 67871

Syracuse — 620-384-5171

206 N. Main, P.O. Box 1010
Syracuse, KS 67878

Tribune — 620-376-4231

310 Broadway, P.O. Box 490
Tribune, KS 67879

FROM THE MANAGER

This is Wheatland:

A defining year, a trusted cooperative

At Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WEC) our mission is clear: **DELIVERING ENERGY FOR LIFE**. That mission guides every decision we make and is grounded in the **SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES**, which have long served as the foundation of who we are and how we serve. These principles are not just active commitments that shape our daily work and long-term vision.

As we look ahead to our **2026 ANNUAL MEETING**, we are embracing the theme “**THIS IS WHEATLAND. A DEFINING YEAR, A TRUSTED COOPERATIVE.**” A defining year built on reliability, trust, service, community, and democracy — essential pieces that together form the cooperative you rely on every day.

At the heart of Democratic Member Control is your voice. Participation in cooperative governance is a cornerstone of long-term success, and one of the most important ways members shape WEC's future is through the election of our Board of Trustees. Trustees are entrusted with overseeing the cooperative's financial health, setting strategic direction, and ensuring decisions reflect the values and needs of our membership.

To strengthen member participation, WEC introduced **MAIL-IN BALLOT VOTING IN 2024** — a reflection of our

commitment to accessibility and progress. No matter where members live across our service territory, they have a convenient and meaningful way to take part in cooperative democracy. Voting is an investment in WEC's future and a safeguard for accountability.

Our **2026 ANNUAL MEETING** will be held on **APRIL 22 IN GREAT BEND AT THE GREAT BEND EVENTS CENTER**, located at 3111 10th Street, along with **SEVEN ADDITIONAL REMOTE MEETING LOCATIONS**: Scott City, Leoti, Tribune, Syracuse, Garden City, Harper and Caldwell (see Page 12H for details).

I encourage you to attend and be part of this defining year. **JOIN US TO LEARN, VOICE, CONNECT AND WIN.** Every member is a vital piece of our cooperative puzzle, and when those pieces come together, they define who we are — a trusted cooperative, built by members, for members. Through strong governance and active participation, we continue fulfilling our mission of **DELIVERING ENERGY FOR LIFE.**

UNTIL NEXT TIME, TAKE CARE.



Bruce W. Mueller

7 CO-OP PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Voluntary and Open Membership
- ▶ Democratic Member Control
- ▶ Members' Economic Participation
- ▶ Autonomy and Independence
- ▶ Education, Training and Information
- ▶ Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- ▶ Concern For Community

W *This is* Wheatland

A DEFINING YEAR, A TRUSTED COOPERATIVE

Join us
April 22 as we reflect on the year behind us
and look forward to the cooperative
we continue to build together!

2025 was shaped by countless moments, important decisions, and the people who came together to define who we are as a cooperative.

RELIABILITY. TRUST. SERVICE. COMMUNITY AND DEMOCRACY aren't just ideas; they're pieces of a larger puzzle that come together to form Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WEC).

Your participation helps complete that bigger picture. When members like you engage, ask questions, and share your perspectives, it strengthens our cooperative and ensures we remain accountable to the communities we serve.

That's why we're looking forward to having you join us at this year's **2026 ANNUAL MEETING** as we reflect on a defining year and celebrate the cooperative that you own.

Whether you're a longtime member or new to the co-op community, your involvement matters.

LEARN A DEFINING YEAR EXPLAINED

As a member-owner, staying informed is one of the most important ways you help guide WEC's future. The annual meeting, located this year in Great Bend and seven additional remote locations, is your opportunity to **LEARN** how the pieces of our cooperative **FIT TOGETHER** — from system reliability and financial health to long-term planning and community investments.

We'll share updates on operational performance and reliability efforts, financial stewardship and strategic initiatives, and programs and services designed to serve our members — today and tomorrow.

Understanding these elements helps ensure WEC remains strong, responsive and prepared for what's ahead.



VOICE THIS IS DEMOCRACY

WEC is guided by its members — and your **VOICE** matters.

At the annual meeting, the results of our trustee election will be announced and bylaw changes (if recommended by WEC's Board of Trustees) will be considered by the membership for voting, too.

Members like you can participate in the democratic process by **VOTING** for trustee candidates via mail-in ballot, which will be mailed to member households in March. These voting decisions help shape how your cooperative is governed and ensures leadership remains accountable to our membership, too.

WEC's Board of Trustees is made up of members just like you — neighbors who live and work in the communities we serve. Your participation helps ensure WEC continues to reflect the values, priorities and needs of its members.

CONNECT THIS IS COMMUNITY

WEC is more than a power provider — it's a cooperative built on relationships.

The annual meeting is a chance to connect with fellow members, employees, trustees and community partners who all play a role in making WEC what it is. Whether you attend in Great Bend or at a remote meeting location (Scott City, Leoti, Tribune, Syracuse, Garden City, Harper or Caldwell), these **CONNECTIONS** help strengthen the cooperative and the communities we serve.

Each conversation, shared experience and relationship is another piece of the larger **PUZZLE** — reinforcing the cooperative spirit we've built together.

WIN CELEBRATING YOUR COOPERATIVE

One of the best parts of the annual meeting is the celebration of another successful year.

Members who attend will enjoy lunch, have the chance to **WIN** great door prizes, and receive a

special **GIFT** to take home — an electronic warming tray — as our thank you. Each member

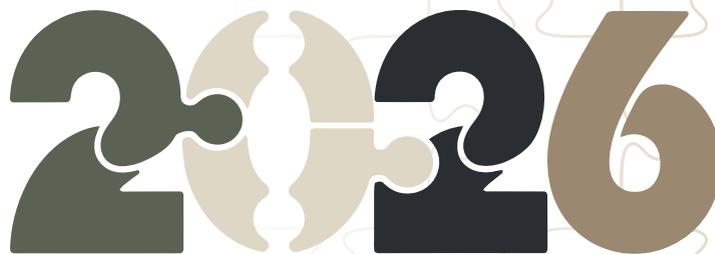
household in attendance will also be entered to win this year's grand-prize drawing as our way of recognizing the members who make our cooperative possible — and help it truly thrive.

It's our way of saying thank you for your trust, your participation, and your continued commitment to your cooperative.

THIS IS YOUR COOPERATIVE

Whether you're a longtime member or new to the co-op community, your involvement matters. The annual meeting is your opportunity to learn, to share your voice, to connect with your community, and to celebrate another defining year, together.

THIS IS WHEATLAND — built piece by piece by the members who own it. We hope to see you on April 22.



2026

ANNUAL MEETING

REGISTRATION 11 A.M. CT

LUNCHEON 11:30 A.M. CT

BUSINESS MEETING NOON CT

SEE PAGE 12H FOR REMOTE MEETING LOCATIONS



This is RELIABILITY

Before innovation, growth or community investment, we believe there must be reliable service our members can count on. That's why our employees work around the clock to ensure power is delivered safely, consistently and without interruption. Reliability is the foundation that allows our cooperative to move forward with confidence.



This is TRUST

Trust is built through transparency, accountability and follow-through. As a member-owned cooperative, we're guided by decisions made locally and with purpose. When members understand how and why choices are made, confidence grows. This defining year reinforced a simple truth: trust isn't a promise — it's something we earn through our actions.



This is Wheatland





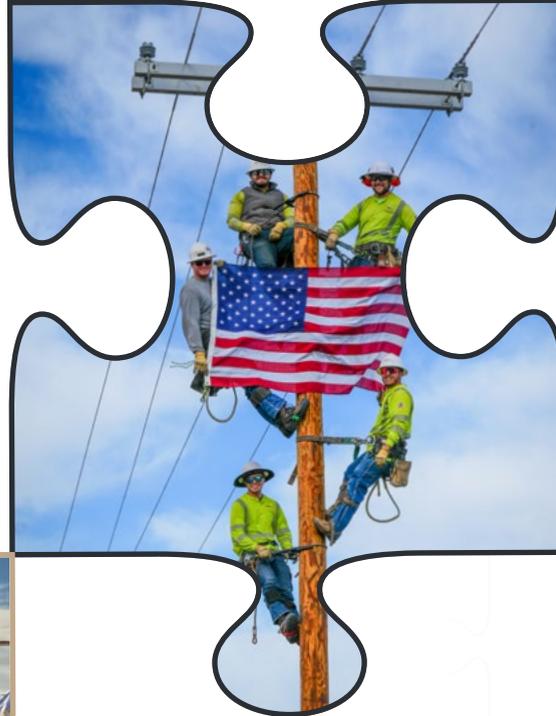
This is DEMOCRACY

Democracy is at the heart of our cooperative. Through member participation and local leadership, WEC remains accountable to the people it serves. Decisions are made by a democratically-elected 10-member board, comprised of trustees who live and work where you do. And when members like you engage, ask questions, and cast your votes, you help guide the cooperative and ensure our shared future reflects our shared values.



This is COMMUNITY

Community is more than where we serve — it's who we are. Our commitment to local programs, partnerships, and people reflects our belief that strong communities create a strong cooperative. From supporting neighbors in need through initiatives like Power the Pantry to investing in future leaders through our youth programs, every connection strengthens the places we call home.



This is SERVICE

Service is how commitment becomes action. At WEC, serving members means more than delivering electricity — it means listening, responding and helping members navigate their energy needs safely and confidently. Every interaction is an opportunity to serve, and every service we offer is designed with members in mind. That's why we host electrical safety demonstrations throughout the year and help our members find solutions to their energy needs. Because every service we offer represents a piece of our mission.



This is THE FUTURE

The future of WEC is shaped by the decisions we make today. By investing in innovation, planning for large-load growth, and preparing for our members' evolving energy needs, we're positioning the cooperative for long-term success. Every step forward is guided by the same commitment that defines us — serving members, now and for generations to come.

Trustee Ballots Will Be Mailed March 25

Members of Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. (WEC), will receive ballots by mail later this month to vote for four board seats up for election.

Ballots will be mailed **MARCH 25, 2026, AND MUST BE RETURNED BY APRIL 17, 2026**, which is at least five days prior to this year's annual meeting on April 22, 2026, according to cooperative bylaws.

Members are encouraged to complete and return their ballots in a timely fashion through postal mail via postage-paid business reply envelopes which will also be provided. **BALLOTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT WEC OFFICES.**

WEC is governed by a 10-member board of trustees elected by the cooperative's membership, and voting is crucial for co-op members like you.

Trustees play a significant role in setting the policies, strategic direction, and making financial decisions. Through your votes, trustees shape the co-op's priorities and initiatives, influencing everything from rates and services to community engagement and sustainability efforts.

By participating in trustee elections, members can help determine the direction of the cooperative and ensure that it aligns with your values and needs.



One board seat in each of the following districts is up for election this year:

- ▶ **DISTRICT 1** — Scott and Logan counties in Kansas.
- ▶ **DISTRICT 2** — Wichita and Wallace counties in Kansas.
- ▶ **DISTRICT 4** — Hamilton and western half of Kearny counties in Kansas; and Prowers County in Colorado.
- ▶ **DISTRICT 5** — Finney, eastern half of Kearny, and Gray counties in Kansas.

WEC'S BYLAWS ALLOW FOR TWO METHODS FOR TRUSTEE NOMINATIONS

- ▶ **NOMINATION BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** The board of trustees appoints a nominating committee made up of one member from each of our seven districts. Members should contact WEC to get the contact information for their fellow member who represents their district on the nominating committee or contact Jim McVay, WEC's general counsel, at 620-793-4223 or jmcvay@weci.net for more information.
- ▶ **NOMINATION BY A PETITION OF MEMBER:** Twenty-five or more members of WEC can nominate any member as a trustee candidate. Nominations by petition must be sent to **WEC BY MARCH 8**. Members interested in running should contact McVay at the contact information above.

COLD WEATHER ACCOMMODATION

ENDS MARCH 15

As spring draws near once again, Wheatland Electric would like to remind co-op members that the COLD WEATHER ACCOMMODATION for residential members ends MARCH 15.



For more information, please visit www.weci.net/cold-weather-rule or scan our QR code. Questions? memberservices@weci.net



If your service is disconnected for non-pay, please review our rules and regulations by visiting www.weci.net/rules-regulations or scan the QR code.

Apply for LIEAP by March 31

Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Inc. receives requests for assistance with member electricity bills throughout the year.

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program administered through the Kansas Dept. of Children and Families that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit.

THE 2026 LIEAP APPLICATION PERIOD ENDS MARCH 31, 2026, AT 5 P.M. To qualify, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- ▶ An adult living at the address must be personally responsible for paying the heating costs incurred at the current residence, payable either to the landlord or the fuel vendor.

2026 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Persons Living at Address	Maximum Gross Monthly Income	Persons Living at Address	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$1,956	5	\$4,706
2	\$2,644	6	\$5,394
3	\$3,331	7	\$6,081
4	\$4,019	8	\$6,769
+1	\$688 for each additional person		

- ▶ Applicants must demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchases of the primary heating energy.
 - ▶ The combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 150% of the federal poverty level according to the guidelines listed in the table.
- For more information and to apply, visit www.dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/EnergyAssistance.aspx.

SAFETY TIP OF THE MONTH

This is a wonderful time of year for spring cleaning. Make sure to vacuum the coils behind your refrigerator, clean your stove's exhaust hood and clean your dryer ducts. All of these could become a fire hazard if neglected. Ensure that your fire extinguishers are charged and ready for use. Check all detectors in your home at least once a month by pressing the test button to ensure the alarm sounds. If the detector fails to respond, replace the batteries or the unit itself, if it's non-functional.

SHARING OUR SUCCESS

We now have over \$30,000 in our SHARING SUCCESS FUND! Non-profit and other community-based organizations are encouraged to apply online. Scan our QR code to get started!



www.weci.net/sharing-success

Join us
April 22
GREAT BEND EVENTS CENTER
3111 10TH STREET, GREAT BEND

2026
ANNUAL MEETING

REGISTRATION 11 A.M. CT
LUNCHEON 11:30 A.M. CT
BUSINESS MEETING NOON CT

Wheatland

This is
A DEFINING YEAR, A TRUSTED COOPERATIVE

This is Wheatland.

A defining year made up of many pieces — reliability, trust, service, community and democracy — each one essential, each one connected.

Join us at the annual meeting in Great Bend (or at a remote location near you) as we reflect on the year behind us and look forward to the cooperative we're building together.

REMOTE LOCATIONS

- DISTRICT 2**
Leoti
Wheatland Electric Warehouse
103 W. F St.
- DISTRICT 5**
Garden City
Wheatland Electric Office
2005 W. Fulton

- DISTRICT 3**
Tribune
Wheatland Electric Warehouse
310 Broadway Ave.
- DISTRICT 7**
Caldwell
Caldwell Community Building
119 E. First St.

- DISTRICT 1**
Scott City
Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center,
212 E. Fifth St.
- DISTRICT 4**
Syracuse
Hamilton County Library
102 W. Ave. C
- DISTRICT 7**
Harper
Westview Lodge & Apartments
1300 N. Westview

