

2023 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS



Make sure your voice is heard in the LPEA boardroom by voting for the candidate who best represents you! LPEA is a cooperative utility, owned by YOU. Each year, LPEA members elect four individuals to represent them on the LPEA Board of Directors. Read on for more information about:

- The candidates up for election in LPEA's four districts (your ballot will only allow you to cast a vote for the election in your district).
- A proposed LPEA Bylaw amendment included on your ballot.

*Versión disponible en Español en:
lpea.coop/boletaespanol*



CASTING YOUR VOTE

Ballots must be RECEIVED no later than 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7th, or in person at LPEA's Annual Meeting. You can submit your ballots:

 **BY MAIL:** Use the enclosed envelope and mail by Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

 **BY 24-HOUR DROP OFF:** Locations listed in the ballot packet.

 **IN PERSON:** Cast your vote at LPEA's 2023 Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 8.

ANNUAL MEETING

Join us for LPEA's 2023 Annual Meeting! We'll announce the 2023 director election results and have pie, door prizes, a live Q & A, and presentations on LPEA's 2022 accomplishments and future direction.

- When: Thursday, June 8, 2023. Member registration begins at 4 p.m. Member voting is from 4 to 5 p.m. The meeting starts at 5 p.m.
- Where: LPEA headquarters in Bodo Park. Virtual attendance is also available.

More at lpea.coop/annual-meeting

2023 LPEA DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

All election materials are published as submitted by candidates.



Representative District 1 Archuleta County



Nicole Pitcher

New Candidate

RAN UNOPPOSED

Elected effective 06-08-23

La Plata Electric Association is at a critical juncture, with the future of our power generation and transmission up for negotiation. As we sort through potential options, numerous questions arise — how will this affect our rates? What is our capacity? What type of power will we purchase? While working at Wolf Creek Ski Area, I helped broker a deal to purchase solar power directly from the San Luis Valley. This was a strong project with commercially viable rates and local job creation, but it still faced significant, unnecessary roadblocks. When a competitive, local project is viable, I will advocate tirelessly on its behalf. I bring a unique fusion of life experience to the table. Immediately upon college graduation I went to Washington, D.C. , working at a national security think tank, and then at the U.S. Senate. While still fascinated with international matters, I have grown to appreciate the impact of local governance: these decisions affect day-to-day life. Having spent six years on the Pagosa Springs Town Council and juggling numerous board responsibilities, I understand what it means to represent my neighbors and don't take it lightly. As a property manager, I'm hyperaware of the cost of utilities and the burden they pose to Archuleta County residents. As a mother of a young child and local resident of fourteen years, I am fully vested in the future of our community. As your Board Representative, I will be honored to serve on behalf of our member-owned cooperative.

Representative District 2 South + West La Plata County



John Lee Jr.

Incumbent Candidate

RAN UNOPPOSED

Elected effective 06-08-23

I am running for re-election to the LPEA Board of Directors so I may continue to provide strategic mind-set & long-term goals for our Co-Op. Over the past 3 years I have worked to strengthen LPEA's financial position, and power supply needs in a changing power environment. I concurrently serve on the Western United Electric Supply Corporation's Board of Directors. Western United is LPEA's major electrical supplier, this seat helps us address the challenging logistics supply chain issues facing the nation in the manufacturing and energy materials industry. I believe in education and being prepared, to that end, I have dedicated time and energy towards the Credentialed Cooperative Director Course, with 2 classes remaining. The primary tasks for a cooperative director are fiscal oversight and governance. This training from NRECA has helped me understand many of the complex situations facing LPEA. I believe LPEA's greatest issue now and over the next several years is a secured power supply. I enjoy working to assist the staff of energy minded professionals at LPEA to build out our dependable & reliable power solutions. I have worked with LPEA staff on wildfire plans and mitigation techniques. As a local Fire Chief, I will continue to address this very real risk for LPEA. Electricity is woven into every part of our life; I am asking for your VOTE to help LPEA stand solid and ready to deliver power. We need to remain focused on core principles and customers. A solid future needs good decisions NOW!

Representative District 3 City of Durango



Rachel Landis

Incumbent Candidate

RAN UNOPPOSED

Elected effective 06-08-23

It has been an honor to serve you and LPEA for the past six years. I am proud of the work we have done to develop a cleaner power supply, enhance fiscal responsibility, and provide you a best-in-class customer experience. My efforts are guided by the board's groundbreaking 2018 commitment to reduce LPEA's emissions 50% by 2030, while keeping your costs below 70% of our peers. By the end of 2021, we logged 10.8% reduction in emissions and continue to pursue an additional 50% reduction through cleaner power supply sources such as our current 1.7MW Sunnyside Community Solar Project, as well as, ongoing efforts to leave our current Tri-State (TSGT) Power Supply contract. I have supported new financial measures which have kept controllable costs 22% below our peers, returned money to you through historic Capital Credits allocations and efficiency rebates, and secured a 4% rate reduction from TSGT. My advocacy to increase transparency, access, and communication has led to live-streamed board meetings, LPEA's leadership on local broadband efforts, offering this year's ballot in both English and Spanish, as well as ongoing Town Hall Meetings. These next few years will prove pivotal in determining how LPEA sources its power, adapts to the ever-changing energy landscape, and holds true to our cooperative values. If elected, I am eager to continue my commitment to sourcing clean energy, supporting projects that keep jobs local and contribute to our tax base, keeping costs and rates low, and ensuring you receive exceptional service.

Representative District 4 North + East La Plata County



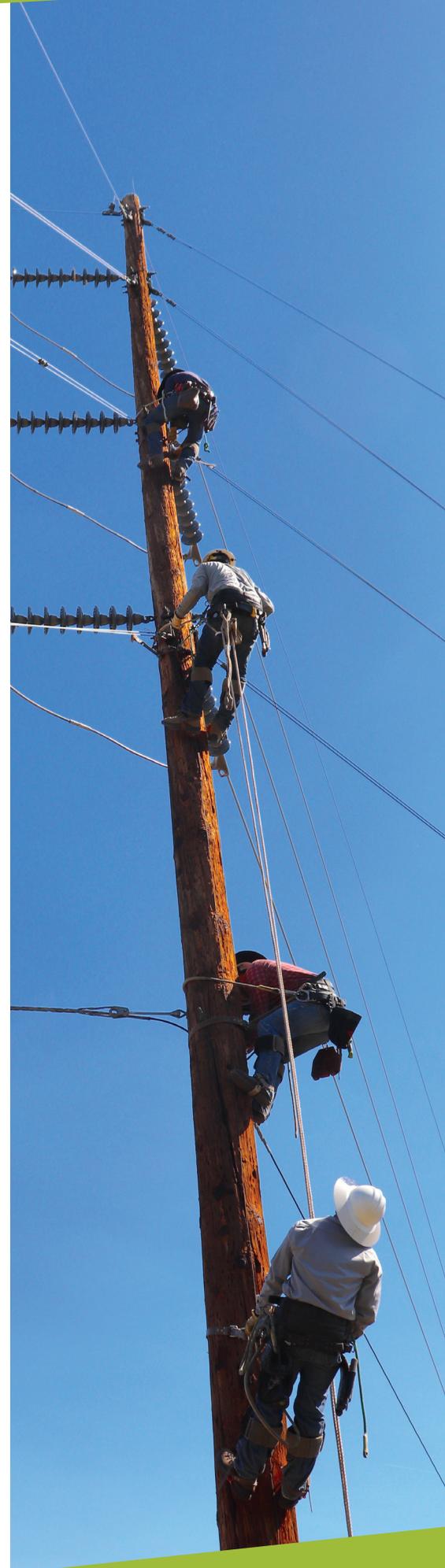
John Purser
New Candidate

VOTE, VOTE, VOTE. LPEA, your nonprofit cooperative that provides your electricity, exists in a rapidly evolving energy market. Changing energy markets will mean more options for purchasing and generating power. In order for you to know your cooperative is operating to your best interests, LPEA must be more transparent in its contract and purchasing procedures. LPEA members have been denied access to contract requirements. Contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars have been entered into without member review of requirements. State governance law has not kept up with the evolving role of electric cooperatives. The purchasing processes of LPEA would not be allowed for city, county, state or federal entities. I will strongly advocate for improved LPEA and Colorado policies that ensure the interests of all members. We must be wary of special interests taking advantage of poor governance. Currently LPEA board meetings are literally run from the offices of King Energy. The board chair of LPEA is John Witchel, CEO of King Energy. We should be aware that what's good for King Energy may not best for LPEA members. Our board has been rife with special interests, and conflicts of interests, for several years. The current board majority seems uninterested in reforming LPEA policies to ensure better governance and limiting special interest influence. The fundamental responsibility of a board member is to represent the best interest of all members. I won't fail in advocating in the best interest of ALL members. Please vote, and please vote for John Purser.



David Luschen
New Candidate

LPEA's future is bright, and I believe I will have a positive impact on that future. As your board representative, I would work towards fulfilling LPEA's Mission Statement of "safe, reliable electricity at the lowest reasonable cost while being environmentally responsible." With my decades of utility experience, I can provide the board guidance on the upcoming decisions on the Tri-State contract and decisions on our future energy supply sources, focusing on our local power supply. Local control means control of our energy costs, freedom from a third-party energy supplier, and resilience against supply and demand spikes. I have 26 years of electric utility experience at CPS Energy, the Nation's largest municipally owned gas and electric utility. I have an Engineering degree from Texas A&M, an MBA from Our Lady of the Lake University, and I am a licensed Professional Engineer. I started as a front-line Utility Engineer and worked my way up to Executive Management, focusing on distribution, substation and transmission delivery. My decades of experience make me both an excellent advocate for our customers while having a deep knowledge of the ins and outs of the business. Finally, I understand the necessity of affordability. I started working in construction at 16 and I put myself through college. I have lived paycheck to paycheck, and believe in LPEA's mission to not burden customers with high energy costs. Our future LPEA power portfolio must be affordable and I will use my industry and leadership skills to drive OUR Mission!



PROPOSED LPEA BYLAW AMENDMENT

The proposed bylaw amendment would update LPEA bylaws to align with state law, better reflect current member preferences around communication, and allow the LPEA Board of Directors to add electronic ballots as another voting option in future LPEA elections in conformity with state law.

- **A YES vote** would approve the changes.
- **A NO vote** would maintain the original Bylaw language and rules.

PROPOSED EDITS

Article II, Section 2:

Special meetings of the members may be called by a majority of the directors or upon a written request signed by at least **ten percent (10%) of the membership five hundred (500) members**, and, upon such action by the directors or upon the secretary's determining the sufficiency of the member signatures, 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 service area of the cooperative specified in the notice of the special meeting.

Article II, Section 3:

Written **printed or electronic** notice stating the place, day, and hour of each meeting of the members, and the purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered **by mail**, to each member, not less than ten (10) days **nor more than forty five (45) nor more than sixty (60) days** before the date of the meeting. **and nNo** business shall be transacted at any meeting except as shall be mentioned in the notice. A **written** notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States Mail, addressed to the member at the member's address as it appears on the records of the cooperative, with postage thereupon prepaid. **An electronic notice shall be deemed delivered when the email or other electronic notice is sent to the member's electronic contact information as it appears on the records of the cooperative.** The failure of any member to receive notice of annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.

Article II, Section 4:

At any meeting of the members, a quorum of Members is fifty (50) Members entitled to vote on a matter, voting in person by Mail Ballot, or, at the option of the Board, by Electronic Ballot ("Member Quorum"). If less than a quorum is established at any meeting of the members, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. If at said meeting a quorum is at any time established, a quorum shall be deemed constituted throughout such meeting, regardless of the physical presence of members thereafter.

Article II, Section 5:

Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is established all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person, and, where authorized by resolution of the board of directors, by **written mail ballot ("Mail Ballot") or a ballot through a secure and verifiable electronic transmission system ("Electronic Ballot")**; except as otherwise provided by law, the certificate of incorporation, or these bylaws. If a married couple or partners in a civil union hold a joint membership, they shall jointly be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members. The spouse or civil partner of a member may vote or petition in place of and instead of the member.

A member may vote by **Mail Ballot or Electronic Ballot** on any matter of any meeting of the members, including the election of directors, provided that (a) the **mail Mail Ballot or Electronic Ballot** voting on such matter is authorized by a resolution of the board of directors adopted prior to the members' meeting, except in the case of the election of the board of directors where **mail-voting by Mail Ballot** is allowed, (b) such a vote is in writing on forms provided by the association **or through a secure and verifiable electronic transmission system authorized by the board of directors**, and (c) such vote is signed **or electronically acknowledged** by such member. A member who has voted by **mail Mail Ballot or Electronic Ballot** shall not be entitled to vote in person at the meeting of the members.

Regardless of whether by **mail Mail Ballot, Electronic Ballot, or in person** at a meeting of the members, **when** voting in an election of directors, those members eligible to vote for any particular director candidate, shall be limited to those members who receive service within the voting district of the nominee. If a member receives service in more than one voting district, the member's voting district shall be that in which the member resides or the district in which the member's billing address is located. If a member receives service in more than one voting district and said member's residence and billing address are not located within a voting district, then the member's voting district shall be the one in which the member pays the highest amount of revenue for electric service.

A member may **only** bring **to-mail-vote** a matter to be considered at **any the annual meeting** of the members by filing such request for **mail a** vote in writing with the association's secretary, together with a petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the members, provided that said petition is submitted no less than **forty five (45) sixty (60)** days prior to the annual meeting at which such issue is to be considered. Voting by proxy or cumulative voting is prohibited at any and all meetings of the members.

Article XV:

These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed by the members at any regular or special meeting of the members, provided the notice of such meeting shall have contained a copy of the proposed alteration, amendment, or repeal. Any member may request an amendment to the bylaws be placed in the notice of meeting by submitting the proposed bylaw amendment to the Board of Directors. If the Board of Directors does not advance the proposed bylaw amendment to a vote of the membership, the member may request an amendment to the bylaws by submitting the proposed bylaw amendment in a written petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the members to the association's secretary at least **forty five (45) sixty (60)** days prior to the meeting of the members at which the amendment is to be considered.