

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Happy New Year from your local electric cooperative! 2021 was a pivotal year for LPEA as we made excellent progress in our mission to deliver you affordable, reliable, safe, and low-carbon power.

Much of our focus in 2021 was centered on the future of LPEA's power supply. Thanks to the efforts of LPEA staff and continued positive negotiations with our current power provider Tri-State, we made steady progress on the partial contract option and are nearing resolution in 2022. More than 500 LPEA members joined our October virtual town hall meetings on the topic, and we will host another round when we have more to share. I encourage

you to visit lpea.coop/powersupply for the latest resources and updates.

We also took some large strides in broadband in 2021, with the board adopting a resolution that "LPEA will pursue a funding and partnership strategy that will enable broadband connections to its membership by 2030 without increasing electric rates to do so." After a thorough process of examining our options and their potential impacts, the LPEA board is excited to have a clear path forward on broadband. I want to thank our members for their active and enthusiastic participation in this process.

Fiscally and operationally, we have good news as well. Thanks to enhanced cost controls, LPEA's controllable costs were 7% under budget in 2021. This also means we were able to return more Capital Credits to members than ever before, with \$5.5 million retired in 2021. LPEA crews also replaced nearly 10 miles of line in 2021 to improve the reliability and efficiency of your electric service.

We will have more to report on the year behind us (and ahead of us) in the 2021 LPEA Annual Report, which we expect to release by April 2022. I look forward to serving as your board president as we push ahead to even more accomplishments this year.

– John Witchel, LPEA Board President, District 4 Director

Ticket to SAVINGS!



2022 REBATE UPDATES

LPEA offers rebates to make your life more affordable. From e-bikes and EV chargers to outdoor electrical equipment and Energy Star® appliances.

Find out how to get money back on your electric purchases with LPEA's 2022 rebate programs.

lpea.coop/rebates

POWER IT FORWARD WITH LPEA'S GIVING TREE

LPEA's Member Services team invites you to help those struggling to keep the power on this holiday season. Last year, LPEA members donated more than \$19,000 to help 537 families. Donate funds in one of four ways:

1. Venmo your donation @GivingTree_LPEA (or scan the QR code).
2. Call us at (970) 247-5786.
3. Pick up a "Giving Tree" envelope at our drive through lanes in Durango or Pagosa, place your donation inside, and put in the payment drop box clearly marked at each office.
4. Give your donation to a member service representative in one of our lobbies.

Donations will be accepted through January 31, 2022.



venmo

2022 SCHOLARSHIPS: Now Accepting Applications



LPEA is again offering ten scholarships for graduating high school students or equivalent (including GED graduates) in our service territory. These scholarships aim to help students continue their education in academic and trade schools:

- **Basin Electric Scholarship:** \$1,000 scholarship to any U.S. college or university.
- **LPEA John Voelker Memorial Scholarship:** Two, 2-year scholarships to any U.S. accredited vocational school, technical school, or community college (\$5,000/year for two years).
- **Tri-State Scholarship:** Two \$500 scholarships to any U.S. college or university.

- **LPEA Lineworker Scholarship:** Two, 1-year scholarships to any accredited U.S. institution majoring in an electrical line worker program (\$12,000 total).
- **Rocky Mountain Electrical League Scholarship:** \$1,000 - \$3,000 scholarship to any U.S. college or university.
- **LPEA Scholarship:** Two, 4-year scholarships to any U.S. college or university (\$7,000/year for four years).

Applications are due Tuesday, March 1, 2022, except the Rocky Mountain Electrical League scholarship, which is due Friday, February 25, 2022. For more details and to apply, visit: lpea.coop/scholarships

2022 LPEA DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Have you ever considered supporting your community by serving on the LPEA Board of Directors? In accordance with our bylaws, one-third of LPEA's Board of Directors seats are up for election annually, and all eligible LPEA members are welcome to run. To be eligible, candidates must:

1. Be a member of LPEA for at least one year immediately prior to becoming a director.
2. Be a bona fide resident of the district you plan to represent for at least 120 days prior to becoming a director.
3. Not be employed by, or have a spouse or child employed by, LPEA in any position.

2022 Election Timeline:

- December 12, 2021: Board director candidate packets available
- March 12, 2022: Completed candidate packets due back to LPEA
- April 4, 2022: Ballots mailed to all LPEA members
- May 11, 2022: Ballots due
- May 12, 2022: LPEA Annual Meeting
- May 18, 2022: First board meeting for new directors

More at: lpea.coop/board-director-candidate-information



LPEA WIRE

The latest news, services, programs, and resources from LPEA. Have a question or comment? Email us at comments@lpea.coop.



BOARD MEETINGS

January 19 + February 16
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

The agenda, access, and location details will be posted online in advance. Public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting shortly after 9 a.m.

More at: lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LPEA committee meetings change regularly to accommodate board member schedules. For upcoming meeting dates and times visit: lpea.coop/board-committees

All meetings are open to the public. Depending on the latest guidelines around COVID-19, meetings may be held in person, virtually, or both. Visit lpea.coop for the most up-to-date details.



2021 "FILL THE BUCKET" FOOD DRIVE:

THANK YOU to those who donated at this year's food drive. We collected 6,022 lbs. of food and \$1,403.29 in cash donations to benefit local food banks.



LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors approved **one grant in November totaling \$5,000** for the Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.