

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO, JESSICA MATLOCK



Happy New Year! To say that 2020 was full of challenges would be an understatement. But while it was a difficult year, I am proud of our communities, our businesses, and our citizens for persevering and for finding innovative ways to live their lives and conduct their business amidst the ongoing pandemic.

More than just surviving, you are also giving back at unprecedented levels. LPEA's annual Fill the Bucket food drive in November collected more than 6,200 pounds of food and \$1,000 in cash for local food banks. At the time of writing this, you have also donated

a collective \$3,500 to our Giving Tree program, to help families struggling to pay their LPEA bill over the holiday season. I am grateful - every day - to be living in this community during these unprecedented times.

At LPEA, our commitment to powering your lives remains strong. We've just finalized a five-year operational work plan to help achieve LPEA's Strategic Goal as set by the board, to deliver affordable, reliable, and clean power.

The work plan sets six priority areas to help focus our efforts over the next five years (see right).

If you want to learn more about these priority areas, including our targets and key initiatives, I encourage you to read the full work plan at lpea.coop/mission-vision-plan. Comments and suggestions are welcome at comments@lpea.coop.

Here's to hoping that 2021 brings much joy and peace to your lives. For my part, I hope to be able to meet more of you face-to-face this year. Until then, know that LPEA is hard at work keeping your lights on.

LPEA'S 6 PRIORITIES



Be safe and excellent in all we do



Keep the lights on



Source clean, local, low-cost power



Be a trusted community partner



Maintain strong financial health



Prepare for the future

THE GIVING TREE

Help someone keep the lights on this holiday season. Call us at (970) 247-5786 or pick up a "Giving Tree" envelope at the drive through of our offices in Durango or Pagosa.

Donations accepted through January 29th, 2021.



NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

LPEA is again offering nine 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:

- **LPEA Lineman Scholarship:** Two, 1-year scholarships for students attending an accredited U.S. institution majoring in an electrical line worker program (\$12,000 total).

- **LPEA Scholarship:** Two, 4-year scholarships for students attending any U.S. college or university (\$7,000/year over four years).
- **LPEA John Voelker Memorial Scholarship:** Two, 2-year scholarships for students attending any U.S. accredited vocational school, technical school, or community college (\$5,000/year over two years).

- **Tri-State Scholarship:** Two \$500 scholarships for students attending any U.S. college or university.
- **Basin Electric Scholarship:** \$1,000 scholarship for students attending any U.S. college or university.

Applications are due March 1st. For more details and to apply, visit: lpea.coop/scholarships



2021 LPEA DIRECTOR ELECTIONS



It's nearly time again for LPEA director elections! In accordance with our bylaws, one-third of LPEA's Board of Directors seats are up for election annually.

To be eligible to run for the LPEA Board of Directors, candidates must: be a member of LPEA for at least one year immediately prior to becoming a director; be a bona fide resident of the district you plan to represent for at least 120 days prior to becoming a director and; not be employed by, or have a spouse or child employed by, LPEA in any position.

2021 Election Timeline:

- Mid-March: Information on how to run for a director position publicly promoted

- Mid-April: Applications for director positions due to LPEA
- Mid-May: Ballots mailed to all LPEA members
- June 16: Ballots due
- June 17: Partial, virtual Annual Meeting to announce election results

Given the concerning and unpredictable impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the date for the business portion of the 2021 LPEA Annual Meeting will be set later in 2021. In the meantime, the election results will be announced during a partial virtual Annual Meeting on Zoom, as done in 2020.

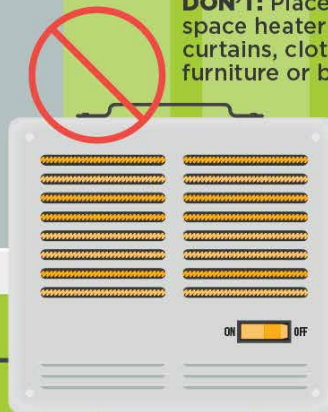
More at: lpea.coop/board-director-candidate-information

Use Space Heaters Safely

DON'T: Leave your space heater unattended. Always unplug it before you leave the house or go to bed.

DON'T: Use an extension cord to plug in your space heater. It can cause the heater to overheat, and can be a tripping hazard.

DON'T: Place your space heater near curtains, clothing, furniture or bedding.



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



BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, January 20th

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

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



FINANCE + AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 14th
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

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



BROADBAND COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 12th
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

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

**All meetings are open to the public and live streamed.*



ROUND UP GRANTS

Six grants totaling \$18,700 were approved for October and November for the Durango Instrumental Music Booster Club, the Grief Center of Southwest Colorado, Durango Youth Baseball & Softball, the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 8, the Bayfield Lions Club, and the Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering. **Two Educational Grants totaling \$8,000** were approved for San Juan Symphony Youth Orchestra and La Plata Youth Services.