

Taylor Electric Cooperative

TexasCoopPower

April 2023

Drive-Thru

Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Gates open at 10:30 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.

Taylor EC Headquarters

226 CR 287, Merkel, TX 79536



TAYLOR
—ELECTRIC—
COOPERATIVE

Taylor Electric Cooperative Nominee for Director

ZONE 1

MEET BOARD CANDIDATE RICHARD PETREE



Richard Petree is a native of Abilene, a lifetime resident of Taylor County and a Taylor Electric Cooperative member of 40-plus years. He attended Abilene public schools, graduated from Cooper High School and remained in Abilene to complete his undergraduate studies at McMurry University. His degrees include a Bachelor of Business Administration in economics and general business and a bachelor's in secondary education with teaching specialties in economics and history.

Petree is married to Cammie, an instructor and head volleyball coach at McMurry University. Petree is the father of six children: Angela, a teacher in Lubbock; Shawn, a minister in Seattle; Jason, a building contractor in North Carolina; Chance, a commercial sales representative; Megan, a teacher at Wylie Independent School District; and Austin, a junior at Abilene Christian University. The Petrees have 12 grandchildren. Petree lives in rural Taylor County and is a steward to his family and their land, enjoying his farm crops and hunting with his son.


Petree is a licensed bivocational Methodist minister and recently retired from Nolan United and Pioneer Memorial Methodist churches. He served as the community spiritual director and a board member of Big Country Emmaus and as spiritual director of Cross Country Emmaus and Sweetwater Emmaus, local divisions of the worldwide nondenominational church organization. He has been a member of the boards of Rotary International, the Kiwanis Club of Abilene, United Way of Abilene, Sears Methodist Retirement Systems Inc., and Butman Methodist Camp and Retreat Center. He was also an executive board member of and fund secretary for the Texas Political Subdivisions Joint Self-Insurance Fund.

Petree began his career at West Texas Utilities in 1970 in industrial development; he departed in 1976 when he was elected to the position of county tax assessor-collector. He served two terms as the Taylor County assessor, then was named the first chief appraiser of Taylor County during his last term. With the exception of a nine-month stint as chief appraiser for Travis County in 1988, Petree remained the chief appraiser of Taylor County until his retirement in 2013 for a total of 37 years with the county.

Petree is a licensed facilitator for FranklinCovey and teaches *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* and *Leadership: Great Leaders, Great Teams, Great Results* to government employees. He has been a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers since 1981, was elected to the executive board of IAAO in 2004 and has served on various committees of IAAO including nominations, awards and education. In 2010, he was named Member of the Year for IAAO. He has also been a member of the Texas Association of Assessing Officers since 1977 and a member of the Texas Association of Appraisal Districts since 1982, where he has served in all office positions. TAAD has recognized him twice: with the Earl Luna Award in 1988 for outstanding chief appraiser and in 2004 with the James Goodwin Excellence in Education award. He's also a certified instructor for the state of Texas, teaching courses in appraisal and ethics.

Petree now serves as a consultant to 40 appraisal districts and, along with his staff of 19, has provided complete appraisal services to most of those districts, including appraisals of rural land for market value and agricultural use value. He has developed numerous schedules for land values and improvement values of housing, farm buildings and commercial buildings, utilizing all three approaches to value as the basis for those schedules. His company is called Western Valuation and Consulting and can be found at westernvc.com.

Petree has actively served on the Taylor Electric Cooperative Board of Directors since September 2014. He promptly earned his National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate, followed by the NRECA Board Leadership certificate, and he received the association's Director Gold credential in 2021.


Please tear this card along
the dotted line and bring it
with you to the meeting.

MEMBER REGISTRATION CARD

Taylor Electric Cooperative Drive-Thru Annual Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Taylor EC Headquarters
226 CR 287, Merkel 79536
Gates open at 10:30 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.

This is your registration card and ticket for prizes.

This card cannot be duplicated.

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

84th Annual Membership Meeting Program

Thursday, April 20, 2023

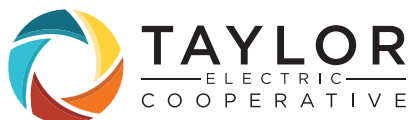
Taylor Electric Cooperative Headquarters
226 CR 287, Merkel 79536

Gates open at 10:30 a.m.

During our drive-thru meeting, members will receive:

- ▶ A chance to win a door prize.
- ▶ A ballot to vote in the director election.
- ▶ A to-go meal served from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.
- ▶ A trinket bag.

Gates close at 6:30 p.m.



MEMBER REGISTRATION CARD

**Taylor Electric Cooperative
Drive-Thru Annual Membership Meeting**

Thursday, April 20, 2023

Taylor EC Headquarters, 226 CR 287, Merkel 79536

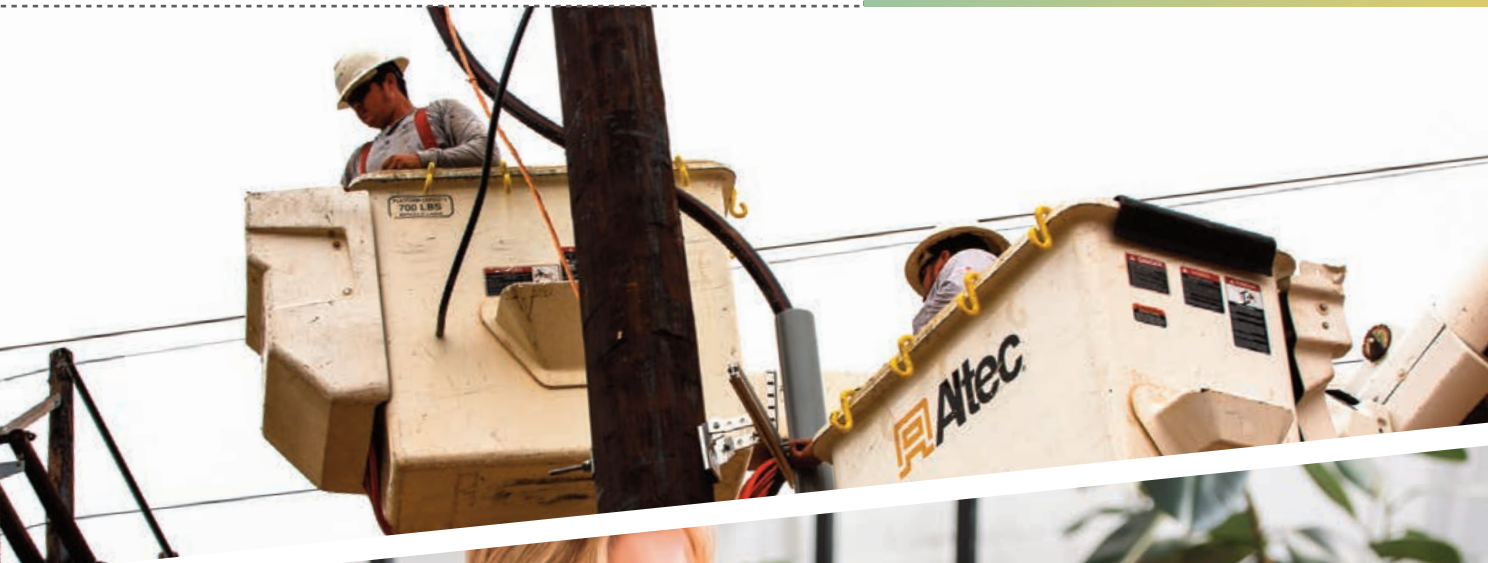
Gates open at 10:30 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.

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the dotted line and bring it
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Services for **Living**
Connections for **Life**



OFFICIAL NOTICE

April 2023

Dear Member:

The 84th Annual Meeting of the Membership will take place at the Taylor Electric Co-op Headquarters on Thursday, April 20, 2023.

Members are invited to join us for a drive-through Annual Meeting at our Merkel Headquarters located at 226 CR 287, Merkel, TX 79536. Gates will open at 10:30 a.m. and will remain open until 6:30 p.m.

During our drive-through meeting, members will receive:

- A chance to win a door prize.
- A ballot to vote for the Board of Directors.
- A to-go meal.
- A copy of the annual report.
- A trinket bag.

The following member has been nominated for the Board of Directors by the Nominating Committee, pursuant to the by-laws:

AT-LARGE: Richard Petree, incumbent

In accordance with Taylor Electric Cooperative's bylaws, only one director will be elected per zone per election.

David McFall

DAVID MCFALL, Secretary-Treasurer

Taylor Electric Cooperative Board of Directors

MEET YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The operations at Taylor Electric are overseen by an elected Board of Directors. The seven directors meet monthly and work hand in hand with the CEO to provide efficient service and reliability to the membership.

All directors are required to attend trainings and receive certifications for information and updates on local, state and federal energy topics. Training also ensures all directors are competent to understand and work within the national energy market.

Nominees are presented to a formal nomination committee for interview and consideration each February prior to the annual meeting.

The Taylor Electric service area is divided into three service zones by county for equal representation. Each zone is represented by two directors in addition to one at-large director. Directors serve three-year terms.



Cecil Davis



Leland Robinson



David McFall



Garland Carter



Kathryn Rainey



Gay Simmons



Richard Petree

ZONE 1

Cecil Davis, Chairman, 2007
Leland Robinson, Vice Chairman, 2004

ZONE 2

David McFall, Secretary-Treasurer, 2011
Garland Carter, 2016

ZONE 3

Kathryn Rainey, 2015
Gay Simmons, 2018

AT-LARGE

Richard Petree, 2014

TAYLOR EC BOARD ZONES



NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPRESENTS MEMBERS



Nominating committee members, from left, Mary Ussery; Jesse Mulanax; Craig Bessent, chairman; Scott Frost, cooperative attorney; Tom Edd Johnson; Dee Vinson; Ashley Thompson; Not pictured: Colleen Richards and Terry Locklar.

Taylor Electric Cooperative’s nominating committee met February 21st to screen candidates for the 2023 director seats. The volunteers serve as the voice of the membership answering questions, gathering input, and listening to goals from the members within their region. Each zone is represented with members on the committee.

The committee evaluated the applicant submission to ensure that the candidate met the required conditions of the bylaws, including cooperative membership, good standing with the cooperative, and a criminal background check. In the January issue of Texas Co-op Power, the cooperative invited members to apply for board of director candidacy by publishing an application that anyone could fill out and mail, fax, or deliver to the Taylor Electric Cooperative headquarters.

Taylor Electric is grateful for the time, dedication and careful consideration given by the members on the nominating committee.



The Power Behind Your Power

You've likely noticed Taylor Electric Cooperative's crews working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that line work is tough—but it's essential, even when conditions are challenging. This month, as we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 10, we want to share some interesting facts about electric lineworkers.

Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's as heavy as 6 gallons of water. And speaking of utility poles, lineworkers can climb poles up to 60 feet tall.

They must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present risks can truly take a toll. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics lists line work among the 10 most dangerous civilian jobs in the U.S. They often work nontraditional hours outdoors in difficult conditions. The job requires years of training and hands-on learning. That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized technical skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts aren't an option, and there is precious little room for error in this line of work.

During severe weather events that bring power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their homes and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done. That's why a lineworker's family must also be dedicated to service.

Taylor EC lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain over 5,000 miles of power lines across 11 counties.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it's essential to the life and well-being of our community. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life. So, the next time you see a lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing regardless of the conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power.



Taylor Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

CONTACT US

226 County Road 287, Merkel, TX 79536

P.O. Box 250, Merkel, TX 79536

Phone (325) 793-8500

Web taylorelectric.com

President/CEO

Ryan Bartlett

Board of Directors

Cecil Davis, Board Chairman, Zone 1

Leland Robinson, Board Vice Chairman, Zone 1

David McFall, Secretary-Treasurer, Zone 2

Garland Carter, Zone 2

Richard Petree, At-Large

Kathryn Rainey, Zone 3

Gay Simmons, Zone 3

24/7

Outage Hotline

For information and to report outages, please call us.

LOCAL

(325) 793-8500

HANDY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILL

ONLINE

taylorelectric.com

TAYLOR ELECTRIC APP

Available on your Apple or Android device.

BY PHONE

(325) 793-8500

Payments credited immediately.

IN PERSON

Hours Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Merkel 226 CR 287, Merkel 79536

Abilene 7966 Highway 83, Abilene 79602

Payments credited immediately.

DROP BOX

Merkel office at front gate.

Abilene office next to first door on the left.

Payments credited next business day.

PAY STATIONS

• Cash Saver, 155 Sayles Blvd., Abilene

• United Supermarket, 2160 Pine St., Abilene

• Check Express, 906 E. Broadway Ave., Sweetwater

Payments credited next business day.

VISIT US ONLINE

taylorelectric.com



Check us out at
TexasCoopPower.com/taylor

Employees and Years of Service

Scott Adair	Senior Meter Technician	17	Linda Hunt	Senior Financial Planning and Analysis Manager	39
Philip Adams	Automotive Mechanic I	6	Chris Jenkins	Staking Manager	5
Joseph Address	Fiber Technician (Level 2)	2	Josh Kofoed	Meter Technician I	17
Bobby Baker	Senior Fiber Coordinator/ Install Supervisor	8	J.D. Lindsey	Working Foreman	17
Kolby Barnhill	Journeyman Lineman	6	Bobby Martin	Fiber Designer	8
Ryan Bartlett	President/CEO	8	Lauren Mckeehan	Member Service Representative	3
Denise Bernhardt	Billing and Member Service Manager	2	O.C. Mckeehan	Working Foreman	26
Michael Bonnell	Senior GIS Analyst	2	Elizabeth McVey	Public Relations and Communications Manager	10
Trent Brazelton	Member Service Representative	8	Cary Munden	Senior Staking Technician	26
Nancy Brisco	Chief Financial Officer	8	Angelica Murillo	System Control Operator (Level 1)	3
Tanner Bryan	Staking Technician II	5	Brandon Nelson	Staking Technician I	1
Isaiah Burns	Apprentice Lineman (Level 1)	New	Billy New	Service Operations Manager	27
Rhonda Campbell	Senior Member Service Representative	20	Tyler Newberry	Working Foreman	8
O.J. Cano	Apprentice Lineman (Level 4)	4	Jack Odom	Journeyman Lineman	2
Jason Cantu	Working Foreman	10	Brandy Porter	Member Service Supervisor	10
Becky Carroll	Senior Payroll and Financial Analyst	1	Angel Ragans	Member Service Representative	1
Colby Caton	Substation and Metering Manager	8	Nick Robillard	Director of Information Technology	5
Travis Cauthen	Apprentice Lineman (Level 2)	2	David Robirds	Senior System Administrator	9
Levi Clayton	Apprentice Lineman (Level 4)	4	Lincoln Russell	Engineering Aide	4
Donna Cooke	Accounts Payable	24	Rodney Russell	Master Electrician/Journeyman Lineman	17
Cody Corbett	Apprentice Lineman (Level 3)	3	Pete Rutledge	Working Foreman	28
Hannah Crowe	Operations Controller	9	James Sayle	Manager of Safety, Compliance and Facilities	8
Randy Davis	Fiber Crew Foreman	32	Britton Seymore	Apprentice Lineman (Level 4)	4
Jason Devaney	Working Foreman	17	Brody Shadle	Apprentice Lineman (Level 3)	3
Klint Doan	Staking Technician II	21	Chad Sipe	Construction and Maintenance Operations Manager	26
Ryder Dotson	Groundman	New	Kyle Sloan	Working Foreman	17
Kyle Ellington	Groundman	New	Jacob Solis	System Control Operator (Level 1)	4
Jayden Foss	Apprentice Lineman (Level 1)	New	Colt Staggs	Fiber Crew Foreman	4
Joshua Foss	Working Foreman	23	Robert Stephens	Working Foreman	23
Sarah Freeman	Accounting Manager	14	C.J. Thomas	Senior System Control Operator	14
Jason Gaura	Journeyman Lineman	8	David Thomas	Director of Electric Operations	28
Robert Giddings	Master Electrician	17	James Turner	Meter Technician I	17
Steven Goodwill Jr.	Senior System Control Operator	15	Tanner Turner	System Administrator I	New
Jeanie Graham	Executive Assistant	9	Donnie Tutt	Facility Maintenance Personnel	17
Allison Griffin	Human Resources Manager	10	Brett Underwood	Journeyman Lineman	6
James Grimes	Transportation Manager	17	Cody Vanderpool	Groundman	New
Yoli Grimes	AMI Analyst	26	Manuel Villarreal	Equipment Operator	8
Colton Grisham	Facilities Supervisor	3	Nicholas Viola	Engineering Aide	1
Wyatt Hamilton	Groundman	New	Jefferson Wesson	Accountant	10
Rusty Harper	Fiber Technician (Level 2)	2	Blake Whitener	Apprentice Lineman (Level 4)	3
Justin Harris	Senior Fiber Technician	10	Gerald Wilson	Facility Maintenance Personnel	9
Lisa Harris	Accounting Clerk	28	Joe Wilson	Director of Fiber Operations	25
Kyle Haspel	Business Development Manager	7	Ryan Wilson	System Control Operator (Level 1)	4
Wade Hatch	Director of Engineering	5			
Lynn Hays	System Control Operations Manager	17			
Misti Hays	Accounting Manager	19			
Elric Henderson	Senior System Control Operator	10			
Ryan Holmes	Key Accounts Manager	12			

Service Recognition

- 5 Years**

Tanner Bryan
Wade Hatch
Chris Jenkins
Nick Robillard
- 10 Years**

Jason Cantu
Allison Griffin
Justin Harris
Elric Henderson
Elizabeth McVey
Brandy Porter
Jefferson Wesson
- 15 Years**

Steven Goodwill Jr.

20 Years

Rhonda Campbell

25 Years

Joe Wilson

Mail-In Ballot Notice Reminder

All mail-in ballots must be received by 5:30 p.m. April 6.



RYAN JLANE | ISTOCK.COM



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