



*Your monthly report from Your Socorro Electric Cooperative, Inc.*

*Joseph Herrera, General Manager, addresses SEC Members at the 2022 Annual Member Meeting.*

## SEC's 77th Annual Member Meeting In Person.....Finally!

It was great to see our SEC Members in person after a 2 year "disruption" in our usual Annual Meeting event. It was nice to be in a familiar setting at the Macey Center with normal activities of the election of trustees, reports from the Board of Trustees and General Manager, a Q/A session with Members, and Members receiving nice door prizes.

Mr. Herrera, General Manager, reported to the Members on the current state of affairs of SEC and provided an update on current and future activities. He reported on the 69kV transmission line rebuild from Socorro to Magdalena and the upgraded substation in Magdalena. He also reported on the fiber projects that SEC is building to provide state-of-the-art communications with our substations improving not only our new AMI metering infrastructure, but allowing SEC to deploy SCADA communications with our equipment in the field.

Mr. Herrera also mentioned that SEC is working with consultants in completing a Broadband Feasibility Study to research the possibility of providing broadband services to the entire SEC service area. Surveys will be sent to all SEC Members with their May billing statement in an effort to understand the needs of the membership for high speed broadband and what level of service SEC Members would be willing to subscribe to.

Mr. Herrera also reported on current discussions with the NMPRC regarding the outstanding rate case filing from 2019 and the recent letter SEC received from the City of Socorro offering to purchase the cooperative. Ms. Jenn Goss, Senior Vice-President of Member Relations for Tri-State Generation & Transmission (Tri-State) reported to the members that 38% of the power we now consume comes from renewable generation operated by Tri-State.

The election of trustees did bring both familiar and new faces to the Board of Trustees with Mr. Dave Wade returning as Trustee from District 4 being elected by acclamation as no other eligible candidates filed for this seat. Mr. Wade has served District 4 for many years before sitting out for the past 3 years. Welcome back to SEC Mr. Wade!

One of the new faces to the Board is Mr. Ward McCartney representing District 1. Mr. McCartney received 782 votes defeating incumbent Trustee Paul Bustamante who received 705 votes. Mr. McCartney's background includes a degree in geology and ownership of a construction company in northwest Montana that focused on upgrading/building homes to higher energy efficiency standards to offset the high heating bills from the Montana winters. Mr. McCartney lives in the Tierra Grande subdivision in the northern most part of the SEC service area.

The other new face to the Board of Trustees is Mr. Ron Burnett from the Datil area. As SEC received no candidates for the vacant District 5 seat during the regular filing period in January, the Board solicited applicants from District 5 in order to appoint a Trustee to represent this district. At their April 27, 2022 meeting the Board selected Mr. Burnett from the applications received and he will be seated at the upcoming May 18, 2022 Board Meeting. Mr. Burnett lives on his ranch between Datil and Pie Town and was previously in the natural gas business for several years before joining TLC Plumbing where he served as a business partner for over 25 years.

## Spotlight on TEAM SEC - Meet our Staff, Your Neighbor

Leah Garduño, is the "Purchasing/Accounts Receivable Clerk" at SEC. Leah came to work at SEC in October 2021. Leah was born and raised in Dallas but she completed her final year of high school and graduated from St. Pius High School in Albuquerque.

After high school she attended New Mexico State University where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Biology with minors in Chemistry and Conservation Ecology.

Leah moved to Socorro and she worked for two and a half years as a Laboratory Technician II for Tri-Core Reference Laboratories located at the Socorro General Hospital. Better benefits and regular hours inspired her to move to SEC where she says her fellow employees helped to make the transition a smooth one.

Leah and her husband have 3 dogs and 2 cats and they both enjoy outdoor activities and going to the gym. We are proud to have Leah on our SEC Team!



**Leah Garduño**  
Purchasing /AR Clerk

### CONTACT US

#### WEBSITE

[www.socorroelectric.com](http://www.socorroelectric.com)

#### PHONE

800-351-7575 or 575-835-0560

#### PAYING YOUR BILL

You can make your payment over the phone by check or major credit card, 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week with our IVR phone system at no charge.

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### REPORTING AN OUTAGE

Before reporting a power outage, please check the circuit breakers in your house first. If you still do not have power after checking your breakers, please call **(575) 835-0560, (800) 351-7575 or 855-881-8159.**

If you get a busy signal, it is an indication that someone else is experiencing an outage as well; however please continue to call, this will help us pinpoint the problem.

#### MEMBER SERVICE/BILLING

Marilyn Madrid - Member Service Supervisor  
575-835-0560, Ext 1504

#### ACCOUNTING

Jimmy Capps, Chief Financial Officer  
575-835-0560, Ext 1503

#### LINE EXTENSIONS

575-835-0560

#### MARKETING & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jimmy Capps - Director of Communications & Public Affairs - 575-838-9724  
[jcapps@socorroelectric.com](mailto:jcapps@socorroelectric.com)

### April 23rd & 27th Board Report - the Board ...

- conducted their annual re-organization of officers that follows each annual meeting. The SEC Board of Trustee officers for 2022 are:  
Chairman - James Nelson, District 2  
Vice-Chairman - Luis Aguilar, District 3  
Secretary Treasurer - Don Wolberg, District 3
- approved the 2021 Form 990-PF IRS return.
- approved the 2021 Financial Audit. The audit was a "clean audit" with no adjusting or correcting entries required.
- after review of all applicants, the Board appointed Mr. Ron Burnett of Datil as the new Trustee for District 5.
- set the next Board Meeting for May 18, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

### SEC Foundation Announces 2022 Scholarship Recipients: 2022 SEC Foundation \$8,000 scholarships:

#### Socorro High School

*Cody Johnston*

*Elise Madril*

*Kilee Mounyo*

*Mia Olivas*

*Cole Peguero*

*Kaitlynn Siefert*

*Kateri Zamora*

#### Magdalena High School

*Javon Silversmith*

#### Quemado High School

*Noah Bugayong*

#### Belen High School

*Charles Wisneski*

#### Tri-State G&T Scholarship Winners

*Ryan Barajas*

*Belen High School*

**\$500**

*Marissa Jacquez*

*Socorro High School*

**\$500**

#### Basin G&T Scholarship Winner

*Elias Zheng*

*Socorro High School*

**\$1,000**