



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

## CEO and General Manager

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## Website

[www.jemezcoop.org](http://www.jemezcoop.org)

## Office Hours

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (M-F)

## Board of Trustees

### President, Dennis Trujillo

District 1 - Jemez Springs, Jemez Pueblo, Zia Pueblo, Surrounding areas

### Vice President, Manuel Bustos

District 5 - La Mesilla, San Pedro & north up to Alcalde

### Secretary, John Ramon Vigil

District 4 - Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

### Treasurer, Dolores G. McCoy

District 2 - Cuba, surrounding areas in Sandoval, McKinley & San Juan Counties

### Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Stanley Crawford, District 5 - Velarde, Dixon & other areas located in Rio Arriba County east of the Rio Grande River

Dennis Gallegos, District 3 - Abiquiu & the Cañones, Coyote, Gallina, Llaves & Lindrieth areas

Lucus Cordova, Jr., District 4 - Chili, Chamita & other areas from Santa Clara Pueblo north to Medanales including Lyden & La Canova west of the Rio Grande River

Elias Coriz, District 5 - Chimayo & all other areas in Rio Arriba County east of the Rio Grande River

Marcelina Martinez, District 6 - Santa Cruz & surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

Bruce Duran, District 6 - Nambe, Pojoaque, surrounding areas located in Santa Fe County

Marissa Maestas-Muller, Trustee-At-Large - represents the entire cooperative area at large

## Special District Meetings / By-law Update

Since early July, JMEC has been hosting Special District Meetings for members in each of our six districts. Your electric cooperative is doing this because we must start making needed changes to desperately outdated bylaws. One of the bylaws has prevented us from making these changes for nearly 30 years – it is the one that requires a 5 percent quorum of members to make any bylaw updates. JMEC has not been able to get that many voting-eligible members at an annual meeting in a generation!

So, your board of trustees determined that it could be successful if the cooperative worked to get quorums at the district level. The quorums for each of those are lower and JMEC would try to make the meetings more convenient to members in terms of date, time and location.

As of August 1, when this issue of the enchantment newsletter went to print, JMEC had hosted Special District Meetings in districts, 4, 2 and 3. All met quorum, which means each had the number of voting eligible members in attendance, and each of these three districts voted to support passage of the three bylaw changes. Those changes:

1. Reduce the required quorum from 5 percent to 2.5 percent – allowing members to vote and make the changes they want to see in our electric cooperative. This bylaw change is necessary to effectively return voting power to members.
2. Saves big money – allows JMEC not pay for an election when there is only one qualified candidate.
3. Our District 5 has two wards and three representatives – this bylaw update clarifies that the third representative is at-large, meaning he or she can be from either ward and represents all members in District 5.



**New Mexico PRC Schedules Public Hearing for JMEC Proposed Rate Increase**

The New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC) has scheduled a hearing that will address Jemez Mountain Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s proposed rate increase. It is to begin on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, continuing if necessary to October 19 and 20. The hearing is planned to be conducted via Zoom, available to the public via YouTube. Copies of the PRC Second Procedural Order and Notice of Hearing with Order Limiting Scope of Case were mailed as bill stuffers to members in July.

JMEC's proposed rate increase would amount to \$11.28 more per month for the average (722 kWh) residential member. The overall system increase is 11.65 percent. If approved, the increase would be the first JMEC members have incurred in 10 years and still rank third lowest among rates charged by

the 11 New Mexico cooperatives served by Tri-State Generation & Transmission.

For a few years now, JMEC electric rates have not supported what is required to provide our members with safe and reliable electric service. JMEC has too many outages that last for too long a duration.

**JMEC members are encouraged to attend the October 18 PRC hearing on the JMEC proposed rate increase during which they will be able to offer comments.**

**Heat Pump Systems Might Save Energy Costs**



If the high cost of propane has gotten you down, consider the most energy efficient heating and cooling system available today – the ground-source heat pump. Also called a geothermal heat pump, it will heat your home in the winter and cool your home in the summer using a fraction of the electricity of even the typical heat pump.

Rather than trying to cool air conditioner coils in summer's 100-degree heat a ground source heat pump sends a water

solution into the ground, which stays at about 58 degrees. In the winter, we get more heat from the ground than from the air when the temperature gets below 32 degrees, so a very cold water solution is pumped into the pipes and the ground heats the solution.

Energy efficiency is the key to making this system valuable, so be sure to ask about the efficiency rating for the heat pump system, for cooling and heating.

**Ask Jemez Mountains Electric Cooperative about rebates on ground source heat pumps if you are interested in a new home project or if you need to replace your existing system.** If the high cost of propane is getting you down, perhaps you should look at replacing your existing system with an energy efficient ground source heat pump.

