

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

To the Members of Central Valley Electric Cooperative:

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members of Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held on **Saturday, March 20, 2021**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon). Given the current Public Health Order, CVE will host a Drive-Thru Annual Meeting in the Bulldog Bowl Parking Lot (Bulldog Blvd, Artesia). Members will register and be given a ballot to cast their vote on important business of the co-op. **ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO REMAIN IN THEIR VEHICLE AND PROCEED THROUGH THE DRIVE-THRU.** The location of the Drive-Thru Annual Meeting is subject to change depending on Artesia Public Schools activities.

Action will be taken on the following items of business:

- **Any reports covering the year 2019 & 2020, and Minutes from the 2019 Annual Meeting**
- **Election of four (4) members to the Board of Trustees**

The nominating committee, appointed by the Board of Trustees, present the following candidates for election to the board of trustees.

District 4 - Dexter/Hagerman (term ending 2023)

Wesley Pilley (incumbent)

District 7 - Hope (term ending 2023):

Michael Bennett (incumbent)

District 3 - Cottonwood/Lake Arthur (term ending 2024):

Steve Spence (incumbent)

District 6 - North of Roswell (term ending 2024):

Chuck Wagner (incumbent)

Even though we cannot hold a traditional in-person Annual Meeting, CVE will still accept nominations from the floor for the Board of Trustee seats that are up for election (see above). To make a nomination from the floor you must personally hand-deliver a Nomination Form to the CVE office on either March 18 or March 19, during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). For more information on this process and/or to obtain a Nomination Form, please call the CVE office at 575-746-3571.

Any person voting for a company or a corporation at a membership meeting of CVE must be an officer of that company or corporation or be authorized in writing by an officer to vote. No person authorized in writing to represent a corporate membership will be allowed to register and vote for more than one membership. In the case of an individual (non-corporate) membership, proxy voting is not allowed. Only the husband or wife may register and vote for the individual membership.

In witness whereof, this notice has been issued by the Secretary/Treasurer of Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc., dated this 10th day of March, 2021.

Sincerely,



Wesley R. Pilley

Secretary/Treasurer



AVISO DE LA REUNIÓN ANUAL

Para los miembros de Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.:

Se notifica que la reunión anual de los miembros de Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. se llevará a cabo el **sábado, 20 de Marzo de 2021**, de 10:00 a.m. a 12:00 p.m. (mediodía). Dado a las actuales órdenes de la salud pública, CVE organizará una reunión anual Drive-Thru en el Bulldog Bowl Parking Lot (Bulldog Blvd., Artesia, NM). Los miembros se inscribirán y recibirán un boleto electoral para emitir su voto sobre asuntos importantes de la cooperativa. **SI PIDE A TODOS LOS MIEMBROS QUE PERMANEZCAN EN SUS VEHÍCULOS Y PROCEDAN A TRAVÉS DEL DRIVE-THRU.** La locación de la Reunión Anual Drive-Thru está sujeta a cambios dependiendo de las actividades de las Escuelas Públicas de Artesia.

Se tomará medidas en los siguientes asuntos:

- **Cualquier informe que cubra el año 2019 y 2020, y las Actas de la Reunión Anual de 2019.**
- **Elección de cuatro (4) miembros a la Junta Directiva.**

El Comité de nominaciones, designado por la Junta Directiva, les presenta a los siguientes candidatos elegidos para la Junta Directiva.

Distrito 4 - Dexter/Hagerman (fin de plazo 2023):

Wesley Pilley (candidato)

Distrito 7 - Hope (fin de plazo 2023):

Michael Bennett (candidato)

Distrito 3 - Cottonwood/Lake Arthur (fin de plazo 2024):

Steve Spence (candidato)

Distrito 6 - North of Roswell (fin de plazo 2024):

Chuck Wagner (candidato)

A pesar de que no podemos mantener una junta Anual tradicional en persona, CVE aceptará las nominaciones de la sala para los electos del CONSEJO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN. Para hacer una nominación desde el piso, usted debe entregar personalmente un formulario de nominación a la oficina de CVE el 18 de Marzo o el 19 de Marzo, durante el horario normal (8:00 a.m. a las 5:00 p.m.). Para obtener más información sobre este proceso y/o para obtener un Formulario de Nominación, por favor llámenos al 575-746-3571.

Cualquier persona que vota a favor de una empresa o una corporación en una junta de miembros de la cooperativa debe ser funcionario de esa empresa o corporación, o autorizados por escrito por un oficial, para votar. Ninguna persona autorizada por escrito para representar una membresía corporativa podrá registrarse y votar por más de una membresía. En el caso de la membresía individual (no corporativos), no se permite la votación por delegación. Solo el marido y la esposa pueden registrarse y votar como una membresía individual.

En fe de lo cual, este aviso ha sido emitido por el Secretario y Tesorero de La Cooperativa, Central Valley Electric, este día 10 de marzo del 2021.

Sinceramente,



Wesley R. Pilley
Secretario/Tesorero



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Charles T. Pinson, Jr.
General Manager &
Executive Vice President

As the general manager and executive vice president of Central Valley Electric Cooperative, it's my privilege to provide this Executive Report on the operating activities of your cooperative in 2020, which will undoubtedly be known as the year of COVID.

Who would have dreamed the COVID pandemic would have such far reaching effects on our world, our businesses and our normal activities. The COVID pandemic and the subsequent impact to oil prices had a significant effect on CVE's energy sales in 2020. Energy sales for 2020 totaled 743,391,606 kilowatt-hours (kWh), which was a decrease of 78,758,967 kWh from 2019, or approximately 10 percent reduction in energy sales. Similarly, the peak demand across the system was 117.2 megawatts (MW), which was 6 percent less than the peak in 2019.

Because electricity is essential, CVE is considered an essential business, as defined by the Public Health Order from the New Mexico Department of Health. As the various health orders were issued, CVE adjusted our business operating procedures in an effort to comply with the orders, and to protect our employees, our members, and the general public. The health orders forced us to cancel our 2019 Annual Meeting, and it's currently creating logistical problems for how we can legally conduct an Annual Meeting to report on 2020. As such, various reports including this Executive Report, the Board President's Report (page 7) and the Nominating Committee Reports (page 10-11) are published in this Annual Report (this is in lieu of the reports being provided orally at the Annual Meeting).

CVE's operating revenue for 2020 was \$56,688,471, which was \$2 million less than in 2019. The reduction in operating revenue was caused by a correlating reduction in wholesale power costs. CVE's Fuel and Purchased Power Cost Adjustment clause is designed to collect or refund the amounts above or below the co-op's base cost of power. Wholesale power costs for 2020 were \$35,127,660, which was \$2.1 million less than 2019, hence the reduction in operating revenue. The overall year-end margins for CVE in 2020 was \$4,099,386, which was \$136,028 less than 2019.

Even with a reduction in operating revenue, all-in-all, CVE weathered 2020 fairly well because of reductions in expenses, such as not filling vacant positions due to retirements and restrictions on travel due to the pandemic and health orders. At the beginning of the COVID pandemic, the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) placed a prohibition on utilities from disconnecting residential customers while the public health orders are in place. CVE recognizes that some residential members may have difficulty paying their bills due to the pandemic, but members should be aware that the debt incurred for electric service must be paid after the health orders are lifted. CVE has serious concerns that some residential members may incur substantial bills that will be difficult to pay once the health orders are lifted, and we encourage those members to make every effort to pay down the debt.

CVE periodically performs an internal financial forecast to determine when additional revenue is needed to support the operations of the co-op, and maintain our mortgage requirements with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS). CVE has two sources of capital available, one being operating margins from rates paid by our members, and the second is long term loans from the RUS or other supplemental lenders. Our financial forecast indicated the need for a rate increase in 2021 or 2022. As our members may recall, CVE took unprecedented action in 2018, and filed new rates to reduce revenues received from the members. New rates are designed and filed with the NMPRC based on a historic test year. However, after careful consideration of the events of 2020, and the impacts from the pandemic, CVE chose to apply for a \$44 million loan, from the RUS, and delay the need to increase rates. The Board of Trustees felt that given the COVID pandemic and its effects on our members and energy sales, the loan was necessary to support the activities of the cooperative and carry us forward until a reasonable historic test year can occur and be used to develop new rates.

Our members should be proud of the fact that Central Valley Electric Cooperative has some of the lowest rates. Every year the Cooperative Finance Corporation puts together a Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA) for electric cooperatives. The 2019 KRTA showed that CVE had the lowest wholesale power cost for electric cooperatives in New Mexico, and the co-op was in the lowest 8 percent of electric cooperatives in the United States. We fully expect this to be the same when the 2020 KRTA comes out sometime this year. Low wholesale power costs equate to low retail rates for our members. That being said, CVE's residential rate was also the lowest in New Mexico for 2019 and ranked in the lowest 2 percent for electric cooperatives in the nation.

CVE's net utility plant value at the end of 2020 was \$167,068,802. Total assets for 2020 was \$213,963,898, which was an increase of \$2,082,949 from 2019. A more detailed income statement and balance sheet are included in this Annual Report (pages 8-9).

In 2020, CVE successfully installed Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) applications in our service trucks and various other co-op vehicles. The AVL allows for internet access in the vehicles giving our employees additional capabilities to efficiently do their jobs. The AVL also helps us protect our most valuable resource, our employees. If an accident occurs and emergency responders are necessary, the AVL can give us the GPS location of the co-op vehicle. The COVID pandemic heightened the need for the AVL, as it proved to be even more critical during times when our employees, in co-op vehicles, were reduced due to COVID exposure concerns.

Currently, all of CVE is operating normally. Our lobby area is open, although access is restricted within our headquarters facility to employees only. We have installed glass barriers in our lobby area to help provide protection. CVE's employees have worked diligently throughout the pandemic to protect themselves and their fellow employees. As a result, CVE had relatively few employees confirmed positive with COVID-19 and we have realized minimal impacts to our operations.

As a member, please rest assured that the Board of Trustees, employees, and management of Central Valley Electric Cooperative will continue to protect and serve the cooperative and its members. Your cooperative remains strong and committed to meeting the needs of the membership. Thank you for your loyalty, dedication and commitment to the cooperative. We pray for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic, for the safety of all our members, for the success of all our businesses, and for a return to normal life.



2020 FACTS AND FIGURES

Total kWh sold	743,391,606
New services connected	341
Number of members	4,288
Number of meters	14,897
Miles of energized line	4,207
Full-time employees	84

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Central Valley Electric Cooperative service area is divided into seven districts. One member from each district is elected to the CVE Board of Trustees by the people who matter most — their fellow members. This democratic process ensures that you always have a voice and representation in how your co-op operates.



Front row left to right:

JASON CIEMPA

District 2: Loco Hills

CHUCK WAGNER

(President)

District 6: North of Roswell

WESLEY PILLEY

(Secretary/Treasurer)

District 4: Dexter/Hagerman

Back row left to right:

STEVE SPENCE

District 3: Cottonwood/Lake Arthur

LARRY BENEDICT

District 5: South of Roswell

MICHAEL BENNETT

(Vice President)

District 7: HOPE

RUSTY GWYNNE

District 1: Artesia/Lakewood



Thank you to the following board members for their years of service to the cooperative.

- Wesley Pilley - 20 years of service
- Chuck Wagner - 20 years of service
- Michael Bennett - 15 years of service

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Charles G.
Wagner, Jr.**
Board President

Greetings Central Valley Electric Cooperative members:

Wow, 2020, what a year, to say the least! We have all been affected, by the COVID-19 pandemic in one way or another.

Early on in the pandemic, Central Valley Electric Cooperative took measures to insure the health and safety of its employees and members. The Board of Trustees met virtually for a few months as protocols were developed and we got a better understanding of COVID. The health orders deemed electric cooperatives as essential businesses, and the Board began to meet in-person again with all the necessary protective protocols in place. The Board felt that major decisions needed to be made face-to-face, but with proper social distancing. In-person discussion and decision making were better for the business of the co-op. With things slowing down and businesses shutting down, we tightened our belt as the health orders from our governor showed no signs of abating. Still at the writing of this report, the health orders continue.

Taking advantage of the low interest rates being offered, CVE took out a 4-year work plan loan from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for \$44 million to support the continued operations of the cooperative. CVE can draw on this loan package over the next five years as needed. Our members rates remain low and the year-end margins for 2020 were above what was budgeted.

The Government-In-Action Youth Tour was canceled in 2020, and unfortunately it has already been canceled for 2021. The Youth Tour is an excellent program that teaches our students how our government is supposed to work and the history of our great nation. It's unfortunate that COVID forced the cancellation of this program and the significant effects its had on our youth, and their ability to attend school.

The Central Valley Electric Education Foundation Scholarship program is going strong. In 2020, the Foundation awarded 132 scholarships worth \$3,000 each. That's a total of \$396,000 awarded in scholarship money to our members and their youth. We encourage all eligible members to apply for these scholarships, and the application deadline for the 2021-2022 school year is April 15.

In closing, I would like to express the Board's appreciation for the support and cooperation of the membership. This Board is committed to protecting the best interests of the members and our most valuable resource — our employees — who work hard every day for our members.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles G. Wagner, Jr." in a cursive style.

Charles "Chuck" G. Wagner, Jr.
CVE Board President



ASSETS

Utility Plant

Total Utility Plant in Service	\$ 200,050,868
Construction Work in Progress	<u>2,169,061</u>
Total Utility Plant	<u>202,219,929</u>

Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>35,151,127</u>
Net Utility Plant in Service	\$ <u>167,068,802</u>

Other Assets and Investments

Invest. in assoc. org. (patronage capital)	\$ 1,557,672
Invest. in assoc. org. (general funds)	18,855,835
Other Investments	<u>1,688</u>

Total Other Assets and Investments	\$ <u>20,415,195</u>
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Current Assets

Cash-General Funds	\$ 6,257,312
Temporary Investments	12,512,934
Notes Receivable	142,658
Accounts Receivable-Sale of Energy	3,462,655
Accounts Receivable-Other	51,417
Materials and Supplies-Electric & Other	2,756,317
Prepayments	306,690
Other Current and Accrued Assets	<u>217,847</u>

Total current and accrued assets	\$ <u>25,707,830</u>
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Other Deferred Debits	\$ <u>772,070</u>
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Total Assets	\$ <u>213,963,897</u>
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LIABILITIES AND OTHER CREDITS

Equities

Patronage Capital	\$ 99,210,779
Operating Margins Prior Years	288,271
Operating Margins Current Year	2,591,799
Non-Operating Margins	20,564,969
Other Margins & Equities	<u>755,851</u>
Total Margins & Equities	\$ <u>123,411,669</u>

Long-Term Debt

Long Term Debt - RUS	\$ 62,420,659
RUS Payments Unapplied	-7,317,530
Long Term Debt Other	<u>9,786,353</u>
Total Long Term Debt	\$ <u>64,889,482</u>

Accumulated Operating Provisions

Total Other Non-current Liabilities	\$ <u>237,333</u>
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Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 3,287,531
Consumers Deposits	1,613,125
Other Current & Accrued Liabilities	<u>2,392,648</u>
Total Current & Accrued Liabilities	\$ <u>7,293,304</u>

Other Deferred Credits	\$ <u>18,132,109</u>
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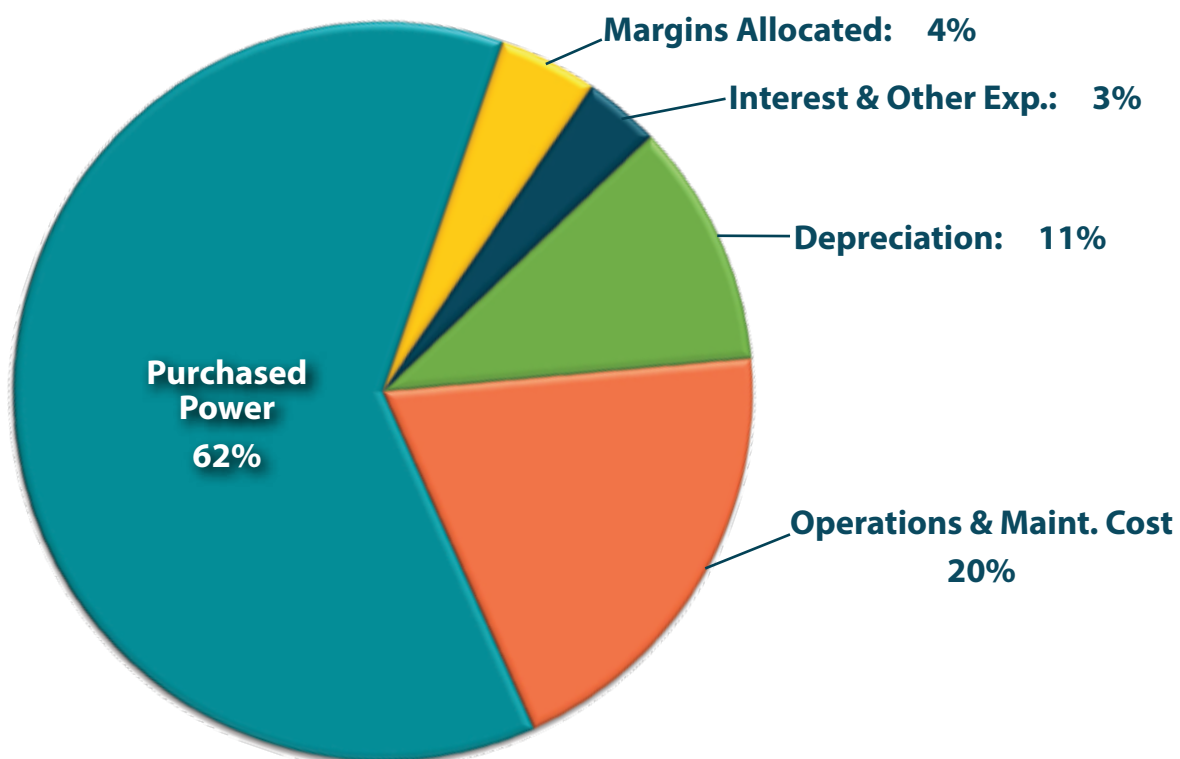
Total Liabilities & other credits	\$ <u>213,963,897</u>
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INCOME STATEMENT

	2018	2019	2020
Operating Revenues			
Electric and other revenue	\$64,586,533	\$58,829,102	\$56,688,471
Operating Expenses			
Purchased Power	\$43,492,399	\$37,223,823	\$35,127,660
Operations & Maintenance	\$11,331,111	\$11,235,105	\$11,178,374
Depreciation	\$5,934,584	\$5,873,458	\$6,065,618
Interest	\$1,860,281	\$1,858,668	\$1,820,148
Other Deductions	\$66,061	\$23,447	\$58,723
Total Operating Expenses	\$62,684,436	\$56,214,501	\$54,250,523
Net Margins			
Operating Margins	\$1,902,097	\$2,614,601	\$2,437,947
Non-Operating Margins	\$490,304	\$1,573,907	\$1,661,439
WFEC Equity	\$589,673	\$139,906	\$0
Total Net Margins	\$2,982,074	\$4,328,414	\$4,099,386

Revenue dollars used to provide electric service in 2020.



CENTRAL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO

A meeting of the Nominating Committee for the Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held Tuesday, February 4, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Cooperative, 1403 North Thirteenth Street, Artesia, New Mexico.

The meeting of the Nominating Committee was called for the purpose of selecting nominees for the Board of Trustees of Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Smiley Wooton.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the following are nominated for trustees to be voted on at the Annual Meeting to be held March 14, 2020.

FOR THREE (3) YEAR TERM

District 4 Hagerman — Wesley Pilley

District 7 Hope — Michael Bennett

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned, dated this 4th day of February 2020.

1. Smiley Wooton, Chairman, Smiley Wooton
2. Dale Taylor, Vice Chairman, Dale Taylor
3. Justin Boswell, Justin Boswell
4. Gilbert Gomez, Gilbert Gomez
5. J.T. Jackson, J.T. Jackson
6. Jeanette Kelley, Jeanette Kelley
7. Ruben Trujillo, Ruben Trujillo

CENTRAL VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO

A meeting of the Nominating Committee for the Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held Wednesday, February 10, 2021 @ 9:02 a.m. in the Jack Case Community Room at the Cooperative, 1403 N. 13th Street, Artesia, NM, 88210.

The meeting of the Nominating Committee was called for the purpose of selecting nominees for the Board of Trustees of Central Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Smiley Wooten. Mr. Gilbert Gomez attended in person. Mr. Smiley Wooten, Mr. Justin Boswell, Mr. J. T. Jackson, Ms. Jeanette Kelley, Mr. Dale Taylor, and Mrs. Guadalupita Trujillo attended by teleconference call.

After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the following are nominated for trustees to be voted on at the Annual Meeting to be held March 20, 2021:

FOR THREE (3) YEAR TERM

District 3 Cottonwood/Lake Arthur — Steve Spence

District 6 North of Roswell — Charles G. Wagner, Jr.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Taylor to accept the telephonic signatures. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned, dated this 10th day of February 2021.

1. Telephonically Approved _____, Chairman, Smiley Wooten
2. Telephonically Approved _____, Vice Chairman, Dale Taylor
3. Telephonically Approved _____, Justin Boswell
4. *Gilbert Gomez* _____, Gilbert Gomez
5. Telephonically Approved _____, J.T. Jackson
6. Telephonically Approved _____, Jeanette Kelley
7. Telephonically Approved _____, Guadalupita Trujillo

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY



In 2020, concern for community looked a little different for Central Valley Electric Cooperative. Since we provide an essential service to our members, and with the spread of the coronavirus, our top priority was to keep our employees healthy and prepared to continue that service for you. We took the necessary precautions to try and keep our employees and our members safe and healthy. One of the first steps we took was canceling our annual meeting that was scheduled in March 2020. Our lobby was closed for a while and we rotated employees to comply with social distancing. Our office building was, and continues to be, sanitized on a regular basis. We also installed protective glass in our lobby area.

Because of the pandemic we weren't able to do a lot of the community events we normally do. Events such as the Eddy County Fair, our member appreciation events and safety demonstrations to name a few. The Government-in-Action Youth Tour trip, to Washington, D.C., was canceled in 2020 and the trip for 2021 has already been canceled.

In 2020, CVE joined forces with other electric cooperatives in the state, the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NMRECA), Western Farmers Electric Cooperative, and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association to purchase hand sanitizer. The hand sanitizer was distributed among employees and other essential industries in our community, like first responders and healthcare workers.

Travis Sullivan, general manager at Southwestern Electric Cooperative in Clayton, reached out to Boot Hill Distillery in Dodge City, Kansas, who temporarily stopped brewing whiskey to help make much needed hand sanitizer when the pandemic started. The group of co-ops purchased 250 gallons of hand sanitizer and distributed it among New Mexico cooperatives. "CVE received 22 gallons and the intent, first off was to make sure we had enough hand sanitizer within each one of the co-ops," stated Chuck Pinson. CVE also wanted to give hand sanitizer to healthcare personnel and first responders in our service area.

Facilities CVE donated hand sanitizer to include:

- Midway & Atoka Volunteer Fire Departments
- Eddy County Sheriff's Office
- Towns of Hagerman & Dexter
- City of Roswell Fire Department
- Artesia Healthcare and Rehab & Goodlife Assisted Living
- Renewed Wellness
- Artesia Senior Center & Roswell Joy Center
- Victory Life, Aspire & the Chase Foundation
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center

Concern for our communities is a big part of what CVE does and we hope to get back into the communities soon and continue to do our part to keep people safe.



EMPLOYEE MILESTONES

Hard work and dedication make up a winning team, and the employees of CVE work hard to keep your power on. **THANK YOU** to the following employees for their years of service to Central Valley Electric Cooperative.



30
years

Anna Pitts
HR Coordinator



30
years

Dwayne Pounds
Staking Engineer



25
years

Ramon Barrera
Operations Director



15
years

Anthony Salsberry
Working Foreman



10
years

Rory Watts
Engineering Tech



10
years

Adrian Carrasco
Serviceman



10
years

Jake Daley
Serviceman



5
years

Matthew Rivera
Engineering Tech



5
years

Jessie Medrano
Substation Tech



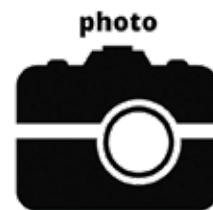
5
years

Jessica Salsberry
Billing



5
years

Tracker Bowen
Serviceman



not available

5
years

Claudia Hernandez
HR Specialist

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Central Valley Electric Cooperative would like to take this opportunity to highlight not only the cooperative's accomplishments, but also recognize the employees and their hard work.

Carl M. Turner Safety Award

In 2020, CVE was awarded the Carl M. Turner Safety Award for having a zero-dollar loss ratio in workers' compensation claims for the year 2019. Our employees take their safety and the safety of their co-worker's very seriously. This award is a reflection of their commitment to safety, and for that we thank our hard working employees.



CVE Report Card

Every year the Cooperative Finance Corporation puts together a Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA). The KRTA is basically a report card that compares CVE to our peers (other electric distribution co-ops in the U.S.).

CVE's board of trustees, management, and employees work hard to keep electric rates and expenses low. The KRTA shows how successful we have been at working hard for you - our members.

Below are highlights from our most current KRTA:

- **Residential Rates:** Rank in the lowest 2% among co-ops in the U.S. National average: \$0.122 per kilowatt-hour (kWh); New Mexico average: \$0.159 per kWh; **CVE average: \$0.079 per kWh.**
- **Total Utility Plant:** CVE is the largest co-op in New Mexico in terms of utility plant installed (co-op assets: poles, wires, meters, buildings, fleet, etc.).
- **Total Controllable Expenses:** Rank in the lowest 4% in the U.S. (includes wages and benefits).

Lamontine Recognized for Safety

Serviceman, Lee Lamontine was awarded the Long Rope Safety Award for 2020. He was nominated for this award, by his peers, for being a leader in safety. Lamontine's priorities are safety on the job, the safety of his fellow employees, and the safety of the co-op members.



A colleague stated, "Lee has a natural ability to stay cool, calm, and collected. He always errs on the side of safety. In my opinion, he is a significant asset to CVE and its members."

The Long Rope Safety Award is dedicated to all linemen in New Mexico who have been killed or injured on the job. It is given to an individual who has a positive attitude towards training, communication, safe work habits, and is a leader who demonstrates a culture of safety in a challenging industry.

Lamontine has been working for CVE for over 14 years and is a serviceman in the Roswell area. **Congratulations Lee for being a good representative of everything this award stands for.**

Bowen Earns Certificate

Tracker Bowen successfully completed the Merchant Job Training and Safety Program. Bowen is a serviceman in the oilfield.



The Merchant Program is a four-year curriculum for entry-level electric utility personnel. The program combines technical instruction and on-the-job training. **Congratulations Tracker.**

Drake Retires with 44 Years



On July 31, 2020, Chalk Drake officially retired from Central Valley Electric Cooperative. He started working as a mechanic at CVE in the fall of 1976 and did so for almost 44 years.

In his four decades of service to the co-op, he saw many things change, from a fleet that had no 4-wheel drive vehicles to one with almost all 4-wheel drive vehicles, and an electric car. He saw vehicles become more computerized and regulations increase. But one thing stayed the same according to Drake, "The one thing that hasn't changed is that trucks are going to break down, but at least now the shop is large enough to pull the big trucks in to and better equipment to get them back on the road faster."



CVE would like to thank Chalk Drake for his many years of service to the co-op

Blount Retires After Almost 40 Years

Sam Blount, after almost 40 years of service to CVE retired on February 5, 2020. He started working at the co-op in 1981 as a staking engineer. After doing that for three years, he read meters for five years before he moved to the Metering Department where he stayed for the next 30 years.



The technology of the meters have changed a lot over his career, and he had to learn to use a computer to keep up with the technology, but the basic function of the meter is the same. "It tells you how much electricity a person uses, only nowadays you can get a lot more information," said Blount.

Since retirement he is enjoying time with his grandkids, and working on his old truck. Central Valley Electric Cooperative thanks Sam Blount for his dedication and service to the co-op.

In Remembrance

Frutos Cota 1942 - 2020

Frutos Cota started working in the Engineering Department at Central Valley Electric Cooperative in 1972. A few years later he became the Supervisor in the Warehouse and was tasked with the job of streamlining the co-op's ever growing inventory. After 36 years at the co-op, Cota retired in 2008.



On November 7, 2020, Frutos Cota, 78, passed away. He was preceded in death by his wife Kathryn M. Cota. He is survived by his son's John and Matthew Cota, daughter-in-law Veronica, John's daughters, Leslie Fitzpatrick, and Jessica Cota, Veronica's son Johnathan Glass, brothers Luis and Fred Cota, sister Rosie Anholt, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A loving father, grandfather, brother and uncle, Frutos will be deeply missed by all. CVE offers our deepest condolences to the Cota family

MAIN STREET

ANNUAL MEETING

**DRIVE-THRU
ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday
March 20, 2021

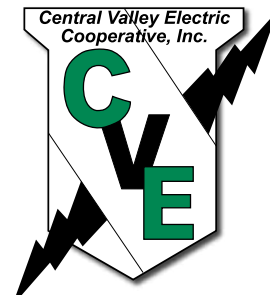
Drive-Thru anytime between
10 AM & 12 PM (noon)

Bulldog Bowl Parking Lot
(Bulldog Blvd, Artesia)

\$50 gift card

for the first 200 members who register
(limit one per membership)

All members who register will
be eligible to win one of the
many door prizes we have. We
will draw for door prizes on
Monday, March 22, at the CVE
office and then we will contact
the winners.



To be eligible to win a door prize, you must be registered at the Annual Meeting, be an active member of CVE receiving service at least 14 days prior to the meeting, and you must meet all rules stipulated in the Notice of Annual Meeting (page 2 & 3).

ENTER

**REGISTRATION
AREA**

Two Registration Lanes.
Register, get your ballot &
goodie bag.

This area is where you will Park and
Mark your ballot. You will also fill
out your door prize entry form.

PLEASE REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE AT
ALL TIMES.

When you've completed your ballot
proceed to the designated EXIT,
drop-off your ballot, and collect
your \$50 gift card.

BULLDOG BLVD.

EXIT

Drop off completed ballot at a designated EXIT
and receive \$50 gift card.

EXIT

GRAND AVE.