

COLUMBUS[®] CURRENTS

The Annual Meeting of Members will be held on April 16, 2016 at the Animas School



The Cooperative is required to notify each member of the following provision of the By-Laws. The following passage regarding the nomination of Trustees is from page 6 of the By-Laws of Columbus Electric Cooperative, Inc.

ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4, Nominations.

(a) NOMINATIONS BY PETITION

Any fifteen (15) or more members, in any one district, acting together may make nominations by petition for trustee of their district, and such petition shall be delivered to the Secretary of the Cooperative twenty-five (25) days prior to the annual meeting of the members. Upon receipt of such nominating petition from any district, the Secretary shall immediately post said petition at the office of the cooperative, and such nomination shall be announced at the annual meeting prior to election of trustees.

(b) NOMINATIONS MADE FROM THE FLOOR.

Additional nominations for trustee for a particular district or for trustee-at-large may be made from the floor at the meeting of the members by any member from the same district. Each member shall be entitled to nominate one candidate from his district.

(c) NOMINATING FOR TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE.

When the trustee-at-large is to be elected, nominations may be made by members of any district in the same manner set forth in sub paragraphs (a) and (b) above.

(d) NOTICE FOR NOMINATIONS

The names of the nominees for trustees so made by petition shall be set forth in the notice of the annual or special meeting of the members at which trustees are to be elected, and the Secretary shall at such meeting list all nominations made by petition and from the floor.

If you have questions about your Voting District, the nominating process, or would like a copy of the By-laws, please contact the Co-op.

Board OK's Capital Credit Retirement

Operation at cost is part of the cooperative difference



Electric cooperatives aren't like other utilities—you, as a consumer and a member own a portion of the business. And one benefit of that membership involves the allocation of excess revenue, called margins, in the form of capital credits.

Electric co-ops operate at cost—collecting enough revenue to run the business but without the need to raise rates to generate profits for distant shareholders. When Columbus Electric has money left over, it's allocated back to you and other members as capital credits. When the co-op's financial position permits, the co-op retires, or pays, the capital credits to members. This year the Cooperative will retire \$486,047 to those of you who were members in the year 1976. Allocating and retiring excess revenue to members helps distinguish cooperatives from other types of electric utilities.

Capital credits are so-called because members provide necessary capital to the cooperative for it to maintain and operate the electric distribution system. These monies decrease the need to raise rates or borrow all the money necessary to pay for infrastructure. After a number of years, as financial conditions permit, we retire a set amount of capital credits.

These margins are the only real source of equity for electric cooperatives, so it is essential for a co-op to maintain the right balance between retiring capital credits to its members and retaining sufficient equity on our balance sheet. We do our best to strike that balance in an effort to provide you rate stability.

This is just one more way that we looking out for you!

WINTER MORATORIUM TO END

Protection from winter shut-off ends March 15, 2016. To avoid potential disconnection of services please contact Columbus Electric Cooperative Inc. 575-546-8838 or 1-800-950-2667 to make arrangements for payment. Members of New Mexico tribes or pueblos who need help with translation or with other matters may contact the commission's consumer relations division at (888) 427-5772, who will contact the appropriate tribal or pueblo official for assistance. Para informacion en espanol llame 575-546-8838 or 1-800-950-2667.

Emergency Response Number
1-800-228-0579

Toll - free Office Number
1-800-950-COOP (2667)