



# Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative

Online Election Voter ID and Mail-in Ballot Enclosed

Annual Meeting Official Notice July 18, 2023 Lane County Fairgrounds **AGENDA** 

6-7:30 p.m. **Free Fair Rides** 

6:30 p.m. **Dinner IOHN ROSS & CO.** SIGNATURE CATERING

7:30 p.m.

Introduction of Guests

Report of Quorum

Approval of Minutes of 2022 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Recognition of **Employees and Trustees** 

Announcement of 2023 **Continuing Education** Scholarship Recipients

Manager's Report

**Guest Speaker** LEE TAFANELLI. CEO KANSAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, INC.

Unfinished Business

**New Business** 

Announcement of Board of Trustee **Election Results** 

**DOOR PRIZES THROUGHOUT** THE MEETING

#### Official Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held at the Lane County Fairgrounds, Tuesday, July 18, 2023, in Dighton. The event will begin with free fair rides at 6 p.m., a catered meal by John Ross & Co. Signature Catering at 6:30 p.m., and the business meeting to follow. Approval of the minutes of the 2022 annual meeting, the treasurer's report, manager's report, special guest speaker Lee Tafanelli, CEO of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and announcement of the trustee election results are all on the agenda.

The committee on nominations, appointed by the board of trustees, has nominated the following members as candidates for the offices of trustees. Representing Lane and Gove counties, **RANDY EVANS** (incumbent); representing Finney and Hodgeman counties, LYNN GOEBEL, RANDY J. EVANS and SUSAN NUSS; representing Ness and Rush counties, KYLE ANTENEN, GEROME COPELAND, KENNETH FLAX, JAMES JORDAN and RANDY NORTON.

Other nominations may be made by petition to the nominating committee at least 45 days prior to the nominating committee meeting. Of the persons nominated, and any other nominations made by petition, it will be necessary to elect three trustees to succeed the persons whose terms expire at the meeting.

#### **Guest Speaker**

**LEE TAFANELLI** joined Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC) as CEO effective May 1, 2020. Prior to joining KEC, Tafanelli served as the Kansas Adjutant General, responsible for three primary duties: ensuring the wartime readiness of over 7.000 soldiers and airmen of

the Kansas Army and Air National Guard, coordinating the overall emergency preparedness for the state's response to natural disasters and emergencies, and serving as the Homeland Security Advisor for the state of Kansas.

Tafanelli served in the Kansas House of Representatives from 2001-2005, when he took a leave from office to command the 891st Engineer Battalion in Iraq. After his deployment, he resumed his legislative post in 2006 where he served until January 2011, when he was appointed Kansas Adjutant General.

During his time in the Kansas Legislature and as Adjutant General, Tafanelli developed a deep interest and focus on issues affecting rural Kansas.

Tafanelli received his commission from Pittsburg State University, Army Reserve Officer Training Corps, and holds a master's degree in Environmental Planning and Management from Kansas State University and a master's degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

#### **Cooperative Trustees**



**JENNISON Board President** Lane & Gove counties



**CRAIG RAMSEY** Vice President Scott & Logan counties



PAUL SEIB JR. Secretary Ness & Rush counties



**ERIC DOLL** Treasurer Finnev & Hodgeman counties



**RANDY EVANS** Trustee Lane & Gove counties



**CHAD GRIFFITH** Trustee Scott & Logan counties



**MYRON SEIB** Senior Journeyman Lineman



Journeyman Lineman

Journeyman Lineman **LEIGHTON AYERS** 

Journeyman Lineman

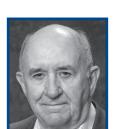
Journeyman Lineman

Apprentice Lineman

**DYLAN FEHRENBACH** Apprentice Lineman

**TAYLOR CABLE** Intern

STACEY FOOS Part-Time Custodian



**HAROLD HOSS** Trustee Ness & Rush counties



**RAD ROEHL** Trustee Lane & Gove counties



**RICHARD SOREM** Trustee Finney & Hodgeman counties

**DIANA KUHLMAN** Human Resources Specialist / **Accounting Assistant** 

**ANN MARIE JENNINGS** 

**EMPLOYEES** 

Manager of Financial Services

**RICHARD MCLEON** 

**Engineering Coordinator** 

**CARRIE BORELL** 

**Network Administrator** 

REBECCA CAMPBELL **Lead Billing Representative** 

General Manager

**KATHY LEWIS** 

**NATE BURNS** 

**JOCELYN WALKER** Accountant

KATIE RIFFLE Cashier / Receptionist SCOTT BRIAND

Warehouse Supervisor **KALO MANN** Master Electrician

MARK MCCULLOCH **HVAC Technician** 

MICHAEL POLLOCK Master Electrician

**KASEY JENKINSON** Line Superintendent

BEN MANN

Crew Chief **CHAD RUPP** 

Crew Chief

**KEVIN BRADSTREET** 

**BLAKE MCVICKER** 

**DELLON SHELTON** 



#### **Executive Report**

2022 was a challenging year. Despite gains in 2021, COVID-19 refused to go away. Inflation continued to surge (up 6.5%), while the stock market declined (down 8.78%). Federal Reserve rates rose to 4.4% and gasoline prices also continued to climb, (up 31.22%), fueled by global events and domestic policies. Prices rose along with the summer temperatures and the rain refused to fall.

On the bright side, the Jayhawks rallied from a 16-point deficit to defeat the eighth-seeded North Carolina Tar Heels, 72–69, in the National Championship game.

The year 2022 was a challenging year, but someone once said, "Challenges are gifts, opportunities to learn." We evaluated every process, eliminated what didn't work and streamlined what did. We updated costs and fees, managed inventories, leveraged purchasing power, and we found efficiencies. Still, as costs rose across the board, we saw margins sink. Despite a 6.43% overall rate adjustment, which aligned our 2016 rate structure with 2021 costs, we saw our rate of return shrink to 2.49%.



RICHARD JENNISON Board President



RICHARD MCLEON
General Manager

One of the many benefits of an electric cooperative is that the reason we exist, our focus, is on serving our members with reliable, affordable electric energy and related cooperative services. Our focus remains on two things: rates and reliability.

Amid these challenging times, Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative maintained the fifth lowest residential rates among Kansas cooperatives and about 15.4% below the local municipal rates. Your cooperative also achieved the second lowest non-primary metered Industrial rate in Kansas. All while keeping your energy dollars local and remaining financially strong.

The story goes that one utility manager told his board, "I've got good news and bad news. The good news is that we only need to increase electric rates by 5% this year. The bad news is that the power will only be working half of the time." Cheap power doesn't mean much if the lights aren't on.

Lane-Scott tracks several utility industry standard reliability metrics. Our average service availability index for 2022 was 99.96% while the average number of interruptions per meter decreased to 1.33 per year. Last year, 55.4% of our system outages resulted from major storms and power supplier disruptions.

The bottom-line is that your cooperative stayed focused on our core business of providing reliable, cost-effective power and finished 2022 with over \$60 million in utility plant and a total of \$34.8 million in long-term debt. The cooperative had \$20.9 million in energy sales and an operating margin of \$563,308.

Cooperative services including Generac generator sales and servicing, HVAC and electrician services, electrical parts and equipment sales, and appliance repairs, had its best year in a decade adding more than \$140,000 to the bottom line.

The Merriam Webster Dictionary defines the word cooperative as:

- ▶ Mutual assistance in working toward a common goal.
- ▶ A farm, business or other organization, which is owned and run jointly by its members who share the profits or benefits.

Cooperatives are non-profit. That's the way we were founded and the way we continue to operate. If we make more than we need, we pay it back to you, our member-owners. Last year, the cooperative returned \$500,000 of equity to members in our largest capital credit retirement in many years.

We never know what the future holds, but we know that as a cooperative we are stronger together. Every day we work toward our common goal of keeping the lights on and your costs reasonable. We continue in our commitment to our communities and to keeping local dollars local, while we investigate new technologies and efficiencies in workflow management, electric vehicle charging, solar and wind energy support, and demand side management options.

2022 was a challenging, frustrating and rewarding year. We took a few hits, like everyone else, but as a team we maintained low rates and high reliability. We expanded services and we supported our communities. We are 25 employees strong, one cooperative in two convenient locations, and I am honored to be a part of the Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative family and to work alongside these great and dedicated individuals, serving you, every day.

#### SHARING SUCCESS IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

Through a partnership with CoBank, one of our national partner banks, Lane-Scott began the CoBank Sharing Success Grant Program in 2020. The program is designed to provide grants to charitable organizations and causes in our local communities.

CoBank is a national nonprofit cooperative bank owned by the rural American cooperatives it serves. Since the Sharing Success Program was established in 2012, CoBank and its customers have together contributed more than \$50 million to groups such as volunteer fire departments, local schools, and hunger relief programs to name a few. In 2022, Co-Bank matched Lane-Scott Electric's \$2,000 donation, awarding four deserving recipients each with a \$1,000 grant.

The 2022 recipients were the LANE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, which used the grant to purchase

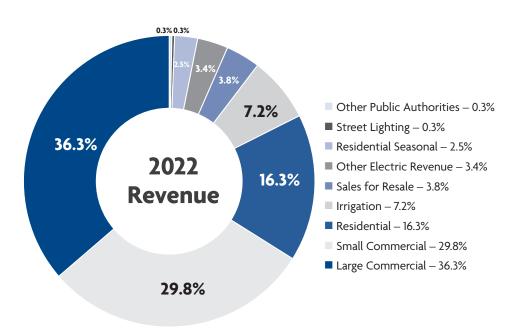
safety equipment such as extraction and grain bin rescue equipment; the **AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 392** based from Bazine to assist with their annual fundraiser run to raise donations that help with veteran's suicide prevention; the **NESS CITY LEISURE YEARS CENTER**, which upgraded the lighting throughout the center to more energy-efficient LEDs; and the **RANSOM VFW POST 7972**, which assists the Western Plains Honor Flight. These grants were distributed in July 2022.

Applications are accepted at the beginning of each calendar year from 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, and other non 501(c)(3)'s such as schools, government organizations like counties, municipalities, and their agencies or departments. Use of the grants must serve a public purpose and benefit a community or communities who receive electric service from Lane-Scott or who's purpose benefits members of Lane-Scott.



### **Financial Report**

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 2022						
	2022	2021	2020			
INCOME						
Operating Revenue	\$20,914,246	\$18,976,716	\$16,137,299			
EXPENSES						
Cost of Power	\$12,903,008	\$11,294,294	\$9,219,252			
Operations	\$4,260,949	\$4,083,651	\$4,015,321			
Depreciation & Amortization	\$1,888,036	\$1,844,094	\$1,650,032			
Interest	\$1,282,921	\$1,338,351	\$1,339,441			
Miscellaneous	\$16,024	\$23,031	\$40,819			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$20,350,938	\$18,583,421	\$16,264,865			
OPERATING MARGINS	\$563,308	\$393,295	-\$127,566			
NON-OPERATING MARGINS	\$1,007,723	\$2,120,608	\$615,870			
PATRONAGE CAPITAL OR MARGINS	\$1,571,031	\$2.513.903	\$488,304			



ASSETS	2022	2021	2020
Total Utility Plant	\$61,917,505	\$59,930,131	\$58,392,568
Less Depreciation	(20,781,478)	(19,410,940)	(17,927,950)
Net Value of our System	\$41,136,027	\$40,519,191	\$40,464,618
Other Property & Investments	\$13,636,718	\$13,253,022	\$12,143,151
Cash & Temporary Investments	\$5,197,116	\$5,735,208	\$6,090,136
Receivables	\$1,957,432	\$1,610,859	\$1,420,778
Pre-Payments	(\$1,289)	\$42,428	(\$1,093
Materials & Supplies	\$508,040	\$473,727	\$328,131
Other Current Assets	\$336,125	\$178,091	\$259,737
Deferred Debits	\$1,931,548	\$2,878,839	\$578,382
Total Assets	\$64,701,717	\$64,691,365	\$61,283,840
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Long Term Debt	\$37,171,353	\$37,593,001	\$36,884,920
Capital Leases	\$0	\$0	\$310,413
Accounts Payable	\$887,369	\$1,209,779	\$830,964
Consumer Deposits	\$113,757	\$112,956	\$121,550
Other Current & Accrued Liabilities	\$879,750	\$1,239,767	\$734,456
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$39,052,229	\$40,155,503	\$38,882,303
Equities & Margins	\$25,649,488	\$24,535,862	\$22,401,537
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$64,701,717	\$64,691,365	\$61,283,840

#### PROPERTY TAXES PAID BY COUNTY

County	2022	2021	2020	2019
Finney	\$58,826	\$64,667	\$63,666	\$29,163
Gove	\$11,999	\$13,823	\$12,744	\$11,890
Hodgeman	\$37,438	\$42,363	\$40,731	\$38,465
Lane	\$293,290	\$310,413	\$333,702	\$325,103
Logan	\$1,017	\$1,171	\$1,127	\$1,083
Ness	\$245,206	\$283,852	\$331,063	\$317,417
Scott	\$82,220	\$90,818	\$87,294	\$86,616
Rush	\$33,332	\$35,677	\$21,134	\$20,682
TOTALS	\$763,328	\$842,784	\$891,461	\$830,419



#### **2022 Annual Meeting Minutes**

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Members of Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at the Lane County Fairgrounds in Dighton, Lane County, Kansas. The meeting commenced at 7 p.m., pursuant to notice mailed to all members in accordance with the bylaws of the cooperative.

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Jennison. President Jennison welcomed those in attendance and introduced guests including: Tom Ruth and Nolan Numrich of Western Cooperative Electric; Jim Minnix, Kansas Representative; Hunter Carson, Senator Moran's District Representative; Lee Tafanelli CEO of Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (KEC); Sunflower Electric Power Corporation was represented by Nikki Pfannenstiel, Anne Erbert and Jerri Whitley and Katie Eisenhour, Wheatland Electric Trustee.

President Jennison next introduced the members of the Lane-Scott Board of Trustees, general manager and legal counsel.

Joseph Gasper, legal counsel, certified notice of the annual meeting was mailed to members at each members address as it appears on the records of the cooperative and reported 118 members were in attendance constituting a quorum.

President Jennison referred the members to the printed minutes of the 2021 annual meeting appearing in the notice of the annual meeting. On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the reading of the minutes of the 2021 annual meeting was waived and the minutes were approved as printed.

President Jennison referred the members to the printed treasurer's report. On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the reading of the treasurer's report was waived and the treasurer's report was approved as printed.

President Jennison recognized the Lane-Scott employees and thanked them for their hard work. Carrie Borell, Kevin Bradstreet and Myron Seib were recognized for their service of 15 years with Lane-Scott Electric.

Manager McLeon recognized the winners of the 2022 Continuing Education Scholarships as follows: Emma Borell, Dylan Bruntz, Taylor Cable, Amy Foos, Jena Ratliff and Alexa Reinhardt.

The Dighton KidWind BTU Crew was introduced. The KidWind team qualified to participate in the national competition for the second year in a row. The young men made a presentation of their design and construction of their turbine.

Manager McLeon presented his manager's report with highlights as follows:

- ▶ Alan Scott was recognized as a Lane-Scott retiree.
- ▶ The Lane-Scott employees were recognized for their hard work for the cooperative.
- ➤ Overall, 2021 was a good year. The post-COVID recovery is progressing although there are still issues and challenges.
- ▶ There was a large fire event driven by 80 mph winds that destroyed several miles of line and fences.
- ► Lane-Scott continues to build new line on the system where necessary. The system has over 2,000 miles of line.
- ▶ 2021 had over 162 million kWh sold.
- > \$451,140 worth of capital credits were retired. This was the first retirement in 15 years and the largest in Lane-Scott history.

- ▶ The operating revenue was \$18,976,716, with the cost of power of \$11,294,294. The operating margins totaled \$393,295 for the year.
- ▶ Lane-Scott continues facing challenges with inflation, supply chain issues and rising costs.
- ▶ The cooperative continues to focus on the maintenance of the system for reliability.
- ▶ The cooperative is financially stable to weather the challenges it is facing.

  President Jennison then called for additional registrations. There were no additional registrations.

  President Jennison introduced the guest speaker, Lee Tafanelli, CEO of KEC, and asked him to speak.

  Highlights of his presentation are as follows:
- ▶ Mr. Tafanelli was the Adjutant General of the Kansas National Guard as well as serving in the Kansas Legislature prior to his current employment at KEC.
- ▶ The military veterans were asked to stand and be recognized for their service.
- ▶ KEC has 26 distribution co-ops as its members and has been organized for 81 years.
- ▶ KEC staff works with the Kansas legislature to educate them on various issues that affect the electric cooperatives.
- ▶ KEC publishes the *Kansas Country Living* magazine that is sent to the cooperative members. The magazine is a cost-effective means of communication to the membership.
- ▶ KEC provides training for co-op staff and trustees as a service to its members including promoting safety.
- ▶ KEC also assists with the youth programs and KidWind Challenge.
- ► Mr. Tafanelli thanked the Lane-Scott members for the opportunity to speak with them about the KEC activities.

Attorney Gasper presided over the election of trustees. The members of the nominating committee met and submitted names of the following individuals as nominees for three trustee positions: Rad Roehl, to represent Lane and Gove counties; Chad Griffith, representing Scott and Logan counties; and, Eric Doll, representing Finney and Hodgeman counties.

Attorney Gasper called for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations. A motion that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for the slate of candidates was made, seconded and carried.

President Jennison called for unfinished business. There was no unfinished business.

President Jennison called for new business. There was no new business.

President Jennison thanked John Ross Catering and Howard Richards for the meal and public address system respectively.

There being no new business, President Jennison called for a motion to adjourn. By motion duly made, seconded and carried the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. on July 19, 2022.

At various times during the meeting, attendance prizes were given away to members by drawing. The winners were: Max Blakely, Ness City Farm and Feed, Darwin Whipple, Tad Davis, Alan Dearden, James Johnston, Jerri Whitley, Dwayne Richardson, Allen Schuler, Lane Copeland, H. Wagner, Ilene Norton, Ronald Boese, Nyle Henderson, Dan Wehkamp, Sylvia Martin, Leland Moore, Casey Beesley, Curtis York and John Heath.



#### **2023** SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### **Nominating Committee Report**

A meeting of the Lane-Scott Electric Nominating Committee was held on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the offices of the cooperative at 410 S. High Street in Dighton.

Members of the nominating committee present were John Beaton representing Logan and Scott counties; Lane Copeland and Kenneth Schlegel representing Ness and Rush counties, Doug Vieux and Dan Wehkamp representing Finney and Hodgeman counties. Also in attendance was attorney Joseph Gasper.

By vote the committee nominated the following individuals to be elected by the members at the annual meeting of members: **RANDY EVANS** for the position of trustee representing Lane and Gove counties. STEVEN ANTENEN, GEROME COPELAND, VALORIE DIETTERICH\*, KENNETH FLAX, JAMES JORDAN and RANDY NORTON representing Ness and Rush counties. RANDY J. EVANS, LYNN **GOEBEL** and **SUSAN NUSS** for the position of trustee representing Finney and Hodgeman counties.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

#### **Board of Trustees Candidates**

#### LANE AND **GOVE COUNTIES**

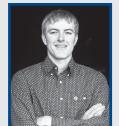


**RANDY EVANS** I was born and raised in western Kansas. I attended schools

in Scott County, Healy High School and Garden City Junior College. After being in management for 15 years with City Market in western Colorado, I decided to go into business for myself as an independent business owner with the Amway opportunity. People skills, personal development and success principles were things I learned and duplicated. Additional business endeavors currently include a fruit distribution business from Colorado and rentals located in Dighton.

I am married to Marla who owns and operates Changes Salon in Dighton. We have three grown and married children and nine grandchildren. Serving in various leadership positions on various boards has been something I have enjoyed, which included church, business, chamber of commerce, school, and of course Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative. I value living in a free country where my Christian values and patriotism can be exercised in every area of life. I am honored to serve the cooperative. If elected, I will do my best to serve the people according to how I have lived my life by adding value to others.

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Sawyer Bowman



**Gui Griffith** 



**Kavlee Hendrickson** 



**Logan Mauch** 



Mackavla Miller



**Caitlin Smee** 



**Dawson Stoecklein** 



**Alencio Zarate** 

**SAWYER BOWMAN** is the son of Scott and Sharon Bowman of Jetmore and a graduate of Hodgeman County High School. He will be attending Pratt Community College to pursue his associate degree in Electrical Power Technology, then onto his path to become a lineman.

**GUI GRIFFITH** is the son of Chad and Suzanne Griffith and graduate of Scott City High School. Gui will be attending the Colorado School of Mines to obtain his Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering. He then would like to get his Ph.D in mechanical engineering eventually working for Lockheed Martin or Textron Aviation as an engineer or a test pilot.

**KAYLEE HENDRICKSON** is the daughter of Jessica and Michael Hendrickson. Kaylee is a graduate of Hodgeman County High School and will be attending Fort Hays State University to enter the radiology program.

**LOGAN MAUCH** is the son of Julie and JR Mauch. Logan graduated from Western Plains High School and just finished his undergraduate degree in aerospace engineering at Wichita State University this year. He is continuing his education to pursue a Master of Science degree in aerospace engineering specializing in aerodynamics or aircraft stability and controls.

MACKAYLA MILLER is the daughter of Kami Miller and Lucas Miller and a graduate of Scott Community High School. Makayla will be attending Colby Community College to enter the dental hygienist program and hopefully return to her hometown as a dental hygienist.

**CAITLIN SMEE** is the daughter of Tracy and Tonya Fenley of Ness City. She finished her first year at Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture this May in the veterinary technician program. Next year, she will receive her license and then complete her internship.

**DAWSON STOECKLEIN** is the son of Tracee Schwien and Kevin Stoecklein is a 2022 Ness City High School graduate who recently completed his first year at Fort Hays State University. He is majoring in agriculture focusing on feedlot management, agronomy and business. He plans to return to Ness City where he can implement his agriculture degree and help as an EMT after completing his state boards.

**ALENCIO ZARATE** is the son of Preston Wright of Scott City. He is a Scott Community High School graduate who will attend Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland this fall. He will be working toward his electrical technology degree and plans to start his own business in a small town that needs an electrician.

<sup>\*</sup> VALORIE DIETTERICH LATER WITHDREW HERSELF FROM THE ELECTION.

#### **Board of Trustees Candidates**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10** 

#### **FINNEY AND HODGEMAN COUNTIES**







Randy J. Evans

Lvnn Goebel

**Susan Nuss** 

#### **RANDY J. EVANS**

I am a lifelong resident of Finney County, graduating from Garden City High School. Following graduation, I served four years in the U.S. Army as an airborne combat engineer. After returning home, I began a 29-year career in law enforcement with the Finney County Sheriff's Department completing certification at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. As a deputy sheriff, I served in various capacities including road patrol deputy, tactical operations team leader, task force officer with the Drug Enforcement Administration, road patrol supervisor, firearms instructor/range master, and warrants deputy. Since retiring in 2017, I have begun a career as an independent crop adjuster.

My wife and I have resided in rural Finney County since 2002 and have two grown children and two grandchildren. I currently serve as a volunteer firefighter for the Garfield Township Rural Fire Department. I believe my background in public service has given me the skills necessary to be an effective trustee for the members of Lane-Scott Electric Co-op. I would appreciate the opportunity to broaden my knowledge of how electric co-ops operate, learn more about the future of electricity in our area and work with a group of dedicated trustees to make sound decisions that will benefit all members.

#### LYNN GOEBEL

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Trustees for Lane-Scott Electric Co-op. I would like to represent the members of the co-op by working to provide safe, reliable electricity to all rural areas and to investigate alternative energy sources to supplement existing power supplies.

I feel I would be a qualified trustee. I graduated from Jetmore High School and continued my education with a two-year technical degree. My wife, Cindy, and I have farmed and ranched in northern Hodgeman County for over 40 years. For eight years I served on the USD 227 school board and during that time we passed a

bond issue to expand our school facilities, hired a school superintendent, and hired several teachers at the school. I also served on the Hodgeman County Extension Council for a number of years, and feel I am able to work well with people to resolve problems and move forward. I feel I can represent the people of this community with my skills and experience. Thank you for considering me for the trustee position.

#### **SUSAN NUSS**

The power grid is necessary for economic development and operations of farms and infrastructure in rural America. I would like to become a trustee of Lane-Scott Electric Co-op to serve the community and help ensure reliable power. As a trustee of Lane-Scott Electric Co-op, I would be passionate about the rural economy and quality of life in Lane Scott's service area. I am the owner and operator of Blackdragon Networks, LLC in Jetmore providing reliable fixed wireless internet service in Hodgeman County. I worked for AT&T telephone for 29 years and have utility service experience. While at AT&T I dealt with pole rentals, pole replacements and make-ready work for aerial utility lines.

My husband, Lynn, and I operate an irrigated farm using electric pumps in southern Ness County and western Hodgeman County. We also manage a cow herd in northwest Hodgeman County. We have been lifelong residents of Hodgeman County, and our families have been farming in the area for five generations. I earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering with a power transmission emphasis from Kansas State University, and a master's degree in applied wireless networking from the University of Denver. I have served on the USD 227 school board for eight years, the Hodgeman County Economic Development Board for four years and Hodgeman County Extension board for four years. I humbly ask that you consider my candidacy for the Lane-Scott Flectric Board of Trustees.

#### NESS AND **RUSH COUNTIES**

#### STEVEN KYLE ANTENEN

The next decade could be either a challenge or an opportunity for Lane-Scott Co-op. With more demand for power from more places, and fewer options to generate power, the challenge is obvious. The opportunity is less defined but exists with a thoughtful yet fast-acting board. I would like to be part of this future. I think I would bring a practical knowledge with fresh eyes to the mix.

I graduated from Kansas State University in 1980 with a degree in mass communications. I am currently on the K-State Foundation Board of Trustees having served since 2012. I serve on the Ag Marketing Advisory Board of the Kansas Department of Agriculture with my term ending in 2024. Locally, I am on the Board of Directors of the Ness County Bank Building Foundation serving since 1990 and on the Board of Directors for the Ness County Fire District No. 1, serving my third term that expires in 2024. As well, I am Center Township Clerk for Ness County.

#### **GEROME COPELAND**

I am a farmer and rancher in Ness County. I graduated from Ness City High School in 1991 and then attended NCK in Beloit and graduated from the heavy equipment department in 1992. After my schooling was complete, I took a job with L&M Contractors, a bridge building company out of Great Bend, as an equipment operator operating cranes. In 2000, I took a job at Ness County Road and Bridge as the assistant supervisor and my wife and I became involved with my parents in the family farm. Today, we are full-time farmers and ranchers and our family has grown with two daughters Gwendolyn, 18, and Gretchen, 16.

Over the years, I served on the Ness County Amusement Company Board from 2008-2018 and I served four years on the board of trustees at my church.







Steven Kyle Antenen

**Gerome Copeland** 

**Kenneth Flax** 

I have always enjoyed being involved in my local community and as of now I am not. I





lames lordan

Randall A. Norton **DVM** 

believe serving on the Board of Trustees of Lane-Scott Electric Co-op would be an excellent way to become involved in the community again and the experience would be educational and interesting.

#### **KENNETH FLAX**

I am a current customer in good standing of Lane-Scott Electric, and I believe in keeping local business local. Our small-town businesses greatly contribute to the well-being of our communities by providing needed services, providing job and vocational training, and supporting other local businesses and organizations. The board of trustees protects Lane-Scott through their longterm vision and their ability to solve problems together. I want to be involved in the life of my community. One of the ways I can do that is to be a member of the Lane-Scott Board of Trustees

I bring many years of experience within the Ransom community to the table: board member, Grisell Memorial Hospital, eight years; head of maintenance, Grisell Memorial Hospital, one year; farm manager, Klitzke Farm, 17 years; parts manager, Ransom Farmers Co-op, eight years; Nevada Township volunteer firefighter, 43 years; fire chief, 20 years; and Knights of Columbus member, 43 years. These experiences have given me the knowledge and appreciation for managing a business or organization to the benefit of all

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 14** 

### POWER UP

#### NESS AND RUSH COUNTIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

concerned. I appreciate your consideration for the Lane-Scott Board of Trustees.

#### **JAMES JORDAN**

I'm married to Tammy Jordan. We have a daughter, Monica, who is a junior at Ness City high school. I have a bachelor's degree in agriculture animal science from Oklahoma State University. After 34 years of working with the public as the county executive director of the Farm Service Agency I would be honored to serve on the Lane-Scott Electric Board.

My reasoning for wanting to be a Lane-Scott Electric Trustee is to become educated, and to educate patrons about the challenges of Lane-Scott Electric in the ever-changing environment.

#### **RANDALL A. NORTON, DVM**

From the use of the Wincharger generators my grandfather used to power our farm in the 1930s before rural electrification, to the interconnected electrical grid that allows us to take advantage of technology that he could

not have imagined, the need for and benefits of reliable and affordable electricity have never been greater. The challenges for electric co-ops to maintain services for their members in our ever-changing world will undoubtedly increase, due to factors including the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel, an aging electric grid, rapid increases in electric vehicle usage, the continued development of solar and wind power, and increasing government regulation on every level.

I believe a trustee should represent the needs of the membership and the general public in addition to promoting, advancing and safeguarding the interests of the co-op. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve Ness and Rush counties in this position. I have served as the Western District Trustee for the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association's Executive Board, a trustee for Grisell Memorial Hospital in Ransom, and a member of the Kansas Board of Veterinary Examiners.

BRING THIS CARD TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

# OFFICIAL Registration Card & Prize Drawing

#### THREE WAYS TO VOTE FOR TRUSTEES

MAIL-IN BALLOT BELOW 2 VOTE ONLINE

3 VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

**▼** TEAR ON PERFORATION TO REMOVE MAIL-IN BALLOT **▼** 

#### 1

## HOW TO CAST YOUR BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT
ON OPPOSITE PAGE

DO NOT
SEND UTILITY
PAYMENTS
WITH BALLOT

- ▶ Your ballot is located on the back cover of this report.
- ▶ Vote by MARKING AN "X" in the square to the left of the person who you desire to vote for.
- ▶ SIGN YOUR BALLOT. Ballots MUST be signed for the ballot to be counted. A spouse of the member is not authorized to sign the ballot.
- ► Tear ballot on perforated lines and insert the ballot in the postage paid envelope enclosed marked "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL" and seal.
- ▶ Ballots must be received BY JULY 18, 2023. Return only one ballot per "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL" envelope. Only ballots returned in the "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL" will be counted.

#### BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JULY 18, 2023

To cast your vote, please see detailed instructions on Page 14. To vote, mark an X in the square to the left of the person you are voting for.

DO NOT VOTE FOR MORE THAN ONE PERSON IN EACH DISTRICT.

LANE & GOVE
VOTE FOR ONE PERSON

■ RANDY EVANS

TEAR ON PERFORATION TO REMOVE MAIL-IN

FINNEY/HODGEMAN
VOTE FOR ONE PERSON

RANDY J. EVANS

LYNN GOEBEL

SUSAN NUSS

NESS/RUSH VOTE FOR ONE PERSON

KYLE ANTENEN

☐ GEROME COPELAND

JAMES JORDAN

RANDY NORTON

**MEMBER SIGNATURE** 

MEMBER VOTER ID:

PASSCODE: Enter your 5-digit zip code

# WAYS TO VOTE

# COMPLETE THE MAIL-IN BALLOT

on reverse side in the provided self-addressed envelope.

vote online at www.
onlinevoting.dmsolutions.
com/coopballot/login.

aspx?domain=lanescott

or scan the QR Code at right.
Enter your specific Member ID
and passcode printed on the
bottom of your ballot.





**VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.** 

Voting will be available electronically prior to the business meeting.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON JULY 18!

Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc. P.O. Box 758 Dighton, KS 67839-0758

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED FIRST CLASS MAIL U. S. POSTAGE PAID TOPEKA, KANSAS PERMIT NO. 651

THIS IS YOUR REGISTRATION CARD AND PRIZE DRAWING TICKET PLEASE BRING IT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING. THE CARD WILL BE SCANNED TO CONFIRM YOUR MEMBERSHIP.