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CDEC members to vote on bylaws, board seats at April 25 meeting *Annual Health and Job Fair to be hosted by Cibola General Hospital*

Grants, N.M. – Members of Continental Divide Electric Cooperative will gather Sat., April 25 at Grants High School for the Co-op's annual meeting, where contested board elections, proposed bylaw changes and a possible redrawing of voting districts will be decided.

The meeting, which begins at 8 a.m., is one of the cooperative's most important annual events, giving member-owners a direct voice in how the organization is governed and how it moves forward.

This year's agenda includes three contested trustee races, along with a membership vote on a proposed set of amended and restated bylaws. Members will also consider a plan to reapportion voting districts across the cooperative's service area. If approved, the new district map would not impact incoming or current board members' terms.

Three seats are up for election:

- In District 2, incumbent Wes Malcolm of Bluewater faces challenger Joel Lister of Milan. District 2 encompasses Milan city limits and immediate surrounding areas, including both sides of NM State Road 605-North to the Homestake site, Lobo and Zuni canyons and Mt. Taylor Addition.
- In District 7, incumbent Joe Hoskins of Thoreau is running against Anthony N. Begay of Smithlake. District 7 includes Ambrosia Lake, Thoreau, Crownpoint, Standing Rock, Pinedale, Mariano Lake, Smith Lake, Churchrock, Ft. Wingate, McGaffey and Iyanbito.
- In the At-Large race, incumbent Keith Gottlieb of Cubero is joined by Toby Walter Jaramillo, Daniel Mandagaran and Ruben Sandoval, all of Grants. The At-Large Trustee represents all districts. As such, all members are eligible to vote in this election.

A minimum of 541 registered members is required to establish a quorum for the business meeting and to validate At-Large and bylaw votes. If a majority of the membership votes to adopt the bylaws as presented, then the votes to redistrict will be counted.

In addition to voting, members will hear updates on the Cooperative's operations and finances, including a report from its auditing firm. Jay Sturhahn, senior vice president and general counsel for the Co-op's wholesale power provider, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association will address the membership.

"The annual meeting gives our member-owners a chance to see how their cooperative is performing and to understand the issues that are shaping our industry," said Robert E. Castillo, Continental Divide's chief executive officer.

The Co-op will also recognize winners of the annual Government-in-Action Youth Tour contest for high school juniors and for its Sharing Success grant.

Activities begin with registration and a health and job fair hosted by Cibola General Hospital, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the school's new gymnasium. The business meeting will follow at 11:15 a.m. in the Grants High School auditorium.

Prize drawings will be held during the business meeting, and members must be present to win. No food or drink is allowed inside the auditorium.

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