

## [Anaya and Wolberg to run for SEC posts](#) by [John Larson](#) | July 1, 2015

Former trustees Donald Wolberg and Leroy Anaya were the only Socorro Electric Cooperative members to file as candidates for the two empty positions in District 3 for the August election.

District 3 encompasses the city of Socorro.

The eight members of the co-ops Credentials and Elections Committee — Peter Gonzales, Dennis Harris, Milton Ulibarri, Tanya Duffy, Priscilla Maudlin, David Johnson, Gene Cole and Manny Marquez — certified the two candidates Monday.

According to the bylaws “committee members shall not be existing Cooperative employees, agents, officers, Trustees or known candidates for Trustee, or the close relatives or members of the same household of persons in the excluded categories.”

In addition to certifying candidates the committee also oversees election processes.

June 26 was the deadline for filing. Wolberg filed on May 28, and Anaya filed on June 15.

The election will be held during the re-scheduled annual meeting on August 22.

### **Trustee per diem raised**

At the regularly scheduled monthly meeting, the Board of Trustees raised the per diem rate to \$150 which applies to monthly board meetings and special board meetings.

In addition, trustees will now receive \$50 each time they must visit the office.

According to District V Trustee and Board President Anne Dorrough the per diem is authorized under Section 5.11 of the bylaws.

“The Finance Committee meets annually to make a recommendation as to amount of this per diem,” Dorrough said. “We contacted several of the New Mexico Cooperatives that were similar in size to the SEC and determined that the average was around \$150 a meeting. However, we reduced that amount to \$50 day for those services that did not require as much preparation on the part of the trustee such as teleconferences or a visit to the office to sign checks or documents.”

The bylaw goes on to set a standard by which the reasonableness of the amount should be judged:

“A presumption of reasonableness shall attach to the amount of the per diem if the average reportable compensation for Trustees of the Cooperative does not exceed the statewide average reportable compensation for trustee of all other New Mexico electric cooperatives by more than 10 percent,” the bylaw states.

At the meeting Dorrough made it clear that the trustee’s per diem for Socorro Electric Cooperative meetings does not apply to those state, regional or national meetings requiring travel. She said a trustee attending those meetings requiring travel must individually pay for all expenses, and then is reimbursed for actual expenses by turning in bona fide receipts.

In other business:

General Manager Joseph Herrera gave an update on a Cost of Service Study performed by Tri-State Generation & Transmission in preparation for its proposed rate request. Herrera said nothing was finalized and would report to the board when talks were completed.

The next monthly board meeting will July 22, at 2 p.m.