



# April 2023

## Newsletter

### 84th ANNUAL MEETING

Okanogan County Electric Cooperative Inc.  
Official Notice of the Annual Meeting of Members

Pursuant to the provision of the By-Laws, notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Members of Okanogan County Electric Cooperative will be held Monday, April 17, 2023

**Where:** “The Barn” in Winthrop, WA 51 N Highway 20

**When:** Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7:00pm

**American Legion Auxiliary #120 will serve pie afterwards.**

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## OCEC Welcomes New Employee

Okanogan County Electric is delighted to welcome new Member Service Representative Laurel Longdo. Laurel grew up in the Methow Valley and is excited to join our team and learn about the cooperative. When not in the office Laurel can be found out adventuring around the valley with her sweet pup Daisy.



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**Board of Directors:** Alan Watson [awatson@ocec.coop](mailto:awatson@ocec.coop) | Dale Sekijima [dsekijima@ocec.coop](mailto:dsekijima@ocec.coop)  
John Rogers [jrogers@ocec.coop](mailto:jrogers@ocec.coop) | Michael Murray [mmurray@ocec.coop](mailto:mmurray@ocec.coop)  
Rick Johnson [rjohnson@ocec.coop](mailto:rjohnson@ocec.coop) | Sara Carlberg [scarlberg@ocec.coop](mailto:scarlberg@ocec.coop)  
| Travis Thornton [tthornton@ocec.coop](mailto:tthornton@ocec.coop)

**Our mailing address is:** PO Box 69, Winthrop, WA 98862  
**Contact us:** Toll Free: (888) 710-2228 | Local: (509) 996-2228  
Email: [info@ocec.coop](mailto:info@ocec.coop) | Web: [www.ocec.coop](http://www.ocec.coop)

# Ready to Budget This Year?

Did you know that OCEC offers Budget Payment Plans to members who have at least one year of billing history on their account?

A traditional Budget Plan begins in June of each year and bills a “set” dollar amount each month to the customer. This amount is determined by looking at the members previous year’s billing history average and whether the account is carrying a balance or a credit. Budget amounts are reviewed each May and the next year’s budget amount is set at that time. OCEC sends a letter in May to participating members to inform members of their new budget billing amount for the year.

- Budget accounts allow the member to plan for energy expenses.
- Budget accounts allow a balance to be carried without penalties (as long as the payment is made on time every month).
- Auto payments and E-bill notifications can be set up for accounts through the OCEC website.
- Tenants must receive permission from landlords before OCEC will allow a budget program.

It is important to remember that the Budget amount must be paid by the last day of every month to continue to be on a Budget Plan. If a payment is not received on or before the due date the account is automatically removed from the Budget plan and all past due balances will be considered due immediately.

Contact OCEC before May 1st if you would like to sign up.

## Capital Credit Checks

If you received a capital credit check in December of 2022 and haven’t yet cashed it: you have until April 16, 2023 to cash or deposit your check. Checks were issued on December 16, 2022 and are good for 120 days after issued. If you have a check that is past the 120-days of issue you can return it to OCEC and ask for it to be re-issued.

## Call Before You Dig

The only way you can be sure that you are digging safely is to Call 811 Before You Dig, and request a FREE underground utility locate.

At least two business days before you plan on digging: Call 811. or go to [DigSafeWA.com](http://DigSafeWA.com).



COLOR	DESCRIPTION
WHITE	Proposed Excavation (your responsibility)
RED	Electric Power Lines
YELLOW	Gas, Oil, Steam, Petroleum
ORANGE	Communications, Alarm or Signal Lines
BLUE	Potable Water
GREEN	Sewers and drain lines
PURPLE	Reclaimed Water, Irrigation and slurry lines
PINK	Temporary Survey Markings