

041615-Gene-Brown-Chieftain

SEC Board doesn't deserve support

Several years ago the membership of the Socorro Electrical Co-op decided that the Board of Trustees was out of control, and at the annual meeting voted to change the bylaws.

I attended that meeting, and I can verify that the votes for every one of the changes were grossly lop-sided. The members resoundingly voiced their displeasure!

Since then, the board has done their very best to ignore those changes, even to the extent of taking the membership to court.

Their arrogance and belligerence is once again rearing its ugly head. They are convening a special meeting on Saturday, April 25 for the purpose of voting to repeal the uncomfortable, existing bylaws and adopt a board-friendlier revised set of bylaws.

A few observations:

- Term limits

Most of the trustees had been on the board for decades, some taking over board positions from their parents. So, the membership voted to allow a trustee to only serve two 3-year terms.

The new proposed bylaws have no mention of term limits.

- Number of trustees

The Board consisted of more than a dozen trustees. The membership voted to reduce the number of trustees to five.

The new proposed bylaws want to increase the number to seven.

- Compensation

Trustees were compensated handsomely for their service, training and travel, arguably too handsomely. The membership voted to cap trustee compensation.

The new proposed bylaws eliminate the pay cap. The ballot you have or will receive in the mail is somewhat tricky, probably just a coincidence. You will have to unfold it to even find the "NO." Then you have to "complete the arrow" next to your vote. Please be sure to read the yellow sheet of paper that comes with the package.

It is my view point that the Board of Trustees has not behaved honorably or nobly. They have ignored the behest of the membership, and they quite possibly resent being bothered by the members that elected them and that they allegedly serve.

The Board of Trustees does not deserve our support! Please join me and vote "NO" to repeal the existing bylaws.

That's my nickel,

Gene Brown

Quemado