



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Roach

Greetings to everyone! Once again, it is time for our Annual Meeting of Members. The drive-through meeting will be at the El Campo Middle School.

This past year has been challenging for the co-op with Hurricane Beryl. Beryl was costly to WCEC and our members.

I want to thank our neighboring co-ops, Texas Electric Cooperatives, and all of the contractors who helped restore power after the storm. Things could have been so much worse. Thank you again to TEC for the truckloads of supplies brought to us daily, for going above and beyond with food for our crews, and for helping to prepare and hand out meals. Thank you to the directors, employees, and the community for also keeping the crews fed.

Wharton County Electric Cooperative has always prioritized providing our members with reliable and economical electricity while maintaining superior service. WCEC focuses on strategic planning with the board and employees to seek new ways to provide better service and plans for the future.

Looking to the future, the grid in Texas is changing. Here in our service territory, you can see an increase in solar and wind energy. New technology and different ways to produce electricity for the future are unfolding.

I am pleased to say that due to the dedicated professionalism and knowledge of your WCEC Home Team, the cooperative is financially sound and doing well. I feel that we have met any challenges with success and have been able to adapt to changing times.

I appreciate the opportunity the members have given me to serve as a director for these past years. We can thank the employees and previous directors for their foresight on the de-regulation issue, which has resulted in our ability to keep the members' cost for electricity at a substantially lower level than customers of other providers. Our challenge is to continue these efforts to provide economical and reliable power. It will be an increasingly tricky path with more government regulations than we have previously. I hope to continue working with them and for our members in meeting these challenges.

Last but not least, I would personally like to thank my fellow board members and the employees of WCEC for a successful year and their dedication to moving the co-op into the future.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Annual Meeting of Members.