

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

April 2026 Board Meeting Highlights

Monthly Reports:

The CEO/General Manager provided an overview of the cooperative's current issues, including smart grid grant updates, an economic development tour, and an update on the annual meeting.

The CFO report discussed last month's financials, the capital credit discount rate, and the 2025 margin allocation.

The Operations report contained a report on the work crews are doing, including work on the Highway 85 job, the Tilden substation upgrade, and day-to-day work.



The Engagement report included an overview on the history of Operation Round Up, announcement of the first episode of the Plugged In video podcast, and scholarship awards and presentations.

The Information Technology report discussed the scheduled replacement of a physical server, software support available to staff, and other updates.

Energy Services provided an update on facility maintenance, a data collection fix, and an update on the number of renewable energy projects in the queue.

The following items were approved:

- Capital credit estate payout for deceased members.
- Audit committee report on all checks, ACH payments, wire transfers, credit card statements, and investment accounts.
- Annual capital credit discount rate
- Policy 203 update
- 2025 Margin Allocation

Other Business:

- Reviewed the monthly report of new Cooperative members.

Why Vegetation Management Matters

There's something timeless about trees. They ground us. They remind us of where we've been, and they stretch toward what's ahead. Here in our community, we take pride in the natural beauty that surrounds us—the shade on a summer afternoon, the colors that mark the changing seasons, the quiet strength of something that grows slowly but endures.

At the same time, we share another responsibility—one that's just as essential to our daily lives. The responsibility to keep the lights on, to power our homes and businesses, to make sure that when you flip a switch, the energy you depend on is there.

That's why Dunn Energy works every day to strike a careful balance between preserving the beauty we cherish and delivering the reliable electricity you expect. One of the most important ways we do that is through regular tree trimming.



Now, it may not always be obvious, but keeping lines clear of overgrown vegetation plays a major role in preventing power outages. We've all seen what can happen when severe weather rolls in—strong winds, heavy ice, or sudden storms can bring down branches and, with them, power lines and poles. In fact, nearly half of all power outages can be traced back to trees and vegetation coming into contact with electrical infrastructure.

That's why you may notice crews from Dunn Energy Cooperative or our trusted contractors working in neighborhoods throughout the year. Our crews are highly trained and certified, following the latest industry standards to ensure the job is done safely and effectively. Their work might seem routine, but it's anything but—it's a proactive step that helps prevent problems before they start.

And it's not just good practice—it's required. Electric utilities across the country are obligated to manage vegetation near power lines. Scheduled trimming helps remove dead or weakened limbs and keeps fast-growing trees from becoming hazards. It's about staying one step ahead, especially as we prepare for the increasing frequency and intensity of severe weather events.

But beyond reliability and efficiency, there's another reason this work matters: safety.

Electricity is a powerful force, and when trees grow too close to power lines, that power can become dangerous. Branches that touch lines—or even come close—can carry electrical current. Children climbing trees in their own yards may not realize the risk. And during storms, fallen trees can create hazardous conditions not only for families but also for our lineworkers working to restore service.



There's also a financial reality we can't ignore. Preventative maintenance—like tree trimming—is far more cost-effective than repairing widespread damage after an outage. Left unchecked, overgrown vegetation can lead to more frequent disruptions and higher costs for everyone. A thoughtful, strategic vegetation management program helps keep those costs down for you, our members.

You can help, too. When planting new trees, consider their mature height and distance from nearby power lines. Trees that grow up to 40 feet should be planted at least 25 feet away from overhead lines. Larger trees—those that exceed 40 feet—should be planted at least 50 feet away. If you're landscaping near pad-mounted transformers, keep shrubs at least 10 feet from the front and 4 feet from the sides to allow safe access.

If your neighborhood has underground lines, don't forget to call 811 before digging. It's a simple step that can prevent serious accidents.

At the end of the day, we all want the same thing: a community that's safe, resilient and beautiful. At Dunn Energy, we're proud to be part of that effort. Our roots run deep here, just like the trees we work to care for.