



Big Country Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.

# MEMBERGRAM

April 2018



## Big Country Electric Cooperative 19th Annual Meeting Thursday, April 19, 2018 The Coliseum, Snyder, TX

Join us for a very special annual meeting celebrating 80 years of Midwest, Stamford and Big Country Electric Cooperatives

### Car Show begins at 5 p.m. featuring:

Classic cars from the '30s, '40s, '50s displayed by the Snyder Wheels Car Club and other local car enthusiasts.

*Life has changed over the last eighty years because of electricity... so have our vehicles!*

**Registration and Meal begin at 6 p.m.**

**Business Meeting begins at 7 p.m.**

The annual meeting of the members of the above cooperative will be held to take action on the following:

- The reports of officers, directors, and committees;
- The election of three (3) Directors of the cooperative;
- Transact all other business that may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

The following members of the cooperative have been selected to appear on the ballot for the respective districts by the Committee on Nominations appointed by the Board of Directors of the cooperative or as Nominees by Petition, pursuant to the bylaws. "I" denotes incumbent.

District 7	Steve Moore	(I)	Nominated by Nominating Committee
District 8	Danny Helms	(I)	Nominated by Nominating Committee
	Jeff Fields		Nominated by Nominating Committee
	Dwayne Williams		Nominated by Nominating Committee
District 9	David Beaver	(I)	Nominated by Nominating Committee



**Great door prizes will be given away throughout the evening to REGISTERED MEMBERS, including:**

**One \$1,938 Grand Prize Energy Credit and  
Ten \$80 Energy Credits in honor of our charter year and anniversary!**

*... and dozens of more great items!*

***You can't win if you don't attend!***

### REUNION DE MIEMBROS

Quisieramos que usted asista a la reunion annual que se sostendra en la coliseo de Snyder el 19 de Abril. Comida a las 6 p.m., seguido por la reunion de nogocia que comenzara a las 7 p.m. Si usted o alguien que usted conosca necesita un interprete por favor de llamar antes de el dia 6 de Abril a la oficinade Big Country Electric para que y uno sera disponible.





**Big Country Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Call Toll Free: 1-888-662-2232

Roby: (325) 776-2244 Stamford: (325) 773-3684

Snyder (325) 573-3161

Please call your local BCEC office to report power outages!

[www.bigcountry.coop](http://www.bigcountry.coop)



**We're mobile!**

Access your BCEC account anytime,  
from anywhere!

[bigcountry.coop](http://bigcountry.coop) - click on the Smart Hub icon.

Download the free SmartHub app  
from the App Store or Google play  
and have access to pay your bill, view  
usage, request service and more!



Ask about our partnerships with:



**Filter Easy.**



Call 811 at least 2 working days before you dig.  
Visit [www.texas811.org](http://www.texas811.org) for more information.

**Rural Development Assistance Available Through BCEC**

Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc. has a limited amount of funds available for low-interest loans to qualified applicants to stimulate rural development. Applicant does not have to be a member of Big Country Electric Cooperative. Please contact Sarah McLen at [smclen@bigcountry.coop](mailto:smclen@bigcountry.coop) for details.



*BCEC is an Equal  
Opportunity Lender*

**Agricultural Tax Exemptions** - In order to claim an exemption from Texas sales and use taxes on electricity and other items used in agricultural and timber operations, you are required to provide us with a registration number on Texas Agriculture Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certification Form 01-924. All water wells should be exempt if used for irrigation or watering livestock. The Texas Comptroller's Office issues the registration number and those wanting to claim the exemption must fill out an application. Registration numbers must be renewed every four years. Applicants can request a paper application to mail in by calling 1-800-252-5555 or download a copy from the comptroller's website, [www.getreadytexas.org](http://www.getreadytexas.org). The generic exemption certificate, Form 01-339, cannot be used to claim the agricultural exemption. Accounts that do not have the new required form on file will be subject to taxation.

**Commercial Tax Exemption Records** - A completed and signed exemption form is required for each commercial tax exempt account. Accounts that do not have current exemptions on file will be changed to taxable accounts. Any refunds for taxes must be claimed from the State of Texas. Thank you for your help.



For complete information about our Operation Round Up program or to opt out of participation, visit [bigcountry.coop](http://bigcountry.coop) and click on the Operation Round Up icon.

**Now Available  
on [bigcountry.coop](http://bigcountry.coop)!**



We are excited to introduce our brand new Live Chat option on our newly redesigned website.

Live Chat allows you to talk to a Big Country representative directly from the chat box on our website. This new method of communication is just another way for our members and other interested consumers to contact us. The "chat" feature has become a popular way for people to contact businesses. Many people are more comfortable "talking" on the computer rather than using the phone. This new method of contacting us will be replacing the text messaging option that we had been using in the past. The chat feature will be available during normal business hours and after hours only during major outages. Please continue to call the office first to report an outage. If a chat representative is not available, you will be prompted with the option of leaving an email. Live Chat is another piece of modern technology that we are happy to offer for your convenience. We hope you will give it a try and let us know what you think about it!

*Speaking of Our Newly  
Redesigned Website...  
Here It Is!*



Our goal was to make the new look easier to use. Every option is accessible from the main menu, making what you're looking for within one to two clicks. The Calendar features bill due dates for each month plus reminders of special events... such as annual meeting, that we hope to see you at!



**Accepting Bids  
2009 Chevrolet  
Silverado LS 1500**

Extended cab  
223,500 miles

Body damage on right  
rear quarter panel, will  
need a new transmission.

**Minimum bid: \$2,500.00**

Submit sealed bids by Noon on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 to:  
Attn.: Mike Snead

Big Country Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 518  
Roby, TX 79543

Please call (325) 776-3807 with questions.

# The New and Improved *bigcountry.coop*

Roby Office: (325) 776-2244 Snyder Office: (325) 573-3161 Stamford Office: (325) 773-3684



**Big Country Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

Need to talk to us?

Call OR Text outage information to your local BCEC office: Roby (325) 776-2244, Snyder: (325) 573-3161, Stamford: (325) 773-3684  
Call: 1-888-662-2232



HOME ABOUT US MEMBER FORMS AND NOTICES SERVICE BEYOND ELECTRICITY SAFETY CAREERS @ THE CO-OP DIRECTORY

## WELCOME TO YOUR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Welcome to your cooperative's website. Please look around and discover all the things your co-op has to offer.  
Can't find what you are looking for or have a question? Please send us a quick message.

### CO-OP NEWS & EVENTS

#### Our Calendar

Check out the calendar of events to become more familiar with what is happening at your local cooperative.

[VIEW NEWS STORY](#)

#### Texas Co-op Power Magazine

Visit Texas Co-op Power to read the latest news articles and stories now. The Texas Co-op Power Magazine and TexasCoopPower.com are produced by...

[VIEW NEWS STORY](#)

#### Membergram Monthly Newsletter

Check out the current edition of our monthly member newsletter!

[VIEW NEWS STORY](#)

### COME SEE US!

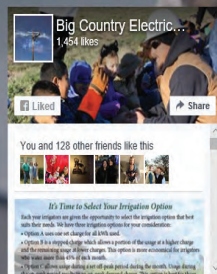
#### ROBY

#### SNYDER

#### STAMFORD

### YOUR SOURCE FOR INFORMATION

Let's be friends! Follow Big Country Electric Cooperative on Facebook for useful information and outage updates.



# Operation Round Up Program Grants Funds to Local Service Organizations

The Operation Round Up program, administered by the Big Country Electric Cooperative Trust, has begun its fourth year of helping families and service organizations locally. In the first three years of existence, the Operation Round Up program has contributed more than \$190,000 to our local communities through organizations who provide charitable and educational services, as well as families with demonstrated financial need. Operation Round Up is supported by Big Country Electric Cooperative members whose electric bills are “Rounded Up” to the nearest dollar. The “Round Up” amount goes into the Operation Round Up fund for distribution in the counties we serve: Borden, Fisher, Garza, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Throckmorton. Every penny stays right here at home.

Who can apply for help? Any local organization or program that provides vital community services. Food needs and food banks, family shelters, medical and health needs, rescue organizations, educational projects, child care programs and other special needs are just a few of the ways this fund helps organizations and families in our local communities. Our fund has assisted the Stamford EMS, Anson Meals on Wheels, Anson Lions Club, various food banks and senior citizen centers, area volunteer fire departments, Snyder Community Resource Center, Scurry County Ministerial Alliance and a host of other programs, to extend the reach of helping hands in our communities. Families and individuals with demonstrated financial need are also eligible for assistance.

Applications are evaluated and funds are awarded by the trust’s board of directors – your peers and neighbors, who volunteer their time, hearts and consideration to making decisions that will positively impact lives in our communities. At the March 2018 meeting of the Trust, the following organizations were awarded Operation Round Up grants:

Stomping Grounds youth outreach program –	Rotan	\$1,500.00
Pregnancy Resource Center of the Northern Big Country –	Haskell	\$1,500.00
Hawley Senior Citizens Center –	Hawley	\$1,500.00
Fisher County Food Pantry –	Roby and Rotan	\$1,500.00
Snyder Shares Free Store –	Snyder	\$1,500.00
Stonewall County Senior Citizens Center –	Aspermont	\$1,500.00

The board meets quarterly to review applications, and the next meeting is set for June 12, 2018. Applications for financial assistance are due by 5:00 pm Thursday, May 31, 2018. To download an application, please visit [bigcountry.coop](http://bigcountry.coop) and click on the Operation Round Up link. Please contact Sarah McLen at (325) 776-3803 or at [smclen@bigcountry.coop](mailto:smclen@bigcountry.coop) with any questions.

*Big Country Electric Cooperative is proud to offer this program to share the cooperative spirit with our communities!*



Hawley Senior Citizens Center



Snyder Shares Free Store



Pregnancy Resource Center of the Northern Big Country

