Coleman County Electric Cooperative held this year’s 76th annual meeting in the Winters ISD Gymnasium. This was the first time the community of Winters hosted the annual membership meeting of CCEC, and the event was a great success.

As members arrived, they were transported from the parking lot to the entrance of the cafeteria. Once inside, members were greeted by CCEC employees at the registration table, where each voted and received an attendance gift. Across the cafeteria, students from Runnels County 4-H served cookies and homemade ice cream; it was a big hit. And to top it all off, the Havlak Polka Band entertained members until the meeting began. There were about 350 in attendance.

Chairman Bob Fuchs introduced new General Manager Clint Gardner. Gardner began by welcoming members to the 76th Annual Membership Meeting. Board Member David Wright gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and national anthem, led by the Stovall family.

Gardner then introduced Benny Mayo, a former resident of Winters. Mayo won the Coleman County EC tal-
Power Tip

When it’s hot outside, appliances and lighting can heat up our homes more than we think. To save energy, minimize the activities that generate additional heat, such as burning open flames, continuously running a computer, or using hot hair devices like curling irons. This will ultimately keep your house cooler.
reported that CCEC is in good financial condition. Even though expenses continue to increase, the co-op remains financially stable. She noted that total kilowatt-hour sales were up from last year and that the cooperative’s last rate change was 11 years ago. She also noted that for six out of the past seven years, your co-op, along with Golden Spread EC, has returned capital credits. This year, CCEC returned $553,000.

Gardner gave his manager’s report, which focused on the success of the cooperative. He talked about how the co-op consists of voting members, members who serve on committees, and your board of directors. He talked about the dedicated, professional employees of your cooperative and how they, together with the voting membership, are crucial to success.

Gardner introduced Mark Schwirtz, president and general manager of Golden Spread EC. Schwirtz informed the membership about new transmission lines being installed throughout the service area and the installation of a new combustion turbine at Elk Station. Schwirtz stated that the G&T’s financial performance was high and that the cooperative now owns more than $1 billion in assets. In closing, he noted that any margins GSEC makes go back to help reduce members’ power cost.

Next, it was time to announce the voting results. After all votes were counted, Gardner announced that Roger Bryan of District 1, Anthony Strawn of District 5, and Bragg of District 8 were all re-elected to three-year terms. He also informed members that the motion to change to the
Articles of Incorporation passed.

Fuchs thanked Schwirtz, adjourned the meeting and turned it over to Gardner for announcements and the prize drawings. The scholarship winners were Cory Pritchard of Winters ISD; McKenzie Watkins of Ballinger ISD; Colton Smith of Coleman ISD; Genia Jones of Santa Anna ISD; Tyler Henderson of Cross Plains ISD; Aspen McConathy of Coleman ISD; Kirsten Moore of Panther Creek ISD; Lane Huston of Ballinger ISD; and Tylin Farris of Panther Creek ISD.

The prize drawings started off with 20 $10 bills for the children. Once all were given away, they drew for the grand prizes of five $100 bills. So that everyone would have a chance at the grand prize, Fuchs, Strawn and Gardner drew the five names for the grand prizes before drawing names for the other prizes. The winners of the grand prizes were Dorothy Schwertner, Alvin Gerngross, Gib Foster, Harriet Fisher and Novice Baptist Church.

We want to say “thank you” to Bruce Davis and the Winters ISD for the use of the facility; Runnels County 4-H for the wonderful refreshments; Quality Implements for use of the “mules” to escort our members from their vehicles; the Havlak Polka Band for the music; contest winner Mayo for returning after 60 years and sharing his music with us; the vendors who gave many of the prizes; the Stovall family for leading the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the national anthem; and the members who voted.

With everyone working together, this year’s annual meeting was a great success.