



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Leslie Christian (Chris) Hauck – DMEA District 5 Candidate

Employment:

Principal, Haucks Consulting LLC – Advising nonprofit entities providing social services; President, Montrose Lighthouse Ministries (homeless shelter); Director, Montrose Jail Ministries, Inc. (Jail and Prison ministries, aftercare for ex-offenders); Adjunct Professor, Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS.

Family:

Wife, Rita Hauck, MA, MBA, PhD, Retired full Professor and current Adjunct professor, FHSU; Son, Les, Colonel USAF, Ramstein Air Base, Germany with wife, Angela Hauck and two daughters; Son, Christian, Principal, Meadows & Ohly LLC, Atlanta, GA (real estate development and management services for healthcare providers), Wife Maureen Hauck, PA, two daughters and one son. Both our sons are graduates of USAFA.

Educational background:

John Muir High School, Pasadena, CA; Pasadena City College (AA); California State University, Los Angeles (BA, Economics); UCLA Law School (JD); Admitted to practice law, CA, FL, NY, CO (inactive or retired status in all states). Corporate law: Los Angeles Dept. Water & Power; So. Calif. Edison Co.; Florida Power & Light Co.; Colorado-Ute Electric Ass'n.; Management, CEO, Sunflower Electric Power Corp., Hays, KS; Director, Acting CEO, Western Fuels Ass'n; Chair, Southwest Power Pool; Private Pilot License.

As a board member you would have fiduciary responsibility to the members of the cooperative. What is your financial background?

I served as Securities Counsel, Southern California Edison Co., responsible for preparation and filing SEC registration statements for over \$1 billion of stock, bonds and other financial instruments; VP & General Counsel of Colorado-Ute and responsible for all aspects of financing the construction of Craig Station Units 2 and 3 (Institutional Investor Magazine “Deal of the Year”); I led successful ten-year financial restructuring for Sunflower Electric Power Corp. with USDA Rural Utilities Service.

What unique ability or knowledge do you think you would bring to the DMEA board?

I have over 40 years' experience in the electric utility industry, including a very large municipal utility, two investor-owned utilities, and two Generation and Transmission Cooperatives, as corporate counsel and CEO. I served 16 years on the Board of Western Fuels Association, the cooperative fuel supplier to Tri-State, and as interim CEO for one



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year. I served Chair of the Southwest Power Pool, a regional entity overseeing the reliable power supply by utilities in 14 states.

Please list your involvement in community organizations or boards on which you currently serve or have served in the recent past.:

I am a founder and current President of Montrose Lighthouse Ministries, providing emergency winter shelter for homeless people. I also serve as a director of Montrose Jail Ministries, Inc., and personally provide “life skills” training and counsel to inmates of the Montrose County Jail and Delta Correctional Center, as well as assisting and mentoring them when they are released from incarceration. I am a member of the Elder Board of Montrose Christian Church.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing electric cooperatives nation wide?

Continuing to provide electric and other services at terms and prices that are competitive with other providers; keeping abreast of and mastering technical, social and political changes that directly or indirectly impact their mission to competently serve their owners—especially in rural areas. To be responsive to their owners’ needs for infrastructure and economic development.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing DMEA?

To establish and maintain a rational and durable relationship with our wholesale power supplier, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Association in harmony with local alternative generating resources owned and operated by DMEA, its members and other power suppliers.

What does the word cooperative mean to you?

It describes an organization that is a democratically governed association of people who were voluntarily united to achieve the necessary “critical mass” to meet their defined economic, cultural, and social needs. The members of modern electric cooperatives may not all consider themselves to be member-owners, but simply utility customers, but at the core of most of these organizations still lie the original fundamental principles of self-governance and voluntary self-help and determination, and members, directors and management that honor them.

Do you agree with the cooperative business model? Why or why not?

I strongly agree with the cooperative business model, and it makes more sense now than ever for rural electric cooperatives because the current rapidly changing regulatory, environmental and competitive challenges impacting power supply and delivery require timely responses and strategies that are tailored to the specific needs of their member-



owners. This cannot be accomplished by either investor-owned or municipal suppliers because of their fundamental economic motives and systems of governance.

What do you think is the most important of the 7 cooperative principles and why?

Democratic Member Control is the most important, as the other six (Membership Criteria; Member Economic Participation; Autonomy and Independence; Education, Training and Information; Cooperation among Cooperatives; and Concern for Community) all come from, and are nourished by this core principal.

What do you feel is the primary function of DMEA?

To provide reliable and affordable electric power and related services to everyone in its service area, however remotely they may be located. Other important activities such as providing economic development, cultural and educational enhancements, and other things to improve and enhance the quality of life in its service area spring from this primary function.

What is your vision for DMEA?

I believe that DMEA should maintain its present trajectory of developing and maintaining resources to meet the needs of its Member-Owners for all needed utility services that can be delivered by wire, fiber-optic cable and broadcast broadband. DMEA should seek to be a peerless provider of other services and infrastructure that enhance the quality of life in its service area, and should strive to maintain a competent and cohesive staff that is responsive to all DMEA Members.

How would you describe the roles and responsibilities of cooperative board members?

(1) To provide leadership for the cooperative that adequately and responsively represents the wishes, needs and interests of their member-constituents; (2) To establish and maintain a strategic vision and direction for the cooperative; (3) To keep abreast of technical, economic, environmental and political developments that may affect their cooperative; (4) To establish and maintain economic and management principles that will ensure the economic health of the cooperative and provide responsible direction and guidance to its management and employees.

Is there anything about DMEA that you would like to change? If yes, what and why?

Yes. I would like to resolve the contractual differences between DMEA and Tri-State, because it seems impossible to make long-term plans for a stable and sustainable power supply with the present uncertainties.



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Candidate Background Statement:

I have 40 years' experience in the electric utility industry. I came to Montrose in 1982 to become attorney for Colorado-Ute Electric Association, then DMEA's power supplier. In 1988 I became CEO of Sunflower Electric G&T Cooperative in Hays, Kansas. Sunflower was near-bankruptcy, and I led ten years of negotiations with the RUS to restructure its finances, which were successfully concluded in 2004. Sunflower's now serves approximately 200,000 members in 32 western Kansas counties and serves wholesale power to numerous communities.

I have a degree in economics from Cal State LA, and a law degree from UCLA. I have inactive law licenses in four states, including Colorado. I served a total of 23 years as attorney for the LA Department of Water & Power, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Southern California Edison Company, Florida Power & Light, and Colorado-Ute. We own two electric vehicles and maintain a 14.78 kW solar power system on our home.

I was Chairman of the Southwest Power Pool, a regional electric reliability council overseeing power supply and transmission in 14 states, was Director, Board Chair and interim CEO of Western Fuels Association, the coal supplier to Tri-State and several other consumer-owned power suppliers, and operator of several coal mines, including the New Horizon mine in Nucla.