



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Kyle Martinez – DMEA District 2 Candidate

Employment:

Agency Manager, Touch of Care
Owner/Operator, Martinez Farms, LLC

Family:

My wife, Kat, and I are expecting our first child in September.

Educational background:

Olathe High School. Bachelor of Arts in Political Science - University of Colorado. Masters of Science in Management - Colorado State University GC

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

Operate small farm in Olathe. Helped start and operate a home care agency that serves 12 Colorado counties through multiple agencies. Completed Credential Cooperative Director Program during my time as a DMEA Director.

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

Diverse background in multiple industries.

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

Touch of Care - Governing Body, 2012-Present.
Olathe Sweet Corn Festival Committee, 2016-Present.
Delta-Montrose Electric Association, 2015-Present.
Tri-State Generation and Transmission, 2017-Present.
Colorado Rural Electric Association, 2016-2017.

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

Taking advantage of the current wholesale power market while integrating distributive generation on systems built for central generation.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing DMEA?

Ability to attract and retain new loads and keeping rates affordable for DMEA members. Continuing the successful build-out of Elevate Fiber with an emphasis on reaching all our members in a efficient manner.



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What does the word cooperative mean to you? Individuals working towards a common goal for the ultimate benefit of the community.

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

Yes, we are very fortunate to live in an area served by a cooperative that is controlled and operated locally.

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

Community. DMEA serves the communities we call home and has the ability to impact our lives each and everyday.

What do you feel is the primary function of DMEA?

To provide electricity to our communities at a rate that is affordable, safe, reliable, and to be an organization that is reactive to the needs of the membership.

What is your vision for DMEA?

To be a cooperative that is nimble and responsive to community and industry changes while controlling costs to provide electricity in a safe, reliable, and affordable manner.

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

Board members must work to serve the member owners of the cooperative.

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

DMEA has changed a lot in recent years through multiple programs, increased renewable resources, and the creation and implementation of Elevate fiber. DMEA must continue to be successful with Elevate while continuing to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power to our communities.

Candidate Background Statement:

Since 2015, I have been fortunate to serve the members of Delta-Montrose Electric Association and would like to thank you for your support. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue representing the 2nd District and the member owners of the cooperative. Also, I would like to thank my fellow board members and the staff of DMEA/Elevate for their commitment to improving our communities and doing what is right for the member owners of the



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cooperative.

I was born and raised in Montrose County and have only left for a short time to attend school on the Front Range. Growing up, I received a daily education working in agriculture, learning about everything from growing, harvesting, marketing, and shipping of crops. Today, we operate a small farm in Olathe and work to make the operation viable in a tough agriculture economy.

I am also blessed to be involved with our family business, Touch of Care, where I manage our Montrose, Salida, and IHSS operations. Touch of Care provides quality home care to elderly and disabled adults who need to help to live independently in our communities, while providing meaningful employment to over 200 people.

Being involved with Touch of Care, farming, and DMEA takes a considerable amount of work and passion; I have that passion and love hard work and I look forward to continuing to serve on behalf of DMEA's members.

I kindly ask for your vote so that I can continue to work for you.