

THE PowerLines REPORT

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Our Plan for DMEA's Leadership Transition

Kyle Martinez, President, DMEA Board of Directors

Last month, DMEA announced the resignation of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Alyssa Clemens Roberts. The DMEA Board of Directors appreciates Alyssa's hard work in addressing some difficult challenges, including navigating a malicious cyber-attack last November and implementing improved IT security protocols. She was also active in the community, participating in organizations such as Montrose Economic Development Corporation and One Delta County. Alyssa also recruited a number of knowledgeable and experienced employees and leaders to serve DMEA and Elevate.

As our search for a new CEO begins, I assure you that your cooperative is in good hands. The DMEA Board appointed Kent Blackwell as interim CEO on August 1. Kent joined DMEA in 2018 as its Chief Technology Officer (CTO). Since then, he has directed all Elevate operations, including construction, plant design, network engineering, products and services, and sales. Kent has worked in the telecommunications industry for more than 32 years, with 22 of those specifically for cooperative broadband utilities, like DMEA and Elevate.

We are confident that Kent's history at DMEA, and in the cooperative and broadband industries, will result in a successful transition. Kent also has a strong and experienced leadership team behind him, which includes Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Gayle Gouker, Chief Operating Officer (COO) Tim Vigil, Chief Relations Officer (CRO) Lindsay Forepaugh, and Chief Information Officer (CIO) Bob Farmer. Together they bring more than 100 years of combined industry expertise to DMEA.

DMEA is working with Chris Guiney at the executive search firm CarterBaldwin to perform a national search for the co-op's next CEO. CarterBaldwin specializes in executive recruiting. They have been recognized among the Top 40

search firms in the nation and named by *Forbes* as one of America's best executive search firms.

While the search is underway, we don't have a specific timeframe for when a new CEO will join us. The Board is committed to spending the necessary time to find the right candidate to serve as DMEA's next CEO. We are again thankful for Alyssa's positive contributions as CEO, and want to express our gratitude to Kent for his leadership and guidance while we conduct our search.

	Kent Blackwell, Interim Chief Executive Officer/Chief Technology Officer kent.blackwell@dmea.com 970-240-1245
	Gayle Gouker, Chief Financial Officer gayle.gouker@dmea.com 970-240-1278
	Tim Vigil, Chief Operating Officer tim.vigil@dmea.com 970-240-1262
	Lindsay Forepaugh, Chief Relations Officer lindsay.forepaugh@dmea.com 970-240-1235
	Bob Farmer, Chief Information Officer bob.farmer@dmea.com 970-240-1215



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6 GIG INTERNET IS HERE

From day one Elevate has been committed to bringing you the fastest internet possible, now and well into the future. Our 100% fiber network is built to grow right along with you, and we've stayed true to our word.

Now you can get the fastest internet ever with our all-new 2 and 6 Gig internet packages. These crazy-fast speeds will support even your biggest bandwidth hogs, from gamers to remote workers. And for the true techies out there – get ready for the power of Wi-Fi6 with these multi-gig speeds.

Fast internet

per month

150 Mbps	\$54.95
1,000 Mbps (1 Gig)	\$79.95

Even faster internet*

2,000 Mbps (2 Gig)	\$124.95
6,000 Mbps (6 Gig)	\$189.95

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Available in live service areas only. Installation is zero money down and \$10/mo., for 10 months or \$100 upfront. Initial 12-month contract required. Internet service is required for TV and phone. Speeds are up to 6 Gig and subject to wireless limitations. Prices subject to change.
*Multi-gig internet packages require initial consultation with Elevate tech support.

ELEVATE™

FAST INTERNET ▶ (for real)

OCTOBER

9

DMEA PRESENTS:

MOVIE NIGHT

FOX THEATER
MONTROSE

PARADISE
PAONIA



Celebrate National Cooperative Month at the movies! Join us for any showing on Sunday, October 9 at the Fox Theater in Montrose or Paradise Theater in Paonia. Admission is free for DMEA members, and each family will receive a \$5 snack voucher.

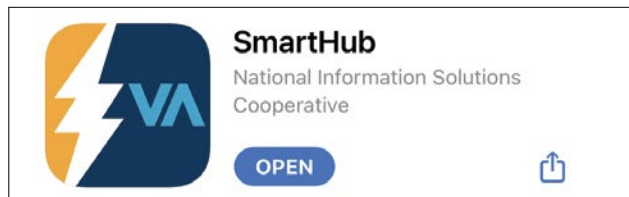
For films and showtimes, visit:
www.montrosemovies.com or www.paradiseofpaonia.com

CONVENIENCE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Access your DMEA and Elevate accounts with one convenient app

Starting this month, DMEA members and Elevate subscribers can now conveniently access both of their accounts in one SmartHub app. Use the directions below to get started:

1. Download the SmartHub app from the App Store or Google Play. Find it quickly by searching DMEA Pay or Elevate Pay.



2. Register your account. Visit www.dmea.smarthub.coop and click “Sign up to access our Self Service Site.” You’ll be asked to enter a current email address, your DMEA account number, and the last name of the primary account holder. Follow the steps and you will receive an email with a temporary password that you can use to log in – you’ll be required to change this the first time you sign in.

3. Access your accounts. Open the app and enter your email and password. You’ll now have ultimate control over both your DMEA and Elevate accounts at your fingertips.

4. Already using SmartHub? While either app will continue to work, we recommend deleting the SmartHub app you use for DMEA (it’s light green with a sliver SmartHub logo). Your Elevate app will automatically update to the combined app on September 12.

Visit our member information center for everything you need to know about the new and improved SmartHub app! www.dmea.com/smarthubhelp

Not seeing both of your accounts or need additional assistance? Give us a call at 877-687-3632 or email csrs@dmea.com.

DMEA Destinations

Seasonal adventures,
right in your backyard.

LEAF PEEPING EDITION

People come from all over the world to take in the breathtaking beauty of Colorado’s aspens in the fall. You can enjoy the journey from your own driveway!

Paonia

Kebler Pass

This stunning pass connects Paonia with Crested Butte. The pass summits at just over 10,000 feet and is home to one of the largest aspen groves in the United States. Follow Highway 133 north out of Paonia. After 15 miles, make a right on Country Road 12.

Cedaredge

Grand Mesa

Explore unbelievable fall foliage on the world’s largest flat top mountain. Stop at numerous pullouts or hike up to one of the 300+ lakes to immerse yourself in aspens. Follow Highway 65 north out of Cedaredge for these spectacular views.

Montrose

Uncompahgre Plateau

Start in Montrose and head west to find a fall wonderland. With more than 1.5 million acres of remote landscapes and scenic vistas, autumn here is top-notch. There are several ways to access the plateau from town, including Highway 90, Dave Wood Road, and Divide Road.

What’s your local go-to for fun? Submit your suggestions to communications@dmea.com

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING MAP

National Drive Electric Week is September 23 - October 2! With fuel cost savings, zero emissions, and easy maintenance, electric vehicles are more popular than ever before. And the charging infrastructure keeps getting better! Check out the wide array of charging stations throughout our service territory and plan your next EV day trip!

To find EV chargers across the country, visit www.plugshare.com.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Montrose Office
11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Read Office
21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
W; 8:00am-5:00pm

Contact Us:
1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com |    

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1 *Kyle Martinez, District 2*
Jacob Gray, District 3 *Ken Watson, District 4*
Kevin Williams, District 5 *Damon Lockhart, District 6*
Enno Heuscher, District 7 *Stacia Cannon, North*
Jock Fleming, South

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

DMEA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC, 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.instate@usda.gov.