

CREDENTIALLED 2024 COOPERATIVE DIRECTOR (CCD) CERTIFICATE

IN ORDER FOR THIS WORKSHOP TO BE FEASIBLE, WE WILL NEED TO HAVE AT LEAST 14 DIRECTORS ATTENDING EACH COURSE. THE CUT-OFF DATE TO REGISTER WILL BE FEBRUARY 23. IF WE DO NOT HAVE 14 DIRECTORS REGISTERED BY THAT DATE, THE CCD WORKSHOP WILL BE CANCELLED. IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 23, YOUR COOPERATIVE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAINING FEE. ONLY EXEMPTIONS PERTAINING TO MEDICAL AND FAMILY EMERGENCIES WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Instructor: Austin Slater, Jr. - Austin holds an MBA in finance and investments from George Washington University, a BS in business and economics from Shepherd University, and an AA from the College of Southern Maryland. As a former Vice President with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and a former CEO of a rural North Carolina utility, he has extensive leadership experience in the electric cooperative industry. On March 12, 2020, Austin retired as President & CEO of the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) having served in that position for 18-years. Under Austin's leadership SMECO has been awarded eight consecutive JD Power awards for residential customer satisfaction. Austin has served as both Director and Chairman of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, the Southern Maryland Workforce Investment Board, and the College of Southern Maryland. He also served on the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond Board (Baltimore Branch) and as director and Vice Chairman on the University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center board; he also served on many industry, civic and community organizations. Austin was recognized by the Maryland Chamber of Commerce as a 'Business Hall of Fame' recipient in 2013, and as the 2014 'CEO of the Year' by the College of Southern Maryland Leading Edge Awards. Austin is currently Chairman of the Board of The Community Financial Corporation and Community Bank of the Chesapeake, a two-billion-dollar community bank operating in Maryland and Virginia. In addition to instructing for NRECA's Director Education program, Austin is an adjunct professor at the College of Business at his alma matter Shepherd University. He is a board member of the Historic Shepherdstown Commission and serves on the Corporation of Shepherdstown Water Board. Austin and his wife, Carmen reside in Shepherdstown, WV, and have a son, George Lang, who serves as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army.

Tuesday, March 12: NRECA Course 2600 – “Director Duties and Liabilities”

Course Description: Boards are responsible for directing the affairs of the corporation. This course discusses and explains the duties of loyalty, obedience, and due care, and the need for directors to acquire the minimum knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill their responsibilities within the cooperative context.

Key Topics Include:

- An overview of today's multi-billion dollar electric utility business
- The concepts and values that govern cooperatively owned businesses and related types of organizations
- Legal and regulatory concepts affecting public utilities
- Key Legal documents such as articles of incorporation and bylaws
- The role of management and guidelines for maintaining an effective relationship with the CEO

Wednesday, March 13: NRECA Course 2610 – “Understanding the Electric Business”

Course Description: The electric utility industry is an evolving high-tech system that must be designed and engineered to meet regulatory and consumer standards for reliability, quality, and safety. This requires an appropriate investment on a planned and ongoing basis. This course provides directors with an understanding of the key components of the electric utility industry.

Key Topics Include:

- The basic functions and cost components of generation, transmission and distribution
- Current and emerging technologies that are impacting utility operations and policies
- Issues related to distributed generation that the board may need to address
- How environmental issues and national policies impact the cooperative
- The board's role to ensure a safe working environment

Who Should Attend: All cooperative directors who wish to become a CCD Director.

Dates & Times: March 12-13, 2024, in Theatre 1 at Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center, 920 W. Sioux Ave., Pierre, SD. The courses will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (CST), with registration starting at 8 a.m.

Registration: Online at sdrea.coop by **February 23.**

Room Reservations: Contact the Ramkota Hotel at 605-224-6877 (room rate \$98) or the Clubhouse Hotel at 605-494-2582 (room rate \$135 plus tax) and ask for the SDREA CCD Workshop room block. Cut off date is **February 10.** If possible, we ask that attendees utilize the Ramkota Hotel room block as a primary option. Thank you.