

# **Southwest Rural Electric Association**

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## **Simmons named as SWRE CEO**

Kenneth E. Simmons has been named as the new CEO of Southwest Rural Electric Cooperative. He replaces longtime CEO Mike Hagy who will retire in early January.

Simmons is a 35-year veteran of the electric co-op industry. He comes to SWRE from Carroll Electric Membership Cooperative in Carrollton, Georgia, where he served as Manager of System Design.

Prior to joining Carroll EMC in 2011, Simmons was president/CEO of Utility Design Services, Inc., a utility consulting firm in Atlanta, Georgia. In that capacity Simmons worked with dozens of electric distribution cooperatives of all sizes across the Southern United States.

Simmons is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He attended Louisiana State University and has earned professional credentials from the University of Georgia, Southern Polytechnic State University, Clapp Research Institute, and the University of Wisconsin.

Simmons and his wife Kim have been married for 30 years. They are parents of three adult children and they have one grandchild.



The Simmonses are members of Legacy Baptist Church of Dallas, Georgia. He has served as a deacon and Sunday school director.

Simmons' community involvement is extensive. He has served on the executive boards of the Paulding County Chamber of Commerce and the Paulding Education Board Foundation. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Dallas where he was named a Paul Harris Fellow.

Simmons will become the 8<sup>th</sup> manager/CEO in Southwest Rural Electric Cooperative's 80-year history.

Southwest Rural Electric Cooperative was organized in 1937. It maintains its headquarters in Tipton, Oklahoma, and also operates branch warehouse facilities in Vernon, Texas, and Electra, Texas.

SWRE serves approximately 6,000 square miles in eleven counties of southwest Oklahoma and north central Texas (in Oklahoma: Jackson, Kiowa, Tillman, Comanche, and Greer Counties; in Texas: Hardeman, Wilbarger, Wichita, Foard, Baylor, and Archer Counties).

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