

THE BOARD'S ROLE IN SAFETY

NRECA Board Leadership #988

October 11, 2025

The Cooperative Center | NDAREC headquarters | 3201 Nygren Drive NW | Mandan, N.D.

BOARD LEADERSHIP (BL) CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

To earn the certificate, directors must complete 10 credits from the 900-level courses. The BL courses are grouped according to eight specialty areas: grassroots, power supply, cooperative business model, governance, finance, communications, technology and risk management. Each course is one day unless otherwise noted.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Establishing a culture of safety is the first responsibility of an electric cooperative board. Together with the CEO, the board must continually and carefully provide oversight for safety performance to establish and maintain a culture of safety. Many boards are challenged to find the balance between positively influencing safety performance and becoming entrenched in cooperative operations. This course is designed to help distribution cooperative boards find that balance and to fulfil their safety oversight responsibilities.

KEY TOPICS

- The role the board plays in overall safety of employees and the public
- Governance practices that ensure safety as a strategic priority
- Legal responsibilities of the board related to safety
- Key safety performance metrics to support safety improvement
- The board's influence on supporting and sustaining a positive safety culture



MEET THE INSTRUCTOR

For more than three decades, Scott Luecal has been providing training and consulting services to electric cooperatives and public power districts, business subsidiaries and community-directed organizations. This includes national trade associations for electric cooperatives, telecommunications and insurance.

His areas of expertise include accounting, finance and tax, governance, power supply, risk management, strategic planning, supervisory and management, leadership, and technology planning and systems.

Scott started his own consulting company in 2007. His consulting services include strategic planning facilitation, financial planning and equity management, cost of service and rate design, merger/consolidation/collaboration facilitation, organizational structure and related personnel decisions, technology planning, board governance, board and CEO evaluations, and business plans.

Scott worked as an accountant, office manager and general manager at Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, an Illinois distribution co-op, for nine years, and was the Manager of University Programs for NRECA for eight years.

Scott also held various executive-level positions with Central Area Data Processing and the National Information Solutions Cooperative (NISC). At NISC, Scott was executive vice president of the business development and marketing division.

SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

All times listed are Central Time.

8:30 a.m.	Hot breakfast buffet
9 a.m.	The Board's Role in Safety
12 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	The Board's Role in Safety - continued
3:30 p.m.	Adjournment

Registration Information

To register for this NRECA board-governance program, please go to www.ndarec.com/ndarec-education-programs. The registration deadline is **September 22**.

For NDAREC members with a 2025 prepaid education plan, there is no registration fee/person. For members who do not have a prepaid education plan, the registration fee is \$595/person. No advance payment is necessary; NDAREC will send an invoice for the registration fee (if applicable) following the program. The cost for breakfast, two refreshment breaks and lunch will be billed back to participating cooperatives.

Cancellations

If you need to cancel your registration, please notify Pamela Clark-Stein at pstein@ndarec.com 14 days in advance of the program. If notice is provided 14 days or more in advance, there is no cancellation fee. If notice is provided less than 14 days in advance, a cancellation fee of \$70/day will be charged. Please note: Substitutions are permitted at no extra charge if NDAREC is notified of the substitution prior to the program date.

Hotel Accommodations

For your convenience, a block of sleeping rooms is reserved for Friday, October 10, at the Comfort Inn & Suites, 1516 27th St. N, Mandan.

For online reservations: www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/BT23V4. The block of sleeping rooms is reserved under "REC Board Leadership." The release date for the reserved block of rooms is **Sept. 23**.

Special Dietary Needs and Other Accommodations

Please notify Pamela at pstein@ndarec.com of any dietary restrictions such as food allergies, gluten-free options and other special accommodations needed. A minimum of 72 hours' advance notice is required.

NRECA's Cancellation Policy

NRECA charges a 50-percent cancellation fee if one of their courses is canceled 15 or fewer business days prior to the start of a scheduled course. Therefore, NDAREC reserves the right to cancel due to a lack of registrations.