

# PEC Leadership and Covid-19 Response Recognized



**JULIE CARUTHERS PARSLEY**  
CEO, Pedernales Electric Cooperative

## Johnson City

In its 80-year history, Pedernales Electric Cooperative has never faced challenges like it did in 2020. But under the leadership of Julie Caruthers Parsley, PEC – the largest electric cooperative in the nation – continued to provide safe, reliable electric service from the onset of the pandemic, all while experiencing record growth.

In late February, Parsley saw the impact COVID-19 could have on PEC's operations and immediately began meeting regularly with her executive team and other leaders to review PEC's existing emergency pandemic plan. By March 16, PEC had activated its Emergency Operations Plan, which included the unprecedented measure of closing district offices to member interactions and instituting remote work where possible. Media and internal communications were distributed, signage was posted, and new guidelines were enacted for in-office employees and those in the field. By acting quickly and assembling a team of experts around a bold, decisive plan, Caruthers made PEC a true leader in the field, sprinting ahead of other businesses and cooperatives in the steps that would later be widely adopted – providing a model for those organizations to follow.