BLUESTEM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
POLICY NO. 163

PUBLIC SAFETY

I. OBJECTIVE

To establish procedures and conditions that safeguards the Bluestem Electric Cooperative,
Inc. members and the general public from potentially dangerous electrical conditions.

II. POLICY CONTENT

Bluestem Electric Cooperative members and the general public should never come into contact with electrical power lines. When potentially hazardous conditions are observed, Bluestem Electric Cooperative members and the general public should alert the Bluestem Electric Cooperative to the condition.

III. PROVISIONS

A. The Bluestem Electric Cooperative, Inc., in the construction, operation, and maintenance of its electrical system, will at all times adhere to the provisions outlined in the most current edition of the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC), unless specifically required by other authorities to do otherwise.

B. It is the responsibility of each employee, contractor, Bluestem Electric Cooperative member, and general public member to report to the Bluestem Electric Cooperative all unsafe conditions that any such person observes in the Bluestem Electric Cooperative's electrical system. Any employee, contractor, Bluestem Electric Cooperative member, or member of the general public, upon finding a power line in an unsafe condition or a condition not in compliance with NESC clearances should immediately notify the Bluestem Electric Cooperative's office concerning the unsafe condition. Bluestem Electric Cooperative employees and contractors should stand by to guard against hazardous conditions until they are relieved or until the defect is corrected. Bluestem Electric Cooperative members and members of the general public are not expected to stand by to guard against hazardous conditions but should notify, in addition to Bluestem Electric Cooperative personnel, law enforcement and emergency personnel respecting the unsafe condition.

C. Members of Bluestem Electric Cooperative, Inc., and the general public should always assume that a downed power line or a sagging power line is unsafe. The Bluestem Electric Cooperative, Inc., and law enforcement authorities should be notified when such a condition is observed. Contact with power lines, whether downed or not, can result in injury or death and must be avoided

D. If any Bluestem Electric Cooperative member or member of the general public inadvertently comes into contact with a power line, the incident should be reported immediately to the Bluestem Electric Cooperative, Inc. If there are injuries, emergency medical personnel should be contacted immediately. **FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE POWER LINE SHOULD BE STRICTLY AVOIDED, AND THE INCIDENT SHOULD BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO THE BLUESTEM ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. IF THE INCIDENT OCCURRED ON A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS SHOULD ALSO BE NOTIFIED.**

E. All accidental contacts involving the Bluestem Electric Cooperative electric lines, vehicles, or property shall be properly and promptly investigated, with complete accident reports prepared, including photographs and sketches to substantiate written reports.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The General Manager is responsible for the administration of the policy.

B. This policy shall be posted on the Bluestem Electric Cooperative's website and will be made available upon request.

EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 17, 2000

REVISED EFFECTIVE DATE: May 20, 2019

ATTESTED: _____
Secretary