

INFORMATIONAL PACKET FOR  
CANDIDATES PETITIONING  
FOR THE  
WEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2026





## Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc

P.O. Box 8, 40 Church Street  
East Montpelier, Vermont 05651

Telephone: 802-224-2324; Fax 802-223-6780  
[www.washingtonelectric.coop](http://www.washingtonelectric.coop)

Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Washington Electric Cooperative (WEC) Board of Directors. Oversight of WEC by its member-owners represents one of the unique aspects of how electric cooperatives are governed. Directors serve at large, representing over 11,000 members throughout WEC's service territory. It is the Board's responsibility to ensure the financial stability and well-being of the Co-op, equitable treatment of its members, safe operations and distribution of power, environmental stewardship in performing its core mission of providing power, and support of the communities it serves.

Please follow the instructions outlined in this packet to submit your petition for candidacy. Some deadlines are stipulated by our Bylaws, so it is imperative that you adhere to them if you would like to be considered for nomination. The following information and materials are included (click titles to jump to sections):

- ❖ **Letter from Board President Stephen Knowlton**
- ❖ **Requirements & Deadlines**
- ❖ **Seven Cooperative Principles**
- ❖ **Statement of Director Responsibilities**
- ❖ **WEC Bylaws (see, especially, Article III – Directors)**
- ❖ **Personal Statements in *Co-op Currents***
- ❖ **Contact Information for 2025 – 2026 WEC Board of Directors**
- ❖ **Candidate petition – print & digital**
- ❖ **Affirmation of Receipt, Understanding and Compliance**

**Please review the information contained within and submit all required materials promptly.**

For more information about the Co-op, including back issues of the newsletter *Co-op Currents*, please visit our website at [www.washingtonelectric.coop](http://www.washingtonelectric.coop) or contact General Manager Louis Porter at 802-224-2324. If you have further questions about the job of a director, we welcome you to contact Board President Stephen Knowlton or any of the current members of the Board.

If you have any questions about the procedures or guidelines for petitioning for candidacy, please contact Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson at [dawn.johnson@wec.coop](mailto:dawn.johnson@wec.coop).



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January 2026

Dear Candidate:

Thank you for expressing your interest to run for Washington Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors, and to serve the membership of the Coop if you are elected. As you know, the Board consists of members acting on behalf of all of the members of our cooperative. Our role is to carry out the mission of the Cooperative by making informed choices that shape its future for the benefit of all its members.

As part of your application to run for a director, you will need to collect at least 25 members' signatures on your petition. Based on my experience, I encourage you to use this requirement as an opportunity to meet some WEC members you may not already know. This will give you a chance to get direct feedback from Coop members on how well they think their co-op is serving them, how much the members understand the difference between receiving electricity from a co-op vs. an investor-owned utility, how important WEC's renewable power portfolio is to them, as well as give you the chance to share your interest in why you would like to serve on the Board.

When you collect signatures, please note that joint members (e.g., two members of a single household) can count as only one signature on your petition. I advise you to submit your petition(s) with several more than the required signatures in the event that some of the people who provide signatures cannot be verified as members of the Cooperative.

Again, thank you for your interest in serving your fellow members. I recognize that participating in the election process takes time, and we at the Board respect your commitment and appreciate the effort you are making.

Sincerely,

WEC Board of Directors

Stephen Knowlton  
President



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### 2026 WEC DIRECTOR ELECTIONS DEADLINES

**PLEASE SUBMIT ALL MATERIALS PROMPTLY. EARLY IS PREFERRED.**

**All required materials to be submitted no later than  
11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2026**

Submit materials to Dawn Johnson by email at [dawn.johnson@wec.coop](mailto:dawn.johnson@wec.coop), or by mail to Washington Electric Coop, Attn: Administrative Assistant, P.O. Box 8, East Montpelier, VT 05651.  
Any and all materials may be hand-delivered to the WEC office, as well.

– *Required items highlighted on schedule below* –

Date	Material/Task/Meeting
<b>Tuesday, January 27, 2026</b>	Personal Statements for <i>Co-op Currents</i> – for February/March issue
<b>Tuesday, March 3, 2026</b>	Policy Statements for <i>Co-op Currents</i> – for April/May issue
<b>Friday, March 6, 2026</b>	Candidate petition with 25 signatures Affirmation of Receipt, Understanding, and Compliance
<b>Monday, March 16, 2026</b>	Report of the Committee on Candidates posted – candidates will be contacted as confirmation of their candidacy
<b>Week of April 6, 2026</b>	Voting packets mailed to all members – contains Annual Report and Annual Meeting issue of <i>Co-op Currents</i>
<b>Thursday, May 7, 2026</b>	87 <sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting at which elected Directors are announced. All candidates expected to attend.



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### WASHINGTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. 2025 - 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**STEPHEN KNOWLTON, President**

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(802) 595-5825 (c)

[knowlsf@auburn.edu](mailto:knowlsf@auburn.edu)

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(802) 229-0200 (w)

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(802) 917-3965 (c)

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**BETSY ALLEN, Secretary**

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**SUSAN ALEXANDER**

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### **Candidate Petition Form & Affirmation of Receipt, Understanding and Compliance**

**Submit both no later than Friday, March 6, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.**

**This is a Bylaw-stipulated deadline.**

**Candidate Petition** – Any member wishing to serve on the WEC Board of Directors must submit a petition containing the signatures of at least twenty-five (25) WEC members supporting them in order to be nominated. It is recommended that you obtain more than 25 signatures in the event someone signing is no longer a member or is not a member of record. A member of record is a person whose name appears on the electric bill. Only one signature per member account will be counted. Joint members are treated as one signature.

Members may also submit the online candidate petition form in support of the candidate(s) of their choice at: <https://www.washingtonelectric.coop/annual-meeting/>.

Part of the director's election process is engaging with your fellow members. So, if you plan to obtain signatures using the online candidate petition form, we ask that you contact those from whom you are requesting support, just as you would if you were going door to door. Your supporter may then simply complete the online form linked above and the WEC office will receive the submission.

**Affirmation of Receipt, Understanding and Compliance** – According to the Co-op's Bylaws, candidates are required to submit an affirmation stating that they understand the responsibilities of directors and that they meet the qualifications for directors set forth in the Bylaws. The Bylaws can be found online at <https://www.washingtonelectric.coop/about-wec/> as well as earlier in this packet.

Completed print petitions and signed Affirmations may be submitted to  
Dawn Johnson by email at [dawn.johnson@wec.coop](mailto:dawn.johnson@wec.coop), or by mail to  
Washington Electric Coop, Attn: Dawn Johnson, P.O. Box 8, East Montpelier, VT 05651.  
Any and all materials may be hand-delivered to the WEC office.



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### Personal Statements for *Co-op Currents*

Each year, candidates have the opportunity to address the membership through *Co-op Currents*. These statements are also posted on WEC's Annual Meeting webpage and remain available for viewing throughout the election period. The February/March newsletter features biographical information and a photo of each candidate. The April/May issue of the newsletter contains candidates' responses to the policy and general questions. It is crucial that this information be submitted by the deadlines so that the newsletter can be mailed according to the stipulations of the Bylaws.

Candidates with questions regarding the forms or procedures should contact Administrative Assistant Dawn Johnson at 802-224-2332 or [dawn.johnson@wec.coop](mailto:dawn.johnson@wec.coop).

**No later than Tuesday, January 27, 2026, please submit:**

- ❖ Brief statement (400 words maximum):
  - In your own words, tell the membership about yourself and why you are running for a seat on the WEC Board.
- ❖ Photograph of candidate (JPEG or PNG, high resolution)

**No later than Tuesday, March 3, 2026, please submit:**

- ❖ Responses to questions (650 words maximum):
  - What is your name, in what town is your Co-op membership, and how should members contact you? You may include any other biographical details you wish.
  - What skills, expertise, and/or perspectives would you bring to the Board?
  - What are the most important issues the cooperative will face in the next few years? How would you guide the Co-op in regard to these issues?
  - Is there anything else you would like to tell the members?

**NOTE:** *Candidates who do not meet the January 27, 2026, deadline should still submit all required materials, including personal statements. Their answers to general policy questions will be published in the April/May issue of Co-op Currents, as the March 3, 2026 final deadline for all materials allows for this publication; all candidates' statements will be posted to the [WEC Annual Meeting webpage](#).*

# CANDIDATE PETITION

## MAY 2026 WEC DIRECTOR ELECTION

We, the undersigned members of Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc., do hereby support the  
 candidacy of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, Vermont  
 for the Board of Directors of Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

	VERIFIED BY WEC	SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME <i>as it appears on your bill</i>	SERVICE ADDRESS <u>or</u> MAP # <u>or</u> ACCOUNT #
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MINIMUM 25 VOTING MEMBERSHIPS MUST BE PRESENTED

**ONLY ONE (1) SIGNATURE PER JOINT ACCOUNT**

For Office Use: # Signatures verified this page \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_ Total # Signatures Verified: \_\_\_\_\_



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 candidacy of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, Vermont  
 for the Board of Directors of Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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MINIMUM 25 VOTING MEMBERSHIPS MUST BE PRESENTED

**ONLY ONE (1) SIGNATURE PER JOINT ACCOUNT**

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## Affirmation of Receipt, Understanding and Compliance

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I, the undersigned candidate for Director of Washington Electric Cooperative, hereby affirm that I have received and read, and understand the Statement of Director Responsibilities, and meet the qualifications for Director as set forth in Article III, Section 2, of the Cooperative's Bylaws, which are stated below:

*No member shall be eligible to become a director, or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who:*

- (a) is not a member of the Cooperative in good standing for at least six months;*
- (b) is not a resident of the State of Vermont;*
- (c) is an employee of the Cooperative; or*
- (d) is an employee, officer or director of, or has a direct, material interest in, any retail or wholesale electric utility within the state of Vermont or any entity selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, except a cooperative formed under Section 3043 of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated; any entity formed pursuant to Chapter 83, Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated; and the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority formed under Chapter 84, Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated; provided that nothing contained herein shall disqualify persons generating electric energy on their own premises and selling capacity or energy to the Cooperative through interconnection with Cooperative facilities.*

I further affirm to the Committee on Candidates that, in accordance with Article III, Section 2A of the Cooperative's Bylaws, I have been a member of the Cooperative in good standing for the past six months.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_