

Director Candidate Information

A candidate for a position on the Board of Directors of Crawford Electric Cooperative must be nominated by a petition signed by at least 15 cooperative members. The following information is provided to assist you in the nomination process.

1. All candidates must meet certain requirements. Refer to **Article IV, Section 4** of the cooperative bylaws for director candidate qualifications. The bylaws explain individual, membership and residency requirements and potential conflicts of interest.
2. Your principal place of residency determines which district position you may seek. Refer to **Article IV, Section 2** of the cooperative bylaws to determine your district. You must declare your district on your nominating petition. All directors, however, are elected “at large” by the entire voting membership of the cooperative.
3. Your petition must be timely delivered to the cooperative for signature verification. The first day to turn in a petition is **Thursday, June 17**. The last date is **Friday, July 30**. Petitions received after the close of the petition period will be considered invalid.
4. Please be sure that a cooperative employee signs and dates your petition as being received. We will give you a copy of your petition for your records. If you file your petition on June 17, you also will need to draw a number to randomly determine your place on the ballot within your district among other first-day filers (low number goes first). Thereafter, ballot order will be in the order petitions are received.
5. Per Bylaw Article IV, Section 4, all candidates for a position on the board must sign a **Conflict of Interest Certification/Disclosure Form**. The form is included with this packet, along with a copy of Board Policy 1.4 on Conflicts of Interest. A signed Conflict of Interest Certification must be delivered to the co-op whenever you turn in your candidacy petition.
6. Signatures and membership status of individuals signing your petition will be validated. Refer to bylaw **Article I, Sections 1-5** for guidance on membership status. For you to be nominated to be a director candidate, your petition must contain at least 15 valid signatures.
7. Please make note of bylaw **Article IV, Section 5**, which states, “No member shall sign more than one nominating petition for candidates seeking election from the same district.” Failure to follow this bylaw will invalidate signatures found to be in conflict.
8. Co-op members may vote for the candidate of their choice for each of the open positions, regardless of the voter’s district residency. **Voting will occur at the Annual Meeting of Members**, held at co-op headquarters on **Wednesday, Sept. 15**. Polls will close about one hour after the morning business session concludes for the lunch break.
9. Members unable to attend the annual meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 15, may still vote for directors by using a **mail-in ballot**. Members wanting to vote by mail must contact the cooperative to request a mail-in ballot packet. These ballots must be received back at the co-op through the mail no later than **Tuesday, Sept. 14**. Further instructions for voting by mail will be published in the member newsletter, *Your Co-op Connection*, found in the center section of the *Rural Missouri* magazine.

If you have any questions, please contact **Laura Hengstenberg**, Crawford Electric’s manager of administration and communications at lgh110@crawfordelec.com, 537-732-4415 or 800-677-2667.