

Preparing for *director elections*

Being an electric cooperative member offers a unique opportunity to be a part of the decision-making process in the business. Because Harrison REMC is a cooperative, it is owned by its members. That means members are responsible for electing other members to take the leadership positions on the board of directors to help shape business decisions for the company.

Each year, Harrison REMC holds an annual meeting and encourages members to attend and vote for the directors of their choice. A nomination process must occur before the annual meeting. Members interested in being a board candidate should review the many responsibilities required of the position.

The board of directors is a legal body which is held accountable for the actions of the cooperative by both the Harrison REMC members and the government. Directors are expected to attend special and regular board meetings, committee meetings and the annual meeting. Directors should also attempt to attend one National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) meeting or director's conference every year. Directors are expected to complete their NRECA Credentialed Director's Certificate during their first two terms of office. Directors receive a fee for meeting attendance and are reimbursed for all reasonable expenses for attending cooperative business meetings.

It is possible for directors to spend more than 25 days each year for REMC business. REMC directors are expected to read and be familiar with information and financial reports from the cooperative, or other national and state associations. Directors are elected to represent a specific district, but are responsible for decisions affecting the entire membership. Directors should possess the interpersonal skills to work in harmony with the whole board and have

the self-confidence and communication skills to express their opinion or disagreement with other directors.

Harrison REMC directors are members of the cooperative and pay monthly electric bills like other Harrison REMC members. They do not receive discounted power, and their bills are not subsidized. The directors of Harrison REMC are equally as interested as other members in system reliability and the most economical operation of the cooperative. The directors of Harrison REMC are typically elected for their business sense and level of respect within the community.

Director elections are open to all members. The following districts will be up for election at the 2019 REMC annual meeting.

- **District 2:** Jackson, Howard and Posey townships in Washington County. Blue River and Morgan townships in Harrison County.
- **District 3:** Carr and Wood townships in Clark County. Greenville and Lafayette townships in Floyd County.
- **District 6:** Harrison Township east of State Road 135 and north of State Road 62 in Harrison County.

The REMC bylaws outline the specific nomination and election process along with the specific qualifications required to be an REMC director. Nomination material is available at the REMC office. Nomination material will be accepted starting Dec. 1, and the deadline to submit the material is Jan. 20, 2019. The election process and bylaw information is shown on the REMC website at www.harrisonremc.com.

Next month's Electric Consumer will provide additional information regarding the election nomination process.

Director petitions now available

Being a member of an electric co-op is a unique opportunity to be part of the decision-making process in a business.

Because Harrison REMC is a cooperative, it is owned by its members. That means members are responsible for voting for fellow members to take leadership positions on the board of directors.

Each April, Harrison REMC holds an annual meeting for members to attend. This meeting includes an update on the co-op and the electric industry as well as the election of directors for the districts that are up for re-election.

How are director candidates nominated?

In accordance with the bylaws, all new director nominees must be nominated by a petition signed by at least 20 members of the cooperative who are at least 18 years old.

For the purpose of the petition, a husband and wife shall be deemed one member. Petition forms will be

available at the office of the REMC during regular business hours starting Dec. 1. The REMC petitions must be completed and filed with the REMC office by Jan. 20, prior to the annual meeting of the cooperative. In lieu of a petition, incumbent board members may file a written notice at the office of the cooperative by Jan. 20. REMC districts 2, 3 and 6 are up for election at the 2019 annual meeting.

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- District 6: Harrison Township east of State Road 135 and north of State Road 62 in Harrison County.

More information regarding the election process was printed in the November issue of Electric Consumer and is currently available on the REMC website, www.harrisonremc.com.