

BAYFIELD ELECTRIC SEEKS DIRECTOR CANDIDATES



The following
director districts are
up for election in 2017:

District 5

Sanborn, Gingles, Kelly,
White River, Marengo

District 6

Grand View, Lincoln,
Shanagolden

District 9

Knight, Carey, Oma,
Mercer, Winchester, Pence,
Michigan, Saxon, Kimball

Nomination Procedure

As approved by the annual membership meeting in June 2014, the cooperative Bylaws now provide that all candidates for positions on the cooperative board of directors must be nominated exclusively by petition, signed by at least 10 cooperative members from the district for which the candidate is seeking election, and filed with the cooperative at least 90 days prior to the annual membership meeting.

Article IV, Section 5. Nominations. Nominations for any position of director may be made by petition signed by not less than ten (10) members from the director district from which a director is to be elected. Such petition shall be filed at the office of the cooperative at least ninety (90) days before the membership meeting at which directors are to be elected. Petitions filed less than ninety (90) days prior to the meeting shall not be considered. The notice of the meeting shall list the names of all candidates for director nominated by petition.

- The Fact Sheet for Nominees on page 16 of this issue describes the qualifications for directors, duties and responsibilities, and nomination process.
- Interested members, please contact our office for the Verification of Qualifications and Declaration of Candidacy and Official Petition Form to circulate for the required signatures.
- The filing deadline for petitions is MARCH 15, 2017.

BEC DONATES TO AREA FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT

The Winchester and Mellen Fire Departments have each received a co-op contribution totaling \$2,000 to be used towards wildland PPE tools and emergency EMT equipment.

The Winchester Fire Department was presented with a check from Kenneth

Clement, of Saxon, a member of Bayfield Electric Cooperative's board of directors. The Mellen Fire Department was presented with a check from Robert Kretzschmar, president of BEC's board of directors.

Bayfield Electric matched a \$1,000

grant that the departments received from CoBank's "Sharing Success" charitable contribution program. CoBank created the fund in 2012 to benefit cooperatives and the charitable groups they support throughout the country.



Left: Board President Robert Kretzschmar, third from left, presents a check to the Mellen Fire Department. Above: Director Kenneth Clement, center, presents a check to the Winchester Fire Department.



BAYFIELD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FACT SHEET FOR NOMINEES

Qualifications

- You must be a member of the cooperative within the district you are seeking to represent, or the designated representative of an entity member such as a limited liability company or partnership. This means you must take electric service at either a permanent residence, a seasonal residence, or a commercial location within the district. (If you are running for the board as a representative of an entity member, please contact the CEO; additional conditions may apply.)
- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must not be employed by, or have a financial interest in, a business that competes with the cooperative, or a business selling energy, supplies, services, or equipment to the cooperative.
- You must not have any outstanding debts to the cooperative, or brought a claim against the cooperative or its employees, officers, or directors in the previous five years.
- For more details, refer to the Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws or contact the CEO.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Board members are charged with the responsibility of overseeing the cooperative, including: strategic planning, fiduciary responsibility, setting policy and direction, corporate duties, governance, and other general duties relating to the business of the cooperative.
- Board members are provided with a preliminary agenda in advance of each board meeting. Directors may be expected to review additional materials in preparation for the meeting.
- Directors are expected to personally attend:
 - **Board Meetings** – The cooperative board normally meets on the second Friday of each month at the cooperative’s office in Iron River, Wis. Board meetings usually begin at 11 a.m. Board meetings may occasionally be scheduled for other days and/or to begin at other times.
 - **Annual Meeting** – This is usually held on a weekday evening during the month of June.
 - **District Meetings** – From time to time, directors may be asked to attend district meetings and report back to the full board.
 - **Committee Meetings** – you may be asked to serve on the board’s labor or audit committee and provide a report to the full board as necessary.

- Directors are strongly encouraged to attend training and become a Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD). This is typically accomplished within the first term on the board (three years). Expenses associated with this training are paid by the cooperative.
- Directors are approved to participate in a variety of regional, state, and national events. Participation requires travel by car or plane. These events usually require advanced preparation such as reading the materials provided and familiarizing oneself with the issues involved. Events may be business or training related, or political in nature. Directors who attend regional, state, and national meetings may be expected to provide a report on their attendance to the rest of the board.
- Directors are required to review, acknowledge, and abide by the cooperative’s code of ethics.
- Directors represent Bayfield Electric in the community and elsewhere, which may include making public presentations.
- Directors may be eligible to serve on boards of companies or organizations affiliated with Bayfield, such as the cooperative’s power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative.

Nomination Process

- Nominations shall be made by petition.
- The petition must be signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing from the district you are seeking to represent.
 - A member in good standing is defined as one who is receiving electric service from the cooperative, is current on his/her electric bill, and does not have any bad debts with the cooperative.
 - Note: it is a violation of privacy laws for the cooperative to provide candidates with payment or debt information about members. Candidates will have to do their best to verify the standing of a member signing the petition. Candidates are encouraged to get more than the minimum number of signatures.
- Joint members (typically a husband and wife) shall count as one signature.
- The completed petition shall be submitted to the cooperative at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting at which the election is held.
- For complete details on director nomination and election procedures, see Article IV of the cooperative’s Bylaws or contact the CEO.

NEW YEAR BRINGS CHANGES IN PAY STATIONS

Remember: as of January 1, 2017, Chippewa Valley Bank will NO LONGER be accepting payments as a pay station. Chippewa Valley Bank will still be offering bill pay. Other banks/businesses that will still be accepting payments are:

- Associated Bank in Ashland or Hurley
- Northern State Bank in Mellen
- Moccasin Trails IGA in Odanah

Don't forget to bring in your billing stub if you choose to pay at a pay station!

Other ways to pay your bill

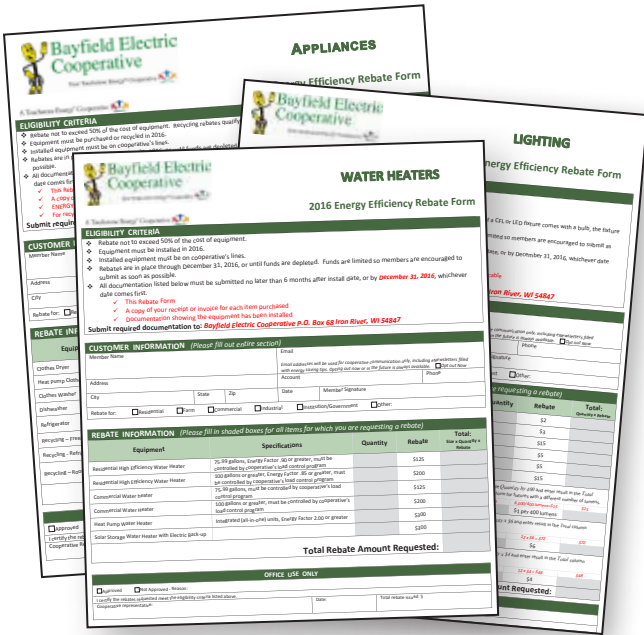
Online: A very popular option is to pay your bill online. Just visit us at www.bayfielddelctric.com. Look for the online bill pay link and follow the steps. (You may also choose to go paperless.)



Phone: Call 1-855-385-9978 to pay your bill through our automated phone system.

Mail: Mail in your bill stub with your payment.

Office location: Stop on in and pay your bill, we accept cash, checks, and credit cards.



ALL REBATE PAPERWORK DUE JANUARY 6, 2017

Bayfield Electric Cooperative still has rebates available for members who purchased items in 2016 that promote energy efficiency and conservation. However, these rebates are only available until funds are depleted or by December 31, 2016, whichever comes first. Rebate forms are available at www.bayfielddelctric.com. Please review the rebate form prior to making purchases to ensure your item meets the rebate requirements for energy efficiency.



From your friends and neighbors at Bayfield Electric Cooperative

Our offices will be closed Monday, January 2. Have a safe and Happy New Year!



NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

NOTICE

TO ALL DUAL FUEL/HEAT STORAGE MEMBERS WHO ARE SUB-METERED


Please do not disconnect your DUAL FUEL/HEAT STORAGE METER! It must be left on at all times. You may turn off the circuit breaker that controls your heat; but it is necessary for the meter to be left on in order to have the monthly billing work properly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Month of January

Billing date: January 10, 2017
December usage
Bills due upon receipt
Gross due after January 30, 2017
Disconnect date: February 14, 2017

CONGRATULATIONS, RAY LAAKSO

Ray Laakso (account no. 209189000) is this month's winner of a \$50 credit. Please clip the coupon below and send it in with your payment or call the office by the payment due date. The \$50 will then be credited to your account.

		ACCOUNT NO. 209189000	
CHECK NUMBER	DATE		
323	01/01/2017		
P	AY TO THE ORDER OF	AMOUNT	
		\$50	00
Ray Laakso Brule, WI 54820			
NON-TRANSFERABLE		<i>Diane Berweger</i>	

Diane Berweger, CEO

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Marissa Halvorson, Editor



Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday–Friday
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