



**Tricounty Rural Electric
Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

PETITION PACKET

TREC BOARD ELECTION



419-256-7900 www.tricountyelectriccoop.coop

Trustee Election Instructions

The following checklist is designed to assist trustee candidates with the election process and procedures at Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative.

Checklist:

- 1. Letter from the General Manager; Important Dates and District Information**
- 2. Review Article IV Section 3 – Qualifications for Eligibility to Serve on the Board (Fill out and return)**

This board policy defines the qualifications necessary for election or appointment to, and service on the Cooperative's Board of Trustees. The policy also establishes the procedures for implementing the policy.

- 3. Complete the Personal Profile Information Form**

Profile information will be used to inform the general membership of candidates seeking election to the Board. Candidates may complete the form and return it to the co-op's office located at 8945 County Road K2, Malinta, Ohio, or email it to bperkins@tricountyrec.com. Please provide a good quality electronic photo. If you do not have a good quality photo, one of our staff members can take a picture for you.

- 4. Review Policy 105 (Trustees Code of Ethics), 106 (Statement of Guidelines for Trustees/Trustee Candidates), & 108 (Conflict of Interest)**

Policy 105 explains the ethics of trustees. Policy 106 clarifies the standards of conduct for which they will be held accountable when serving on the board. Policy 108 spells out where trustees of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative should avoid conflicts of interests.

- 5. Complete the Official Petition Form for Trustee Nomination**

Candidates seeking election must submit a petition containing at least 20 member signatures from current Tricounty members. If memberships are jointly held, only one may sign the petition. All signatures on the petition must be legible, and the signer must be the name of the account holder. Candidates must complete the petition and return it to the Tricounty Rural Electric office no later than 4:00 p.m. on June 1, 2026.



Notice of Trustee Elections

Dear Member,

Thank you for your interest in serving on the Board of Trustees for Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. This letter will briefly outline some of the roles and responsibilities of being a trustee. If you have any questions about becoming a trustee, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Trustees for TREC face many challenges. The Cooperative is a \$27 million corporation with over \$11 million in annual revenue. The electric utility business is complicated, and the cooperative network of utilities can be confusing. Trustees must understand that it is necessary to be committed to the organization and to fellow trustees. The Cooperative requires a Board of Trustees committed to preparing the cooperative to meet member needs far into the future. Trustees do not spend time or get involved with the day-to-day operations of the cooperative; they are instead focused on achieving long-term, strategic goals.

The Cooperative understands trustees must commit a lot of time to the position. Board materials are provided in electronic format using an iPad. Trustees need to have basic computer knowledge and ability. Typical monthly board material packets contain reports and financial data.

Training and ongoing education are important to being a good TREC Trustee. It is not required, but Trustees are encouraged to complete two levels of board certification from NRECA, our National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. These certificates are Certified Cooperative Director (CCD) and the Board Leadership Certification (BLC). Most of the training is offered in Columbus, OH as day trips.

The Board of Trustees meets monthly on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. There are other meetings scheduled throughout the year, as well as the previously mentioned education courses. Serving on the Board of Trustees requires a serious commitment. Trustees are not employees of the cooperative, nor do they receive a salary or benefits. Trustees are compensated for their time in meetings and education courses by receiving a per diem of \$300 (additional amounts may be paid depending on certifications received). This includes preparation time outside of normal meetings and training sessions. Trustees are required to be prepared for all meetings and to attend at least 75% of all regularly scheduled meetings.

I want to thank you again for your interest in serving on the Board of Trustees. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by calling our office at 419-256-7900.

Sincerely,

Brett Perkins
General Manager



Important Dates:

April 20, 2026- Petition forms are available at TREC's office located at 8945 County Road K2, Malinta, Ohio, and online at www.tricountyrec.com

June 1, 2026- Petition forms must be filed at TREC's office by 4 p.m.

August 1, 2026- Trustee election ballots will be mailed to the members.

September 16, 2026- Trustee election results announced at TREC's Virtual Annual Meeting.

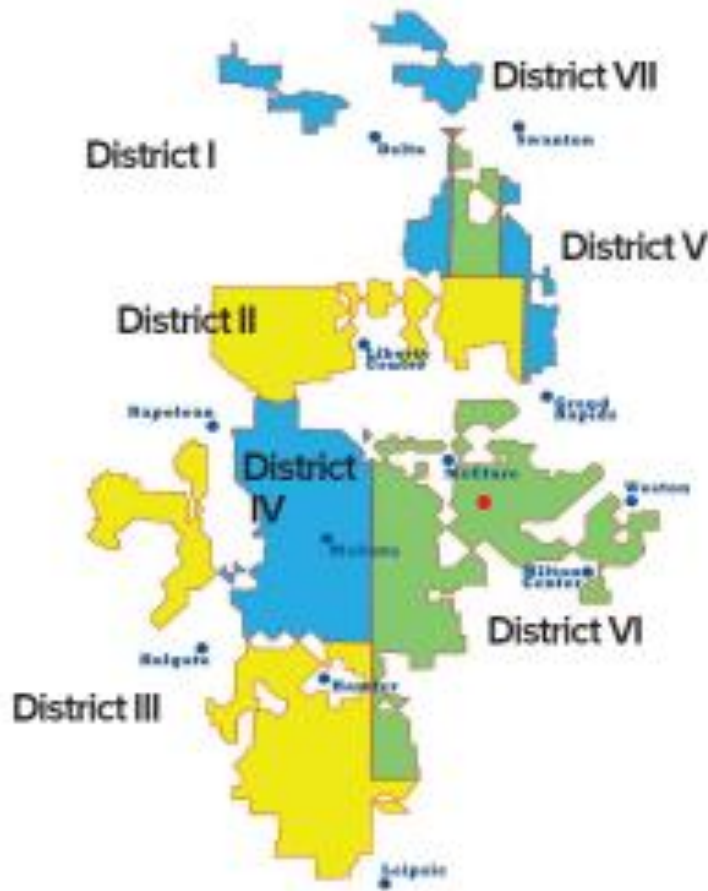
District Information: Districts 2 & 3 are up for election

District 2: Washington and Liberty Townships, Henry County Ohio.

District 3: Pleasant, Napoleon, Flatrock and Marion Townships, Henry County, Ohio and Liberty and Van Buren Townships, Putnam County, Ohio.

**Informational – do not need to return*

TRICOUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE BOARD DISTRICT MAP



District I: Dover, Pike, Fulton, and York townships; Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 28, 32, and 33 of Swan Creek Township SW; and Sections 9, 16, and 21 of Swan Creek Township NW, Fulton County.

District II: Washington and Liberty Townships, Henry County

District III: Pleasant, Napoleon, Flatrock, and Marion Townships, Henry County; and Liberty and Van Buren Townships, Putnam County

District IV: Harrison and Monroe Townships, Henry County

District V: Providence Township, Lucas County; Sections 1, 12, 25, and 36 of Swan Creek Township SE, and Section 24 of Swan Creek Township NE, Fulton County

District VI: Damascus, Richfield, and Bartlow Townships, Henry County; and Grand Rapids, Milton, and Weston Townships, Wood County

District VII: Sections 2, 3, 10, 11, 26, 27, 34, and 35 of Swan Creek Township SE and Sections 10, 15, 22, and 23 of Swan Creek Township NE, Fulton County

Needs Returned

You may send in via email to bperkins@tricityrec.com or mail to office

**TRICOUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
MEMBER NOMINATING PETITION FOR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Candidates for Trustee wishing to be placed on the ballot via the petition process must complete the following petition. ALL INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED OR THE PETITION WILL BE VOID. Members must provide their name and address, along with their signature to be valid. A minimum of twenty (20) valid members must sign the petition. The completed petition must be received at the Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative office no later than ninety (90) days prior to the scheduled Annual Meeting date. When returning the petition, each candidate must ensure that all information is complete and accurate. If a candidate has any questions, he/she should contact the General Manger, Brett Perkins.

I, _____, the undersigned, hereby declare under penalty of election falsification that my voting district is _____, my Tricounty Rural Electric account number is _____, and my residence address is _____;
and I am a qualified nominee.

County of Residence: _____ Township: _____

(Signature of Candidate)

(Date)

Trustee Qualifications. (Summary Description from Tricounty Code of Regulations, Article IV Section 3)

No person shall be eligible to become or remain a member of the Board who:

- (1) Is not a member and bona fide resident in the particular district within the service area of the Cooperative which such member is to represent; or
- (2) Is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric power and energy; or
- (3) Has not been a member of the Cooperative for all of the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding such person's election to the Board; or
- (4) Is not a member in good standing of the Cooperative. For purposes of this Section, "good standing" means not late by more than 30 days in payment of any Cooperative bill for service more than twice in the immediately preceding twelve month period prior to such person's election to the Board or in the immediately preceding twelve month period at any time after such person's election to the Board; or
- (5) While a Board member, has failed to attend more than 75% of Board meetings in any calendar year, unless the Board member's failure to attend is excused by the Board; or
- (6) Has pled guilty or been convicted of any felony offense in the immediately preceding five year period prior to such person's election to the Board or in the immediately preceding five year period at any time after such person's election to the Board; or
- (7) Has an immediate family member serving on the Board or as an employee of the Cooperative. For purpose of this Section, "immediate family member" means father, mother, son, daughter, spouse, brother or sister by reason of blood, marriage or adoption, or any other person residing at the same premises as the Board member; or
- (8) Is not a natural person.

Nothing contained in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken by the Board. Upon finding that a Board member is no longer eligible or was never eligible to serve on the Board the remaining members of the Board may pass a resolution removing said ineligible member from the Board. Said resolution shall include the reason(s) for ineligibility. The vacancy created by the removal of said ineligible member from the Board shall filled in accordance with Article IV, Section 6 hereof.

Needs Returned

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PERSONAL PROFILE INFORMATION

Name of Candidate: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Marital Status: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Occupation: _____ Place of Employment: _____

Number of years as a Tricounty REC Member? _____

Community Activities & Memberships:

Hobbies & Interests:

Please answer the following questions:

- 1. What do you believe are the challenges affecting the electric utility industry?

- 2. What can Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative do to manage these challenges?

- 3. What vision do you have for the future of Tricounty Rural Electric?

Needs Returned

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4. Why are you interested in serving as a member of the Board of Trustees?

5. Why do you feel that you are qualified to serve as a member on the Board at Tricity Rural Electric Cooperative?

Signed: _____ Date: _____

With your signature, you authorize Tricity Rural Electric Cooperative to publish this information and a photograph in association with trustee elections.

POLICY 105 TRUSTEES CODE OF ETHICS

It is the policy of the Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Trustees to adopt a Code of Ethics to clarify any uncertainties which may now, or in the future, exist regarding the authority exercised by the Board collectively or as individual board members and general rules applicable to board members in their conduct of board business.

1. The Board of Trustees recognizes that efficient management of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. can exist only through mutual understanding and complete cooperation between the Board of Trustees and the General Manager.
2. The Board of Trustees delegates detailed management to a full-time General Manager, but recognizes its responsibility to establish policies, approve plans and programs, establish objectives, letting of contracts and general financial control.
3. The Board of Trustees shall promulgate all policies and transact all business at regular or special board meetings acting collectively as a board. While an individual board member may disagree with a policy or action adopted by a majority vote of the board, he/she should support the policy or action as being the considered judgment of the board. The board recognizes that should any trustee undertake in private conversations with others, disputed board actions of policies, except for counsel and only then with the utmost discretion and in a manner which will foster confidence in our Cooperative, or make commitments for the Board of Trustees of the Cooperative, that trustee becomes involved in a serious breach of policy which might disrupt the entire Cooperative.
4. A cooperative member who is also an employee of the Cooperative, or their close relative, (a close relative means the relationships of father , mother, spouse, son, daughter, brother and sister existing by reason of blood, marriage or adoption), may seek election to the Board of Trustees. However, to avoid a possible conflict of interest, upon election of the employee or close relative to the Board, the employee shall be required to resign their employment with the Cooperative immediately upon being duly elected.
5. The Board of Trustees recognizes their need to devote the necessary time away from their jobs or businesses to educate themselves and to attend meetings to carry out their responsibilities as Trustees.

6. The Board of Trustees understands that the complete confidentiality of business information must be respected at all times. Employees and trustees are prohibited from knowingly disclosing such information to those who do not have a need to know or whose interest may be adverse to Tricounty, or in any way using such information for personal gain or to the detriment of Tricounty.
7. A retiring trustee or a trustee who is not reelected shall return their policy book, along with any other material, which should go to their successor, to the Cooperative office or at the last regular scheduled Board meeting attended.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.
January 25, 2012.

POLICY 106
STATEMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR TRUSTEES/TRUSTEE
CANDIDATES

The following applies to all Trustees and individuals under consideration as candidates to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Cooperative:

1. Must meet all requirements stipulated in Article IV, Section 3, of the Code of Regulations. Including being a member of the Cooperative and a bona fide resident of the geographic area to be represented by the trustee.
2. Must not be a close relative of an employee or current trustee of the Cooperative. Close relative means the relationships of father, mother, spouse, son, daughter, brother and sister existing by reason of blood, marriage or adoption.
3. Should:
 - a) Be in good standing with the Cooperative;
 - b) If desired, conduct campaign and/or solicitations prior to the annual meeting and not at the annual meeting location.
 - c) Understand basic Cooperative principles and the method in which the Cooperative does business;
 - d) Be willing to assist the Board in striving to meet the Cooperative's members' needs by providing reasonable cost electric energy and other services that enhance quality of life;
 - e) Be willing to establish and maintain an effective on-going communication program with the Cooperative's members;
 - f) Recognize the principles of sound management and be willing to operate within the policies established by the Board and the Code of regulations of the Cooperative;
 - g) Abide by the conflict of interest policy.
4. Should possess the following personal characteristics and abilities:
 - a) Be able to attend regular evening Board meetings and other meetings that may require travel and overnight accommodations;
 - b) Be of high integrity and be respected in their community;

- c) Approach all issues with an open mind and have the ability to exercise sound judgment and logical reasoning in arriving at decisions based upon the benefit to all members of the Cooperative;
 - d) Be dependable, have a high level of commitment to and interest in the Cooperative and be an enthusiastic promoter of Cooperative programs;
 - e) Be willing to devote the necessary time to study board material and other information presented to them;
 - f) Be willing and have the time to attend trustee training seminars and other meetings (which may require overnight travel) in order to keep informed and fulfill their responsibilities as a trustee;
 - g) Acquire and maintain membership in local, state and national organizations that provide support to various Cooperative programs;
 - h) Be willing to support the decisions and actions adopted by the majority vote of the Board;
 - i) Be able to represent the Cooperative within the community in public relations and be skilled in achieving a favorable reaction with such contacts;
 - j) Have good verbal and written communication skills in expressing themselves clearly and effectively on issues;
 - k) Be able to maintain confidentiality of Board discussions involving sensitive information.
5. This statement of guidelines for Trustees and the selection of Trustees shall be reviewed with all Trustee Nominating Committees and committees appointed for the purpose of filling vacancies on the Board.
6. This statement of guidelines for the selection of trustees shall be reviewed with all candidates for the Board of Trustees prior to that candidate being asked whether they accept such nomination for either election or appointment to the Board.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. on
November 25, 2013

POLICY 108 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

I. OBJECTIVE

The Board of Trustees recognizes that certain business transactions may present a conflict between a trustee's personal interest and his/her fiduciary duty as the member's representative. This policy provides written guidelines designed to promote compliance with applicable governmental laws, rules and regulations. The following examples describe some of the circumstances and conditions that are, or have the potential, to be considered a conflict of interest. These examples are not intended to be all-inclusive.

II. POLICY

Although it is not possible to specify every circumstance or situation that may arise, the following guidelines are intended to set forth proper business ethics at Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative.

- A. A trustee should not accept, nor provide, entertainment of gifts of more than nominal value from or to anyone doing business or attempting to do business with the Cooperative where such action would result in or even give the appearance of a conflict between the interests of the Cooperative and the interests of other companies or individuals.
- B. Trustees, or any business in which the trustee has a financial interest, should avoid selling **goods** or **services** to the Cooperative or neighboring Cooperatives.
- C. Personal political contributions either individually or through a political action fund are proper, but no trustee may make any contribution of Cooperative property, cash or services to any candidate or political party. Occasionally, the Cooperative may want to contribute funds to promote issues that are important to it. Those contributions will require board approval.
- D. Hospitality to public officials is appropriate but not in an amount or significance that would compromise the integrity or reputation of the official or Cooperative.
- E. If a trustee is unsure if an act of hospitality or any action could result in a conflict of interest, he/she should discuss the act with the Board of Trustees for guidance.
- F. Annually each trustee should list all businesses (normally local) in which he/she has an interest.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. on January 25, 2012



Needs Returned

You may send in via email to bperkins@tricountyrec.com or mail to office

OFFICIAL PETITION FOR TRUSTEE NOMINATION

We, the undersigned members in good standing of Tricounty Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc., hereby petition to nominate as candidate for election to the Board of Trustees:

Candidate Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

For this petition to be valid, it must be signed by at least 20 members. The signature must be from current account holders to be valid.

	Member Name (Print)	Address	Member Signature
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Cooperative, Inc.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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