



## **Board of Trustees candidates to be selected by petition**

*All cooperative members living within the district are eligible to run for trustee.*

Firelands Electric Cooperative uses a petition process to nominate candidates for positions on the Firelands Electric Board of Trustees. This year, trustees representing **Districts 1, 3, and 6** will be elected. All Co-op members may vote on all candidates via mail or online ballot. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting at Ashland University on June 24, 2023 and posted on Firelands' website and in *Ohio Cooperative Living* magazine.

Petitions will be available at Firelands Electric Cooperative, 103 Industrial Drive, in New London, on and after February 1, 2023. Any Firelands member residing in Districts 1, 3, and 6 can become a nominee for one of these trustee positions by submitting a valid petition to Firelands' office by 4:00 p.m. on March 24, 2023. Each petition must contain at least 20 valid signatures of members who reside within the district.

On the back of this sheet is a copy of the Cooperative's Code of Regulations pertaining to the petition process, along with other detailed information on how the petition process works.

### **Trustees will be elected this year to represent the following districts:**

#### **District 1**

Richmond, Norwich, and Greenfield townships

#### **District 3**

Peru, Bronson, Fairfield, and Hartland townships, and Fitchville township west of State Route 250

#### **District 6**

Butler, Clear Creek, Orange, Weller, Milton, Mifflin, and Madison townships north of State Route 42



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## RULES

1. **A member of Firelands Electric Cooperative, Inc. may sign more than one nominating petition.**
2. **A nominating petition may be signed only by a member of record who resides in the district from which the trustee is to be elected.**
3. **To become an official candidate, a qualified member must file a nominating petition or petitions containing the verified signatures of not less than twenty (20) members of record who are residents of the district from which the trustee is to be elected. The Code defines a qualified member in Article III Trustees, Section 2. Qualifications and Tenure.**
  - (a) **“Beginning with the year 1948, trustees shall be elected by ballot, by and from the members, subject to the provisions of this Code of Regulations with respect to the removal of trustees. No member shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee or to hold any position of trust in the Cooperative who is not a bona fide resident of the particular district he is to represent; or who is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy or supplies to the Cooperative, or a business engaged in providing a good or service similar to a good or service provided by the Cooperative or any subsidiary of the Cooperative; or who has been an employee of the Cooperative or any subsidiary of the Cooperative at any time during the three years immediately prior to election or appointment to the board. When a membership is held jointly, either one, but not both, may be elected a trustee, provided, however, that neither one shall be eligible to become or remain a trustee or to hold a position of trust in the Cooperative unless both shall meet the qualifications hereinabove set forth. Nothing in this section contained shall, or shall be construed to, affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board of trustees.”**
4. **Nominating petitions must be filed with the Secretary of the Cooperative by returning them to the Cooperative’s office at: 103 Industrial Drive, New London, Ohio 44851 not later than 4:00 p.m. on March 24, 2023.**
5. **All qualified members who timely file nominating petitions containing verified signatures of not less than (20) members of record who are residents of the district shall be declared official candidates of the district. Voting will be conducted by mail and online ballot from May 1, 2023, and will close on June 18, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting of members to be held June 24, 2023.**
6. **Only original signatures of members of record will be accepted on nominating petitions. No xerox, facsimile, or other reproduced signatures will be accepted.**

**If questions arise, feel free to contact Shelley Magyar or Tabi Shepherd  
at Firelands Electric Cooperative at 800-533-8658.**