

Candidates for Director - Howard County District

(Howard and Mitchell counties)

Cooperative Principles

All cooperative businesses adhere to seven guiding principles:

- 1. Voluntary and Open Membership** — Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.
- 2. Democratic Member Control** — Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.
- 3. Members' Economic Participation** — Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.
- 4. Autonomy and Independence** — Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.
- 5. Education, Training, and Information** — Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives** — Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.
- 7. Concern for Community** — While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

Janelle Mahr

7321 Pleasant Ave. • Lime Springs

Occupation:

Former Owner/Operator of Neil Mahr Trucking business for 22 years

Family:

My husband and I reside near Lime Springs and we have two children and two grandchildren.



Leadership positions held:

- Hawkeye Board Member (5 years)
- Vice President of Lime Springs Library Board
- Secretary of Oneota Study Club
- Cub Master
- Boy Scout Troop committee member
- President of Lime Springs Community Club

Why do you want to be a Hawkeye REC board member?

During the last five years, I have gained a great deal of knowledge about how to provide the best service for our members. Having run a business for 22 years, I understand the necessity of informed decision-making, and I am looking forward to continuing to put my knowledge to use for Hawkeye REC.

What abilities do you bring to the board of directors?

I am a Credentialed Cooperative Director. As an incumbent, I have seen many changes in the electric industry, and know that the board and I are prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

What are a few of the important issues you believe the board of directors need to deal with in the future?

Reliable service and rate stability are always first and foremost. Many factors are involved to make this happen: vegetation management, technology, safety and equipment.

Other Comments:

Hawkeye is watchful of bringing new services and industry to our territory. Bringing new clients onto our grid keep energy costs affordable for our members.

Nathan Schwickerath

19099 130th St. • Cresco

Occupation:

Assistant General Manager for Winneshiek Co-op

Family:

My wife Jami and I have one son and live on an acreage southwest of Cresco



Leadership positions held:

- Board President, Growers Choice, LLC
- Board President, Bluff Country Properties, LLC
- Past Secretary, Tiffin Volunteer Fire Department

Why do you want to be a Hawkeye REC board member?

I believe being a Hawkeye REC Board Member would be a very positive learning experience. I hope my input and involvement will assist Hawkeye REC in maintaining its current success and reliability for all the members.

What abilities do you bring to the board of directors?

I believe my background, education, and work experience could be an asset to Hawkeye REC. I received my bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in small business development from the University of Iowa in 2000. I have gained experience working with the Winneshiek Cooperative board members and attending their meetings. I also believe my occupation will give me access to the concerns of a wide range of Hawkeye REC members.

What are a few of the important issues you believe the board of directors need to deal with in the future?

- Maintaining safety and reliability will always be an important issue
- Access to renewable fuels for power generation
- Maintaining a positive balance of community involvement and improvement of communication with members

Director Ballot

Howard County District

Vote for ONE

3-Year Term

JANELLE MAHR
(Incumbent)

NATHAN
SCHWICKERATH

(Listed Alphabetically)

Please return your ballot in the enclosed postage-paid envelope which bears the name of the member voting (this is to ensure one member, one vote)

Please mail this ballot at your earliest convenience even if you plan to attend the annual meeting.

All ballots must be received by:
7:00 p.m. on April 11th

NOTE: BALLOTING ENVELOPES ARE NOT OPENED UNTIL THE EVENING OF APRIL 11, PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR MONTHLY ELECTRIC PAYMENT IN THIS ENVELOPE.

Hawkeye
REC
The Power Is Yours

Tear here to remove ballot and return in enclosed postage-paid envelope.