



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND CANDIDATE BIOS

In order for your vote to count, the ballot must be received on or before April 6, 2021. Any ballots received after April 6, 2021, will not be counted. To ensure that your ballot is counted, please vote and return the ballot in the mail ballot envelope first, and then in the pre-paid envelope as soon as possible to make sure your ballot is received on or before April 6, 2021.



Notice of annual meeting for members

The annual meeting for Nobles Cooperative Electric members will be held via conference call on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 7 p.m. Members can call 833-643-9163 to join the meeting. The text of the proposed amended articles of incorporation and amended bylaws are included with this mailed notice, along with a summary of the proposed changes. The business to be conducted at the annual meeting shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes.
2. Business and fiscal reports which will be provided to the membership prior to the annual meeting.
3. Announcing the results of director and nominating committee elections.
4. Announcing the results of the amendments to the articles of incorporation and bylaws, which have been recommended to the members by the unanimous vote of the board of directors.
5. All other business which may come before the meeting, or any adjournment, or adjournments thereof.

Voting will only be done by mail ballot for director and nominating committee elections, along with the proposed changes to the articles of incorporation and bylaws.

Cindy M. Hokeness, Secretary
Dated: February 12, 2021

Annual Meeting Agenda

Via Conference Call
April 6, 2021
7 p.m.

- Welcome
- Call to Order
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of June 10, 2020, Annual Meeting Minutes
- Establishment of a Quorum
- Proof of Publication of Notice of Meeting
- Explanation of Balloting
- Results of Election
- Adjournment of Meeting

Get to know your candidates even more on Nobles Cooperative Electric's YouTube Channel.

Board candidates

District 1



Ronald Schwartau (*unopposed*)

Tell us a little about yourself:

Following graduation from the University of Minnesota, I worked for the U of M, first in the Extension Service in Jackson County and then returned to the University to obtain a master's degree and work as a research coordinator on the St. Paul campus. I am still actively farming.

Leadership positions:

From 2004 to 2020, I served on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Board of Directors, representing Minnesota in Washington, D.C. During that time, I served five years as chairman of the education, research and technology committee and 10 years on the insurance and financial services committee overseeing the benefits program and investments for 65,000 active and retired employees. I also served on the International Foundation and was its chairman for four years. It was very rewarding work and, in 2020, I was honored to receive the NRECA International Award. Also, since 1996, I have served on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association Board of Directors representing the southwest district of cooperatives.

Over the years, I have served on the Murray County Extension Committee, the liaison committee for Prairie View home for disabled adults in Slayton and the International Exchange Advisory committee at the University of Minnesota. At Western Mutual Insurance Company of Minnesota, I have served as President since 1994.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

Challenges will face us as we will have to adapt to meet the power requirements of more electric vehicles including agriculture equipment. The advocacy with our state legislators and members of congress will continue to be an important part of the role of directors to address these issues to prevent unfair harm to our members.

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

I feel the experiences I have had on all levels of the cooperative system will continue to help serve our members. All we do has to be done with the members' interest in mind, while maintaining a financially secure business.

District 2



Lee York (*unopposed*)

Tell us a little about yourself:

I'm a lifelong resident of Murray County. After graduating from SMSU in Ag Economics, I started farming with my dad and continue to farm with my brother and sons. My family includes my wife, Joan, and three children Brian (Brandi), Terry and Kayla, along with grandsons Tyler and Aiden.

Occupation and responsibilities:

We currently operate a grain farm producing corn, soybeans and oats. I serve as local assessor for several townships in Murray and Pipestone Counties.

Community involvement/service:

As a member of the Lake Wilson (LW) United Methodist Church, I serve as board chair. I have served on the Hadley Coop Elevator Board, LW EDA and various community groups. I am a member of LW Sons of the American Legion Post #285 and charter member of Slayton Legion Post #64 Legion Riders.

Leadership positions:

I am past president of Hadley Coop Elevator, LW Community Club and church board chair. I currently serve as vice president of NCE, serving as representative to Great River Energy's Board of Directors, where I am treasurer and a member of the executive committee. I have become a Credentialed Cooperative Director and completed the Board Leadership program.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

Providing safe reliable energy service to our members at an effective rate continues to be a priority. Another challenge will be changes in how our power is generated, delivered and ultimately the cost to our members. Our G&T, Great River Energy, is shifting to renewable sources due to changes in the costs of power generation. At NCE, we need to continue to upgrade and change our system to the benefit of our whole membership.

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

I want to serve on the NCE Board because electric service is essential to our members and their quality of life. I feel I have the experience and desire to be an effective voice for the members of our cooperative as we move into the future.

District 6



Timothy Bickett

Tell us a little about yourself:

I was born and raised in South Dakota, where I farmed until 2002. My wife, Stacy, and I moved to Minnesota in 2005. We live just outside Worthington near where Stacy grew up. Stacy and I have three children Kendrick, Emmett and Karissa, ages 20, 18 and 15 respectively. I have always had a rural mailing address, including my time spent working on farms in-

District 6



Daniel Bogie

Tell us a little about yourself:

I was born and raised in Glenwood, graduating from Glenwood High School. I then attended Willmar Community College in Willmar, earning an Associate's Degree in Law Enforcement. I married my high school sweetheart, Gail, and we have two daughters and ten grandchildren. I am an avid reader,

wood worker, wood carver and rock-hound.

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Board candidates

Bickett cont. from page 2

ternationally, this fuels my passion for doing all I can to make living in rural America the best it can be.

Occupation and responsibilities:

I own and manage a branch office of The Ag Risk Consulting Group, where I develop and execute grain and cattle marketing strategies for my farmer clients to keep them independent and improve their long-term profitability.

Community involvement/service:

I have always strived to be involved in my community. My volunteer resume includes township boards, 4-H locally and beyond, my church and our local school. I am a South Dakota Ag and Rural Leadership Class III Graduate/Alumni, which has helped me be more effective in my volunteer and community involvement.

Leadership positions:

Clearwater Township clerk 1993-2000. American Lutheran Church – past president. Worthington Area Workcamp – led the efforts to plan, fundraise and complete home repair projects for 58 residents of Nobles County in the summer 2019.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

Industry regulations on generation of power basis, new and existing environmental law. Locally – the efficient maintenance of infrastructure to ensure consistent delivery of power to our member customers.

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

I understand and so appreciate the cooperative model that has allowed for an improved way of life for so many rural Americans, my family included. A strong dedicated board of directors is needed to ensure the long-term viability of the cooperative system. I look forward to the opportunity to serve my district members, by being well informed and available.

District 7



David Dorpinghaus

Tell us a little about yourself:

I was raised on a corn, soybean and hog farm in Bondin Township where I now live. I graduated from Fulda in 2002 and SDSU in 2006 with a B.S. in Agricultural Business. I am currently enlisted in the South Dakota Army National Guard. In high school, I worked for Marc and Wayne Freese pick-

ing rocks and cleaning hog barns, and after college, nine months teaching English in Beijing, Army basic and advanced training and working in agricultural lending for ten years, I am back at the farm working with Marc and Wayne managing the finances for the hog barns and crop acres.

Occupation and responsibilities:

I manage accounts payable, accounts receivable, budgeting and capital improvements, plus other responsibilities for the hog barns and crops.

Community involvement/service:

I currently serve on the Fulda Educational Foundation as trea-

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Bogie cont. from page 2

Employment and business experience:

I served as a deputy sheriff and city police officer for 30 years in Tracy, Fillmore County and Worthington, retiring in 2004. I then operated a landscape business and seasonal greenhouse. In my retirement, I have also worked as a liquor store clerk, special education paraprofessional and am currently a bus driver with Bud's Bus Service for ISD 518.

Community involvement/service:

I have been active in church, serving as an elder and after-school program teacher and have been a supporter of local FFA and 4-H leadership positions.

I have supported many organizations, but have not aspired to leadership positions.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

- Maintain and upgrade infrastructure
- Invest in renewable energy that limits invasiveness of natural landscapes
- Limit pollution and utilize nature conservation technologies
- Upgrade basic grid
- Promote safe practices and limit personal hazards for employees and the public

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

I have a high level of curiosity about a wide variety of topics and I want to learn and grow my knowledge of the cooperative business. I also want to encourage safety and delivery of the product.

District 7



Todd Scripture

Tell us a little about yourself:

I am originally from a farming community outside of Rochester. After graduating from college, I moved into the area for work. Since then, I married my wife, Genna, who has blessed me with our four young children. We are currently living on an acreage north of Fulda.

Occupation and responsibilities:

I have been employed at Newport Laboratories, as part of Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health, for the past six years. Here I am currently transitioning from my former role as team leader for the bacterial culture labs to my current role as group leader for Quality Systems.

Community involvement/service:

I am a member of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Worthington, where I have served on the church council for the last four years, as well as other church teams. I have also become involved in the Bondin-Belfast 4-H Club. Additionally, I have delivered

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Board candidates

Dorpinghaus cont. from page 3

surer and Knights of Columbus as financial secretary. I am a member of the American Legion and have volunteered for many other boards over the past ten years.

Leadership positions:

I have held leadership positions in agricultural lending, Army National Guard training events, the Ellendale Area Chamber of Commerce as president and the Slayton Country Club as treasurer, plus various other leadership roles.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

I would imagine there are many issues regarding legislation that are being addressed by the NCE Board of Directors. Infrastructure is likely an issue that is also being addressed by the current board. Continuing to provide efficient electricity to our members and continuing to provide a healthy and strong cooperative for the employees are also top priorities.

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

I have been fortunate in life in many ways and I have a sense of duty to be of service to others in my community and nation.

Scripture cont. from page 3

Mobile Meals in Worthington.

Leadership positions:

At Newport, I have supervised several technicians across multiple labs. Additionally, I serve as the local contact for global teams aimed at process improvement within Boehringer Ingelheim. Finally, I have served as church council president over the last year.

What are the primary issues facing the electric industry and Nobles Cooperative Electric?

As the environment comes further into focus, a balance must be struck between sustainable energy production and consumer costs. As the energy supplier to several major companies in the area, NCE will need to collaborate with those entities to ensure that the transition towards sustainable energy production aligns with their expectations.

Why I want to serve on the Nobles Cooperative Electric Board of Directors?

My interest in electrical distribution was piqued during a physics lecture involving transmission lines. Fast forward and that interest persists and has been bolstered by a desire to learn more about how the cooperative functions. To close, I would like to say that I am passionate about finding ways to become involved in the community and engaging in things that impact those around me.

Nominating committee candidates

District 4



Jess DeKam

I have lived in Nobles County by Leota my whole life. My wife, Tiffany, is a pharmacist at HyVee in Worthington. We have three children ages 9, 7 and 6. I am a graduate of Leota Christian grade school, Southwest Christian High School and Minnesota West in Worthington with a degree in ag management.

I have farmed by Leota for 24 years with my dad and brother. We also custom raise pigs. We practice no till and strip till farming methods. I am also the president of the Leota Park Board.

District 6



Benjamin Krohn

I am a 4th generation farmer. My wife, Stephanie, and I have been married for 13 years. We have two children, Will (11) and Ashtyn (9). In addition to farming, I am a full-time crop insurance agent for Compeer Financial. My family and I enjoy spending time outdoors, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling and water sports. We also enjoy traveling to new destinations each year.

I am president of our families' farming corporation. I am responsible for making day-to-day decisions, as well as agronomic and grain marketing decisions. As a crop insurance officer with Compeer Financial, I help producers develop and execute a risk management plan for their grain and livestock operation.

I currently serve on the board of the Frosty Riders of Nobles County Snowmobile Club. I have served on the Okabena/Ocheda Watershed District Advisory Board in the past.

District 4



Timothy Taylor

I was born and raised in the Adrian area. I have been a member of NCE for almost 40 years. My wife and I have three children.

I am currently retired. I work in my shop and also help neighboring farmers.

I am a member of St. Adrian Catholic Church and currently serve on the finance board. I have served on the Pork Producers, Farm Bureau and Kanaranzi-Little Rock Watershed boards.

District 6



Malik Sampson

I was raised in Nobles County on a dairy farm south of Worthington. I attended SDSU in Brookings, S. Dak., for four years and got my degree in ag systems technology. My wife, Miranda, and I have three children and live south of Worthington. I enjoy many summer nights with my family at the races around the area.

I am employed at Jaycox Implement in Worthington. I work in the sales department and also work with all of the precision farming products on the new equipment.

I serve on various committees at work and at my church. I have also served on the school board at the local Christian school.