



▶▶▶ Ryan Post (Incumbent)

Ozark Electric Member for 8 Years

What has motivated you to run for the Board?

I am motivated to serve because I rely on dependable power daily for both my farm and home. As an electrical contractor, I see firsthand how critical reliability, cost control, and infrastructure planning are. I want to help ensure Ozark Electric continues to provide affordable, dependable service while planning responsibly for future growth and demand. I believe my practical experience in the field and understanding of electrical systems can bring a valuable, grounded perspective to the Board.

Describe your background, education, and experience.

I am a licensed electrical contractor and business owner with hands-on experience in commercial, agricultural, and residential electrical systems. I manage projects, budgets, labor, and customer relationships daily. My work requires problem-solving, code compliance, and coordination with utilities and other contractors. This experience has given me a strong understanding of electrical infrastructure, cost management, and long-term system reliability. I also have experience making business decisions that balance financial responsibility with customer needs.

Are you aware of any conflicts of interest with serving on the Board (businesses, other boards, elected office, etc.)?

No known conflicts. I would disclose any potential conflicts and recuse myself from decisions where appropriate.

What do you see as the greatest challenges facing the nation's grid, and how do you see these challenges impacting Ozark Electric?

The biggest challenges are increasing demand, aging infrastructure, and the push toward electrification without matching upgrades to the grid and generation. Reliability during peak loads and extreme weather is also a growing concern. For Ozark Electric, this means careful planning, strategic investment, and maintaining a balance between modernization and affordability. It will be important to prioritize system resilience and ensure upgrades are done efficiently without placing unnecessary burden on members.

What do you see as the primary work or role of the Board?

The Board's role is to provide oversight, set direction, and ensure the cooperative operates in the best interest of its members. This includes financial stewardship, long-term planning, and supporting management while holding them accountable. The Board must focus on reliability, affordability, and responsible growth, while making decisions that benefit the membership as a whole rather than individual interests.

Explain the fiduciary responsibility of a Board Director.

A Board Director has a duty to act in the best interest of the cooperative and its members. This includes making informed decisions, protecting financial stability, and ensuring resources are used responsibly. It requires honesty, transparency, and avoiding personal gain from Board decisions. Directors must prioritize the long-term success of the cooperative over individual or short-term interests.

How will you handle communicating with members on decisions that are best for the cooperative as a whole, but not for one individual member?

I would communicate openly and respectfully, explaining the reasoning behind decisions and how they benefit the cooperative as a whole. Not every decision will satisfy every individual, but transparency and honesty build trust. I believe in listening to concerns while staying focused on what is fair and sustainable for all members.

Would you be able to support a Board decision of which you were in the minority?

Yes. While I would voice my opinion and ensure all perspectives are considered, I understand the importance of unity once a decision is made. Supporting the final decision is necessary to maintain trust and effectiveness as a Board. The goal is to serve the cooperative, not individual viewpoints.

What makes you the ideal candidate?

I bring practical, real-world experience in electrical systems, construction, and business management. I understand how decisions affect both infrastructure and everyday customers. I am used to making tough, responsible decisions and standing behind them. I take pride in doing things the right way and believe in accountability, reliability, and long-term thinking. I will bring a straightforward, no-nonsense approach focused on what is best for the cooperative and its members.