



Wendall Bolin (Incumbent)

Ozark Electric Member for 27 Years

What has motivated you to run for the Board?

We have a great Co-op and need to try to keep it that way. We have lost over a hundred years of experience from our board in the last couple of years for various reasons such as retirements, elections, and illness. I don't think we should have all inexperienced board members making long-term decisions for our members when they have only been on the cooperative for a couple years.

Describe your background, education, and experience.

I have lived on the Co-op my entire life along with operating a cattle business. The members in my district are friends and family. I feel it is important to know the people and understand what their needs are to better serve my district. I have been extremely honored to serve as their representative on the board for the past 12 years! Also, my time on the board has allowed me to attend meetings such as AMEC, KAMO, Associated Electric, and NRECA, which have really helped me become a more knowledgeable and informed board member. I currently serve as the delegate for Ozark Electric on the AMEC Board.

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

No.

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

Rapidly growing demand for electricity along with the rising costs of materials the cooperative must purchase to continue operating to the high standard that members are accustomed to receiving. Also, as data centers and AI technology continue to increase demand on the nation's grid, we must ensure that private companies are paying for this increased demand and not the members of Ozark Electric.

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

I feel like the responsibility of a board member is to help oversee the general manager and make sure staff are doing the best possible job to ensure ongoing success for the co-op. A board member does not have to have the knowledge of being an engineer or an accountant and is not there to micromanage. Honesty, integrity, and common sense I feel are the most important attributes of a good board member!

Explain the fiduciary responsibility of a Board Director.

The fiduciary responsibility of a board member is to ensure that we are taking care of our member's money responsibly and making sound financial decisions for both the short and long term. We must make the best financial decisions for the co-op and the members of the co-op.

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 am willing to listen to and discuss with any member who has a problem or issue along with explain why this decision was made and why it was the best decision for the co-op. If I can't answer the question, I will help guide them to the appropriate co-op staff who can assist them.

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

Yes, I would give my support to a decision that I was in the minority to help maintain unity of the board along with the integrity of board decisions that we made.

What makes you the ideal candidate?

I feel like my lifetime of living on this co-op, knowing how the people who are members in this area think and feel about the things going on in the community gives me insight that someone who is not from the area would not have. Serving on the board for the past 12 years has given me the knowledge and experience that is needed on our board.

Save
the
Date

**90TH ANNUAL MEETING
FRIDAY, JULY 31**

NEW Location - Aurora High School