

2024 PETITION FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR
To the Credentials and Election Committee of Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc.

For Choptank official use only:

Received: ___ / ___ / ___ @ ___ : ___ . m.
 Name: _____
 Signed: _____



For C&E Committee use only:

Action taken: _____
 Date: _____
 Signed: _____

Print or type **First, Middle and Last Name and any Suffix** of nominee for Director (“Nominee”)

Print or type Name of the **Director District** from which the Nominee is seeking to be elected

INSTRUCTIONS: This Petition for Nomination of Candidate for Director (“Petition”) consists of Parts A, B, and C. This Petition must be delivered to Choptank Electric’s headquarters office (10384 River Road, Denton) to the attention of Dawn Bowie by 4 p.m. on December 20, 2023. Incomplete petitions will not be considered. Petitions are reviewed by the Credentials and Election Committee, not Choptank staff. It is the Nominee’s obligation to verify the completeness of any Petition tendered. Please refer to the accompanying “Instructions and Applicable Bylaws” section for more detailed information and instructions.

PART A - NOMINATION BY MEMBERS

NOTICE: Choptank Bylaw 4.05(a)(1)(a) prohibits this Petition from being signed or filed by any Member before November 3, 2023.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED Members of the Cooperative, by this Petition, hereby nominate the above-named Nominee as a candidate for election as the Cooperative Director for the above-named Cooperative Director District in the election to be held in conjunction with the Next Annual Member Meeting pursuant to Bylaw Section 4.05(a).

Printed Member Name	Member Billing Address	Telephone No.	Account No. ¹	Signature Date mm/dd/yyyy	Original Member Signature



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Print or type **First, Middle and Last Name and any Suffix** of nominee for Director (“Nominee”)

Print or type Name of the **Director District** from which the Nominee is seeking to be elected

Printed Member Name	Member Billing Address	Telephone No.	Account No. ¹	Signature Date mm/dd/yyyy	Original Member Signature

¹ A Member who signs this Petition is not required to provide his or her account number. However, by providing the account number, the Member will allow the C&E Committee to quickly verify such person’s Membership and count his/her signature toward satisfying the minimum number of Member signatures required.



2024 PETITION FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR
To the Credentials and Election Committee of Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Print or type First, Middle and Last Name and any Suffix of nominee for Director ("Nominee")

Print or type Name of the Director District from which the Nominee is seeking to be elected

Printed Member Name	Member Billing Address	Telephone No.	Account No. ¹	Signature Date mm/dd/yyyy	Original Member Signature

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PART B – BYLAWS QUALIFICATIONS OF THE NOMINEE

Please refer to the accompanying “Instructions and Applicable Bylaws” section for detailed explanations relating to each question.

1. Print or type your full name. (*Your name as it appears on your birth certificate or as it has been legally changed by a court order. Include any suffix, e.g., Jr, II, etc.*)

2. Print or type all other names which you have used and/or by which you have been known at any time during your lifetime:

3. Print or type your date of birth (*mm/dd/yyyy*):

4. Print or type the name of the Cooperative Director District for which you are petitioning to run for election as a Director. (*Note: the Director District you identify in this answer must be the same Director District that appears at the top of each page in Part A of this Petition.*)

5. Print or type the address of your principal place of residence, including the street number and name, town, county and state.

5(a). If you are claiming to be eligible under Bylaws §4.04(a)(1)(b), print or type the following information:

Name of Business Entity: _____

Address of Business Entity headquarters: _____

Your job title: _____

6. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief I do not have any conflict of interest or any appearance of a conflict of interest with the Cooperative, as defined by Board Policy No. 106 (available on Cooperative website), except as hereafter described. If none, write “None.” (*Note: Attach such additional page(s) as are necessary to complete your answer.*)

Please Note: For purposes of this Section, the “Majority of the Preceding Year” shall mean 183 or more days out of the 365 days immediately preceding the date or event in question.

Questions

* For questions 7-15, if you are claiming to be eligible under Bylaws §4.04(a)(1)(b), select “Yes” if BOTH your Principal Residence is within the county containing the Director District, AND your Business Entity is headquartered in the Director District during the time periods referenced in the questions.

	Yes	No
7. As of the date of this Petition , was your residence located within the Cooperative’s Service Territory for the Majority of the Preceding Year? (See Bylaws, §4.03 for the definition of “Principal Residence.”)		
8. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, as of the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting , will your residence have been located in the Cooperative’s Service Territory for the Majority of the Preceding Year?		
9. As of the date of this Petition , is your residence located within the Director District for which you are seeking election as Director?		
10. As of the date of this Petition , are you a registered voter in the Director District for which you are seeking election as Director?		
11. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, as of the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting , will your residence be located within the Director District for which you are seeking election as Director?		
12. Have you been a Member of the Cooperative in Good Standing continuously from on or before <u>April 25, 2021</u> , through the date you signed this Petition?		
13. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, will you be a Member of the Cooperative in Good Standing continuously from the date you signed this Petition until at least three (3) years after the Next Annual Member Meeting?		
14. Did you Receive an Electricity Service that was Supplied to your Principal Residence by the Cooperative on the date you signed this Petition?		
15. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, will you Receive an Electricity Service that is Supplied to your Principal Residence by the Cooperative continuously from the date you signed this Petition until at least three (3) years after the Next Annual Member Meeting? <i>If your answer to the preceding question is “no” and your answer to this question is “yes,” attach as many pages as are necessary to set forth all facts and circumstances as to why you believe that you will begin Receiving an Electricity Service Supplied by the Cooperative to your Principal Residence by the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting and continuing for the three (3) year period thereafter.</i>		

	Yes	No
16. As of the scheduled date of the Next Annual Member Meeting , will you be either: (a) at least eighteen (18) years of age; or (b) under eighteen (18) years of age and legally emancipated under Maryland law from all parental and guardianship care and financial support of you by others?		
17. Are you free of all mental and other conditions that would prevent you from entering into legally binding contracts that do not involve the necessities of life?		
18. Are you now, or will you be as of the scheduled date of the Next Annual Member Meeting, a graduate of an accredited high school or the recipient of a high school equivalency diploma or GED from an accredited educational institution? If “yes”, please state the name of the school or institution that issued you the diploma or certificate: _____		
19. If elected as a Director, except as otherwise provided by the Board of Directors for good cause, will you take the necessary training to receive a Credentialed Cooperative Director designation, a Director's Certificate, or similar designation or certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association within three (3) years after first becoming a Director?		
20. If elected as a Director, will you act at all times in good faith and for the best interests of the Cooperative?		
21. If elected as a Director, will you represent all Members of the Cooperative on an impartial basis?		
22. If elected as a Director, will you devote such time and effort to your duties as a Director as is reasonably necessary to perform the duties of Director and oversee the Cooperative's business and affairs, such as attending Board meetings, committee meetings, regional and national association meetings, and Director training and education programs?		
23. If elected as a Director, will you comply with all Governing Documents of the Cooperative as defined in the Bylaws and the Board Policies applicable to Directors?		
24. Have you been finally adjudged to be guilty of a felony at any time during the ten (10) years preceding the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting?		
25. Were there any criminal felony charges pending against you at the time you signed this Petition?		
26. Have you been an Employee of the Cooperative, or a director or employee of a competing firm or a firm selling or supplying electricity, at any time during the ten (10) year period preceding the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting?		

	Yes	No
27. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, will you be an Employee of the Cooperative, or a director or employee of a competing firm or a firm selling or supplying electricity, as of the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting or at any time during the three (3) year period thereafter?		
28. Have you ever been employed by a labor union that represents or has endeavored to represent any Employee of the Cooperative?		
29. To the best of your knowledge, information, and belief, will you be employed by a labor union that represents or has endeavored to represent any Employee of the Cooperative as of the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting or at any time during the three (3) year period thereafter?		
30. To the best of your knowledge, after reasonable investigation and inquiry, were you or will you be, at any time during the period from the date you signed this Petition through the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting, and for the three (3) year period immediately thereafter, a Close Relative of any Employee or Director of the Cooperative?		
31. To the best of your knowledge, information and belief, were you or will you be, at any time during the period from the time you signed this Petition through the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting, and for the three (3) year period immediately thereafter, in any way employed by or financially interested in an enterprise competing with the Cooperative, any subsidiaries or affiliate of the Cooperative, or a major supplier of any of the aforementioned entities?		
32. To the best of your knowledge, information and belief were you or will you be, at any time during the period from the time you signed this Petition through the date of the Next Annual Member Meeting, and for the three (3) year period immediately thereafter, a full-time employee or agent, or a full-time employer or principal, of another Director?		
33. Do you have any other commitments or conditions that would prevent you from meeting or exceeding the minimum requirements for preparation, attendance, and participation in the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Cooperative, and in the meetings of the Board committee(s) to which you may be appointed?		
34. Provide the following information in the event that the C&E Committee should need to contact you to obtain additional information to determine whether you meet the Qualifications or to notify you of its approval of this Petition. By providing this information you consent to being contacted by the Cooperative and/or its representatives for the purposes stated herein and/or to clarify or verify the information provided by you in this Petition.		

Your mailing address:

_____ Your daytime phone number: _____

_____ Your cell phone number: _____

Your personal email address that you check regularly: _____

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PART C – ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, REPRESENTATIONS AND SIGNATURE

PURSUANT TO Section 4.05(a) of the Bylaws, I, the undersigned Nominee, hereby submit to the C&E Committee this Petition for my nomination as a candidate for election as a Director of the Cooperative, and by signing this Petition I hereby represent as follows:

1. I hereby consent to receive communications from the C&E Committee and the Cooperative relative to this Petition and the election to which it pertains via the above-listed telephone numbers and email address provided in this Petition.
2. I acknowledge that I have read and am familiar with the contents of the Bylaws of the Cooperative which were last amended on April 27, 2023 (hereafter collectively the “Bylaws”), including §2.01 (Membership); §2.02 (Joint Membership); §2.09 (Duties Of Patrons); §3.05 (Record Date); §3.14 (defining “Close Relative”); §4.04 (defining “Principal Residence”); §4.04 (Qualifications); §4.05 (Nominations) and §5.09 (Conflict Of Interest Transaction); and with the contents of Board Policy No. 106 (Corporate Ethics and Acceptable Standards of Conduct), last amended on August 19, 2020; each of which are posted on the Cooperative website.
3. All information provided in and/or with this Petition is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.
4. In the event of any change of fact and/or circumstance which to the best of my knowledge, information and belief renders any representation and/or response made by me in this Petition misleading, incomplete, inaccurate and/or untruthful, I shall immediately file a signed written report to the C&E Committee describing such change and all effects thereof on my continuing satisfaction of the Qualifications.
5. I hereby consent to the following actions by and/or on behalf of the C&E Committee and/or the Cooperative: (1) publication of this Petition, any part thereof, or information provided herewith by me, provided that there is no change in the content; and (2) provided that I have first given my written approval thereof to the C&E Committee and/or the Cooperative, publication of a biography of me to the Members in the Cooperative’s “Cooperative Living” publication, on the Cooperative’s website and/or with a notice of the Next Annual Member Meeting.

NOTICE: Bylaws §4.05(a)(1)(a) prohibits this Petition from being signed or filed by any Member prior to November 3, 2023.

_____, 20____
Signature of Nominee

_____, 20____
Date

2024 PETITION FOR NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICABLE BYLAWS

To the Credentials and Election Committee of Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc.



Method of Submittal: The Petition for Nomination of Candidate for Director (“Petition”) consists of Parts A, B, and C. The Petition must be delivered to Choptank Electric’s headquarters office (10384 River Road, Denton) to the attention of Dawn Bowie by 4 p.m. on December 20, 2023. Incomplete petitions will not be considered. Petitions are reviewed by the Credentials and Election Committee (“C&E Committee”), not Choptank staff. Choptank staff is responsible for several administrative tasks, such as verifying Member signatures and performing background checks, but these are performed on behalf of the C&E Committee, not the applicants. It is the Member’s obligation to verify the completeness of any Petition tendered.

Part A: The applicant is required to gather the minimum number of Member signatures as provided in the Bylaws (currently fifteen (15) members are required – see Bylaws §4.05(a)(1)(a)) in support of his/her application to be included for consideration by the C&E Committee as a Member running for election for a Directorship position. Extra spaces have been provided in the event that any signatories are not registered members and will not be counted toward satisfaction of the minimum signatures requirement.

Part B: These applicant-specific questions ask you to provide the C&E committee with the following information:

1. Type your full name.
2. Type all names or aliases you have used or gone by in your lifetime.
3. Print your date of birth.
4. Print the name of the Cooperative District for which you are seeking election (must match the District named on Part A of the form)
5. Print your street address, including street number and name, town, county and state. Note: Per Bylaws §4.04(a)(2), “Principal Residence” is defined as the location where you have resided for one hundred eighty-three (183) or more days in the preceding three hundred and sixty-five (365) day calendar year. Complete question 5(a) only if your eligibility is based on your employment by a qualifying Business Entity, as described in Bylaws §4.04(a)(1)(b)
6. This question seeks to determine whether you know of an actual or potential conflict of interest and if so, to describe the conflict to the C&E committee. See Board Policy 106, which is available on the Cooperative website. Attach as many extra sheets as necessary to complete your answer. If none, write “None.”
7. This question seeks to determine whether you currently live in Choptank’s Service Territory. Per Bylaws §4.03(a)(1)(a-c) and §7.01(a), “Service Territory” is defined as the

Cooperative's electricity distribution territory throughout the nine (9) counties comprising Maryland's Eastern Shore (Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester).

8. This question seeks to determine whether you presently have any plans or intentions of moving out of Choptank's Service Territory during the upcoming year.
9. This question seeks to determine if you currently reside within the District for which you are seeking election.
10. This question seeks to determine if you are currently a registered voter in the District for which you are seeking election. This refers to voting registration for governmental elections, not Cooperative elections.
11. This question seeks to determine whether you presently have any plans or intentions of moving out of or away from the District for which you are seeking election at any time during the upcoming year.
12. This question seeks to verify that you are currently a Member in good standing of the Cooperative. See Bylaws §2.09(c)(1-3), for the definition of "Good Standing."
13. This question seeks to determine if you have any present intention of allowing your current good standing within the cooperative to lapse.
14. This question seeks to verify whether you received an Electrical Service to your residence. Please see Bylaws §7.02(a)(1) for the definition of "Electricity Service."
15. This question seeks to determine if you currently intend to receive at least one (1) Electricity Service continuously from the date you signed the form to April 25, 2027.
16. This question seeks to verify that as of April 25, 2024, will you be either at least eighteen (18) years old, or a legally emancipated minor.
17. This question seeks to verify that you are legally competent to enter into a binding contract.
18. This question seeks to ascertain your highest level of education completed.

Questions 19 through 23 seek to verify that, if elected as a Director, you are willing to discharge the listed duties and obligations to which all Directors are required to adhere.

Questions 24 through 25 seek to ascertain information related to a criminal background check.

26. This question seeks to ascertain whether you have been an employee of the Cooperative, or an employee or director of a competing utility at any time during the past ten (10) years.
27. This question seeks to determine whether you presently plan or intend to become an employee of the Cooperative in the next four (4) years.

28. This question seeks to determine if you have previously been employed by a labor union that represents, or attempted to represent, any employee of the Cooperative.
29. This question seeks to determine if you reasonably expect to be employed by a labor union that represents or attempted to represent any employee of the Cooperative.
30. This question seeks to determine if you reasonably expect to be a Close Relative of any employee or Director of the Cooperative? (Per Bylaws §3.14(a), “Close Relative” is defined as an individual who (1) by blood, law or marriage, is a spouse, fiancé/ee, sibling, step-sibling, half sibling, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, parent, step-parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, child, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, step-child, grandchild, grandparent, niece, or nephew of the first individual, or (2) resides in the same dwelling with the first individual.)
31. This question seeks to determine if you have any current plans to work for or to become financially interested in any competitor or major supplier of the Cooperative.
32. This question seeks to determine if you have any current plans to become a full-time employee of, or a full-time employer of, a current Director.
33. This question seeks to determine that you have the time to devote to attendance at meetings, training, and other activities regarding the Director position for which you are seeking election.
34. Type the requested contact information; you are further consenting to being contacted by the C&E Committee and you are verifying the information you have provided is correct.

Part C: This final section seeks to determine that you are representing and warranting that the information you have provided to the C&E Committee is true and correct to the best of your knowledge, information, and belief.

1. This assertion verifies that the nominee is consenting to be contacted in relation to this form by the C&E Committee.
2. This assertion verifies that the nominee has read the Bylaws concerning this form and knows where the Bylaws are located on the Cooperative’s website.
3. This assertion verifies that the nominee represents that all information, as written, in the form is true and correct, to the best of his/her information, knowledge and belief.
4. This assertion verifies that the nominee is obligated to submit a form if and when the information contained in the form has changed, and that change signifies a deviation from the nominee’s qualifications for the position of Director.
5. This assertion verifies that the nominee represents that all information, as written, in the form may be published in the Cooperative’s publication, *Cooperative Living*, and that the nominee agrees that a bio may be published in advance of the next annual meeting.