

MEET YOUR 2026 DIRECTOR ELECTION CANDIDATES

Below is information about the candidates representing each district. Although there is one candidate per district, member participation in our election is still essential. A sufficient number of votes is required to reach a quorum and officially certify the results of our election, so every vote truly matters.

Voting is easy! Members can vote by mail using the ballot and prepaid ballot envelopes included in this packet or vote in person on Wednesday, April 8, at our headquarters in Woodbine. Members who vote by mail will be entered for a chance to be one of ten winners to receive a \$20 bill credit. Members who decide who vote in-person will receive a free stainless steel metal pizza cutter as a thank-you gift.

Interested in serving at this years director election? We are seeking four members to volunteer to help count ballots on April 8th. Each ballot counter will receive a \$50 stipend for their time and volunteers will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Members wishing to help with ballots can contact Kristi Travis at ktravis@hcrec.coop or can call our office at 712.647.2727.



DISTRICT 5 - CHARLES "RANDY" MITCHELL

Randy Mitchell is a long time resident of Crawford County and has resided near Dow City for over 50 years. He attended school in Dow City and college at Iowa State University where he majored in Industrial Technology.

Randy is a self-employed farmer growing corn and soy beans. He is a current member of the United Methodist Church in Dow City and when he is not farming, he enjoys golfing and hunting. Randy and his wife Nancy have three adult children and enjoy spending time with them and their grandkids. When asked about what he enjoys most about being part of the cooperative, he states "I like not having to worry about whether or not my lights are going to be on and I look forward to keeping things running smoothly just like they are."

DISTRICT 6 - KENT KERSTEN

Kent Kersten is the current director serving District 6 and has earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate. He is a retired Jr. High science teacher from Logan-Magnolia School District, has coached wrestling for over 50 years, and currently works as a farmer raising a 30 sized cow calf herd.

Kent and his wife, Sandy have been married for 53 years and current reside in Logan. They have two children, Angela (Tony) Boyce and Lanae (Matt) Chase and five grandchildren.

Kent and Sandy belong to St. Anne's Catholic Church in Logan and enjoy watching their grandchildren participate in all kinds of activities and sport events. They also enjoy traveling with friends and family.



DISTRICT 7 - RANDY KOENIG

Randy Koenig is a retired veterinarian and has practiced animal medicine in Harrison County for over 40 years. He and his wife Vicki reside in Logan and enjoy spending time with their two children, Brian and Stephanie. In his spare time, Randy enjoys golfing, hunting and fishing and is a big sports fan. He also serves on the board of Western Feed.

When asked about what he would most enjoy about serving on the cooperative board of directors, he responds "To learn about providing safe, reliable and affordable power."

HONORING OUR PAST. POWERING OUR FUTURE.

Celebrating 90 years at Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative

For 90 years, Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative has existed for one simple reason: you. Electric Cooperatives are more than just a utility. They are the result of neighbors coming together to serve neighbors. From the very beginning in 1936, our forefathers built this cooperative to bring power to rural areas that others overlooked. As we reflect on this milestone year, we are deeply grateful for the trust you have placed in us to serve your homes, farms, and businesses for nearly a century.

This year's theme, "Honoring our past. Powering our future" captures the heart of who we are. We are proud to be celebrating 90 years at Harrison County REC, honoring the hard work, dedication, and community spirit of the generations who came before us, while keeping our eyes on the future of the communities we serve.

SHAPING POLICY FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

A key part of protecting that future is advocacy on behalf of our membership that is rooted in two core co-op principles: upholding our cooperative responsibility to educate our members and lawmakers, and maintaining our cooperative's concern for community. As a member and owner of Harrison County REC, everything we do at the state capitol and in Washington, D.C., will ultimately impact you on the local level. Every year, the Iowa electric cooperative legislative agenda is thoughtfully crafted, based on impacts to safety, reliability and the affordability of power in rural Iowa.

While we proactively advocate for bills to support electricity delivery in Iowa, we are also on the lookout for bills that could have significant impacts on the way your co-op is able to conduct business and power your life. For example, during the 2025 State Legislative Session we are proud to have defended Iowa's service territory law, a cornerstone that ensures cooperatives can continue to deliver reliable, affordable electricity to our members. We also stopped proposals from advancing that would have allowed third-party renewable energy companies to operate as utilities without being held to the same standards and could have shifted costs to consumers. By advocating for our membership, we are helping preserve the cooperative model and ensuring we can continue serving you, not just today, but for generations to come.

TEAMWORK THAT POWERS PROGRESS

While policies and planning are important, it's our people who make Harrison County REC work. We were pleased to welcome two new members to our cooperative family in 2025. River Meeker joined our operations team as an Apprentice Lineman and Kert Barnum joined HCREC as our Director of Member Services and Economic Development. These additions help to strengthen our local workforce and reinforce our commitment to safety and reliable service while focusing on the needs of our members and the communities we serve.

As our team continues to grow, we remain focused on creating a culture where safety is always the top priority. At HCREC, our goal is simple: to make sure every employee goes home safe at the end of each day. That doesn't happen by chance, it takes continuous training, awareness, and a shared responsibility for looking out for one another. We firmly believe a well-trained employee is a safer employee, which is why our entire team takes part in regular training to stay current on best practices, whether they're working in the office or out in the field.

BUILT ON TRUST. FOCUSED ON YOU.

As we look ahead, Harrison County REC's mission to our membership remains the same. We will continue investing in your cooperative to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power while ensuring the kind of personal and dependable service our members have come to know and trust. Rooted in our past and committed to our future, we are honored to serve you and proud to call this community home.

Thank you for 90 years of trust, shared purpose, and for being the heart of Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative.

