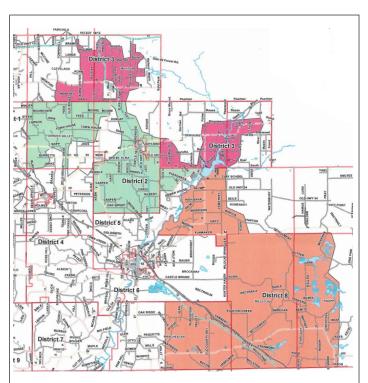
# **CALL FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS**

## 2026 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS INCLUDE DISTRICT #2, #3, AND #8

ursuant to Article III, Section 4 (b) of the Jackson Electric Cooperative Bylaws: "Nominations for candidates for director to represent each district shall be made by petition signed by not less than ten (10) members eligible to vote in the district to be represented by the candidate and delivered to the principal office of JEC at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting. In the event no valid petitions have been delivered to the principal office of JEC by the required date for any district requiring an election, the board of directors shall appoint a nominating committee. The nominating committee shall meet as soon as reasonably practicable after appointment and use reasonable efforts to nominate two or more qualified candidates. Nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting are not permitted."

Nomination packets can be obtained at Jackson Electric's office. Candidates are subject to a background check. **The** documents included in the nomination packet must be completed in their entirety and received within Jackson Electric's office (not the drop box) by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2026.



2026 Director Elections include District #2, #3, and #8. If you have any questions regarding what district you're located in or the nomination procedure, please contact our office.

**District Meetings:** The Bylaw amendment adopted at the May 14, 2024, annual meeting changed the nomination procedure for candidates. District meetings are no longer held

Annual Meeting: Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 6 p.m., Lunda Theatre, Black River Falls, Wis.

#### **Director Qualifications**

Article III, Section 3 (b) of the Bylaws of Jackson Electric Cooperative establishes certain qualifications that must be met in order to become a director.

Qualifications. To become and remain a Director, a member must comply with the requirements set forth in these bylaws and any other reasonable qualifications determined by the board of directors. No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director or to hold any position of trust in JEC who:

- (1) does not have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts, or
- (2) is not a bona fide resident in the area served by JEC, and of the particular district which he or she represents, or
- (3) is in any way employed by or financially interested in (a) a competing enterprise, or
  - (b) a business selling electric energy or supplies to JEC, or
- (4) is an employee of JEC, or
- (5) has any form of pending litigation which is, in any way, adverse to the interest of JEC, had participated in litigation or had some form of adversarial claim against JEC within ten years of nomination, election or appointment, or is likely to have an adversarial interest, claim or litigation against JEC during the term of his or her director position,
- (6) while serving as a director or at any time within ten years preceding his or her nomination, election, or appointment was an employee of JEC, or
- (7) while serving as a director, or at anytime within 15 years preceding his or her nomination, election or appointment, was convicted, or completed a sentence, probation or parole arising from conviction, of a felony or other offense involving dishonesty or breach of trust.

When a membership is held jointly, either joint member, but not both, shall be eligible to be a director, provided the candidate meets the qualifications set forth in (1) through (7), above, and provided further that the other joint member meets

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#### **Director Qualifications**

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the qualifications in (3) through (7), above. When a membership is held by a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company, any one (but not more than one) of the officers, partners, or members shall be eligible, provided the candidate meets the qualifications set forth in (1) through (7), above, and provided further that all the officers, partners, or members meet the qualifications in (3) through (7), above.

Nothing in this section contained shall be construed to preclude any member from serving as a director or from holding any position of trust in JEC because such member is an incumbent of or candidate for the office of town chairman or supervisor or because such member is also a member or director of any other cooperative from which JEC purchases or may purchase electric energy, supplies, or services, nor shall anything in this section contained be deemed or construed to affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the board of directors.

Serving on the Board of Directors is a commitment. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are usually held on the last Wednesday of the month but are subject to change. There are other special meetings and/or committee meetings scheduled throughout the year, as well as state/national meetings, conferences, and training seminars, which may require travel and overnight stays. Directors are also encouraged to attend additional training and certification courses.

Once you have carefully considered your decision to become a candidate, please request and complete the nomination packet. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office, ask for Carol.

# WATCH FOR YOUR RETIREMENT CHECK/CREDIT

Tackson Electric's board of directors recently approved the retirement of \$650,000 J in allocated capital credits for the years 1997-2002, 2006, and 2024. Members who purchased electricity from Jackson Electric during these years have capital credits allocated to their account and those capital credits will now be retired or paid

#### Capital Credits Retirement Notice

- Jackson Electric shall not retire and pay capital credits in an amount less than
- Jackson Electric shall apply retired capital credits in the amount between \$25 and \$100 to active member's billing account. Credits will be applied to the December billing statement.
- Accounts with retired capital credits of more than \$100 will receive a check to the patron's most current address on file at Jackson Electric. Retirement checks are slated to be mailed in early December.
- Retired capital credits check not cashed within 90 days from assignment will become null and void. There is a \$25 administrative fee to reissue that check.

Note: This year we incorporated a hybrid method to include both older and newer years. A \$100 threshold is used for issuing checks to help reduce postage and administrative expenses. This approach allows your cooperative to return dividends to members in the most cost-effective way possible—keeping more of our resources focused on serving you.

### Capital Credits Account Reminders

If you move from Jackson Electric's service lines, please be sure to contact our office with your new address. Even though you will no longer receive a capital credits allocation, the balance in your account will remain until it is retired in full. It's important to keep your contact information current so we can send you any capital credits retirement you are eligible to receive.

When a member passes away, the capital credits account is available for estate retirement. The representative of the estate should contact our office or go to www.jackelec.com/capital-credits to complete the required documentation.



# PAW-LIDAY DRIVE: SHARING THE COOPERATIVE SPIRIT

his holiday season, Jackson Electric Cooperative is spreading the spirit of giving in a new way by hosting a Paw-liday Drive to support our four-legged friends at the Jackson County Animal Shelter.

From now through 4:30 p.m. on January 5, 2026, employees and members are invited to drop off pet food, treats, and supplies in our lobby to help ensure every shelter pet has a full bowl and a little holiday cheer.

#### Who You're Helping

The Jackson County Animal Shelter provides comfort, care, and second chances to local pets in need. As a no-kill shelter, over 90% of animals are adopted into loving homes. The remaining are only euthanized in cases of untreatable illness, suffering, or severe behavioral issues. The shelter does not euthanize animals for space, but rather utilizes wait lists and courtesy posts on social media to help the community rehome animals until spots become available.

"We do our best to care for, socialize, and adopt out animals," says shelter manager and Jackson Electric member Amy Krenke. "We don't want people to fear the shelter. We keep adoption fees low to meet the needs of local families and help more animals find homes."

It's important to note the difference between the Jackson County Animal Shelter and the Jackson County Humane Society. The shelter operates as a county facility with its own budget, while the humane society is a volunteer organization that raises funds and helps support the shelter's needs. "Some of our costs, like spay and neuter fees, shelter medicines, animal handling equipment, and the outdoor exercise area improvements are covered by the humane society, and they also help with building improvements," Amy explains.

Even with this help, the shelter relies heavily on donations and adoption fees. "We go through 120 pounds of dry cat and dog food, and 90 pounds of cat litter every three days," Amy says. "The need for resources never runs out."



Shelter staff, left to right: McKayla Zimbauer, Humane Animal Officer and Amy Krenke, Shelter Manager.

#### How You Can Help

Whether you donate supplies, your time, or simply help spread the word, every act of kindness makes a difference.

#### **Donate Supplies:**

Bring your donations to Jackson Electric's lobby through January 5.

Note: The shelter isn't trying to be picky about brands—its priority is the animals' health. All shelter animals are fed the same food. Choosing dye-free or brown-colored foods helps keep every animal healthy and free of digestive issues. Avoid colorful foods or red dyes.

#### **Suggested Items:**

- Dogs: Purina dry food (avoid Ol' Roy), Pedigree wet food, treats (avoid true rawhide), pill pockets, tough toys, Kongs, dog-safe peanut butter (no xylitol).
- Cats: Brown dry food, pate-style wet food, kitten food, litter (clay or clumping), scratch pads or poles.
- Cleaning Supplies: Bleach, laundry soap, large garbage bags (13 & 32-gallon), paper towels, Dawn dish soap, "Rescue" cleaner/deodorizer.
- Other items that can be donated: Used or new towels,



single-layer blankets, bowls, leashes, collars, kennels, pet carriers, dog jackets, and holiday costumes.

If you can't donate items, the shelter always needs volunteers to walk dogs, clean kennels and litter boxes, wash dishes, and help with laundry. Volunteer hours are 9 a.m.noon and 1-4 p.m. daily, except Tuesdays and Sundays. "Stop by the shelter for a tour and fill out a volunteer form," Amy encourages.

#### Foster, Adopt, or Share:

Looking to make an even bigger impact? Consider adopting a pet and giving them a forever home. If you're not ready to adopt, you can still make a huge difference by fostering, offering a temporary, loving space while animals wait for adoption.

Even simple acts like sharing the shelter's Facebook posts help connect pets with new families. You can also find adoptable animals on PetFinder and WWIS Radio's Pet of the

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors—Including the Furry Ones

The Jackson County Animal Shelter is more than a temporary home: it's a community resource. Staff help reunite lost pets, provide advice to owners in difficult situations, and respond to emergencies at all hours.

As a cooperative, Jackson Electric believes in neighbors helping neighbors, and that includes our four-legged community members. Together, we can make the holidays brighter for shelter staff and the animals they care for.

Thank you for sharing the cooperative spirit this Pawliday season!

-Brandi Shramek, Member Relations Supervisor

Cash or check donations can be made to:

#### **Jackson County Animal Shelter**

416 County Road R Black River Falls, WI 54615 715.284.0251

animal.shelter@jacksoncountywi.gov Facebook: Jackson County Wisconsin Animal Shelter

**Hours**: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m. After hours by appointment only.

# Know what to do if your vehicle crashes into a power pole



- ✓ Stay in your vehicle
- √ Call 911
- ✓ Tell bystanders to stay away
- ✓ ONLY get out of the vehicle if it is on fire

IF you must get out, jump from the vehicle with both feet together, and bunny hop or shuffle as you move away from the scene without taking steps until you are at least 50 feet from the powerlines or electric equipment.





Customer Service 715.284.5385

800.370.4607

Outage Reporting 855.222.DARK (3275) Diggers Hotline 800.242.8511

Card Payments 833.679.0919 www.jackelec.com

Carol Blaken, General Manager/CEO

Mailing Address: N6868 County Road F Black River Falls, WI 54615

Office Hours: Mondays - Thursdays, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fridays, 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Board of Directors: Chris Curran, President

Kristi Hanson, Vice President David Peasley, Secretary-Treasurer

Jerry Huber, Dairyland Power Representative Les Dokkestul, Brian Huber, Dan Smrekar,

Troy Torkelson, Gary Woods

Jackson Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

