

# Vote for directors in advance or at annual meeting

For the second year, Golden West members may vote for Board of Director candidates online or by mail ahead of time or in person at the annual meeting. The cooperative's 73rd annual meeting will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, in Wall.

"Advance voting options online and by mail have allowed more Golden West members to participate in electing representation to guide their cooperative without having to travel," says Director of Member Services Jody Bielmaier. "This year, those same opportunities to vote are available."

Survey & Ballot Systems (SBS) will again manage advance voting options for Golden West using deadlines that meet the

organization's bylaw requirements. SBS provides dependable and secure voting systems for many types of organizations, including cooperatives.

## Five director elections in 2025

This year, five directors will be elected to the Board of Directors. Four of these seats – representing districts 1, 4, 6, and 7 – are scheduled for election in 2025 and will carry four-year terms. Additionally, the board has decided to fill the vacant seat in district 2, which was left open following the passing of John Knutson, through the election process. This seat will be up for election again in 2026.

Director election vacancy notices will be published in newspapers during the second half of May. Nominating petitions must be received by Sunday, June 29. Incumbent directors may run for re-election. For more information about the Board of Directors and what area each district covers visit [goldenwest.com/board](https://goldenwest.com/board).



### Thank you for your service, John Knutson.

John Knutson of Grindstone in Haakon County represented District 2 on the Golden West Board of Directors from 2010 until his passing on Wednesday, April 2, 2025.

Our thoughts and prayers are with John's family during this difficult time. John contributed greatly to the cooperative and its members. He will be missed.

If two or more valid candidates file a petition for the same open seat on the Golden West Board of Directors, voting will be required as follows:

#### RESIDENTIAL MEMBERS

##### MONDAY, AUG. 11

- A voting instruction letter will be mailed to residential members. It will include their member number.
- Members may begin voting online by entering their member number and the last four digits of their Social Security Number which must match what Golden West has on file. Those who prefer to vote by mail must call to request a paper ballot.

##### TUESDAY, SEPT. 23

- Advance voting ends. Ballots must be received either electronically or by mail to be counted.

##### SATURDAY, SEPT. 27

- Residential members who have not already voted may cast a ballot in person during the annual meeting in Wall.

#### NON-INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS (i.e. businesses, churches, school districts, towns, etc.)

##### MONDAY, AUG. 11

- A voting instruction letter will be mailed to non-individual members.

##### TUESDAY, SEPT. 23

- Advance voting ends. Ballots must be received either electronically or by mail to be counted.
- Non-individual entities planning to vote in person at the annual meeting must submit a completed Authorization to Vote form by 2 p.m.

Golden West will combine vote totals from ballots cast in person at the annual meeting with SBS certified results from advance voting to determine the outcome. Elected directors will be announced at the end of the meeting.

Watch future issues of Horizons as well as your mail, email, and social media for more information about the elections and all the voting options or visit [goldenwest.com/voting](https://goldenwest.com/voting).