

2021 Board of Director Nominees

FOR BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION



Kelly Melton

Caldwell District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Chief Financial Officer,
West Caldwell Health Council, Inc.

Membership Residence:

Lenoir, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 2015
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Board Leadership Certificate
- Vice Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Compensation Committee
- Member, Blue Ridge Electric Policy and Member Relations Committee
- Former Member, Blue Ridge Energy Members Foundation

- Former Member, Blue Ridge Electric Caldwell Facilities Committee
- Former Chair/Vice Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Member Advisory Committee
- Chairperson, Caldwell County Habitat for Humanity Family Selection Committee
- Treasurer, West Caldwell High School Band Boosters
- Board Member, Education Foundation Inc. of Caldwell County
- Member/Treasurer of Mulvale Baptist Church; past Sunday School Teacher/Vacation Bible School Director
- Former Treasurer, Collettsville School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Former Branch Manager, Bank of Granite (now First Horizon Bank)
- Former Branch Manager, Wachovia Bank (now Wells Fargo)
- Graduate, Appalachian State University, Bachelor of Science, Business Administration



Joy Coffey

Watauga District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Retired, Vice President and Watauga Market Executive, Bank of Granite
Former Retired Senior Vice President for BB&T, Boone, North Carolina

Membership Residence:

Boone, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 1996
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Board Leadership Certificate
- Director Gold Certificate
- Secretary-Treasurer, Blue Ridge Electric Board
- Vice Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Corporate Officers Group

- Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Compensation Committee
- Former Member, Blue Ridge Electric Corporate Office Facilities Committee
- Former Member/Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Watauga Facilities Committee
- Former Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Finance and Rates Committee
- Former Board Member/Officer, WAMY Community Action, Inc.
- Charter Member, Rhododendron Charter Chapter of American Business Women's Association
- 47-Year Member, Oak Grove Baptist Church; serving in various leadership positions
- Former Member, Three Forks Baptist Association, Budget and Finance Committee
- Former Fund Raiser for American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, Watauga Medical Foundation, CCC&TI Foundation
- Former Director/Treasurer, Watauga Hunger Coalition



Cindy Price

Ashe District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Retired, Educator

Membership Residence:

Warrensville, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Appointed to Blue Ridge Electric Board, 2018
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Ashe Key Director
- Member, Policy and Member Relations Committee
- Member, Finance and Rates Committee
- Former Member, Blue Ridge Electric Nominating Committee
- 2001 North Carolina Character Educator of the Year (Awarded by

- Duke University Kenan Institute of Ethics)
- 2013 Fellow, North Carolina Educational Policy Fellowship Program
- Board of Directors, North Carolina Association of Elementary Education
- Region 7 Director, North Carolina Association of Compensatory Education (Federal Programs)
- Member, The Coordinating Council for Appalachian State University Public School Partnership
- Member, Pastor Parish Relations Committee, Clifton United Methodist Church
- Volunteer, NC Guardian Ad Litem
- Volunteer, Ashe Outreach Ministries Mobile Meal Delivery
- Board of Directors, Florence Thomas Art School, West Jefferson

2021 Board of Director Nominees (continued)



Christopher Born

Ashe District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Owner/Manager, Sustainable Environments

Membership Residence:

West Jefferson, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Part-time Energy Conservation Auditor, US Dept. of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program for Blue Ridge Community Action Agency, Morganton
- Certified BPI Building Analyst, Envelope Professional and Multi-family Building Analyst
- Certified solar thermal design and installation, University of Connecticut
- 50 years of experience as a business owner and manager

- Numerous additional certifications in energy conservation and community development: HERS, DOE, LEEDS
- Former Board Member and Treasurer, West Jefferson Business Association (2016-2018)
- Speaker/Seminar Presenter, "Rethinking Education", Texas, "Peak Oil", Atlanta, and numerous incentive and training seminars
- Freelance Writer/Columnist, Motor Boating & Sailing Magazine, Woodshop News, The Real Paper (FL) and The Independent (FL)
- Owned Sustainable World Diagnostics, Atlanta and Louisville, auditing and consulting firm in energy conservation and renewable energy development, 2008-2013
- Owned Seaborn Woodworking, FL, design/built residential homes, furniture and restaurant interiors, 1984-2007
- Partner, E-Pak Systems, Springfield, MA, sold and installed solar thermal and energy conservation home packages, 1978-1984
- Owned Catalyst Woodworking, Atlanta, designed/built commercial interiors, 1972-1977



Mitch Franklin

Alleghany District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Director, New River Cottage, Inc.

Membership Residence:

Sparta, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Blue Ridge Electric Board since 2015
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Board Leadership Certificate
- Vice Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Finance and Rates Committee

- Member, Alleghany County Economic Development Committee
- Former Site Development Director, Lowe's Companies, Inc., 23 years
- Former Member, Alleghany County Board of Education
- Former Member, Blue Ridge Energy Members Foundation
- Former Member, Blue Ridge Electric Member Advisory Committee
- Former Member, Alleghany Wellness Center Board
- Former Youth Coach, Middle/High School Wrestling
- Former President/Member, Alleghany Wrestling Club
- Member, First Baptist Church, Sparta
- Graduate, Appalachian State University, Bachelor of Science, Industrial Technology

Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation has an open process for members to run for the Board of Directors through the Cooperative's nomination and petition processes. These processes and timelines are communicated throughout the year in the member newsletter, *Membership Matters*, and in the *Carolina Country* member magazine. Full details are available in our Bylaws, which appear on our website at BlueRidgeEnergy.com/Corporate_Documents. Four incumbent directors and one additional candidate have been nominated by the Nominating Committee (NC) for this year's four open seats.

Please note that you may vote for one director in each district race for a total of four directors. Each Board member represents all Cooperative members, so we encourage you to be involved and cast your vote in each district.

Note: Members have three voting options: Cast your vote by mail using the enclosed Proxy, signing, and mailing it so that it's received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021; [vote online](#) by accessing the electronic Proxy form by following the directions provided to cast your vote no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021; or, you may attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. to vote or change your vote by ballot during the official Annual Meeting at Blue Ridge Electric's corporate office in Lenoir. All votes cast will be processed by our third-party election firm approved by members of the Credentials and Election Committee.

Pursuant to Article III, Section 3.06 of the cooperative's Bylaws, the Nominating Committee has nominated five candidates who meet the qualifications specified under Article III, Section 3.02 to serve as directors of Blue Ridge Electric.

Members of the 2021 Nominating Committee are listed as follows: Caldwell District - Libby Killian, Jackie Bradshaw; Watauga District - Jimmy Friley, Curtis Main; Ashe District - Melanie Miller, Shawn Horton; and Alleghany District - Randy Miles, Charles Rudy, Lisa Bottomley. Members of the 2021 Credentials and Election Committee are listed as follows: Caldwell District - Robert Marshall; Watauga District - Allison Jennings; Ashe District - Marty Norris, Andy Sexton; and Alleghany District - Norman "Chris" Jones.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Legend: Color coding is used to help easily identify candidates within the same district. Purple: Caldwell District; Green: Watauga District; Orange: Ashe District; Blue: Alleghany District.