

2024 Board of Director Nominees

FOR BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION



Caldwell District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Finance Officer, Town of Sawmills
Sawmills, North Carolina

Membership Residence:

Lenoir, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Incumbent Director since 2015, Blue Ridge Electric Board of Directors
- Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Directors, Blue Ridge Electric
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Board Leadership Certificate
- Director Gold Credential

- Chair, Blue Ridge Electric Compensation 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
- Chair, Family Selection Committee, Caldwell County Habitat for Humanity
- Board Member, Education Foundation Inc. of Caldwell County
- Executive Secretary, The Coffey Foundation
- Mulvale Baptist Church; active member, 1995-present
- Former Treasurer, Collettsville School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Former Chief Financial Officer, West Caldwell Health Council, Inc.
- Former Branch Manager, Bank of Granite (now First Horizon Bank)
- Former Branch Manager, Wachovia Bank (now Wells Fargo)
- Bachelor's, Business Administration, Appalachian State University



Watauga District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Field Supervisor and Adjunct Professor,
Appalachian State University, Part-time
Account Executive,
Mark III Employee Benefits, Part-time

Membership Residence:

Boone, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Retired Assistant Superintendent, Watauga County Schools
- 32 years: teacher, assistant principal, elementary school director and human resources director, Caldwell and Watauga counties
- Bachelor's, Mathematics minor in Education, Wake Forest University

- Master's, Public School Administration, Appalachian State University
- Doctorate, Educational Leadership, Appalachian State University
- Certifications: Facilitated Leadership, Covey's Seven Habits, Aspiring Superintendents, Executive Coaching and Leadership Caldwell
- Blue Ridge Electric Community Leaders Council – 2012 to present
- Established school/business partnership with Collettsville School and Blue Ridge Electric, 2001-2004
- Supported Blue Ridge Electric community initiatives: Bright Ideas, Leadership Track, Heart of a Pioneer
- Former Treasurer, Sunrise East Estates POA
- Member, Steering Committee, Personnel Administrators of NC
- Awarded the Servant's Heart Award for Watauga County Schools
- Teacher of the Year, Granite Falls Middle School
- Assistant Principal of the Year, Caldwell County Schools



Watauga District Seat (NC)

Current Occupation:

Human Resources Manager,
Samaritan's Purse
Boone, North Carolina

Membership Residence:

Boone, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Incumbent Director since 2023, Blue Ridge Electric Board of Directors
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Member, Finance and Rates Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Former Member, Credentials and Election Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Former Member, Member Advisory Council, Blue Ridge Electric

- Member, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- Member, State Employees Credit Union Advisory Board
- Member, Society of Human Resource Management
- Certified NC State Mediator through the Office of NC Human Resources
- Former President, Watauga County Firefighters Burned Children's Fund
- Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue volunteer, 1990-2010
- Meritorious Service Award recipient, Blowing Rock Fire & Rescue
- Certifications as EMT, Firefighter, High Angle Rescue and NIMS
- Former Counselor, Hope Pregnancy Resource Center
- Human Resources, Appalachian State University, 2001-2023
- Pianist and member, Laurel Fork Baptist Church
- Graduate, Watauga High School
- Associate's, Business Administration, Caldwell Community College

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.

**Ashe District Seat (NC)****Current Occupation:**

Retired, Educator

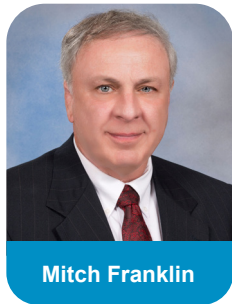
Membership Residence:

Warrensville, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Incumbent Director since 2018, Blue Ridge Electric Board of Directors
- Ashe Key Director
- Credentialed Cooperative Director
- Board Leadership Certification
- Director Gold Certification
- Vice Chair, Policy and Member Relations Committee, Blue Ridge Electric

- Member, Compensation Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Former Member, Nominating Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- 2023 Chair, NC Electric Cooperatives Directors Conference
- Volunteer, NC Guardian Ad Litem
- Member, Board of Directors, Florence Thomas Art School, West Jefferson
- Executive Council, Warrensville United Methodist Church
- Member, Ashe County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Volunteer, Ashe Outreach Food Pantry, Riverview Community Center, Creston
- Volunteer, Precious Memories Program
- 2013 Fellow, NC Educational Policy Fellowship Program
- 2001 NC Character Educator of the Year, Duke University
- Retired School Administrator
- Bachelor's Elementary Education; Master of Arts, School Counseling and Master's in School Administration, Appalachian State University

**Alleghany District Seat (NC)****Current Occupation:**

Director, New River Cottage, Inc.
Sparta, North Carolina

Membership Residence:

Sparta, North Carolina

Biographical Information:

- Incumbent Director since 2015, Blue Ridge Electric Board of Directors
- Credentialed Cooperative Director

- Board Leadership Certificate
- Vice Chair, Finance and Rates Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- 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, Members Foundation, Blue Ridge Electric
- Former Member, Member Advisory Committee, Blue Ridge Electric
- Former Member, Alleghany Wellness Center Board
- Former Youth Coach, Middle/High School Wrestling
- Former President/Member, Alleghany Wrestling Club
- Member, First Baptist Church, Sparta
- Bachelor's, Industrial Technology, Appalachian State University

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](https://www.BlueRidgeEnergy.com/CorporateDocuments). 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 Thursday, June 20, 2024; [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 Thursday, June 20, 2024; or, you may attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2024, 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 2023 Nominating Committee are listed as follows: Caldwell District - Carolyn Icard, Wanda Prince; Watauga District - Laramie Combs, Jessica Hicks, Pam Vines; Ashe District - Wesley Greene, Jim Parsons; and Alleghany District - Tommy Maines, Susan Nilo.



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.