

MAY 2026

# Guide to the Candidates

This brochure contains the statements of the six (6) candidates seeking election to the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. After reviewing this material, please vote for no more than three (3) candidates on the accompanying ballot. Please return completed ballots in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope. All ballots, including online ballots, must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2026. See official notice for the 87th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative.



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[www.nhec.com](http://www.nhec.com)

# YOUR CO-OP, YOUR VOTE



## To Our Valued Members...

As a democratically controlled cooperative, we rely on the active participation of you, our members, in the business of the Cooperative. One of your most important functions each year is electing a Board of Directors that will represent you and your interests at the highest level of the company.

This brochure is your guide to the candidates who are running for election to three seats on the Co-op's 11-member Board of Directors. Each candidate appears with brief biographical information and a statement submitted, word-for-word, by the candidates themselves.

The listing of candidates has been rotated in the printing and electronic presentation of the ballots so that each candidate has the opportunity to appear first. Candidates' statements appear in alphabetical order in this brochure. We encourage you to read the material closely, then fill out and return your ballot **no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2026.**

Be sure to join us for NHEC's 87th Annual Meeting on June 16, 2026 at Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton. Come early and enjoy resort amenities! See the Annual Meeting page in this brochure for details. In a member-owned cooperative, you can make your voice heard. We hope you'll take advantage of your opportunity. Thank you for voting!



Michael Jennings  
President/CEO

# 2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The NHEC Nominating Committee is pleased to present its slate of candidates for the 2026 Board of Directors election. The committee, composed of nine board-appointed Co-op members, functions independently from NHEC's Board of Directors and Management team.

The committee weighed each applicant's experience and expertise against the current and future needs of the Co-op and its members.

For the 2026 election, three seats with a term of three years are open on the 11-member board.

After reviewing applications, interviewing selected candidates, and deliberating, the committee unanimously voted to nominate the following slate.

## **Four candidates have been nominated by the committee:**

- Bill Darcy (Benton)
- Brad Harkavy (Campton)
- Carl Knowlton (New Hampton)
- Robert MacLeod (Thornton)

Co-op members may also be added to the ballot through the petition process.

NHEC is always looking for engaged members to help shape the Co-op's future. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors next year and beyond, we encourage you to apply. Information about the process is available on the NHEC web site.

As a member, your participation is essential to NHEC through voting in elections, attending meetings, sharing ideas, promoting the cooperative, and staying informed. We urge you to vote in the 2026 election and continue to support strong leadership.

The committee appreciates the time and interest of all who applied to run in the 2026 election.

**Respectfully Submitted by the 2026 Nominating Committee:** Bill Gassman (Chair), Mike Clark, Greg Coil, Ken Hill, Fred Kelsey, Greg Mathieson, Kevin McDonnell, George Tall, Trairong Thomas.

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***NOTE:** The candidate material included in this brochure has not been reviewed by the Nominating Committee.*

# LAUREL BOIVIN

**NHEC Service Location:** Lee, NH

**Primary Residence:** Lee, NH

**Nominated By:** Petition



Energy costs are rising, and many of us are feeling it. I'm Laurel Boivin, and I believe NHEC can take a more proactive approach to providing affordable, reliable, and local energy solutions for our members.

For over 30 years, I've worked at the intersection of energy and environmental stewardship, supporting strong local economies while protecting the resources they depend on. I've worked in the electric utility industry and in state government, with local businesses and municipalities, building relationships and helping communities and families understand complex energy and environmental issues.

Today, I run a small business focused on leadership, decision-making, and navigating change in challenging environments.

Prior to launching my business, I spent two decades at Eversource, where I gained hands-on experience across power generation, transmission and distribution, environmental and regulatory affairs, communications, and community relations; in outage response, emergency preparedness, and reliability and interconnection projects while also building relationships and communicating daily with local partners in 63 towns.

Earlier in my career, I worked at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, collaborating with industry and environmental organizations to find practical, balanced solutions that support our economy and our environment.

I've served as a Director on several boards focused on rural economic development and currently serve as a Director of the New England Women in Energy and Environment.

I believe members deserve clear communication, fiscal responsibility, and strategic, forward-looking decisions that keep our cooperative strong. I'd be honored to earn your vote.

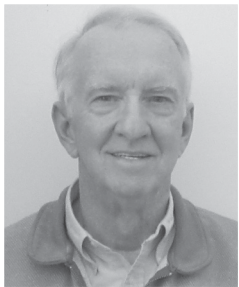
Learn more at [LaurelForNHEC.com](http://LaurelForNHEC.com)  
603-568-0654

# BILL DARCY

**NHEC Service Location:** Benton, NH

**Primary Residence:** Benton, NH

**Nominated By:** Nominating Committee



## **Why you want to serve on the NHEC Board of Directors:**

When you first elected me in 2020, I promised to leverage my experience as a utility consumer advocate and regulator to prioritize Reliability, Affordability, and Broadband expansion. I have delivered on those promises.

**Affordability:** Despite rapidly rising equipment costs, our inflation-adjusted distribution rates are lower today than in 2020. This year, we kept rate increases to a minimum and successfully reduced the monthly residential fixed charge by 16%. NHEC energy rates consistently remain lower than those of neighboring utilities and competitive suppliers. My commitment to fiscal responsibility is further demonstrated by my work as Chair of the Benton Selectboard, which has the lowest municipal tax rate in New Hampshire.

**Reliability:** We haven't sacrificed service for savings. Since tree-related outages are our biggest challenge, we doubled our annual tree-trimming budget since 2020. We have consistently funded more reliability investments, including new substations and devices to help us restore power faster than ever.

**Broadband:** Since 2020, we have installed over 3,000 miles of high-speed fiber, providing access to over 40,000 member locations. We have aggressively secured federal grants to further this effort, and I was instrumental in winning a landmark \$50 million grant.

My duties as Board Chair included managing the CEO transition, which led to the excellent selection of Michael Jennings as NHEC's CEO.

I offer the hardworking, knowledgeable leadership needed to advance our goals of affordability, reliability, and broadband over the next three years.

I respectfully ask for your vote.

Learn more at [DarcyforNHEC.com](https://DarcyforNHEC.com), or contact me at [wrdarcy@gmail.com](mailto:wrdarcy@gmail.com).

# BRAD HARKAVY

**NHEC Service Location:** Campton, NH

**Primary Residence:** Cambridge, MA

**Nominated By:** Nominating Committee



My campaign is based on wanting to give back to our community and helping to strengthen our electric cooperative.

I'm a tech entrepreneur with more than 15 years of experience working with utilities, highlighted by building LiveData Utilities and leading its acquisition by Oracle. At Oracle, I worked with utilities of all

sizes to modernize their operations, and I'd welcome the opportunity to bring that experience to NHEC. I've served on public, private, and nonprofit boards, and currently serve as 2nd Vice Chair of the Edison Electric Institute OT Subgroup.

If elected, I will ensure that while technology is an important tool, it's not the end goal. My priorities for the Co op are:

- **Affordable Energy:** Affordable, reliable power for every NHEC member; not just those who can install rooftop solar. Energy costs are skyrocketing, so maintaining affordable electricity will take strong, innovative support from the board, and is a top priority
- **Grid Resilience:** Hardening the network so the lights stay on, 24/7
- **Transparency:** Allowing greater access to data for members, to ensure a stronger Co op
- **Distributed Energy Resources:** Renewables, battery storage, and microgrids that improve resilience, reduce peak demand, and lower costs
- **Disciplined Technology Adoption:** Smart investments that align with long term financial and strategic goals
- **Broadband:** Strengthening our community by enabling fast Wi-Fi and supporting more reliable electric service with new electric poles, but also requiring fiscal discipline

Email: [nhec-board@harkador.com](mailto:nhec-board@harkador.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BradNHEC>

# CARL KNOWLTON

**NHEC Service Location:** New Hampton, NH

**Primary Residence:** New Hampton, NH

**Nominated By:** Nominating Committee



## Work Experience

- 30+ years in utility, energy, and infrastructure finance
- Senior roles at John Hancock, CS First Boston, and infrastructure development firms
- Oversight of multibillion dollar utility and energy investment portfolios

- Leadership of complex capital programs, restructurings, and risk management efforts

## Educational Background

- United States Military Academy, BS
- Northeastern University, MBA
- Chartered Financial Analyst, Charterholder
- Graduate of Inter Lakes High School, Meredith NH

## Candidate Statement

Today, the NHEC is advancing a necessary grid modernization in the face of volatile power markets and building broadband internet for members. Expanding these necessary investments while minimizing member bills and preserving the Cooperative's credit quality will require a board that can provide thoughtful governance, rigorous financial oversight, and clear strategic policy.

I am running for the Board because I believe my professional background enables me to provide disciplined analysis, constructive oversight, and a steady focus on member value. For more than three decades, I have worked at the intersection of energy, finance, and regulated infrastructure - protecting credit quality while delivering capital projects essential to long term reliability and community benefit. I have overseen large capital programs and guided organizations through periods when balance sheet discipline was the first priority.

I am confident that the NHEC can continue to lead on reliability, affordability, and broadband access - but success will depend on maintaining transparency, pacing investment responsibly, and making informed financial trade offs. I am committed to preserving the cooperative model (locally governed and member-owned) while ensuring it remains financially resilient and well positioned for the decade ahead.

# ROBERT MACLEOD

**NHEC Service Location:** Thornton, NH

**Primary Residence:** Thornton NH

**Nominated By:** Nominating Committee



## **Work Experience**

CEO, Mid State Health Center

## **Educational Background**

AD in accounting, MBA, doctorate in health policy

## **Why you want to serve on the NHEC Board of Directors:**

I am honored to seek reelection to the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative Board of Directors. Serving our member-owners has been a privilege, and I remain deeply committed to the Coop's long-term strength and the communities we power.

Through my service, I have developed a strong understanding of both the electric and broadband lines of business from a financial, operational, and strategic perspective. I appreciate the complexity of maintaining critical infrastructure, managing costs responsibly, and planning for future investment while navigating a rapidly changing regulatory and technological environment.

Especially important is our mission to provide reliable and affordable service, which is a priority of mine. Whether it is keeping the lights on during severe weather or expanding high-quality broadband that supports economic opportunity, education, and quality of life, the Cooperative plays a vital role across our service territory.

I believe sound governance begins with fiscal discipline, which keeps rates reasonable and protects the Cooperative's financial health. That ensures we can continue to invest in system reliability, resilience, and innovation without placing undue burden on our members. Careful oversight, transparent decision-making, and long-term planning remain central to my approach as a director.

If reelected, I will continue to bring experience, judgment, and a collaborative mindset to the Board. I am committed to listening to members, asking the right questions, and supporting decisions that reflect our cooperative values and ensure a strong, sustainable future for New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, for all members across the state.

# TOM RANDELL

**NHEC Service Location:** Moultonborough, NH  
**Primary Residence:** Moultonborough, NH  
**Nominated By:** Petition



## **Why you want to serve on the NHEC Board of Directors:**

Save money with solar, fix broadband, listen to members

I've worked for decades in energy, in oil and gas and then renewable energy investing in the US and beyond. I've seen this world transformed.

I've had experience managing and investing in energy assets, Infrastructure and digital consumer services.

On local renewables, the Board has missed a big opportunity. Small scale solar and battery installations can help us lower costs and avoid expensive upgrades to our network. Keeping generation closer to home is vital to a more affordable future.

On broadband, I'm also worried that we've missed the mark. We've received \$57M from federal and state governments and borrowed tens of millions more. But the latest public figures show only \$4M broadband revenue per year, from just 1 in 10 potential subscribers. [NOTE FROM NHEC: The above stated revenue is dated, and the number of subscribers is not accurate.] We need this opportunity to work for us but can't throw good money after bad if broadband isn't succeeding.

Lastly, the board can better work with co-op staff and members. Our staff professionals know the industry and our members must set our vision. A recurring issue is whether future savings are spent on lowering the member charge or the unit price. Let's ask members to help decide!

Our co-op is a precious asset. Many across NH, and beyond, envy what we have. Let's keep it special, and get even better at delivering safe, reliable and affordable power.

I would be honored to represent you on our NHEC Board.

# Not Your Typical Annual Meeting!



## **87th Annual Meeting Friendship, Fun & Food!**

Please join us June 16, 2026 at the beautiful Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton for New Hampshire Electric Cooperative's 87th Annual Meeting of Members!

### **Schedule of Events:**

**12 PM – 5 PM**

### **Enjoy resort amenities:**

**Swimming  
Paddle boarding  
Pickleball  
Tennis  
Golf**

**4:30 PM**

**Registration opens for NHEC Annual Meeting (The LakeHouse)**

**4:30 PM – 5:30 PM**

**Passed hors d'oeuvres and cash bar (The LakeHouse)**

**5:30 – 6:30 PM**

**NHEC Annual Meeting (The LakeHouse)  
Catch up on your Co-op! Q&A with Board and Senior Leadership Team**

**More info & RSVP:**

**<https://www.nhec.com/annual-meeting/>**

# OFFICIAL NOTICE



## **87th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. Tuesday, June 16, 2026**

The Annual Meeting of the Members of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be held Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at the Lakehouse Building at the Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton, NH. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. and the meeting will commence at 5:30 p.m. Members will be asked to take action on the items listed below.

1. Secretary's report of members present
2. Reading of the notice of meeting by the Secretary
3. Reading of the minutes of the 2025 meeting for approval by the members and taking necessary action on those minutes
4. Presentation and consideration of, and actions upon, report of officers, directors and committees
5. Presentation of results of the Board of Directors' election
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Adjournment

Jeffrey W. Morrill  
Board Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey W. Morrill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".



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