



December 3, 2014

Dear NASCO Active Members,

Each year, NASCO holds elections for its Board of Directors. There are four of its 12 three-year seats elected annually. In 2014-2015, the Board is filling one additional vacant seat (a one-year seat) for a total of five seats). These directors will begin their terms at the February 2015 board meeting. Enclosed is your cooperative's ballot and a copy of the candidate's statements. There are nine candidates for these five seats.

A reminder of the process for voting:

From the NASCO Bylaws, Article III: Members:

3.5 For the purpose of amending these bylaws, conducting at-large Board of Directors elections, and conducting referenda, voting shall be allocated among members according to the following:
(1) Active members which are housing co-ops shall have one ballot for every five (5) members or fraction thereof, living or boarding in the cooperative, No group may cast more than 18% of the total ballots (11/10).

From NASCO's Governance Policies, Chapter 2:

- 2.22 Acceptance of Election: If during the NASCO Election process an elected candidate does not accept their position on the NASCO Board of Directors then the position will pass to the next candidate with the highest number of votes (6/04).
- 2.23 Election, Voting Process: Voting for at-large Directors shall be done on a "cumulative voting" basis, meaning that members may split their ballots as they choose, provided that the total number of votes cast does not exceed the number of ballots that member has and votes may only be split in whole integer increments (2/02) (6/04). Refer also to election procedures in Bylaws 3.5, 5, and 6 (6/07).

As an Active Member, your cooperative is allocated a number of votes equal to your number of members divided by five (and rounded up). If your cooperative has 23 members, you have 5 votes. If your cooperative has 463 members, you have 93 votes to allocate. The cumulative voting process means that you may allocate your votes in any way between the nine candidates. You may cast all of your votes for one candidate, or you may divide them between two or more candidates, as long as the total number of votes that you cast is not more than you are allocated.



There is also a bylaws-mandated cap that no more than 18% of the ballots cast may be from a single member cooperative. This means that if more than 18% of the ballots are from one cooperative, NASCO will scale those votes down until they make up less than 18% of the ballots. This scaling applies to all of the cooperative's votes for all candidates.

Ballots must be returned to the NASCO office by Friday, January 30, 2015. This is a strict deadline. Ballots may be mailed to NASCO, 330 S Wells St, Ste 618-F, Chicago, IL 60606, or emailed to rek@nasco.coop, or faxed to 331-223-9727.

Sincerely,

Rek Kwawer
Director of Operations