# ANNUAL MEETING & DIRECTOR ELECTION

#### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Every year, United Power hosts its Annual Meeting of Members to conduct the business of the cooperative, provide an annual update, and certify the results of the annual director election. We invite our members to attend their cooperative's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 12.

Members in attendance will receive dinner, a gift, and entry into door prize drawings. Door prizes include electric lawn tools, household appliances, smart technology, and a grand prize \$500 Home Depot gift card.

### **DIRECTOR ELECTION**

As a co-op member, you automatically receive the benefits all other members share, including the right to vote for board representation. United Power encourages all members to cast their votes in the director election.

Voting is conducted electronically through your United Power online account or via mail ballot. Please follow balloting instructions carefully and return your ballot by the deadline. Election results will be announced at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

# Join us for the Annual Meeting WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12



#### IN PERSON MEETING

Riverdale Regional Park & Fairgrounds 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO 80601

**4:30 p.m.** Registration, Balloting, Dinner, & Exhibit Booths **6:30 p.m.** Business Meeting, Election Results, & Door Prizes



#### **VIRTUAL MEETING**

Visit our website at 6:30 p.m. to view the livestream www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting

#### **Director Candidate Information**



A written statement provided by each candidate is included inside this booklet. Candidate statements are not altered or verified by United Power.



Video of the first Meet the Candidates Forum held in March is available to view on our website www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting.

This ballot packet includes your mail ballot, a statement from each candidate, and instructions for completing and returning your ballot.









www.unitedpower.com 303-637-1300



# **MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS**

Colorado state law dictates what constitutes a valid ballot in cooperative elections. Colorado law requires a signature on the mail ballot return envelope and the appropriate title, where applicable. Proxy voting is not permitted. Members may vote electronically, via mail ballot, or in person at the Annual Meeting. Please follow these instructions carefully to ensure you submit a valid ballot so your co-op vote counts.

## **VOTING ELECTRONICALLY**

1. Log in to your United Power online account via the website www.unitedpower.com or the United Power mobile app.

Don't have an online account? Register for one at www.unitedpower.com/MyAccount.

- 2. Click "Vote Now" from the online account home screen.
- 3. Click "Go to Ballot" after reviewing the voting instructions.
- 4. Select one candidate in each district and click "Go to Ballot Confirmation."
- 5. Review your completed ballot. Click "Change Votes" to edit, or click "Submit Ballot" to complete your vote.
- 6. Your ballot is now complete. Enter your email address on the final confirmation screen to receive a confirmation email.



Scan the QR code, log in, and click "Vote Now."



Electronic balloting closes on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 11:59 a.m.

# **SMART ACCOUNT ACCESS**

United Power members can quickly and easily access their electric account online or from the United Power mobile app. Take control of your electric usage and manage your United Power account in one place. An online account gives you access to all of these account management resources:





- Pay Your Bill
- Enroll in Auto Pay
- · View Billing History



- Daily Usage Charts
- Monitor Demand
- Energy Comparisons



- · Billing Notifications
- · Payment Alerts
- News & Announcements



- Report an Outage
- · Contact Us
- Ask a Question



- Go Paperless
- · Store Payment Methods
- · Update Personal Info



#### Don't have an online account? Register at www.unitedpower.com/myaccount.

Access your United Power online account anytime at www.unitedpower.com/myaccount. The United Power mobile app is available for Apple and Android.

#### **VOTING BY MAIL BALLOT**

- 1. Vote your mail ballot ensuring you have selected one candidate in each district.
- 2. Place your ballot in the yellow secret ballot envelope (optional).
- 3. Place your ballot in the white business reply envelope.
- 4. Sign the back of the business reply envelope. **State law requires the member's signature for the ballot to be valid.**
- 5. Mail your ballot postpaid via U.S. Mail.



Mail ballots must arrive at the Survey & Ballot Systems post office box by 11:59 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.



#### SIGNING YOUR BALLOT

#### WHEN SIGNING YOUR BALLOT ENVELOPE, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY:

- If the membership is owned by a person, that person should sign his or her name on the signature line as it appears on the mailing label.
- If the membership is owned jointly/by two or more persons, only one of the joint owners needs to sign.
- If the membership is owned by a corporation, partnership, or other legal entity, the person signing must place his or her signature on the signature line and indicate his or her title or lawful representative capacity on the title line. For example:
  - A person signing for a partnership should sign "John Doe" on the signature line and "Partner" on the title line;
  - A person signing for a corporation should sign "John Doe" on the signature line and "President" (or other office) on the title line;
  - A person signing for a trade name should sign "John Doe" on the signature line, and "Owner" on the title line.
- If the membership is owned by a member who is deceased or the member needs assistance, the person signing must place his or her signature on the signature line and indicate his or her title or lawful representative capacity on the title line. For example:
  - If the member is deceased, the personal representative of the estate should sign his
    or her name on the signature line, and state "Jane Doe, Personal Representative of the
    estate of John Doe," on the title line;
  - If a person is unable to write a signature, his or her mark will be accepted if a witness is present and signs "John Doe is unable to sign, but made his or her mark as his or her intended signature in my presence. Jane Doe, witness."



#### For More Information or Assistance

Contact United Power at 303-637-1300.



#### **Ballot Counting & Election Certification**

Survey & Ballot Systems, a reputable election organization and verification service, will tabulate all ballots. The Election and Credentials Committee, with the assistance of United Power's legal counsel, will oversee ballot and signature verification.



# **DIRECTOR CANDIDATE PROFILES**

#### 2023 Director Candidates

There are four seats up for election to the United Power Board of Directors this year. One position in the South, East, West, and Mountain districts is up for a three-year term. Vote for one candidate in each district.

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT**

Jamie Klein Ken Kreutzer Katherine "Kathy" Mills James Vigesaa

#### **EAST DISTRICT**

Steven "Steve" Douglas Robert "Rob" Masden

#### WEST DISTRICT

Virginia "Ginny" A. Buczek Thomas "Tom" Hogan

#### **MOUNTAIN DISTRICT**

Tamra "Tami" Waltemath

The following statements are those of the candidates and have not been altered or verified by United Power.

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT**



#### Jamie Klein

Jamie Klein is a seasoned business professional with a passion for making a positive impact in his community. A resident of Thornton, Colorado for the past 22 years, Jamie has planted deep roots in the area, raising a family with two children and building a successful

business. Originally raised in Enid, Oklahoma, Jamie was an active Boy Scout and excelled in sports such as football and wrestling. After graduating from Enid High School and pursuing a degree at Northern Oklahoma College, Jamie started his career in the oil and gas drilling industry and worked his way up from a floorhand to a driller. Jamie then transitioned to horizontal directional drilling, installing utilities throughout the United States. Jamie and his team installed thousands of miles of fiber optic, gas, water, and electric lines. At the age of 25, Jamie took an entrepreneurial leap and founded Klein Trucking LLC, based in Thornton and has been serving the local construction and oil industries for over 22 years.

In addition to his successful business career, Jamie has served as the chair of the Business of Thornton Advisory Commission (BTAC) for the past 6.5 years and provided updates to the City Council on small businesses in the area. He is also an active volunteer, previously coaching football for and currently volunteering at Orchard Church in Brighton. In his free time, Jamie enjoys spending time with his family and friends.

Jamie is an enthusiastic leader with a successful history of driving change and making a lasting impact in organizations. His focus on results, leading teams, fostering relationships, and developing effective strategies, position him as an ideal candidate for a United Power Board of Directors role. His in-depth knowledge of the industry, combined with his expertise in management, enables him to identify opportunities and formulate action plans to drive the organization forward and achieve its mission. He supports all forms of energy generation but is particularly focused on keeping electric rates stable for the members while ensuring long-term growth and success for the cooperative.

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT**



#### Ken Kreutzer

I'm Ken Kreutzer, and I'm running to represent the South District on the United Power Board of Directors. Growing up in Brighton I have seen the impact of change and growth in the area that United Power serves. I have also watched United Power grow from a small

Rural Electric Association to a strong force providing electric service to more than 100 thousand meters in homes, farms, and businesses serving 20 communities and 2 mountain canyons. Regardless of where you live, work, do business, or play, the most important expectation we all have from our power supplier is reliability. I am excited for the opportunity to be a part of directing the future of this great organization as it meets its high reliability standards in a safe and affordable manner.

As a Board Member I will champion the following:

- Maintain and continue to provide the members of United Power safe and reliable power in the most sustainable way.
- Seek out the most affordable supply options to offer the members of United Power the best value for their electrical service.
- Be aggressive in seeking renewable energy options that make both economic and environmental sense.
- Proactively meet the ever challenging growth needs in the United Power service area.
- Continue to have a positive impact on the 20 communities and 2 mountain canyons that United Power serves as well as being a nationally respected leader amongst electric cooperatives.

I retired in 2012 after 30 years of teaching high school marketing. Since retirement I have been actively involved in leadership and board positions with several organizations. Some of them include

- Brighton City Council for 6 years including 2 years as Mayor and 2 years as Mayor Pro Tem.
- · E-470 Board of Directors
- · Metro Mayors Commission
- · Adams County Economic Development Corporation Executive Board
- · United Power Round-Up Board
- · Brighton Sister Cities
- · Brighton Economic Development Board of Directors
- · Brighton Historic Preservation Commission

My wife Judy and I have three children. Our oldest, Missy works at Melissa Rippy Insurance Company she and her husband live in Brighton have two children. Our oldest son, Johnny is a retired Army Soldier he lives in Arkansas with his wife and his two children. Our youngest son Ben Lives in Longmont and is a firefighter for the Frederick/Firestone Fire Department.

In my spare time I enjoy swimming, playing golf, brewing beer, making sausage, and providing my talent as an auctioneer raising funds for many charitable organizations. For the past 33 years I've had the honor of being "The Voice of the Brighton Bulldogs" as the P.A. announcer for Brighton High School football games. I greatly appreciate your support as I work to serve you on the United Power Board of Directors.



#### Vote in each director district

United Power directors serve in geographic districts, but they are elected on an at-large basis. You should select one candidate in each district, regardless of your district.



#### Vote online to save time

Save time and avoid mailing delays. Complete your ballot online where you pay your bills. Not registered yet? Visit www.unitedpower.com/myaccount to get started.

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT**



#### Katherine "Kathy" Mills

My name is Katherine Mills, and I have been a cooperative member for 12 years. In the energy sector rules and regulations are very important. As the mother of two disabled sons, I have successfully navigated the disability and medical realm for the past 19 years and

have learned the ins and outs of rules and regulations. I feel confident that I have the skills, drive and perseverance to serve on the board.

United Power's success is especially important to me as a wife and mother of three. My youngest disabled son has spiked anxiety and is nearly inconsolable when the power goes out. Having reliable power for my home is imperative to keep things calm. I am extremely grateful that our power company gets things running quickly when issues arise.

I have attended many United Power events and have gone to the annual meetings for several years. I consistently listen to the annual reports. I am running for the United Power Board because I want to represent all cooperative members. I am sure I have much to learn, but I have the time and motivation to educate myself, learn from the current board, and represent the members.

I would love your support and vote on April 12th, 2023. Please come meet me at one of the candidate forums or the annual meeting.

#### **SOUTH DISTRICT**



#### **James Vigesaa**

James Vigesaa is an incumbent director and currently Vice Chairman of the Board. James has been a Director for 12 years. James has served as Chairman of the Board for three years, has served as Vice Chairman for two years, and as Assistant Secretary/

Treasurer for one year.

James is the CEO and owner of BVB General Contractors located in Brighton. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is a US Army veteran of the Nebraska National Guard. He has served as Board Chairman of the Brighton Economic Development Corporation. He also supports Boy Scouts as a Technical Advisor for Eagle Scout projects for Brighton Troop 315.

The next year will be the most critical year in United Power's 85 year history. The Board will be making monumental decisions for the future power supply of the company that involve hundreds of millions of dollars and ultimately will reduce power costs to our members by a significant amount. The Board has been evaluating this decision for the past several years and I have a great deal of knowledge and background to be evaluated when making the upcoming final decisions.

These past twelve years have been great for United Power. United Power has recognized the growing demand to transition to smart and responsible energy

generation for years, deploying nearly 60 megawatts of local renewable energy generation. Our residential rooftop solar has grown to over 9,000 houses. This growth has resulted in United Power being one of the fastest growing cooperatives in the nation for residential rooftop solar installations. United Power has a real "Can Do" culture in providing **COST EFFECTIVE** green/alternative energy for our system.

In 2022 United Power had Power Sales of approximately 315 Million Dollars, resulting in power sales growth of 125 % that has occurred since 2011. We have also grown to over 100,000 meters and now are one of the largest distribution cooperatives in the nation. One of the things that is at the forefront of my mind is that United Power is a rapidly growing large business that is owned by our members. I take the Board Of Directors Duties very seriously in directing the affairs of the business and representing the interests of all members.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served you as your Director for the past 12 years. Looking ahead, I ask for your vote to continue to serve you to select our power supply for the future, increase our green/alternative energy efforts, our cost effectiveness, and continued refund of capital Credits.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at jamesvigesaa@gmail.com with any questions, comments or concerns that you may have.

#### **EAST DISTRICT**

#### Steven "Steve" Douglas

I'm running as a candidate for the United Power Board East District because of the important impact it has on the lives of our families, businesses, and economy.

My wife and I have been proud members of the United Power Family for nearly 20 years. Over the last two years, I have made the commitment to attend United Power monthly meetings. Through this, I have gained an excellent knowledge-base and understanding.

Having served as a Councilman At-Large for the City of Commerce City for 2 terms, I know the importance of serving the public and working as a team-player. I promise to be a good steward for all of the members throughout United Power, both urban and rural. Clean energy will be the heart and soul of our futures and I believe United Power should lead the way - always as an investment in the way we live as a community, both for today and for our future. The future of energy is happening right now and we need to take advantage of that fact. I believe the next energy solution will include super-capacitors which can support or replace substations giving communities a much needed new clean power supply which will also include relief during blackout periods.

As a United Power Board member these are the thing's I would bring to the board if I'm elected.

- · New innovative ways of thinking about our electricity grids
- · Career Technical Education (CTE) local HS
- Future-proofing our electric infrastructure from substation attacks such as the recent Pacific and North Carolina

- Cutting-edge storage solutions to minimize the down time during blackout conditions
- Realizing a true all-electric goal/ small battery systems behind the meter
- · Making United Power more member inclusive/ Propose Board Term limits
- EAAS also known as Energy As A Service, gives customers access to energy management services with small upfront costs or no cost
- Energy systems for Commercial business infrastructure both large and small businesses

I would like to thank you for your support, and look forward to serving as your next United Power East District Director. Thanks again for your time.

STEVE DOUGLAS EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS FOR UNITED POWER EAST DIRECTOR

- Commerce City Planning Commission 3rd Term: Oct 01, 2020 to Oct 01, 2023
- Commerce City Councilman At-Large 2011-2019
- · Governor Appointment: RAQC (Regional Air Quality Council) 2019-2020
- E-470 Board Alternate 2011-2015, Treasurer/Secretary 2015-2019
- · King Soopers 1977-Present, UFCW Local #7 Union Member 45 years
- Arapahoe Community College Undergraduate, Accounting, Business Management and Economics 1983-1984
- Colorado Municipal League Policy Committee 2011-2019
- · Prairie View High School of Business Board 2017-Present
- Active NAACP Member and Democratic African American Initiative

#### **EAST DISTRICT**



#### Robert "Rob" Masden

I have an extensive background in leadership roles and public service having served as Mayor of Hudson, Colorado for eight years, Weld County Commissioner for another eight years, and a member of the RE3-J School Board, as well as being a small business owner

for over 20 years.

While Mayor, I negotiated the territorial exchange between United Power and Public Service of Colorado, making Hudson the first Municipality to approve this Franchise exchange. During my tenure, we also solved a long-term problem with water quality by bringing in high-quality Big Thompson water utilizing a multi-faceted agreement involving several municipalities and entities. We also shepherded the process of improving Hudson's ISO fire rating resulting in both greater availability for insurance and a subsequent reduction in our commercial and residential insurance costs.

During my tenure as Weld County Commissioner, we became one of the top counties in the Nation for economic development and financial stability. We successfully assisted with accomplishing the extension and upgrade of Tri State's system connection to United Power improving the quality of service in our area, and we approved the State of Colorado's largest wind farm project.

#### My Experience/Qualifications

- · Small business owner for over twenty years
- · Mayor of Hudson from 1986-1994
- · Weld County Council 1999-2000
- RE3-J School Board of Directors -1999-2003

- Weld County Commissioner for District 3 Eight years
- State of Colorado Energy and Mineral Impact Committee Appointee by both Governor Owen and Ritter
- · Northwest Parkway Board of Directors Eight years
- · Colorado Counties Inc. Member
- · Chairman of the General Government Committee two years
- · National Association of County Officers Member
- · Appointee to the Energy, Environment, and Land Use Commission
- Chairman of the Upper Front Range Transportation Planning Region -two years
- Appointed to Colorado State Transportation Action Committee

I have served on many other committees and in other capacities and truly wish to bring that experience to the United Power Board of Directors. I will work diligently to become fully educated in Co-op matters to help continue the great service and affordability that we United Power members have enjoyed. twill work collaboratively with the Board of Directors and support the hard-working staff to ensure all the efforts to reduce the current power costs and transition to new business models and renewable energies continue.

Colorado is my lifelong home where I raised and educated my son Kyle and daughter Brittany and planted deep roots. I am committed to doing everything in my power to maintain and improve our Colorado way of life and I would truly appreciate your vote to be able to represent you on the United Power Board of Directors.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rob Masden

#### WEST DISTRICT



#### Virginia "Ginny" A. Buczek

Virginia "Ginny" Buczek is the incumbent director in the West District, and currently works part-time in design review. She has 13 years private sector managerial work experience and studied business management at Red Rocks Community College. Buczek earned

her CCD, Board Leadership and Gold Leadership certifications from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). During her tenure she has served as the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and currently chairs The Audit Committee. Buczek is United Power's director on the Colorado Rural Electric Association Board (CREA). She is President of the CREA Board, serves on CREA's Executive and Policy Committees. She has served as CREA's Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Budget and Finance Chair. Buczek is United Power's Delegate for Tri-State G&T and has served as a member of the G&T Contract Committee.

Ginny's elected and appointed experience includes: Weld County Council, Southwest Weld Technical Committee and Tri-area Ambulance Board of Directors. She has been active in her hometown, on the Firestone Planning Commission, Firestone Board of Trustees, and Park Commission, receiving the Colorado State Parks, Conservation Hero Award, 2006. She served on the Board of the United Power Round-Up Foundation.

She has been active in many civic groups including 4-H, Girl Scouts, Neighborhood Watch, and Frederick High School Booster Club. Ginny is a member of the Colorado WestPoint Parents Club, has served on Congressional and Senatorial Military Academy Appointment Boards and as member of Weld County's Bright Futures Advisory Board.

"The electric industry is rapidly changing, presenting new opportunities and challenges requiring experienced, knowledgeable leadership. It is the responsibility of Directors to contribute to decisions resulting in a focused plan to maximize and leverage opportunities, mitigate risk and maintain a quality workforce. Ensuring safe, reliable, cost efficient electrical power, financial stability, maintaining quality service for all United Power members, and positioning the Cooperative to provide the future needs of our communities are fundamental Board duties.

I have been a committed member of the United Power community for thirty-one years and remain focused on the families and businesses of our community. I thank you for the investment you have made in me as one of your United Power Directors. That investment has provided hundreds of hours of Electric Cooperative education. Using my electric director education, coop experience and the input you, the member/owners, provide, I will continue to work for the best interests of the members. Thank you, for your continued support and interest in Your Co-Op. I would be honored to serve you, the members, for another term."

#### **WEST DISTRICT**



#### Thomas "Tom" Hogan

My name is Tom Hogan and I wish to be your next United Power Cooperative Board member. I have been a United Power member since July 1, 2020 when my wife, Tina, and I moved from Illinois to Colorado. I have a BS degree in Business Administration from Illinois

State University, and an MBA from Purdue University. We reside in Heritage Todd Creek in Thornton and have four adult children, and one grandchild, all of whom reside in Colorado.

I believe Rural Electrification to be one of the great accomplishments of the 20th century. I have worked at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association for the past 22 years and I am planning to retire in 2023. I see the enduring strength of the cooperative business model and wish to continue to be involved with the electric cooperative for years to come. I have a dozen years of board experience at the HOA level from my years as Treasurer of the Brookside II Homeowners Association of Frankfort, IL.

I believe my 22 years at NRECA working with electric cooperatives gives me unique qualifications, and a unique perspective, to contribute to the board of United Power. In my career, I have worked with the boards at dozens of co-ops and have seen a lot, both good and bad, in boardrooms across the country.

The cooperatives do a great job of recognizing the legacies, and equity, of long-term cooperative members through capital credits. I want to represent the interests of the current and future cooperative members and make sure we keep the electric power supply available and affordable for today's, and tomorrow's, United Power members. With the cooperative's exit from the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association power supply agreement, I think it is critical that we pursue an "all of the above" approach to power generation sources. Along with power supply, the most important resource of a cooperative is the employees and maintaining a strong and motivated workforce. I have worked closely with the employers and employees, participated in union negotiations at several cooperatives, and am in tune to excellence in attraction and retention of a strong workforce.

#### **MOUNTAIN DISTRICT**



#### Tamra "Tami" Waltemath

My name is Tamra K. Waltemath (Tami) and I am currently one of your directors from the mountain district. I have served as a director for 6 years and I am asking for your vote so I may continue serve you, the members of United Power. I am an attorney and I own my own

business, Tamra K. Waltemath, PC. I am a graduate of the University of Colorado and Denver University. My education along with my legal and business experience help me to understand the many complex issues involved in the electric business and helps me to contribute a valuable perspective to the decisions we make as directors. As a business owner, I am comfortable with planning for long range decisions which is important in leading an electric utility into the future.

Since I was elected to the board of directors in 2017, I have taken over 35 educational courses and earned a Credentialed Cooperative Director designation, a Board Leadership Certificate and a Gold Leadership Certification from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. I have served as the assistant Secretary/Treasurer to the board of directors for the last three years. I am currently serving on the By-law committee and the audit committee.

The United Power board of directors is committed to providing flexible, affordable, sustainable power and services. United Power is a growing company serving over 100,000 meters. We are planning for the future by developing EV charging programs and installing EV charging stations, using battery storage for our renewables, adding micro-grids and continuously optimizing our electric distribution system. We are also focused on the safety of our employees, the cyber safety of our members and fire mitigation in our mountains and in our plains. United Power also supports its communities. We have provided a standby generator to the Gilpin County school in Black Hawk to serve as an emergency power source for the community and every year we support local activities in all our districts. I feel proud to be a director of a company that supports their communities and provides value to it's members. As a board member, I am committed to empowering and engaging our membership and community. To help our members stay involved, we are offering electronic voting again in 2023 and will hold our annual meeting electronically to encourage participation.

As a United Power member, I am a consumer, like you, so I am affected by price increases and power outages. If reelected, I promise to listen to your concerns and help keep costs down and reduce outages. I would appreciate your vote, and I would be honored to serve another term as a Director of United Power.





# ANNUAL MEETING WEDNESDAY | APRIL 12, 2023

**4:30 p.m.** Registration, Balloting, Dinner, and Exhibit Booths **6:30 p.m.** Business Meeting, Election Results, and Door Prizes

Riverdale Regional Park & Fairgrounds | 9755 Henderson Road, Brighton, CO 80601

Enter at the Exhibit Hall • RSVP not required



www.unitedpower.com/annual-meeting

All United Power members are invited to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting. Join us as we celebrate the 2022 accomplishments of your co-op and take a look at the bright future ahead.

