

2019 Election Policy & Procedures (EPP) Review Considerations - EPP Section 9.2, Post Election Analysis

Date: 08/05/19,sar

Item #	Description	Policy Impact	Policy/Bylaws	Considerations/Notes/Actions
For Board Consideration and Action/Approval				
1	Elimination of In-Person Voting	Y	Bylaws: Article II, Sections 1., 6., 8. & 9. EPP: Sections 8.4 & 8.9	Eliminate in person voting at Annual Meeting. 2019 cost per vote - \$2.61 (if all eligible members voted - 73,268) 2019 cost per voter turnout - \$17.76 (voter turnout 10,755) 2019 onsite cost per vote for inperson voting - \$166.13 =====
2	Membership List Format	Y	Membership List Policy EPP: Section 7.8	The Cooperative should allow separate address columns on the membership list to allow ease of use when a board candidate does a mailout. Example: FN, LN, Street #, Street Name, Street Name Other, etc. <i>Change would not impact Bylaws, Membership List Policy, or Privacy Policy.</i> This is subject to system and administrative costs and constraints.
3	Voter History List Release, Timing, and Information	Y	EPP: Section 7.11.1. & Appendix, Section 2 (confidentiality of data) Privacy and Confidentiality Policy	a. Candidates should receive a list of all member voters who voted in the most recent election, following the conclusion of election so they can gauge how their campaign plans worked or not - member outreach. b. PEC should release the Voter History List earlier and make it available as soon as January, 6 months prior to the election, or at the same time as the membership list. Currently, the Vote History List is released only when Candidate Applicants are qualified by the Qualifications and Elections Committee. Balances release of information with member privacy.
4	Add Formatting to Candidate Responsibility in Biography	Y	EPP: Section 6.2.1.1.5	Biographical and Platform Materials "Each Candidate Applicant is solely responsible for the content and format of his or her submitted biographical materials (including grammar, spelling, punctuation, and formatting) and PEC staff will not proofread, edit or otherwise alter any biographical materials, <u>other than to truncate any biographical materials exceeding 800 words or to format in PEC election materials in order to efficiently utilize or provide consistency.</u> PEC will distribute Candidate Biographical Materials and Candidates' photographs by email to all PEC Members who receive PEC email notifications.

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5	Disallow Use of Other Candidate Names or Derogatory Comments in Candidate Material	Y	EPP: Sections 6.2.1.1.5 & 7.5	<p>a. Disallow use of other candidate names or derogatory comments about another candidate in biographies. Biographies must be limited to candidate's own information.</p> <p>b. Disallow use of other candidate names or derogatory comments about another candidate in candidate video or during the candidates' forum.</p>
6	Questions by Candidates About the Election Process	Y	EPP: Section 7.7	<p>Questions by Candidates About the Election Process</p> <p>a. Consider to broaden scope of potential questions. – Questions by Candidates about Election Process or PEC Operations.</p> <p>b. "The <u>Governance Team</u>, or designee, is the point of contact for any questions about the Election process from Members, Candidate Applicants, or Candidates. Questions must be submitted by email to election@peci.com. <u>The Governance Team, or designee, is also the point of contact for any questions by Candidate Applicants, Qualified Candidates, and Candidates about PEC operations.</u> The <u>Governance Team</u> will provide or designate a person to provide all Candidate Applicants or Candidates copies of any question submitted and answers provided without the name of the person that submitted the question. Exceptions to this rule may be made with the approval of the General Counsel, based on sensitivity of subject matter, or in cases where a question and answer apply uniquely to a questioner. Directors who are Candidates should likewise address election issues through the <u>Governance Team</u> and not through the direct access to PEC staff."</p>
7	Casting of Votes - Mailed Ballots	Y	<p>Bylaws: Article II, Sections 8. & 9.</p> <p>EPP: Sections 5.2 & 8.4</p>	<p>Set a definite deadline for receipt of mailed ballots and do not allow mail-in ballots that are received past the deadline. PEC does not offer or require a postal date stamp on mail-in ballots.</p> <p>EPP, 8.4 - Any paper ballot received by mail at the Election Service Provider before the day of the Annual Meeting shall be deemed and counted as having been cast before the deadline for mail-in balloting specified in the Bylaws, unless the Election Service Provider or PEC has conclusive information that the ballot was cast after the deadline.</p>
8	Campaign Signage	Y	EPP: Section 7.9	Allow board candidates to place signs at every district building within their district during the campaigning season; no larger than 4ft x 4ft.
9	Campaign Donations and Disbursements	Y	<p>Bylaws, Article III, Section 2</p> <p>EPP: 6.2.1.7, 7.10.1 (new section)</p>	Currently the cooperative does not address candidates' funding, donations and expenditures. Consider requiring all board candidates to disclose all campaign contributions, funding and expenditures.
10	Tabulation - Mail in ballot determination by election services provider. Presume intention to vote and election services provider examine markings for intention.	Y	EP: Section 8.4 (new paragraph)	"The election service provider will tabulate and count ballots in such a way to favor the intention to cast a vote on each item on a returned ballot. Election services provider will examine voter markers to determine voter intent."

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Staff Enhancements (Including Administrative Items)				
No Board Action/Approval Required				
1S	Ballot Design	N	N/A	a. Fill in circles instructions - we only need to show 2 circles to represent correct and not correct. There is no need for 3 circles on the ballot - redesign marking instructions.
2S	Email from Election Services Provider - Online Voting	N	N/A	Require the election services provider to make the election credentials and links more prominent within the email and not near the bottom.
3S	EPP Policy - Clean Up	Y	Entire Policy	Administrative - staff to provide EPP edits to reflect organizational roles and titles. a. Correct title: Board Recording Secretary should read Board Reporting Secretary. b. Reconciliation: Governance Manager and Board Reporting Secretary duties and responsibilities.
4S	EPP Sections 7.9.1. and 7.11.1.	Y	EPP: Sections 7.9.1. & 7.11.1.	Administrative - staff to edit typographical errors. a. 7.9.1 PEC Employee Campaigning – Second paragraph, first word-“Employees” misspelled as “ Employeess” b. 7.11.1 Candidates’ Access to Voting History – First paragraph, fourth line, eighth word – “districtimmediately” should two words –“ district immediately.”
5S	Have a Power of Change booth for members to sign up.	N	N/A	Administrative - staff.
6S	Have District numbers printed onto bios so can distinguish which district's information is contained.	Y	EPP: Sections 6.2.1.1.5 & 7.4.1	Administrative - staff.
7S	HR form for employee verification.	Y	EPP, 6.2.1.7.e	Administrative - staff.
8S	Include planting instructions with trees.	N	N/A	Administrative - staff.
9S	Present Electronic Options for Membership List (such as Qlik on Google docs) to Elections Committee for input	N	N/A	Administrative - staff to consider formats available for membership list.

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10S	QEC Take Away – send map to committee members. Many went to SCADA building and some were even directed to the Training Center (Blanco Room).	N	N/A	Administrative - staff.
11S	Send election totals after/or at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting to Board candidates and Board of Directors.	N	N/A	Administrative - staff.
12S	SmartHub Application	N	N/A	Administrative - staff. Make "vote now" button more apparent and capability of voting through the SmartHub mobile application.
13S	Vote Now Button on PEC Website	N	N/A	Administrative - staff.