

**BYLAWS of the  
MIDWEST ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Cassopolis, MI 49031**

**October 2021**

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**BYLAWS of the  
MIDWEST ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
Cassopolis, MI 49031**

**PREAMBLE**

Midwest Energy Cooperative (the “Cooperative”) is an organization owned and controlled by its Members (as defined herein), who directly elect the Cooperative’s governing body and who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The Cooperative is committed to creating vibrant, relevant and sustainable rural communities by providing first-in-class innovations and solutions, where others won’t.

These bylaws shall be liberally construed so as to ensure that the Cooperative operates with accountability and transparency to its Members. It is the fundamental philosophy and policy of the Cooperative to conduct its operations with a clear presumption of disclosure to its Members so that in the face of doubt, openness prevails. Members shall have a special right of access, beyond the right of the general public to the policies, procedures, information, meetings, and records of the Cooperative.

**ARTICLE I - MEMBERS**

**Section 1. Qualifications and Obligations.** Any natural person, association, corporation, limited liability company, partnership or body politic with the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts (each hereinafter referred to as "person") may become a member of the Cooperative by:

- a) Making application for Membership, in whatever form then specified by the Cooperative;
- b) agreeing to purchase from the Cooperative electric energy services (collectively, “Services”) as hereinafter specified;
- c) agreeing to comply with and be bound by the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative and these Bylaws and any amendments thereto and such rules and regulations as may from time to time be adopted by the Board of Directors; and
- d) paying any security deposit, service connection deposit or fee, facilities extension deposit, contribution in aid of construction, and any other fee or charge or combination thereof, as required by the Cooperative.

No persons may hold more than one (1) membership in the Cooperative.

Each association, corporation, limited liability company, partnership or body politic (“Non-natural member”) shall designate its representative (“Representative”) to the Cooperative on its stationary signed by its chief executive officer and file such designation with the Cooperative. Said representative shall be eligible to vote, if all other qualifications are met, on behalf of the Non-natural member.

Upon complying with the requirements of this Section, any person shall be accepted into membership in, and become eligible to receive Services from, the Cooperative, unless the Board shall determine through the prospective member's actions or statements that such person is unwilling or unable to satisfy and abide by the Cooperative's rules or regulations or that for good cause such membership should be rejected.

**Section 2. Joint Membership.** Two married individuals may jointly become members ("Joint Membership") or convert an individual membership to a Joint Membership in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this section. Holders of a Joint Membership shall enjoy the rights, benefits, and privileges, and are subject to the obligations, requirements, and liabilities, of being a member; shall notify the Cooperative in writing of a cessation of marriage or the death of a holder of a Joint Membership; and shall have a single vote for all matters subject to voting.

Any two or more persons listed jointly on an account may hold a Joint Membership or, if one of them is already a member, may convert such membership into a Joint Membership and, subject to compliance with the requirements set forth in Section 1 of Article I of these Bylaws, be accepted for such membership. The term "member" as used in these Bylaws, shall be deemed to include any two or more people holding a Joint Membership, and any provision relating to the rights and liabilities of membership shall apply equally to holders of Joint Membership.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, a Joint Membership shall be as follows:

- a. The presence at a meeting of either or both shall be regarded as the presence of a member;
- b. The presence at a meeting of either or both shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting by both;
- c. The vote of either separately or both jointly shall constitute one vote;
- d. A waiver of notice signed by either or both shall constitute notice to both;
- e. Notice to either shall constitute notice to both;
- f. Termination of either shall terminate the Joint Membership;
- g. Withdrawal of either shall terminate the Joint Membership;
- h. Neither shall be permitted to have additional service connections except through their Joint Membership;
- i. Either, but not both concurrently, shall be eligible to serve as a director of the Cooperative;
- j. Upon the death of any person in a Joint Membership, such membership shall continue to be held solely by the survivor(s), in the same manner and to the same effect as though the membership had never been joint; provided, that the estate of the deceased person(s) shall not be released from any debts due the Cooperative;
- k. Upon the separation or divorce of the holders of a Joint Membership, such membership shall continue to be held solely by the spouse continuing to meet the membership requirements who presents their personal affidavit assuming the membership and responsibility of all debts and liabilities owed to the Cooperative or a court order of similar effect provided, that the other person(s) shall not be released from any debts due the Cooperative. In the event of the change in a Member's legal name, an affidavit or court order shall also be required to enact the name change on the membership roster.
- l. A person may convert a single membership to a Joint Membership by complying with the requirements of paragraph A of Section 1 of Article 1 hereof; and

- m. The capital account provided for in Section 2 of Article VII in the name of an individual member who causes such membership to become a Joint Membership, shall upon the creation of such Joint Membership, be vested in capital credits to the order of either or both joint members according to the methods established by the Cooperative.

**Section 3. Purchase of Electric Power or Energy/Telecommunication Services.** Except as otherwise provided by law, each member shall, as soon as electric power or energy shall be available, purchase from the Cooperative all central station electric power and/or energy for use at the member's in the Cooperative's general territory and shall pay therefor at rates which shall from time to time be fixed by the Board of Directors and approved as may be required by the law. It is expressly understood that all amounts received and receivable for the furnishing of electric power and energy by the Cooperative in excess of its operating costs and expenses properly chargeable against the furnishing of electric power and energy are furnished by members as capital and each member shall be credited with the capital so furnished as provided in these Bylaws. Each member shall pay to the Cooperative such minimum amount as indicated in the tariffs, as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors from time to time and as may be required by law regardless of the amount of electric power or energy consumed. Each member shall also pay all amounts owed by the member to the Cooperative as and when the same shall become due and payable.

Production or use of electrical power or energy on a member's premises, regardless of the source thereof, by means of facilities which shall be interconnected with the Cooperative facilities shall be subject to appropriate regulations as shall be fixed from time to time by the Cooperative and as may be required by law.

The Cooperative shall use reasonably diligent efforts to furnish its members with adequate and dependable electric service, although it cannot and therefore does not guarantee a continuous and uninterrupted supply of power and energy.

With respect to a particular classification of Service, the Board may require a supplemental contract, executed by the person.

Except as otherwise provided by law, a member may purchase from the Cooperative telecommunications services on the member's premises and shall pay therefor at rates which shall from time to time be fixed by the Board of Directors and approved as may be required by the law. It is expressly understood that all amounts received and receivable for the furnishing of telecommunication services by the Cooperative in excess of its operating costs and expenses properly chargeable against the furnishing such services are furnished by members as capital and each member shall be credited with the capital so furnished as provided in these Bylaws. Each member shall pay to the Cooperative such minimum amount as indicated in the tariffs, as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors from time to time and as may be required by law regardless of the level of telecommunication services used. Each member shall also pay all amounts owed by the member to the Cooperative as and when the same shall become due and payable.

**Section 4. Member's Responsibilities.** Each member shall cause all premises receiving Services from the Cooperative to become and remain wired in accordance with applicable local, state and federal codes, ordinances and statutes.

Each member shall be responsible for and indemnify the Cooperative and its employees, agents and independent contractors against death, injury, loss or damage resulting from any defect or improper use or maintenance of such premises and all wiring and apparatus connected thereto and used thereon.

Each member shall make available to the Cooperative a suitable site, as determined by the Cooperative, whereupon to place the Cooperative's physical facilities for the furnishing and metering of the Services and shall permit the Cooperative's authorized employees, agents and independent contractors to have access thereto safely and without interference for meter reading, bill collecting and for inspection, maintenance (including, but not limited to, vegetation control, tree trimming or removal), replacement, relocation, repair or disconnection of such facilities at all reasonable times and if requested by Cooperative, shall provide an appropriate easement as set forth in Section 5 below.

As part of the consideration for the Services, each member shall be the Cooperative's bailee of such facilities and shall accordingly desist from interfering with, impairing the operation of or causing damage to such facilities, and shall use best efforts to prevent others from so doing.

Each member shall also provide such protective devices and apparatus as the Cooperative shall from time to time require in order to protect the Cooperative's physical facilities and operations, and to prevent any interference with or damage to such facilities. In the event such facilities are interfered with, impaired in their operation or damaged by the member, or by any other cause when the member's reasonable care and surveillance should have prevented such, the member shall indemnify the Cooperative and its employees, agents and independent contractors against death, injury, loss or damage resulting therefrom, including but not limited to the Cooperative's cost of repairing, replacing or relocating any such facilities and its loss, if any, of revenues resulting from the failure or defective functioning of its metering equipment. The Cooperative shall, however, in accordance with its applicable service rules and regulations, indemnify the member for any overcharges for Services that may result from a malfunctioning of its metering equipment or error occurring in the Cooperative's billing procedures.

In no event shall the responsibility of the Cooperative for providing Services extend beyond the point of delivery.

Each member shall participate in any required program that may be established by the Cooperative to enhance load management, to more efficiently conserve electric energy, or to conduct load research.

**Section 5. Right of Way Easements.** Each member shall, upon request, give to the Cooperative, without compensation therefor, all easements or right of way over, on and under such lands owned or leased by or mortgaged by the member, and in accordance with such reasonable terms and conditions, as the Cooperative shall require for providing the Services (for the member or other customers) for the construction, operation, maintenance, extension to serve or cross adjacent properties or relocation of the Cooperative's electric and telecommunication facilities.

Any person who refuses to grant the Cooperative an easement or easements upon request, thereby causing the Cooperative to circumvent the member's property, may be admitted to membership or retain membership in the Cooperative only upon payment of the actual cost of any line changes made necessary by such refusal.



The Cooperative and a member shall both attempt to informally resolve any disputes arising from the grant or use of any easement by the Cooperative over the member's property. In the event that a dispute arises that cannot be informally resolved between the Cooperative and the member, the sole and exclusive remedy shall be final and binding arbitration. In order to submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration, the member shall, within ten (10) days of notification by the Cooperative that the dispute cannot be resolved as requested by the member, submit the claim according to the rules and procedures prescribed by the American Arbitration Association in accordance with its Commercial Arbitration Rules then in effect. The dispute may be prosecuted only individually, and not as a representative party, member, or other participant in a class action or other representative proceeding

**Section 6. Expulsion of Members.** The Board of Directors of the Cooperative may, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the Board members, expel any member who shall have violated or refused to comply with any of the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative or these Bylaws, or any rules or regulations adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors. The member must be given written notice by the Cooperative of the meeting at which his or her expulsion will be considered at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting. The member is entitled to be present and heard at the meeting and may have counsel present.

Upon such expelled member's assurance that it will comply with any of the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative or these Bylaws, or any rules or regulations adopted from time to time by the Board of Directors, any member so expelled may be reinstated as a member by a vote of the members at any annual or special meeting of the members or a subsequent vote for reinstatement by not less than 2/3 of the board members. Any expelled member who wishes the membership to vote on reinstatement must deliver written notice to the Cooperative at least ten (10) days prior to the annual or special meeting of members. The action of the members with respect to any such reinstatement shall be final.

In the event of reinstatement, the Board, acting upon principles of general application, may establish such additional terms and conditions for renewed membership as it determined to be reasonably necessary to assure the person's compliance with all membership obligations.

An expelled member may continue to receive electric and/or telecommunication services from the Cooperative but shall not have any rights or privileges of membership. Unless the Board shall expressly so elect in writing, expulsion shall not constitute release of such persons from membership obligations or entitle such expelled person to purchase from any other person electric power and energy for use at the premises to which such electric power or energy service has been furnished by the Cooperative pursuant to such membership.

**Section 7. Withdrawal of Membership.** Any member may withdraw from membership upon payment in full of all debts and liabilities of such member to the Cooperative and upon compliance with such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may prescribe.

**Section 8. Transfer and Termination of Membership.** Membership in the Cooperative shall not be transferable, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, and upon death, cessation of existence, expulsion or withdrawal, the membership of such member shall thereupon terminate. Termination of membership in any manner shall not release the member or his/her estate from the debts or liabilities of such member to the Cooperative.

A membership may be transferred by a member to the member and another person(s) jointly upon the written request of such member and compliance by such named person(s) jointly with the provisions of section 2 (A) of this Article. Such transfer shall be made and recorded on the books of the Cooperative.

Termination of membership in any manner shall operate as a release of all right, title, and interest of the member in the property and assets of the Cooperative.

Upon the dissolution of a partnership or upon the death, withdrawal or addition of any individual partner, such membership shall continue to be held by the remaining and/or partners in the same manner and to the same effect as though such membership had never been held by different partners. Provided, that neither a withdrawing partner nor a withdrawing partner's estate shall be released from any debts then due the Cooperative.

**Section 9. Dispute Resolution.** A member shall submit any claim or dispute between the member and the Cooperative regarding the Governing Documents, the Cooperative's provision of Electric Service, or other matter to the Board of Directors for resolution before pursuing any other action against the Cooperative, except as provided by law. If the matter cannot be settled by the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors may establish a dispute resolution body to settle such disputes. The body shall be composed of individuals who are approved by both parties to the dispute, which may be members or nonmembers, but not officer or directors of the Cooperative.

**Section 10. Petitions.** Petitions by the membership authorized under these Bylaws shall be on forms prepared and available from the Cooperative.

With regard to such petitions, the following are required: (a) All members signing such petitions shall include thereon their service address as reflected on the books of the Cooperative; (b) Each member's signature appearing thereon shall be dated as of the date of signing; and (c) The person circulating such petition shall be an active member of the Cooperative and shall indicate under oath or affirmation at the end of each petition sheet his or her service address, account number and that he or she circulated the petition and is acquainted with the persons whose names are affixed thereto and that such persons signed the petition in his or her presence.

**Section 11. Membership Dues and Fees.** Membership dues and fees shall be determined by the Board of Directors from time to time, with such classifications as may be reasonable. The payment of the membership fee shall entitle the member to one service connection. Additional fees may be required for each additional service connection requested by the member, but no further Membership Fee shall be charged, and no additional memberships shall be created by the creation of additional service connections by the member.

**Section 12. Non-liability for Debts.** The property of the members shall be exempt from execution for the debts of the Cooperative and no members shall be liable or responsible for any debts, liabilities, or obligations of the Cooperative.

## **ARTICLE II - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

**Section 1. Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting of the members shall be held in the month of April of each year, or such other date as may be designated by the Board of Directors, at such place in a county of the State of Michigan served by the Cooperative as shall be designated in the Notice of the meeting. The purposes of the Annual Meeting are to formally announce the election of Directors and transact such other business as listed in the notice of the Annual Meeting.

Failure to hold the annual meeting at the designated time shall not work a forfeiture or dissolution of the Cooperative.

**Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the members may be called by at least five (5) Directors or upon a written request signed by at least ten (10%) per cent of all the members, and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Cooperative to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members may be held at any place within a county of the State of Michigan served by the Cooperative, specified in the Notice of the Special meeting.

**Section 3. Notice of Members' Meeting.** Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting, and in case of a special meeting the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than fifteen (15) days, nor more than forty-five (45) days, before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Cooperative to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at the member's address as it appears on the records of the Cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The failure of any member to receive notice of meeting of the members, shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.

**Section 4. Quorum.** Subject to the laws under which the Cooperative is organized, no less than fifty (50) members present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the members.

**Section 5. Voting.** Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote and no more upon each matter submitted to a vote of the members.

At all meetings of the members at which a quorum is present all questions shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon in person (or by mail, electronic or telephonic ballot if so authorized by the Board of Directors) except as otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or by these Bylaws.

The Board may decide to present any question to the members for consideration by electronic, telephonic and/or mail ballot only. All questions presented to the membership by mail, electronic or telephonic ballot shall be decided by a vote of a majority of the members voting thereon except as otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or by these Bylaws; provided, however, that at least 50 members shall have cast ballots.

No member of the Cooperative who has voted by mail or electronic transmission at any meeting of the members shall vote again at such meeting on any matter included in the mail ballot furnished by the Cooperative for such meeting. Any such member may, however, vote at the meeting, on any matter properly brought before the meeting, which was not included in the mail or electronic ballot. No proxies of members shall be allowed.

The Board may, in its sole discretion, decide when voting by electronic transmission shall be authorized or allowed, as well as the procedures to be used for such electronic transmission of member votes, subject only to applicable law. Nothing in these Bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative is intended to be, nor should be construed as, a guarantee that electronic transmission of votes will take place or be authorized or allowed for any particular matter or election.

**Section 6. Order of Business.** Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, before or at a Member Meeting, the Board of Directors shall determine the agenda, program, and order of business for the Member Meeting. Except as otherwise provided by the Board of Directors, the Chairperson shall preside at the Member Meeting and may exercise duties and take actions reasonably necessary for efficiently and effectively conducting the Member Meeting. The order of business at the annual meeting of the members, and so far as possible at all other meetings of the members, shall be essentially as follows:

- a) Determination of Quorum.
- b) Reading of the notice of the meeting and proof of the due publication or mailing thereof, or the waiver or waivers of notice of the meeting, as the case may be.
- c) Reading of unapproved minutes of previous meetings of the members and the taking of necessary action thereon.
- d) Presentation and consideration of, and acting upon reports of Officers, Directors and Committees.
- e) Unfinished business.
- f) New business.
- g) Adjournment.

**Section 7. Voting Districts.** The territory served or to be served by the Cooperative shall be divided into nine districts. The southwest Michigan territory (SW Division) shall be divided into seven Districts, each of which shall contain as nearly as possible the same number of members. The southeast Michigan territory (SE Division) shall be divided into two districts, each of which shall contain as nearly as possible the same number of members. Each district shall be represented by one director.

From time to time, the Board of Directors shall review the composition of the Districts. If it is found that inequalities in representation have developed which can be corrected by a redelineation of Districts, the Board of Directors shall reconstitute the Districts, so that the Districts within each Division contain as nearly as possible the same number of members. A member being served by the Cooperative in more than one (1) District shall be entitled to vote in one (1) District only and at the time of application for membership or for additional Services connection the member's residence shall be established as their voting district, if receiving electric service from the Cooperative; otherwise, the location with the longest active electric service shall be designate as the District in which he/she shall vote.

### **ARTICLE III - DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. General Powers.** The business and affairs of the Cooperative shall be directed by a board of nine (9) Directors, consisting of a Director (a "Director") from each of the Cooperative's nine (9) Director Districts (as defined herein), which shall exercise all the powers of the Cooperative, except such as are by law or by Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative, or by these Bylaws, conferred upon or reserved to the members or otherwise delegated to the President/Chief Executive Officer. The Board of Directors shall have the ability to appoint Member Advisory Committees.

**Section 2. Qualifications and Tenure.** To be eligible for election as a Director or to remain a Director, a person must meet the following qualifications (collectively, the "Director Qualifications");

- a) Be twenty-one (21) years of age or older;
- b) Have earned a high school diploma from an accredited institution, or obtained state certification through the General Educational Development tests (GED), by the date of the Annual Meeting of the Members (referred to as "Annual Meeting") at which the Director is elected;
- c) Be a United States citizen;
- d) Be a member in good standing of the Cooperative by having met and adhered to the Cooperative's payment policies in accordance with credit requirements contained in the Cooperative's rules and regulations, as amended from time to time, and any other requirements for membership in good standing established by the Cooperative;
- e) While a Director and during the five (5) years immediately prior to becoming a Director, not have been an employee of the Cooperative;
- f) While a Director, not have a close relative who is an employee or becomes an employee of the Cooperative during the Director's term of office. As used in this section, "close relative" means a person who by blood or in law, including step and adoptive kin, is either a spouse, domestic partner, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece;

- g) Have his or her Primary Residence receiving continuous electric service from the Cooperative for one year and be located at the beginning of the calendar year of the election in the District for which election is sought. Primary residence shall be determined based on factors including, but not limited to, real property rights, homestead exemption, voter registration location, and address on a driver's license ("Primary Residence")
- h) Annually complete and sign a conflict-of-interest certification and disclosure form approved by the Board of Directors;
- i) While a Director and during the three (3) years immediately prior to becoming a Director, not sought to advance or have advanced a:
  - i. Competing Interest with the Cooperative;
  - ii. Financial Interest that would likely impair the ability of the Director to serve the best interests of the Cooperative; or
  - iii. Conflicting Position that would likely impair the ability of the Director to serve the best interests of the Cooperative.

A "competing interest with the Cooperative" exists when judgment concerning the Cooperative (such as financial, legal or general business decisions) is influenced or may be reasonably influenced by another interest (such as financial or non-financial gain or interest).

A "Financial Interest" is likely to impair a Director's ability to serve the best interests of the Cooperative if that Director has received more than ten percent (10%) of the Director's annual gross income from serving as an employee, consultant, or contractor with or for a person or an entity that has done business with the Cooperative in the preceding three years.

A "Conflicting Position" is likely to impair a Director's ability to serve the best interests of the Cooperative if there exists a possibility of that position requiring the Director to make business, legal, or policy decisions adverse to the Cooperative or its membership. Examples of such conflicting positions include, but are not limited to:

- i. Serving as an employee, consultant, or contractor assigned to negotiating or managing contracts with the Cooperative for any person or entity that has been a consultant, contractor, vendor, or bidder of the Cooperative during the preceding three years; or
  - ii. Having held an Executive level or Board position of a financial institution that has held Cooperative assets during the preceding three years.
- j) Not be or have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony pursuant to state or federal laws;
  - k) Not have been previously removed or disqualified as a Director as provided for under these Bylaws;
  - l) Have the capacity to enter into legally binding contracts;

- m) Be willing to devote such time and effort to his or her duties as a Director as may be necessary to oversee the Cooperative's business and affairs including: except as otherwise provided by the Board of Directors for good cause, beginning with election to the Board of Directors, attend at least seventy-five (75) percent of all regular and special called Board Meetings during each period from Annual Meeting to Annual Meeting; and obtain the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) designation from National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) within the first eighteen (18) months after election to the Board; attend state and national association meetings and Director continuing education training as needed to maintain current knowledge and improve awareness of potential risks to the Cooperative;
- n) Not be employed by another Director or be employed by an entity over which another Director exercises substantial control;
- o) Execute and provide the relevant documents, waivers, or other materials reasonably needed to verify satisfaction of these qualifications, including criminal background checks to be performed by the Cooperative. A person subject to this provision shall not be requested or required to provide personal or business tax returns, financial or business records, or non-public, personal details unless legal counsel has justified and certified in writing that conformity with Director Qualifications cannot be determined without such records. If such certification is made and the records are provided, the Cooperative and its agents shall not publicly disclose such records except with the consent of the person providing them, or in the course of a legal proceeding or as required by law;
- p) While a Director, act in good faith and represent the best interests of the Cooperative as a whole, representing all members on an impartial basis.

Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, a Director's term is three (3) years and until a successor Director is elected ("Director Term"); which may be more or less than three (3) full years depending on the actual dates of the Annual Meeting and service through the Annual Meeting in the third year after such Director's election. The terms shall be staggered such that three (3) Directors are elected annually, with the original staggering determined by the Board of Directors. Three years shall be measured as the period from the date of the Annual Meeting at which the Director's election is announced until the date of the Annual Meeting in the third (3) year after the announcement of such Director's election. A Director Term begins immediately upon adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which the Director's election is announced. A Director Term ends immediately upon adjournment of the Annual Meeting at which his or her successor's election is announced. Nothing in this section shall affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any action taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Any Director may succeed himself or herself.

No member shall be eligible to become or remain a Director who is not a bona fide member and whose Primary Residence is in the particular District which he/she is to represent, or who is in any way employed by or financially interested in a competing enterprise or a business selling electric energy, telecommunication services or related supplies to the Cooperative.

**Section 3. Nominations of Directors.** Candidates for Directors must be members residing in the District to be served, and must possess the qualifications for Director specified in Article III, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

Nominations for Directors may be made by written Petition, in the form provided by the Cooperative, executed by thirty (30) or more members with Voting Residence (as defined herein) within the Director District for which the election is being held ("Director Nomination Petition"). Attached to the Director Nomination Petition shall be: biographical information about the person seeking nomination ("Nominee") in the form specified by the Cooperative; conflict-of-interest certification and disclosure form approved by the Board of Directors, signed by the Nominee, which shall be made available to the membership. Consent to the release of background information is required to be electronically executed within five (5) business days from receipt of the request for such check to be conducted. The form for Director Nomination Petitions will be made available at all offices and on the Cooperative's website. The written Director Nomination Petition and all accompanying materials must be delivered to the Cooperative's headquarters office not later than (five) 5 p.m. on the last business day established by the Cooperative, provided that it is at least ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Following receipt of required materials, the Board of Directors shall direct General Counsel to validate that the Director candidate meets all of the required qualifications for Directorship as described in Article II, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

For purposes of signing a Director Nomination Petition, but not for purposes of establishing Primary Residence for eligibility to serve as a Director, a member shall be deemed to have residence ("Voting Residence") in the Director District in which the member uses electric service. If a member uses electric service in more than one (1) Director District, the member shall be deemed to have a Voting Residence in the District in which the member resides. If the member's residence is not in the Cooperative's service territory, then the voting residence shall be at the location that first used, and continues to use, electric service.

**Section 4. Elections of Directors.** Not less than sixty (60) nor more than ninety (90) days before the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall cause an election of Directors in the appropriate Districts to be held. The election shall be held by electronic, telephonic and/or mail ballot. Each member may cast one vote in his/her Voting District for one candidate. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be considered elected as Director to represent the District. If there is only one person nominated for the position of board member from a District, that person shall be deemed to be elected, and ballots shall not be processed, mailed or tabulated for such District.

The Cooperative shall have the names of Director Candidates printed on ballots. The Director District of each Director Candidate shall be included on the ballot. All Directors shall be elected by ballot ("Director Election"). The Director Candidate for each Directorship receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. In the event of a tie, the Director shall be determined by a drawing by lot to be conducted by an election official appointed by the board.

**Section 5. Vacancies.** Subject to the provisions of these Bylaws with respect to the removal of Directors, vacancies occurring in the Board of Directors shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors. Newly appointed Directors must be a resident of the District for which he or she is appointed (using the member's Primary Residence as set forth in the bylaws of the Cooperative) and shall take office immediately. A new Director elected to fill a vacancy caused by removal, retirement or death shall be subject to all of the qualifications of Directors set forth in these Bylaws. Directors elected to fill vacancies serve for the remaining term of the Director for whom they are elected to replace or until their successors have been elected and shall have qualified.



The loss of a majority of Directors arising from an event of natural or human origin shall be deemed a catastrophic loss of Directors. In the event of a catastrophic loss of Directors, the remaining Directors shall appoint, within one hundred twenty (120) days, individuals qualified to serve as a Director pursuant to Section 6 hereof from each of the Districts which suffered a loss of a Director, keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographic representation. Directors so appointed shall serve until the next Annual Meeting, at which time all Board positions so appointed under this Section shall stand for election under the same terms as their respective, deceased predecessors.

In the event of a catastrophic loss wherein two (2) or fewer Directors remain, the remaining Directors, or if no Director survives, the highest-ranking Cooperative employee, shall call a Special Member Meeting within one hundred twenty (120) days of the occurrence of the vacancy to elect the applicable number of Directors to fill the vacant positions in accordance with all provisions of the Bylaws wherein these specially elected Directors shall serve until the next regularly scheduled Annual Meeting, at which time all appointed positions shall stand for election to the same terms as their respective deceased predecessors.

In the event of a catastrophic loss as defined above, the traditional quorum requirements are simplified, and expedited temporary election procedures may be adopted pending the installation of new Directors, in order to allow the Cooperative to conduct business. All actions of the Cooperative during this time period shall stand for ratification at the next Board meeting wherein a traditional quorum is present.

**Section 6. Discipline and Removal of Directors.** The Board shall create a Committee to investigate any formal written complaint made about a Director. The Board shall provide the complaint to the Director who is the subject of the complaint after creation of a Committee to investigate. The Committee shall be composed of the current Board Chairperson, or next highest officer if the Board Chairperson is the subject of the complaint, and two (2) other Directors selected by the Board. The Board or the Committee may deliberate Director discipline in Executive Session and maintain confidentiality of records to protect personal privacy or safety. Following investigation, the Committee shall make its report to the full Board with recommendations of discipline, if any, of the affected Director. The affected Director shall be given an opportunity to respond prior to the Board vote on any recommended action. Disciplinary action may include: (1) a verbal warning; (2) a written reprimand; (3) censure; (4) a reduction in Director privileges or compensation; or (5) removal pursuant to the provisions below. The formal complaint must be in writing and filed by another Director or by the General Counsel of the Cooperative, and must be verified as a good faith complaint by majority vote of the remaining Directors. The Director who is subject of the complaint shall not participate in the Board's deliberation or vote on any matter related to the issue, except as requested by the Board or as allowed in this section.

A Director may be removed for cause, by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the non-affected remaining Directors, who are not subject to the current complaint, at a Regular or Special Board meeting called for such purpose. The Director against whom charges have been brought shall be informed thereof in writing of the charges at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting and shall have the opportunity to be heard at the meeting in person or by counsel. The Director shall also have the right to present evidence after the person or persons bringing the charges against that Director shall have had the same opportunity. Any vacancy created by such removal shall be filled by the method provided in Section 3 of Article III of these Bylaws. Cause includes: (1) a conviction or judicial determination involving a felony crime or a crime of moral turpitude; (2) becoming ineligible to serve as a Director due to failing to meet the qualifications in the Bylaws, in Section 2 of this Article; or (3) violation of a Director's fiduciary duty.

A Director may be removed for cause at any time by the members pursuant to the procedures specified in this Section.

Any member may bring charges for removal against any Director by filing them in writing with the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson if the complaint is against the Chairperson. The charges must be specific as to the Director's misconduct, pursuant to the causes as defined in this section.

The filed charges shall be accompanied by a Petition of Cooperative members residing within the charged Director's District, demanding a vote for removal. The Petition must contain the valid signatures of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the membership of the affected District.

Upon determination by the Board of Directors that the Removal Petition meets the requirements of this section, the Board of Directors shall schedule an opportunity for the charged Director to respond and be heard in person or by counsel, before the District members. The person(s) bringing charges shall also have opportunities to be heard. The opportunity to respond and be heard shall be set no sooner than thirty (30) days after the Board of Director's determination. The charged Director shall be provided a copy of the charges alleged.

The removal vote shall be scheduled following the opportunity to respond and be heard by District members. Members shall be allowed to vote in a method and by a date established by the Board. The majority vote of at least fifty percent (50%) of the eligible voting members in the District shall be required to affect the charged Director's removal. A Director is removed immediately upon the announcement of the vote.

While the Board determines whether a Removal Petition meets the requirements of this section, the charged Director shall withdraw from Board deliberation and any action on the matter, as well as any subsequent matters relating to the removal process.

If charges involve more than one Director, a separate charge and Removal Petition is required for each Director.

**Section 7. Rules and Regulations.** The Board of Directors shall have power to make and adopt such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with law, the Cooperatives Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws as it may deem advisable for the management, administration and regulation of the business and affairs of the Cooperative.

**Section 8. Accounting System and Reports.** The Board of Directors shall cause to be established and maintain a complete accounting system which, among other things, is subject to applicable laws and conforms to such accounting systems as may from time to time be designated by the appropriate regulatory and/or governmental authority. The Board of Directors shall also after the close of each fiscal year cause to be made a full and complete audit of the accounts, books and financial condition of the Cooperative as of the end of such fiscal year, by a certified public accountant. A summary of such audit reports shall be provided to the members.

**Section 9. Compensation of Directors and Close Relatives.** Directors shall not receive any salary for their services, but by resolution of the Board a fixed sum and expenses, if any, may be allowed for the attendance at Cooperative business. No Director or close relative of a Director shall receive compensation for serving the Cooperative in any other capacity unless such compensation shall be specifically authorized by a vote of the members or by the affirmative vote of the majority of the Directors not involved. As used in this section, "close relative" means a person who, by blood or in law, including step and adoptive kin, is either a spouse, child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, nephew, or niece of a Director.

**Section 10. Resignation of Directors.** A Director may resign at any time by delivering written notice of resignation to the Board, Chairperson or Secretary. Unless the written notice of resignation specifies a later effective date, a Director's resignation is effective immediately upon the Board, Chairperson or Secretary receiving the written notice of resignation. If a Director's resignation is effective at a later date, and if the successor Director does not take office until the effective date of the Director's resignation, then the pending Director vacancy may be filled before the effective date of the Director's resignation.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings.** A regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held without notice other than this Bylaw, immediately after, and at the same place as, the annual meeting of the members. Other meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times and places as determined by the Board of Directors. Such meetings may be held without notice other than such resolution fixing the time and place thereof.

**Section 2. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chairperson or any three (3) Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix the time and place, for the holding of any special meeting of the Board of Directors called by them.

**Section 3. Notice.** Notice of the time, place, and purpose of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days previous thereto, by written notice, delivered personally, electronically or mailed, to each director at his/her primary residence as reflected on the books of the Cooperative. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail so addressed with postage thereon prepaid. In the event that an emergency meeting must be held, the five (5) days prior notice stipulation shall be waived and the Chairperson or those Directors authorized to call a special meeting shall provide the notice in person, electronically, or telephonically to each Director. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except in case a director shall attend a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting shall not have been lawfully called or convened.

**Section 4. Quorum.** A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, provided, that if less than a majority of the Directors is present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. The Secretary shall notify any absent Board members of the time and place of the adjourned meeting.

**Section 5. Telephonic or Electronic Participation in Board Meetings.** For good cause and with approval of the Board of Directors, a Regular Board Meeting or Special Board Meeting (each a "Board Meeting") may be conducted with Directors participating but not physically present but deemed present in person through a means of communication by which all Directors participating in the Board Meeting may simultaneously hear, reasonably and verifiably identify themselves, and generally simultaneously and instantaneously communicate with each other during the Board Meeting. A Director will be compensated for a Board Meeting at which that Director participated but was not physically present at the same rate the director would have received if they were physically present.

**Section 6. Manner of Acting.** Except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws, the act of the majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

**Section 7. Proxies.** Proxy voting shall not be allowed at meetings of Directors.

**Section 8. Contracts Between Cooperative and Related Persons.** Any contract or other transaction between the Cooperative and one (1) or more of its Directors, or between the Cooperative and any firm of which one (1) or more of its Directors are members or employees, or in which one or more of its Directors are interested, shall be valid for all purposes, notwithstanding the presence of such director or Directors at the meeting of the board of the Cooperative which acts upon or in reference to such contract or transaction, and notwithstanding the Director's or Directors' participation in such action, if the fact of such interest shall be disclosed or known to the board and the board shall, nevertheless, authorize, approve and ratify such contract or transaction by a vote of a majority of the Directors present, such interested director or Directors to be counted in determining whether a quorum is present, but not to be counted as voting upon the matter or in calculating the majority of such quorum necessary to carry such vote.

## ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

**Section 1. Board Officers.** The officers of the Board of Directors shall be a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers as may be determined by the Board of Directors from time to time. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person.

**Section 2. Election and Term of Office.** The officers, shall be elected annually by and from the Board of Directors at the meeting held after each annual meeting. Unless removed from office under Section 3 below, each officer shall hold office until the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the next succeeding annual meeting or until his/her successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws with respect to the removal of officers.

**Section 3. Removal.** Any officer elected by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board of Directors by an affirmative vote of five (5) or more Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Cooperative will be served.

**Section 4. Officer Vacancies.** Any vacant officer position shall be filled by a Director selected by the majority of the Board at the earliest possible date.

**Section 5. Chairperson.** The Chairperson: (a) Shall preside at all meetings of the members and of and Board of Directors; (b) Sign any deeds, mortgages, deeds or trust, notes, bonds, contracts or other instruments authorized by the Board of Directors to be executed, except in cases in which the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these Bylaws to some other officer or agent of the Cooperative, or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed; and (c) In general shall perform all duties incident to the office of Chairperson and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Section 6. Vice-Chairperson.** In the absence of the Chairperson, or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson, and when so acting shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Chairperson, and shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

**Section 7. Secretary.** The Secretary shall be responsible for: (a) Keeping the minutes of meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; (b) be responsible for authenticating the Cooperative's records; and (c) in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors. The Secretary may delegate the performance of these duties to such assistant secretaries or Cooperative staff as may be appropriate.

**Section 8. Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Treasurer by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer may delegate the performance of these duties to such assistant treasurers or Cooperative staff as may be appropriate.

**Section 9. Bonds.** The Cooperative may purchase a bond covering an officer or employee.

## **ARTICLE VI - CONTRACT, CHECKS AND DEPOSITS**

**Section 1. Contracts.** Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name and on behalf of the Cooperative, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

**Section 2. Checks.** All checks, drafts and other orders for the payment of money, and all notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Cooperative shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents, employee or employees of the Cooperative and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Deposits.** All funds of the Cooperative shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Cooperative in such banks, financial institutions or secure instruments or other investments as the Board of Directors may select.

## **ARTICLE VII - NON-PROFIT OPERATION**

**Section 1. Interest or Dividends on Capital Prohibited.** The Cooperative shall at all times be operated on a cooperative non-profit basis for the mutual benefit of its members. No interest or dividends shall be paid or payable by the Cooperative on any capital furnished by its members.

**Section 2. Member Capital in Connection with Electric Energy/Telecommunications.** In the furnishing of electric power and energy and/or telecommunication services, the Cooperative's operation shall be so conducted that all members will through their patronage furnish capital for the Cooperative. In order to induce patronage and to assure that the Cooperative will operate on a non-profit basis, the Cooperative is obligated to account on a patronage basis to all its members, for all amounts received and receivable from providing Services in excess of operating costs and expenses properly chargeable against the furnishing of such Services. All such amounts in excess of operating costs and expenses at the moment of receipt by the Cooperative are received with the understanding that they are furnished by the members as capital. The Cooperative is obligated to pay all such amounts in excess of operating costs and expenses to the members by credits to a capital account for each member. The books and records of the Cooperative shall be set up and kept in such a manner that at the end of each fiscal year the amount of capital, if any, so furnished by each member is clearly reflected and credited in an appropriate record to the capital account of each member, and the Cooperative shall within a reasonable time after the close of the fiscal year notify each member of the amount of capital so credited to this account; provided, however, that individual notices of such amounts furnished to each member shall not be required if the Cooperative notifies all members of the aggregate amount of such excess.

**Section 3. Unclaimed Funds.** Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, if any member or former member fails to claim any cash retirement of capital credits or other payment from the Cooperative within five (5) years after payment of the same has been made available to the member by notice or check mailed to the member at the last address furnished by the member to the Cooperative, such failure shall be and constitutes an irrevocable assignment by such member of such capital credit or other payment to the Cooperative and such payment shall be added to the general funds of the Cooperative. Failure to claim any such payment shall include the failure by such member or former member to cash any check mailed to him at the last address furnished by the member to the Cooperative. The assignment provided for under this section shall become effective only upon the expiration of five (5) years from the date when such payment was made available to such member or former member without claim therefore and only after the further expiration of sixty (60) days following the giving of a notice by mail that unless such payment is claimed within said sixty (60) day period, such assignment to the Cooperative shall become effective. The notice by mail shall be mailed by the Cooperative to such member or former member at the last known address. The sixty (60) day period following the giving of such notice shall be deemed to terminate sixty (60) days after the mailing of such notice.

**Section 4. Contract.** The members of the Cooperative, by dealing with the Cooperative acknowledge that the terms and provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of the Cooperative and these Bylaws shall constitute and be a contract between the Cooperative and each member, and both the Cooperative and the members are bound by such contract, as fully as though each member has individually signed a separate instrument containing such terms and provisions.

**Section 5. Other Receipts.** All other amounts received by the Cooperative from its operations in excess of costs and expenses shall, insofar as permitted by law, be (a) used to offset any losses incurred during the current or any prior fiscal year and (b) to the extent not needed for that purpose, allocated to its members on a patronage basis and any amount so allocated shall be included as a part of the capital credited to the accounts of the members as provided in these Bylaws.

**Section 6. Dissolution or Liquidation.** In the event of dissolution or liquidation of the Cooperative, the assets of the Cooperative shall be distributed in accordance with the Cooperative's Articles of Incorporation and/or applicable law.

**Section 7. Retirement of Capital.** If, at any time prior to dissolution or liquidation, the Board of Directors shall determine that the financial condition of the Cooperative will not be impaired thereby, the capital then credited to members' accounts may be retired in full or in part. The Board shall determine the method, basis, priority and order of retirement, if any, for all amounts furnished as capital.

**Section 8. Assignment of Capital Credited.** Except as otherwise expressly provided for in these Bylaws, capital credited to the account of each member shall not be assignable.

**Section 9. Deceased Member Capital Credits.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, the Board of Directors, at its discretion, shall have the power at any time upon the death of any member who is a natural person if the legal representatives of the deceased member's estate shall request in writing that the capital credited to any such member be retired prior to the time such capital would otherwise be retired under the provisions of these Bylaws, to retire capital credited to any such member immediately upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors, acting under policies of general application, and the legal representatives of such member's estate shall agree upon. Provided, however, that the financial condition of the Cooperative will not be impaired thereby and that the aggregate amounts so retired in any one year shall be set by resolution of the Board of Directors; and provided further, that, if said limitation prevents the retirement in one year of all the capital credits due said deceased member or members, that said deficit shall be paid the next succeeding year before any other retirements are made.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - WAIVER OF NOTICE**

Any member or director may waive, in writing, any notice of meeting required to be given by these Bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE IX - FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the Cooperative shall begin on the first day of January of each year and end on the thirty-first day of December of the same year.

#### **ARTICLE X - MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

The Cooperative shall not become a member of any other organization without affirmative vote of the members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting at which such membership is being voted upon.

#### **ARTICLE XI - SEAL**

The Cooperative seal of the Cooperative shall be in the form of a circle and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the Cooperative and the words "Corporate Seal, Michigan."

#### **ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, of which meeting notice shall have been given, provided that notice of such proposed alterations, amendment or repeal shall have been contained in the notice of such meeting; and provided further, that the Board of Directors shall not make, alter, amend or repeal any Bylaws fixing their qualifications, classifications, or terms of office.



These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by the members of the through recommendations by the Board of Directors, provided however, that at least thirty (30) days advance notice shall be given of any proposed alteration, amendment or repeal of the Bylaws. Alternately, the members may alter, amend or repeal these Bylaws directly, by petition (i) filed with the Chairperson of the Cooperative signed by not less than 5% of the members of the Cooperative (ii) filed not less than forty-five (45) nor more than sixty (60) days in advance of any annual or special members meeting; and upon such petition being properly signed and duly filed, the Chairperson shall see that the required notice is mailed to each member at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting as herein provided. The Board of Directors shall not make alter, amend or repeal any Bylaw adopted or repealed by the members for a period of two (2) years after the effective date thereof.

### **ARTICLE XIII - INDEMNIFICATION**

Each person who is or was a trustee, director, officer or member of a committee of the corporation and each person who serves or has served at the request of the corporation, as a trustee, director, officer, partner, employee or agent of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise shall be indemnified by the corporation to the fullest extent permitted by the corporation laws of the State of Michigan as they may be in effect from time to time. The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any such person against any liability asserted against and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of his status as such, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify such person against such liability under the preceding sentence. The corporation may, to the extent authorized from time to time by the Board, grant rights to indemnification to any employee or agent or the corporation to the fullest extent provided under the laws of the State of Michigan as they may be in effect from time to time.

### **ARTICLE XIV: MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES**

**SECTION 1: Certificates of Membership.** The Board shall from time to time determine and establish whether or not a membership certificate should be utilized, and if so, its form and content. If the Board determines that a membership certificate shall be used, it may consist of the membership application when approved by the Cooperative or it may be a separate document.

**SECTION 2: Lost Certificates.** In case of a lost, destroyed, or mutilated certificate, a new certificate may be issued therefore upon such terms and such indemnity to the Cooperative as the Board may prescribe.

**MIDWEST ENERGY COOPERATIVE  
MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE**

Midwest Energy Cooperative (the “Cooperative”) is a consumer cooperative organized pursuant to the subject to the Consumer Cooperative Act, as amended, MCA § 450.3100 et. seq.

The purpose of becoming a member of the Cooperative is to assure access to the goods, services and facilities of the Cooperative and not to gain profit.

The voting rights of members and right of members to notice of meeting are outlined in Article II of the Bylaws. The Cooperative Bylaws are included.

The qualifications for admission to and retention of membership are outlined in Article I of the Bylaws. Midwest Energy Cooperative may terminate membership pursuant to the terms of Article I, Section 8 of the Bylaws.

Membership in the Cooperative is not transferable.

The only rights to redemption by members is upon the retirement of capital as outlined in Article VII, Section 6 of the Bylaws.

Members have the right to call a special meeting of the membership upon a petition signed by at least ten percent of the membership. Procedures for calling a special meeting are outlined in Article II of the Bylaws.

The Board of Directors may decide to present any questions to the members for consideration by mail, electronic or telephonic ballot. Ballots must be submitted in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 6 of the Bylaws.

Members are entitled to receive a copy of the annual report of Midwest Energy Cooperative and may request any additional material information concerning the Cooperative by requesting such material in writing to:

Office of the President  
Midwest Energy Cooperative

60590 Decatur Road  
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Initial Member Capital: None