

Candidate: Kathi Thomas Board Position: District 4

1. What makes PEC's mission meaningful to you, and what interests you about serving on the PEC Board of Directors?

That we are a member-owned cooperative, working for the common good is meaningful to me. Working together, we can find solutions now to tomorrow's concerns about future energy needs by making investments in our future, helping save money and energy through conservation, renewables, and new technology. Only a cooperative can do this effectively and keep prices down.

2. What education, skills, strengths or life experiences do you have that would benefit PEC?

- An educator for over 40 years.
- A small business owner since 1990.
- I'm an event planner/designer, bringing people together to plan a single event under a set budget and with a particular vision. I help my clients to understand that all they want may not be available when budgets are limited. I focus on getting as much as possible while staying on budget. This should translate well to the Board.
- As a creative, I tend to think a "out of the box" to find solutions that may not be apparent to more linear thinkers, and that can lead to new solutions.

3. What other boards or committees have you served on or leadership positions have you held in the past?

- School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC,) 2018-2020, also served on it when my daughter was in Middle School
- Elder, Central Presbyterian (nonserving)
- Event planner for the first 6 years of Rainwater Revivals
- Memorial Day Service Chair, Daughters of the American Revolution ("DAR"), since ~2008
- Conservation Chair, Thankful Hubbard Chapter, DAR ~2016-2020
- Dripping Springs Band Boosters, VP-Communications (2019-20)
- Bylaws revision committee: Longhorn Alumni Band
- Chair, Bylaws committee and revision, HC DP(2021) (2022)

4. Are you familiar with the elements of the cooperative business model?

Yes, we've been PEC member since 2001 and I was member: Sam Houston Electric Coop.

My family owned a floral shop, and was a member of FTD, a member-owned co-op at that time.

5. How would you approach working with your fellow PEC Board of Directors to achieve collaboration and consensus?

If no consensus:

- Find common ground, and work from there.
- Bring the facts; look for what they mean today, and for future.
- Make list of pros and cons.
- Bring in experts when needed.
- Encourage stakeholder committees to consider policy changes.
- Keep the focus on finding the best way to best serve our members now and for future.
- We need transparency in all decisions, so members know they can trust us.