

## Minutes from January 13, 2026 Oceans Pine Election Committee Meeting

**Call to Order** – Meeting commenced at approximately 5:30 PM in the Assateague Room in the Ocean Pines Community Center

### Attendees

- Steve Ransdell (Chairman)
- Cheryl Jacobs (Committee Member)
- Pat Lehnerd (Committee Member)
- Jeff Heavner (OPA Board Liaison)

**Public Comments** – None

### Chairman's Remarks

- Mentioned that the proposed revisions to M-06 that the committee sent to the board for consideration had a first reading at the regular board meeting on 12/20/25. Liaison Jeff Heavner reported that the second reading would be at the next regular board meeting on 1/24/26.
- MK Elections will be continuing as our Election Contractor for 2026. This is year two of their three-year contract.
- Established regular committee meeting time and place as the second Tuesday of each month, somewhere in the Ocean Pines Community Center.

### New Business

- Election of Committee Secretary (new position). Pat Lehnerd elected as Secretary
- Approval of proposed Election Timeline
  - Timeline reviewed, noted some errors in the timeline. **Action** – Chairman Ransdell agreed to fix errors and re-issue.
  - Once re-issued, action to committee members to review and be prepared to discuss at next meeting
- Discussed various communications methods to better alert and educate the OPA membership regarding election-related topics, including but not limited to:
  - This Week in the Pines (press releases)
  - Pines Podcast
  - Electronic Billboard
  - **Action** – Committee members to brainstorm other communications ideas and be prepared to discuss at future meetings
  - **Action** – Chairman Ransdell to initiate contacts for these
- Discussed plans to develop candidate questions

- Includes both questions for Candidate Applications and for Candidate Forum
- **Action** – Committee members to brainstorm ideas for questions in preparation for March Election Committee Meeting
- **Action** – Secretary Lehnerd to post agenda and minutes

**Next Meeting** – Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 5:30 PM, Ocean Pines Community Center (room TBD)

**Adjourned** – Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:35 PM