Sawnee EMC
2027 Frequently Asked Questions – District Meetings

Last Revised: 10/26/26

	Frequently Asked Questions	Answer
1.)	What is the purpose of a Sawnee EMC District Meeting?	Sawnee EMC is a cooperative and, as such, is democratically controlled by the members. The Sawnee members elect representatives to serve on the Cooperative's Board. A District Meeting is a meeting of the members of a particular district that is held so those members can elect who will represent the members of that district on the SEMC Board.
2.)	How often does Sawnee EMC hold a District Meeting?	It is possible to have as many as three (3) District Meetings each year. Three (3) of Sawnee's nine (9) directorate districts are eligible each year, on a rotating basis, as outlined in the Bylaws. The Bylaws do not require Sawnee to hold a District Meeting when there is not a contested director election in an eligible district.
3)	Who can participate in a District Meeting?	Only those individuals or entities who are listed as a "member" in the district where the election is being held may participate. Also, they must be a "member" as of the election record date in their district. A district is defined by a geographic area outlined in the Sawnee EMC Bylaws (See Section 4.03, "Directorate Districts").
4.)	Are only the members who are assigned in a particular district allowed to vote for a representative in that District Meeting?	Yes. Each member of Sawnee EMC has a designated directorate district and can only cast their vote for a representative in their assigned district. There are requirements that govern "who" is defined as the member, "where" their district is located, and "when" the cutoff for participation occurs (e.g., the election record date), so be sure to ask about these requirements if you're not sure.
5.)	What are the dates of the District Meetings that could potentially be held in 2027, and what would be the location of each?	For 2027, elections could potentially occur in the following three (3) districts, as provided for by the Bylaws of the Cooperative: • District #1 (Birmingham) – September 7, 2027 • District #4 (Dougherty) – September 8, 2027 • District #6 (Matt) – September 9, 2027 Based on the Bylaws of the Corporation, a notice will be provided to the members of record of these districts if an election is to occur. This notice will provide the location of these meetings.

Sawnee EMC
2027 Frequently Asked Questions – District Meetings

Last Revised: 10/26/26

	Frequently Asked Questions	Answer
6.)	Is there a situation where we could NOT hold a district meeting in a given year?	Yes. Sawnee's Bylaws provide that the Corporation is not required to incur the expense of holding a district meeting if there is only one (1) individual seeking the office of director for a directorate district that is up for consideration in a given year.
7.)	How are candidates considered by the members of a district?	The Bylaws provide that potential candidates are considered by the following two (2) methods: 1.) The Committee on Nominations and 2.) The Petition process. A Committee on Nominations, comprised of three (3) Sawnee EMC members from that district and who are not seeking the office of director, is appointed to place a name(s) before the membership in a district for consideration. In addition, the Bylaws of Sawnee EMC allow for member petitions to be submitted separately from the Committee on Nominations process. Certain deadlines apply to the petition process, and you should ask for these dates if you are not sure when they are to occur.
8.)	How will I know if there is going to be a District Meeting in my area this year?	You will receive an "Official Notice" by U.S. mail announcing the meeting and providing you with important information pertaining to the election process, including background information on each of the candidates who are seeking the position of Director in your district, voting instructions and limitations, early voting information, and other instructions applicable to this meeting. A reminder postcard outlining key election information, such as the meeting location and registration times, will also be sent to qualified members of record. Remember, the Official Notice is only sent when an "actual" district meeting is to occur.
9.)	How can I vote at the District Meeting if there is an election?	In order to vote, the membership must be in your name, must be assigned to the district in which a contested election is to occur, and you must be a member as of the record date. Members of a directorate district where an election is to occur will have the ability to cast their votes in either of the following ways: 1.) attend the district meeting and vote in person, or 2.) visit the designated "early voting" site and cast their

Sawnee EMC
2027 Frequently Asked Questions – District Meetings

Last Revised: 10/26/26

	Frequently Asked Questions	Answer
		ballot in person. The Official Notice will provide additional information about the associated activities.
10.)	How can I find out which District I am assigned to?	You can find your assigned SEMC directorate district by calling Sawnee EMC or using the tools and PDF maps on our director election website.
11.)	How can I vote early should there be an election in my district?	Early voting was approved by the members of Sawnee EMC on October 2, 2010. The Bylaws provide that the District Meeting Credentials and Election Committee will establish the method and manner in which, among other things, early voting is to occur. The Official Notice will provide additional information about this and other associated activities.
12.)	Where can I learn more about the District Meeting process and activities?	We have many items on our website to assist you in having a better understanding of the process and schedules associated with the potential District Meetings. You can click on the "Contact Us" link, call our office, or send us a written note to our physical address (543 Atlanta Road, Cumming, GA, 30040). Finally, you can email us at customerservice@sawnee.coop if that is more convenient. We will be glad to answer any questions that you may have or assist you in obtaining additional information that is not readily available online.
13.)	What measures have been instituted to ensure the election process is fair, open, and transparent?	The director election process is governed by rules contained in SEMC's Bylaws that were adopted by, and may only be amended by, SEMC's members. The staff and Board are committed to following these rules in a way that meets our members' expectations and provides clear and concise information, in plain English, about the director nomination and election process, including advance notice of all relevant deadlines. The Board has also adopted policies that prohibit the staff from interfering with, or influencing the outcome of, a director election. Also, individuals such as the members of the Credentials and Election Committee and others who are not seated directors, director candidates, or staff members of SEMC are involved in the director election process to ensure it meets the requirements of the bylaws and the policies of the Corporation. Finally, the bylaws provide for a challenge or appeal process when a member feels they, or others, were treated unfairly.

Sawnee EMC
2027 Frequently Asked Questions – District Meetings

Last Revised: 10/26/26

	Frequently Asked Questions	Answer
14.)	Is an independent committee involved in the election process whose members are not staff members, directors, or director candidates?	Yes. The Bylaws require that a committee composed of independent SEMC members serve as the District Meeting Credentials and Election Committee ("Committee"). This Committee establishes election procedures, ensures compliance with the Bylaws, and rules on any questions that might arise about a director election. The Committee has the final authority in all matters related to the district meeting and the director election process.
15.)	What role does the election teller play in the process?	Election Tellers (Tellers) are individuals, usually three (3) people per candidate, who are selected by each director candidate to assist the Credentials and Election Committee during the director election. The Tellers witness the election process and assist the Committee in the counting and tabulation of the votes.
16.)	Who can I talk to if I have concerns about the election results or the way the election was conducted?	The Bylaws provide in Article 4, Section 4.10, that SEMC members can file a protest or an objection concerning the director election with the Credentials and Election Committee. Such a protest or objection must be filed within the time frames stated in the Bylaws (see Article 4, Section 4.10 of Sawnee's Bylaws) to be considered valid. The Committee must meet to consider the matter, rule on the question, and file a report on its actions.
17.)	When could a "runoff" election be needed?	The Bylaws of the Corporation provide for a run-off election when two (2) or more candidates are in a director election race and one (1) of the candidates does not receive a majority (defined as 50% plus 1 vote) of the votes cast. If this occurs, the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes will then go to a run-off election.
18.)	Who oversees the runoff election process and sets the dates for the various events?	The Directorate District Credentials and Election Committee is charged with undertaking and supervising the runoff election and associated events. Early Voting is allowed in the runoff election, if approved by the Directorate District Credentials and Election Committee. The Board is to set the various dates for any directorate district runoff meeting(s), and the C & E Committee is to sanction these dates.
19.)	What controls when the runoff election will occur?	The Bylaws provide that this runoff election must occur no sooner than 30 days and no later than 60 days from the Directorate District Meeting in which the runoff is required, and for 2027 it would be as follows:

Sawnee EMC
2027 Frequently Asked Questions – District Meetings

Last Revised: 10/26/26

Frequently Asked Questions	Answer

District	Meeting	30 days	60 days
Birmingham (#1)	Sept. 7, 2027	Oct. 7, 2027	Nov. 6, 2027
Dougherty (#4)	Sept. 8, 2027	Oct. 8, 2027	Nov. 7, 2027
Matt (#6)	Sept. 9, 2027	Oct. 9, 2027	Nov. 8, 2027

20.) What is the schedule of events for a 2027 runoff election process, if it is needed?

For 2027, the following dates have been approved in support of the events that will be needed for a run-off election, if required:

1. **Record date for notice and voting (Official Notice on September 30, 2027 and Participate in the Election on October 8, 2027)**
2. **Mail Runoff Official Notice to All Members of Record in Districts – October 4, 2027 (Monday)**
3. **Early Voting Begins for All Districts – October 13, 2027 (Wednesday)**
4. **Early Voting Ends for All Districts – October 15, 2027 (Friday)**
5. **Runoff District Meeting(s)**
   - **District #1 (Birmingham) – October 19, 2027 (Tuesday)**
   - **District #4 (Dougherty) – October 20, 2027 (Wednesday)**
   - **District #6 (Matt) – October 21, 2027 (Thursday)**