

2024 Voter's Guide



Dear Co-op owners,

We are pleased to present the two candidates for the two open Board seats in the 2024 election. The Board of Directors plays a vital role in the well-being of the Moscow Food Co-op. It's important you have confidence in each Board member's ability to be a successful contributor. When you vote in this election, you are engaging in what defines us as a cooperative: we are a democratic organization controlled by our owners. Casting a vote to decide who guides the future of the Moscow Food Co-op is truly a powerful act. Thank you for your participation!

Yours in cooperation,
The Elections and Board-Owner Communications Committee

meet the candidates in-person



Join us **Thursday, February 15** from 4:30 - 7 p.m. for the meet and greet the candidates in the Good Food Gallery at the Moscow Food Co-op. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the Board candidates.



VOTING BEGINS

Saturday, February 24 at 8 a.m.
through Wednesday, March 6 at 8 p.m.



Election results will be announced Thursday, March 7

Deadline to become an owner and be eligible to vote in this election
is Saturday, February 17 at 8 p.m.

how to vote on-line

When voting begins, all owners who have an email address on file will receive an email with a link to the electronic ballot. If you do not have an email address attached to your Co-op ownership, you can access your ballot online at moscowfood.coop/evoting after the election period opens on Saturday, February 24. The election runs from February 24 to March 6. Results will be announced Thursday, March 7.

To log in to vote, you will be prompted to enter the first four letters of the last name on the ownership, and the first four digits of the phone number on record. Voting privileges are extended to the owner of record for the account, in line with the "One Owner, One Vote" cooperative principle. All owners are welcome to vote, even if you do not have an email address. Please contact us at the phone number listed below for more information.



Any owner is welcome to use a computer at the Co-op to place their virtual ballot. Paper ballots will not be available in-store. Email boardadmin@moscowfood.coop or call (208) 882-8537 ext. 222 to schedule time to place your vote at the store.

submit your vote

Vote for candidates: If you want to support both candidates, mark your choices next to the name of both candidates. If you prefer to vote for only one candidate, mark your choice next to the name of the candidate you want to support.

Abstain your vote: If you choose not to vote for either candidate, you can abstain by marking abstain.



MOSCOW FOOD CO+OP

Downtown Store: 121 E. 5th Street Open: 6:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Daily

Phone: (208) 882-8537 Website: moscowfood.coop

Click the link to learn more about each candidate!



Trish Hartzell

[Read more *atmoscowfood.coop/boardelection*](https://atmoscowfood.coop/boardelection)



Personal skills and experience that will help me be an effective Director I have served one term on the Coop Board and enjoy learning from the other Directors. I try to listen carefully, ask questions, and find common ground when working with others. Working with diverse groups has taught me to be tolerant and open-minded. My scientific training (biological sciences, molecular biology, genetics) has taught me to find solutions to problems using data and research; I think these are tools that help me as a Coop Director.

I have years of service on other boards: the Palouse Discovery Science Center board for 11 years, Planned Parenthood in Illinois (working with the local school districts to deliver science-based sex education), and the Sustainability Board for the city of Long Beach, California.

My experience supervising projects and managing employees helps me understand the day-to-day operations at the Coop and appreciate the work of the General Manager. For example, I contracted agricultural workers, built one of the largest recycling centers in Southern California (still in operation), and as a professor (at UCLA and U of I) I conducted research, trained students, taught, and designed teaching laboratory courses. I managed millions of grant dollars and the research of scientists and students (over 200 total). Together we published over 350 peer-reviewed articles, books, book chapters, training videos, and laboratory protocols. As an educator, my goal has always been to present complex topics in a user-friendly way. I would like to participate in discussions with Coop members on topics such as genetically modified foods.

My leadership roles – as supervisor, writer/reviewer, Department Head, Faculty Senate Chair, meeting organizer, speaker, educator, and foster parent – have given me a lot of experience. I am currently working with the Palouse Land Trust and the Citizens' Climate Lobby to protect land and the environment.

After serving for one term I have a better understanding of Coop policy governance and the role that the Directors play in working with the General Manager. Coop owners (members) are engaged, interesting people. I would like to continue to help the Coop fulfill its community mission, interact with owners, and participate as the Coop helps to create a world with reduced plastic packaging, prepared food choices that are wholesome and sustainable, and expanded educational resources about the storage, preparation, and health benefits of food products.

Click the link to learn more about each candidate!



Mark Thorne

[Read more at moscowfood.coop/boardelection](https://moscowfood.coop/boardelection)



I was first elected to the Moscow Food Co-op Board of Directors in 2019, and for the past year have been serving as the Board President. Skills that have helped me as a director have certainly been a willingness to listen and work with others, but more importantly, is the ability to look for the big and meaningful picture and the belief that empowering and lifting others is critical for leadership and good cooperation. During my first two years on the Board, I chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee and worked with a great team of other committee members and Co-op staff to oversee the annual elections. This experience not only helped me learn more about our Co-op but also helped me understand and see how the Board, Co-op staff, and Participating Owners are intricately connected. During my time on the Board, I have also taken advantage of training events in DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion), financial understanding, and Board leadership. This past spring, I attended the National Consumer Cooperative Management Association's annual conference in Sacramento and, while there, participated in workshops with other Co-op directors and staff. This experience was immensely valuable; my main takeaway was the realization of just how important Co-ops are for local communities. Co-ops are the only real alternative to corporate-owned supper markets, they support local agriculture, they can bring nutritious food to people living in food deserts, and, they help keep resources (money) in the community.

I very much look forward to continuing to serve on the Moscow Food Co-op Board of Directors. If elected, I remain committed to helping the Board function smoothly and to ensuring that everyone's voices are heard. We have worked very well together and have had the Co-op's best interest at heart. The Co-op emerged from COVID-19 in great shape, and I am very excited about our work moving forward. For many of us, the Co-op provides an important connection with the community, and I want to see that anyone interested in the Co-op has a meaningful experience. The commitment that "Everyone is Welcome" is very important to me. My experience with the Co-op started in the early 90s when it was located on 3rd Street. I appreciated the friendly, socially conscious environment. In another 50 years, I want people to look back and have similar fond memories.

*meet the
candidates online*



moscowfood.coop/boardelection

