



OPALCO

2026 Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2026
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members may participate in the OPALCO meetings via Zoom. For security purposes, staff will be checking Zoom identities so please use your first and last name or you may not be let into the meeting. Please follow the protocols listed below:

- Mute yourself unless talking,
- Use your first and last name in your Zoom identity,
- OPALCO's Policy 17 - Member Participation at OPALCO Meetings decorum must be followed.

Sequence of Events

- OPALCO Annual Meeting
- Executive Session



Annual Meeting
May 7, 2026, 8:30 A.M.*
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**Time is approximate; if all Board members are present, the meeting may begin earlier or later than advertised. The Board President has the authority to modify the sequence of the agenda.*

WELCOME GUESTS/MEMBERS

Members attending the meeting acknowledge that they may be recorded, and the recording posted to OPALCO’s website. Members are expected to conduct themselves with civility and decorum, consistent with Member Service Policy 17. If you would like answers to specific questions, please email communications@opalco.com for post-meeting follow-up.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Legal, Personnel, Competitive, Other

ADJOURNMENT



2026 ANNUAL MEETING

2025 Annual Meeting Minutes

Our bylaws provide that “At least ten percent (10%) of energy members casting ballots shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings of the energy members, whether at the Annual or Special meeting. Staff request the board make a motion to waive the reading of the NOTICE of the meeting and waive the reading. Staff also request a motion to approve the 2025 Annual Meeting minutes.

**Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting
Thursday, April 24, 2025**

The 2025 Annual Meeting of the Orcas Power & Light Cooperative was held via Zoom.

Streaming through Zoom attendees: President Vince Dauciunas, Board members Jerry Whitfield, Brian Silverstein, Mark Madsen, Tom Osterman and Wendy Hiester. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Communications Manager Krista Bouchey; Communications Specialist Jo Lange; Manager of Finance Travis Neal; Manager of Member Services Joey Wyckoff; Special Projects Coordinator Beth Stanford (servicing as recording secretary). Also present were Legal Counsel Joel Paisner as Parliamentarian; Rick Fant from OPALCO’s Elections and Governance Committee and Consultant Jay Kimball.

Approximately 5 members were in attendance: Mary Nash, Deborah Strasser, Eva Schulte, Barbara Pesola and Levi

Staff welcome all to the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to OPALCO’s 88th annual meeting. Zoom rules were reviewed.

President Dauciunas called the 88th Annual Meeting of Orcas Power & Light Cooperative to order at 8:34 a.m.

Motion was made by Whitfield to waive the reading of the Notice of the Annual Meeting and the Minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting. Seconded by Madsen. Passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion was made by Silverstein to approve the 2024 annual meeting minutes. Seconded by Madsen. Passed unanimously by voice vote.



President Dauciunas reported that a quorum had been met with 15.54% of the membership voting 1,801 votes. Thanks were given to all who voted.

President Dauciunas introduced Elections & Governance Committee member Rick Fant to present the election results.

Election and Governance Committee members were thanked for their hard work. Rick Fant of the EGC thanked all for voting and mentioned the Committee is always looking for volunteers from each district to assist in governance of the co-op. Candidates were introduced: District 1 – Mark Madsen, incumbent; District 3 – Brian Silverstein, incumbent, District 4 – Jerry Whitfield, incumbent.

All terms from this election will be for 3 years.

Winners of this year's election:

District 1 – Mark Madsen – 1,664 votes
District 3 – Brian Silverstein– 1,674 votes
District 4 – Jerry Whitfield – 1,610 votes

Congratulations to all!

General Manager, Foster Hildreth, took a moment to congratulate Mark Madsen, Brian Silverstein and Jerry Whitfield. He acknowledged that the utility industry is changing and highlighted our power reliability. Hildreth encouraged members to remain engaged and invited all to our Annual Membership event on Friday, April 25, 2025, at the San Juan County Fairgrounds.

Q&A period

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m.

Business portion of the meeting closed.

Vince Dauciunas, President

Tom Osterman, Secretary/Treasurer



Election Results by EGC

As of May 4, 2026, OPALCO has received a quorum of voters at 2,033 voters (17.29%). The final 2026 election results will be announced by the Elections and Governance Committee.

Election of Board Officers (To be voted on May 21, 2026)

The election of Board of Director Officers will occur at OPALCO's Board of Director Regular Meeting on May 21, 2026.

Co-op Update

Here are some highlights of Co-op accomplishments in 2025:

OPALCO continues to adapt and lead in the rapidly evolving energy landscape, helping members and the Co-op navigate toward a carbon-free power future. In 2025, OPALCO:

- Achieved over 298,000 hours worked without a lost-time accident and remained committed to safety with monthly in-person meetings and the NRECA Zero Contacts initiative.
- Boyce Road distribution tie line construction completed. This tie will allow for greater redundancy for San Juan Island substations.
- Sourced and schedule replacement substation transformers for Orcas Substation. Staff will be able to do so with minor alterations to the existing substation for an estimated savings of \$2.5M.
- Redesign of the Eastsound Substation was completed in December 2025 with construction to commence in Q2 of 2027, due to transformer delivery timing.

Member programs and energy savings continued to grow:

- Through the Switch It Up Program, OPALCO financed 259 member energy efficiency projects totaling \$8.1M, putting more clean energy tools directly into members' hands.
- Rebate programs helped members save over 315,174 kilowatt hours and awarded ~\$256k in incentives.
- 152 new member-generators were added, bringing the total to 1005 members producing renewable energy.
- OPALCO incentivized the installation of 45 EV charging stations and supported 34 members with beneficial electrification upgrades.

Member support remained strong:

- Member Services awarded ~\$88.1k in PAL assistance across 382 low-income households and provided \$209.4k in Energy Assist bill credits to an average of 391 households.
- Call volume remained high with over 10,000 inbound calls handled by the five-person team.
- Over 9,200 accounts are now on autopay, and 7,600 members have gone paperless.

Financially, the Co-op remains in good health:



- Received an unqualified financial audit for 2024 with no comments—an excellent outcome.
- Retired \$1.5M in capital credits, with reoccurring donations totaling ~\$20k in 2025.
- Managed multiple grant applications, periodic reporting to various State & Federal agencies as well as successful submission & receipt of grant reimbursements in 2025.

Communications and community engagement efforts expanded:

- Hosted a successful hybrid Annual Meeting and Member Festival with over 300 attendees.
- Reached 1,801 voters (~15.54% of membership) in the 2025 Board Election.
- Distributed over \$377k in Washington Families Clean Energy Credits to 1,888 members.
- Held numerous workshops and outreach events, including a historical exhibit, youth scholarships, and career fair and school visits.
- Grew social media reach significantly.
- Website traffic surged, particularly for Member Services and Switch It Up pages; Spanish translations proved highly popular with members.



APPENDIX

2025 Annual Report





Quick Facts Library

Co-op Governance

[OPALCO General Manager / CEO Compensation](#)

[OPALCO vs a Typical Mainland Electric Utility](#)

[OPALCO Rates](#)

[Cost of Service](#)

[Industry Association Memberships and Co-op Benefits](#)

[Staff Compensation](#)

[National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association \(NRECA\)](#)

[OPALCO Election Process](#)

[OPALCO Debt and Capital Projects](#)

Member Programs

[Privileges and Obligations of Electric Utility Distribution Cooperative Members](#)

[Surge Protection](#)

[Wildfire Mitigation](#)

[Inflation Reduction Act](#)

[OPALCO's Right-of-Way \(ROW\) Program](#)

[Rock Island Communications](#)

[Wireless Services](#)

Our Energy Future

[Tidal Energy in the Salish Sea](#)

[Where Does OPALCO Stand on Regional Power and the Dams?](#)

[Essential Public Facilities](#)

[Local Energy Forecast](#)

[San Juan County Comprehensive Plan](#)



[Our Energy Future – Why is OPALCO Concerned?](#)

[Why Local Renewable Projects? Mainland Power Demand Will Soon Exceed Supply](#)

[Data Centers](#)

[2024 OPALCO Docket Requests to San Juan County](#)

[OPALCO Needs a New Submarine Cable to Meet Growing Demand](#)

[Climate Change News Review – September 2022](#)

[OPALCO’s Plan for our Energy Future](#)

[Decarbonization – Part 1](#)

[Decarbonization – Part 2: Energy Generation](#)

[Decarbonization – Part 3: Energy Consumption](#)

[Decarbonization – Part 4: Energy Shortages](#)

[WA 2021 Energy Strategy](#)

[Simpson Proposal and the Northwest Energy Evolution](#)

[Will There Be Enough Power?](#)

[Energy Independence? Not entirely.](#)

Renewables

[Renewable Energy Siting Criteria](#)

[OPALCO’s Rate for Members Who Have Rooftop Solar](#)

[Rooftop Solar and our Local Energy Future](#)

[Bailer Hill Microgrid \(on hold\)](#)

[OPALCO Solar Rate for Residential Members](#)

[OPALCO Tidal Energy Pilot Project](#)

[Understanding the Change in Solar Rates](#)

[Decatur Island Battery Storage Project](#)

[Why Hydropower is Important to our Power Supply](#)

Regional Issues

[Northwest Resource Adequacy in a Rapidly Decarbonizing World](#)



[Preparing for Mainland Power Outages](#)

[Future Power Purchase Strategy](#)

[Ocean Health](#)

[Land for Renewable Energy Projects](#)

[Pacifica Northwest Generating Cooperative \(PNGC\)](#)

[Feb Town Hall Recap FAQ Comprehensive list of every question](#)



Decatur Island Solar Project – Overview

[Find out about the Decatur Island Solar Project here.](#)

Decatur Island Solar Project – Site Plans

[Visual Site Plan](#)

[Detailed Site Design](#)

[Alternate Sites Reviewed](#)

Decatur Island Solar Project – Permit Plans & Reports

[Critical Areas and Wetland Delineation Report](#)

[NEPA \(National Environmental Policy Act\) Compliance Documentation for Area A](#)

[NEPA \(National Environmental Policy Act\) Compliance Documentation for Area B](#)

[SEPA \(State Environmental Policy Act\) Checklist](#)

[SEPA Determination](#)

[Site Plan](#)

[Clearing and Grading Checklist](#)

[Stormwater Plan for Area A](#)

[Stormwater Plan for Area B](#)

[Landscaping Plan](#)

[Arborist Report](#)

[Land Use Checklist](#)

Decatur Island Solar Project – Project Timeline

[Review the project timeline here.](#)



Decatur Island Solar Project – Public Engagement

[February 2025 Zoom Meeting Introducing the Project Idea](#)

[May 2025 Town Hall Meeting on Decatur Island](#)

[Comment Log](#)

[Presentation Materials May 10](#)

[Press Release May 2025](#)

[October 2025 Community Meeting on Decatur Island](#)

[Questions and Answers with Table of Contents](#)

[Information Boards from October Meeting](#)

[Conditional Use Permit Legal Notice](#)

Decatur Island Solar Project – Community Commitments

[Review community commitments here.](#)