

P (918) 540-2535

F (918) 540-2538



PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

118 S. Eight Tribes Trail • P.O. Box 1527

Miami, Oklahoma 74355

CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Vacant

ELECTION NOTICE AND CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

The Election Committee of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma announces a Tribal Election for the following positions in accordance with Article IX, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma approved August 13, 1997: Chief, and two (2) positions on the Grievance Committee.

The annual election will be held on **Saturday, March 5, 2022**, at the Peoria Tribal Administration Building, 118 South Eight Tribes Trail in Miami, Oklahoma. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Any member of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall be eligible to vote, provided the member is eighteen (18) years of age or over on the date of election. **Each member will be required to show proof of identification in the form of a government issued photo identification showing their name to match the Official Voters' List provided by the Tribal Enrollment Office.**

The ballots will be counted and tabulated, and the results announced immediately. In the event no candidate receives a majority vote, the Election Committee will immediately call for a run-off election by announcing the time polls will open. Polls for a run-off election shall remain open for a period of two (2) hours. Balloting will continue (by call of the Election Committee) until one candidate receives a clear majority of total votes cast.

In accordance with Article XVI, Section 1(i) of the Election Ordinance, in the event only one candidate files for elective office, that candidate shall be declared elected. In the event a candidate is declared elected, it will not be necessary for the Peoria Tribe to conduct an election, by ballot, for that elective office. Furthermore, in the event a candidate is declared elected, that candidate shall assume office upon taking the Oath of Office.

In the event no one files for an elective office in accordance with the forty-five (45) day Declaration of Candidacy policy, the Election Committee shall issue a second Election Notice.

SECRETARY
Tonya R. Mathews

TREASURER
Hank Downum

FIRST COUNCILMAN
Carolyn Ritchey

SECOND COUNCILMAN
Kara D. North

THIRD COUNCILMAN
Isabella Burrell

Peoria Tribe. The prospective candidate's membership shall be verified by the Tribal Enrollment Officer and a background investigation conducted by the Election Committee.

Declaration of Candidacy: The Declaration of Candidacy shall be in writing in the form prescribed by the Election Committee and filed in person during normal working hours, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the election, at the Peoria Tribal office building or other designated location. No person shall be a candidate for more than one (1) position on the Business Committee at any time.

Filing Fee: There shall be a non-refundable fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) paid by prospective candidates for the elected offices. The filing fee shall be by cash, certified check, or money order, made payable to the Peoria Tribe. The filing fee shall be paid, in person, on the same date the prospective candidate submits his/her Declaration of Candidacy. This filing fee shall be deposited into the Tribal treasury for the use of the Tribe to defray all expenses incurred as a result of the election.

Withdrawal: A person seeking an elected office may withdraw his/her Declaration of Candidacy by filing a written notice of withdrawal, in person, with the Election Committee or designated representative. The notice of withdrawal shall be filed during normal working hours at the Peoria Tribal office building or other designated location. Such notice shall contain the candidate's name, address and the position for which he/she is a candidate. Also, such notice shall be signed by the candidate and notarized. If a candidate withdraws after ballots have been printed, the Election Committee shall post notices to that effect at the voting place and within the voting booths and make a line through or otherwise obliterate the candidate's name from the ballots. Any votes cast for a withdrawn candidate shall not be counted.

Verify Qualifications of Candidates: The Election Committee shall review all filings for the elected office to ascertain that the prospective candidates meet the qualifications set forth in Article IX, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe. The Election Committee shall make these determinations no later than ten (10) days following receipt of Declaration of Candidacy form. If the Election Committee determines that a person is not eligible to be a candidate, the Election Committee or designated representative shall notify that person in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, of their decision. That person's name shall not be included on the ballot. The ineligible person may appeal, in writing, the Election Committee's decision to the Business Committee at the next monthly meeting of the Business Committee.

Candidacy Filing Deadline

All candidates must file their Declaration of Candidacy forms and pay the filing fee, in person, with the Election Committee or the Committee's designated representative at the Peoria Tribal Office, 118 South Eight Tribes Trail in Miami, Oklahoma, during normal working hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday). **The deadline for filing is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.** **Candidates may provide a typed statement in person when filing for candidacy, or email statement to lhickey@peoriatribe.com by the filing deadline; all statements will be printed exactly as submitted, no additions or corrections will be made.*

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

The following qualifications for candidates must be satisfied in accordance with the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma:

Article IX, Section 5

Qualifications of Candidates – Any member of the Peoria Tribe who is at least twenty-five (25) years of age on the date of election; and who has never been convicted of a felony in a court of competent jurisdiction, shall qualify as a candidate for membership on the Business Committee or Grievance Committee.

Any member of the Peoria Tribe who files for an elective office and is currently holding another elective Tribal office, will upon filing, immediately resign his or her present office. Resigning from a present office will apply only if an incumbent files for a different elective office.

Article IX, Section 6

Nominations – Nominations for the Business Committee and the Grievance Committee shall be filed with the Election Committee at least forty-five (45) days prior to the election in accordance with the Election Ordinance.

FILING PROCEDURES

Filing procedures are prescribed by the Election Ordinance and governed by the Constitution of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Candidate For Office: Any qualified member of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma who desires his/her name to be placed on the ballot as a candidate for any elective office, shall file a Declaration of Candidacy form with the Election Committee or the Committee's designated representative. The official form shall be provided by the