



**TEXAS PUBLIC  
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**



# **2023 TPEA ANNUAL MEETING ELECTION GUIDE**

[www.tpea.org](http://www.tpea.org)

512-476-2691

Toll-Free: 888-367-8732

# FAQs

01.

## **How can I vote?**

TPEA developed an open and transparent process for our members to vote electronically, by mail, or in person at the annual meeting. The electronic system allows more members to participate in the annual meeting and is faster, less costly, and more efficient. To submit your votes online, check your TPEA-affiliated email and login with the link provided. If you'd like to vote by mail, call TPEA toll-free at 1-888-367-8732 or email us at [membership@tpea.org](mailto:membership@tpea.org). Ballots must be returned to TPEA offices no later than Thursday, July 27, 2023.

02.

## **How do TPEA members benefit from electronic voting (e-proxy)?**

This "e- voting" or "e-proxy" process benefits members by allowing a transparent and open voting process. It also lowers the costs of voting by not having to travel to the Annual meeting. A proxy is a document used by members of an association authorizing another person (the proxy) to act on their behalf, i.e., to vote at the meeting in their absence. You may vote in person at the annual meeting if you have not yet voted electronically.

03.

## **Who administers and oversees the election?**

The Executive Committee of the Board provides oversight of staff, the third-party electronic voting vendor, guidelines, eligibility, and election to ensure compliance. The Executive Committee is also responsible for resolving all disputes.

04.

## **Who is entitled to vote?**

Active members who are state employees or retirees of record and are in good standing at the close of business on June 27, 2023 are eligible to vote. Associate members (non-state employees or retirees) are ineligible to vote.

05.

## **How will proxies be voted?**

Proxies will be voted as you specify. All valid electronic or paper ballots received on time will be voted as specified.

06.

## **Can I vote in-person at the meeting?**

Yes. You may vote in-person at the annual meeting.

## FAQs, cont.

07.

### How do I ask questions at the meeting?

Members as of the record date (June 27, 2023) may submit questions before the meeting to [member@tpea.org](mailto:member@tpea.org). Members who participate in the virtual Annual Meeting will have an opportunity to submit questions via Zoom during the meeting, beginning shortly after it starts. Members who attend the annual meeting will have an opportunity to ask questions in person at the Annual Meeting. We will try to answer as many questions that comply with the posted rules of conduct as time permits (whether submitted before or during the portion of the meeting when questions may be submitted).

08.

### How do I obtain a printed copy of the election materials?

If you would like us to send you a printed copy of the election materials, please call us at 512-476-2691 or toll-free at 1-888-367-8732 or email [membership@tpea.org](mailto:membership@tpea.org).

09.

### How many votes do I get?

Every voter gets one vote for up to three candidates running for the Board of Directors.

10.

### How does the Board of Directors election work?

TPEA directors are elected at large, meaning they are elected to represent the entire membership of the body rather than a subset of that membership.

13.

### How will the winners be selected?

The people with the most votes based on the number of available positions will be elected to the Board of Directors unless the person with the most votes causes more than 1/3 of the Board of Directors to be a retiree or from a single state agency.

14.

### How do I obtain more information or ask questions?

If you have any questions about the voting process, please contact us at 512-476-2691 or toll free at 1-888-367-8732 or email us at [membership@tpea.org](mailto:membership@tpea.org).

# BOARD NOMINEES



## **Carroll Fuchs - Texas Department of Insurance (Retired)**

My name is Carroll Fuchs and I live in Georgetown, Texas. I graduated from UT at Austin, I served 6 years in the Texas Air National Guard. I was elected to the Jarrell ISD Board of Trustees serving one year as President. I was President of the Texas State Agency Business Administrators (TSABAA). I retired from the Texas Department of Insurance in 1999 after 35 years with the Agency.

I have been a member of TPEA since 1965. I served two terms as President of TPEA Chapter 79. I served as President of TPEA Region VII. I was the recipient of the TPEA Ed Riedel award for outstanding service, dedication and tenure to TPEA. I am currently a member of the TPEA Board having served on the Executive Committee as Treasurer (2 years) and Secretary (1 year).

If elected, I promise to attend all Board meetings, study issues carefully, take my role as Director seriously and do what is best for both active and retired Texas state employees.



## **Joe Golson - Employees Retirement System (Retired)**

I retired from the Employees Retirement System (ERS) after 23 years at that agency. During my tenure, I served as Assistant Director of the Member Benefits Division, the Director of Benefit Contracts, and Director of Cost & Risk Management. Skills and work experience included Strategic Planning, Retirement Administration, Customer Service, Fraud Detection and Prevention and more. I am also the former President and Board Member for Austin Chapter of the International Society of Certified Employee Benefit Specialists (ISCEBS) and a former Board Member for State and Local Government Benefits Association (SALGBA).

I am a current member of the TPEA Board of Directors, and I am running for reelection. During my first term, I served as the chairperson of TPEA's Strategic Planning Committee and oversaw the creation of the association's first strategic plan. I also served on the Nominating Committee and the Bylaw Committee.

I ask for your vote to help grow and improve TPEA.



## **Lonnie Townsend - Texas Department of Criminal Justice**

With Almost 20 years of experience with the agency, I have held every ranking security position promoting to my current role as a Regional Director. I have been a part of ten facilities within the agency gaining large amounts of knowledge and meeting great people. I enjoy leading and mentoring my fellow staff and believe that our employees are the most valuable part of obtaining the mission of each state agency. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my wife and daughter by enjoying each others company and completing any activity that brings us not only closer together but also brings a smile to our faces.