



ONLINE VOTING AT LAKE WAYNOKA

In 2026, Lake Waynoka will begin using an online voting system, Election Buddy, for Board of Trustees elections and for voting on updates to the Code of Regulations (Blue Book).



WHY?

- An online voting system will save printing and postage costs as well as volunteer time associated with a paper ballot election.
- Election results will be available quickly without waiting for ballots to be returned by mail and counted.
- Past paper ballot elections have had a roughly 38% participation rate. Online voting is expected to increase participation, reflecting more input from more WPOA members.



WHO?

- Eligible voters will be determined as in the past. To be eligible, voters must be members in good standing:
 - with no citations
 - and with any overdue dues, fees and fines paid.
- Each election will have a deadline for members to be in good standing before receiving a ballot.



HOW?

- During election periods, email and text messages from Election Buddy will include links and voter instructions for eligible voters, including a deadline for voting.
- The Election Buddy system uses 2-factor authentication and 256-bit encryption for security to verify that only eligible property owners vote. Email notices are CAN-SPAM compliant.
- Voters' choices are anonymous. How anyone votes will not be visible to the Election Team or anyone else.
- The Election Buddy system is able to send reminders to voters that have not returned their ballot before the voting deadline.
- A voting kiosk will be available at the Administration office for anyone who does not want to vote with their phone or email.



WHEN?

- Voting on Code of Regulations (Blue Book) updates will take place in Summer, 2026.
- Board of Trustees election will take place in Fall, 2026.