



WSFMA Board of Directors 2025 Slate of Candidates

Per the WSFMA [by-laws](#), member farmers markets in good standing elect the WSFMA’s Board of Directors. The election concludes at the Annual Membership Meeting. Each member farmers market (defined as each unique farmers market location) gets **one vote**.

How to Vote: WSFMA member farmers markets will be able to vote either in-person at Annual Membership Meeting, through a Proxy vote at the WSFMA Annual Membership Meeting, or online via the “Election Buddy.”

To vote with the “Election Buddy,” look for a unique link will be emailed on February 2, 2025 to the “Primary Contact” listed in the member market’s 2024 WSFMA application.

Voting closes at the end of Annual Membership Meeting which will be held on February 22, 2025 from 8:30 to 9:15am at the Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton, WA as part of the 2025 WSFMA Conference. All member farmers markets are welcome. You do not need to register for the Conference to attend the Annual Membership Meeting.

Please email Debra Stansbery, Board President, at debrakayen@gmail.com or info@wafarmersmarkets.org with any questions.

1-Year Term Candidates:

- Candidate 1: [Jesse Johnson](#)
- Candidate 2: [Amanda Milholland](#)

This 1-year term is to complete Year 2 of a board member who is not completing their 2-year term.

2-Year Term Candidates:

- Candidate 3: [Pamela K Daudet](#)
- Candidate 4: [Jessica Huerta](#)
- Candidate 5: [Jerry J. Shackette](#)
- Candidate 6: [Kathy Solberg](#)
- Candidate 7: [Barbara Soto](#)

Candidates for the 1-Year Term

Candidate 1:	Jesse Johnson
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<i>Where do you live and/or work?</i>	Pullman WA
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<i>What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?</i>	Farmer John Coalition
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Candidate 1:**Jesse Johnson**

Are you applying as an individual community member?

No

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

I worked as a seasonal landscaper for the city of Liberty Lake, WA for three years. One of my responsibilities was managing the city booth for the local farmers' market. During this time, I had the opportunity to have multiple conversations with the farmers market manager, Paul Puhek, to learn more about agriculture and farmers at the farmers' market. I now run an organization that is making great progress to provide financial relief for farmers in Washington State.

The WSFMA is a 501c3 nonprofit with a big mission, requiring teamwork in a variety of areas in order to be successful.

Conference Planning; Advocacy and Policy

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate on any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

My organization, the Farmer John Coalition, is making great progress to pass a sales and use tax exemption on farm equipment purchases in Washington State. We have a sponsor in the senate and are working on getting one in the house. We are excited for the 2025 session. This work has allowed me to gain experience working with legislatures and organizations in the world of agriculture and learning new skills such as legislative writing and website building.

From May 2024 to June 2024, I served as the Legislative Summit Coordinator for The Lands Council, where I played a key role in the logistical planning and coordination of their Legislative Summit. My responsibilities included managing communications with speakers, panelists, and sponsors to ensure a seamless experience for all participants. I also organized and maintained critical files, contributing to the smooth execution of the event. This role allowed me to develop strong organizational, communication, and event management skills while supporting an initiative focused on environmental policy advocacy.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

Agriculture is a vital part needed for a society to function. U.S. agriculture has many problems, and Covid-19 made that even more obvious. With a passion to improve the country's agriculture system, I have learned about agriculture and have made good relationships with Liberty Lake Farmers Market Manager, Paul Puhek, and agriculture lawyer, Rusty McGuire.

Additionally, I was part of the Rise Summer 2022 Cohort, an intensive 8-week program that provided me with hands-on experience in comprehending and navigating the process of writing and passing legislation. Through workshops, mentorship, and collaborative projects, I developed skills in policy analysis, drafting legislative proposals, and effectively advocating for change within a structured framework. This experience enhanced my ability to critically evaluate policy issues and work toward impactful solutions. I have been interested to work with this organization for a long time and would like to add my unique experience to it.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

To connect with more wonderful people in the agriculture world and use my experience to help more members of this association be successful.

Candidate 1:**Jesse Johnson**

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

Monthly online board meetings, online committee meetings, and board meeting prep (~4 hours); Annual board retreat (2-days) in person, usually in the spring.; Participating in the annual WSFMA Conference and Annual Member Meeting.

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

I obtained a third degree blackbelt in taekwondo in 2018 and currently have a position working as an economist. This achievement and occupation provide the discipline and mindset to consider all factors for making a decision and stamina to get objectives done.

Candidate 2**Amanda Milholland**

Where do you live and/or work?

Port Townsend, WA

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?

Port Townsend and Chimacum Farmers Markets

Are you applying as an individual community member?

No

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

I have been serving as the Jefferson County Farmers Market Director for 8.5 years. I also served WSFMA as a Regional Lead for about 4 years working with farmers markets in the Olympic and Kitsap Peninsula.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Fundraising; Financial Management and Oversight; Governance and Internal Policies; Conference Planning; Communications, Marketing and Promotions; Other

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

I bring a broad understanding of what it means to manage and grow a farmers market and market programs, experience working with and participating in board of directors, fundraising, participating in strategic planning, developing training and technical assistance, and managing and building a budget.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

I have been collaborating with WSFMA since I started working for the Jefferson County Farmers Markets. I admire your work and see its importance for the statewide market community.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

I am interested in seeing how your board functions and bringing good ideas back to the JCFM board of directors and gaining a broader understanding of the landscape of farmers market work in WA.

Candidate 2

Amanda Milholland

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

Monthly online board meetings, online committee meetings, and board meeting prep (~4 hours); Participating in the annual WSFMA Conference and Annual Member Meeting.

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

Regarding my availability, I may be able to attend the in-person meetings. It depends on the dates. Spring is a challenging time for me to get away for two days.

Candidates for the 2-Year Term

Candidate 3

Pamela K Daudet

Where do you live and/or work?

Olympia WA

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?

Endicott Ranch, Owner

Are you applying as an individual community member?

Yes

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

I like working as a board member to help build and solve problems within the organization.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Fundraising; Financial Management and Oversight; Human Resources; Conference Planning

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

To be present and help people navigate around the conference or any other meetings we may have, to thank each one of the committee members that come to the conference because without them it would not be a strong adventure. It takes many people to build to make the foundation strong, I love meeting new people and seeing old faces, we each have a talent to make the organization whole.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

I feel it is an awesome cause to be part of WSFMA because without them we would just be farmers markets without help. Each market may struggle not having the WSFMA to seek help from.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

To be supportive, to give back.

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

Monthly online board meetings, online committee meetings, and board meeting prep (~4 hours); 2-3 in-person board meetings per year, usually held in Seattle at the WSFMA office.; Annual board retreat (2-days) in person,

Candidate 3

Pamela K Daudet

usually in the spring.; Participating in the annual WSFMA Conference and Annual Member Meeting.

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

I am a long-time cattle grower, have good ideas that I hope to share to help others, life is all about giving back to the community. I hope to share wisdom that may help others to carry forward.

Candidate 4

Jessica Huerta

Where do you live and/or work?

Link Transit - Wenatchee, WA

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?

Wenatchee Valley Farmers Market

Are you applying as an individual community member?

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

I have been involved with farmers markets as a volunteer, staff and board member since 2020. I managed the WVFM for two seasons and then served on the board for three years. I am currently staying involved with the WVFM as a volunteer.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Fundraising; Human Resources; Conference Planning; Insurance

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

I have 5 years of farmers market experience through both staff and board member perspective. I have planning experience through my current role in public transportation, I sit on multiple transit committees throughout the state because I love to be able to both give and gain perspective in my role. Being a part of the WSFMA allows me to help support my local farmers market and I hope to also be able to support both the organization and ED with my experience as well.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

I want to be able to support the ED as much as I can as I can. I love the organization and the community behind farmers markets. I am committed to a little less this upcoming year than last year so I believe that I can give a little more.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

I hope to be able to continue to serve and support an organization that means a lot to me and help with what I can to support with one final term.

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

Monthly online board meetings, online committee meetings, and board meeting prep (~4 hours);2-3 in-person board meetings per year, usually held in Seattle at the WSFMA office.; Annual board retreat (2-days) in person, usually in the spring.

Candidate 4

Jessica Huerta

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

I love Colleen and she can treat me like her work horse when she needs it most to just stay out of her way and figure things out during conference...
haha

Candidate 5

Jerry J. Shackette

Where do you live and/or work?

Live in Kissee Mills, Missouri. Employed in Mount Vernon, Washington

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?

Mount Vernon Farmers Market, board member

Are you applying as an individual community member?

Yes

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

Four years as a current board member and officer of WSFMA. In addition, 5 years' experience with the Mount Vernon Farmers Market as a volunteer, 1 term as treasurer, and two terms as board president.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Fundraising; Governance and Internal Policies; Conference Planning

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

Thirty Five + years of employment and service with non-profit organizations including higher education institutions, professional associations, and community development groups.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

My interests include efforts to support farmers markets as partners in community development, and food access especially as it impacts low and very low income community members. I also support sustainable agriculture initiatives especially as it applies to agritourism and other value added strategies for family farms.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

The opportunity to contribute what knowledge and skills I have to community development opportunities that are meaningful to me.

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

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Candidate 5

Jerry J. Shackette

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

Looking at #12 above, I can commit to any and all of the listed activities that offer the infrastructure to allow virtual participation. I have extensive formal leadership and non-profit work and volunteer experience, solid experience working remotely, plus family and professional ties to Washington State. I know the territory and am motivated to contribute.

Candidate 6:

Kathy Solberg

Where do you live and/or work?

Everett, WA

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with, if any?

None

Are you applying as an individual community member?

Yes

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

I come in as a supporter of Farmers Markets on the community member side. I support local agriculture and also various Local markets.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Fundraising; Financial Management and Oversight; Governance and Internal Policies; Human Resources; Conference Planning; Communications, Marketing and Promotions; Advocacy and Policy; Other

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board? Please elaborate any of the above areas and/or tell us about your work/interests as they relate to farmers markets and WSFMA programs.

I have strong experience in nonprofit management, including board management. I have been an executive director of a nonprofit and worked for more than 2 decades in nonprofits. I currently support nonprofit executive directors and fundraisers through peer group offerings.

My work relates to community. Community outreach and community building. My boards management and governance experience are my greatest asset on a board.

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

This was brought to my attention by Karen Erikson and I am interested in supporting community connection and community building through all facets of operations of farmers markets.

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

I hope to support the growth and solid infrastructure of farmers markets in Washington. I also have an interest in learning more as an Artisan about the maker-side of markets.

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

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Candidate 6:

Kathy Solberg

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.

I have served on a lot of nonprofit boards and am an active board member. If you have a desire to have a board member that is present and looks through a systems lens of how things can serve better and the board can support the staff, I am a very strong candidate. If you are happy with how things are and don't have an open mind to support, strategic planning expertise and constructive and creative thinking, I may not be a fit. I am not a pain in the ass as a board member for the board or staff, though if I say yes, I do participate and engage toward the greater good

Candidate 7

Barbara Soto

Where do you live and/or work?

Boistfort WA

What Washington farmers market or partner organization will you be representing or are affiliated with?

Centralia Aberdeen

Are you applying as an individual community member?

No

Please tell us about your experience working with FARMERS MARKETS, including any work as a volunteer, vendor, staff, or board member.

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Nonprofit/organizational development; Communications, Marketing and Promotions; Advocacy and Policy; Other

Please describe skills and/or experience that would you bring to the WSFMA as a member of the Board?

Work with family to run a multiple generational farm producing proteins and dabbling in added value Products we have a belief that in order to have a place to market we must help with outlets like WSFMA

What sparks your interest most about our work and serving on the WSFMA Board of Directors at this time? What drew you to the organization and this particular leadership opportunity?

Keeping it alive and helping it thrive

What do you personally hope to get out of your board service experience?

To facilitate others telling there farm story and get everyone's story heard

Of the following regular board expectations, which are you able to commit to attending?

Monthly online board meetings, online committee meetings, and board meeting prep (~4 hours); 2-3 in-person board meetings per year, usually held in Seattle at the WSFMA office.; Annual board retreat (2-days) in person, usually in the spring.; Participating in the annual WSFMA Conference and Annual Member Meeting.

Please feel free to share anything else about yourself that you feel makes you a great candidate for the WSFMA's Board of Directors.