



## Nicholas Hahn

### Biography

While I grew up in Hawaii and Florida, I attended Beloit College. After receiving my bachelor's degree, I served as a Korean linguist in the US Navy and deployed twice--once aboard the USS Blue Ridge and once to Baqubah, Iraq. After six years in the Navy, I attended law school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After a two-year, federal judicial clerkship in Hawaii, my family and I moved to Oshkosh in 2015. I have worked as an attorney in the Fox Valley ever since. In addition to my professional life, I am active in the community as a member and board member of the Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club, a commissioner for the Oshkosh Housing Authority, and a cubmaster with Cub Scout Pack 3698.

### What would you bring/offer to the Oshkosh Food Co-op Board?

I work with businesses every day and I believe every person--regardless of income--should have access to healthful foods. As an attorney who advises businesses--many of whom are distressed or seeking to turnaround their operations--I will bring a measure of business knowledge. I hope this knowledge will benefit the Co-op as it seeks to improve on its already impressive growth over the past year and a half.

### What is your dream for the Oshkosh Food Co-op?

I want the Co-op to continue to be a resource to provide community members an option to purchase healthful foods in downtown Oshkosh and serve as a gathering place to learn about cooking, exercise, and wellness through the classes it hosts in its community room.

### Why do you think the Oshkosh Food Co-op is important to the greater Oshkosh Community?

I first visited Oshkosh in 2014, and I was taken aback at the stark contrast between Oshkosh's natural beauty, on the one hand, and the large swaths of vacant lots and shuttered buildings. Instead of the vacant lot that was there in 2014, there is now a grocery store where people can purchase food within walking or biking distance for the downtown residents. Moreover, the Co-op supports local businesses and farmers. While there is nothing wrong with purchasing food from national distributors and big-box stores, it is foolish to not support local producers, as we have seen with the recent inflation in egg prices. The Co-op does precisely that and we should support it for that reason.

### Why cooperatives?

I believe in freedom of choice. Co-ops allow members a voice in how the store is operated and managed and an alternative to national, big-box stores that may serve the community optimally. Co-ops can benefit local economies by purchasing from local producers. I, like most people, would love to purchase eggs and produce, for example, from local farmers, rather than faceless businesses in other states or countries.

### Please offer any additional thoughts you would like Oshkosh Food Co-op member-owners to know about you.

Health and fitness are of the utmost importance to me, and I think everyone deserves to be as healthy and fit as they want.

155 JACKSON, SUITE 101  
OSHKOSH, WI 54901

920.312.7220  
info@oshkoshfoodcoop.com

oshkoshfoodcoop.com

a member-owned community grocery store

