



Nicholas Hahn, Incumbent seeking re-election

Biography

Nick Hahn moved to Oshkosh from Hawaii over ten years ago for Wisconsin's superior climate. He has served on the Oshkosh Food Co-op's board since 2024 and is committed to supporting access to healthful food for all community members. A Navy veteran with six years as a Korean linguist and intelligence analyst, Nick holds a B.A. from Beloit College, an A.A. from the Defense Language Institute, and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As a practicing attorney, he brings analytical expertise to advance the co-op's mission. He is also a member of the Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club and VFW Post 1908, as well as the Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 3698. In his free time, he enjoys learning (with varying levels of success) new things, like taekwondo, etymology, the C programming language, and catching fish. Nick currently serves on the Governance Committee.

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

Having served on the Co-op board for over year, I now have some institutional knowledge of the Co-op's governance, finances, and challenges it faces. I am also an attorney which has been--and likely will be--helpful in negotiating and understanding contracts.

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

I would like to see the Co-op continue its mission, and also generate much larger profits so it can (1) continue and hopefully increase the Food for All program, (2) employ and retain the most qualified team members, and (3) return more value to member owners. The Food for All program is tremendous benefit to the community. The Co-op is located within walking distance of two affordable housing projects and is the only grocery store in Downtown Oshkosh. The Co-op's employees are excellent, and I want to ensure that we can retain them on a long-term basis. Finally, member owners should eventually receive more benefits as the Co-op continues to improve its finances.

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a member-owned community grocery store





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

Undoubtedly. Not only is the Co-op the only grocery store downtown, among a web of taverns and fast food restaurants, it also provides a meeting space for community events and often hosts low-cost community meals. To my knowledge, no business in Downtown Oshkosh offer comparable services

Why cooperatives?

Co-operatives offer an alternative to big-box retailers like Pick and Save, Target, and Wal-Mart. Individuals have much greater say in how co-ops operate, what they sell, and how they treat their employees. Any member can attend a board meeting at voice their concerns or email board members. The probability of an individual shopper at Pick and Save contacting the board of directors of Pick and Save is approximately 0%. By contrast, individuals have virtually no say in how a big-box retailer like Pick and Save operates. Further, instead of relying solely on national distributors, Co-ops can purchase from local farmers and manufacturers. This gives individuals more choice and strengthens local supply chains. As we saw during the 2025 egg shortage, obtaining food only through national supply chains can leave us vulnerable.

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

I'm always receptive to member feedback, so feel free to contact me or attend a board meeting.

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