

Candidate Filing Period Announced

On Saturday, June 27, 2009, Citizen Potawatomi Nation voters will elect a Tribal Chairman and five (5) members of the Tribal Legislature. Legislators in Districts #1, #2, #3, and #4 will be elected to new four-year terms, as will the Chairman. Voters in District #8 will elect a representative to serve the remaining year of the late Rep. Jacqueline Taylor's term, which ends in June 2010.

The incumbents in the positions that will be on the 2009 ballot are: John 'Rocky' Barrett (Tribal Chairman), Roy Slavin (District #1), Eva Marie Carney (District #2), Robert Whistler (District #3), and Theresa Adame (District #4).

CPN members who would like to be considered for these positions must file their declarations of candidacy no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2009. Those declarations of candidacy must be filed through the U.S. Postal Service and must be received by the CPN Election Committee no later than 5 p.m. on January 14.

Declaration of Candidacy forms for both the legislative positions and the Chairmanship are printed in this edition of the *HowNiKan* and will appear in the November and December editions, as well. Additionally, they can be downloaded from this internet site: www.cpnelectioncentral.org/resources.htm.

Candidates for Tribal Chairman must be at least 35 years old upon being sworn in on June 27, 2009 and must have lived in Oklahoma for at least six months before election day. Candidates for the legislative seats must be at least 18 years old by election day. Additionally, they must have resided in the district from which they are elected for six months on election day. A map depicting the eight legislative districts outside Oklahoma is included on page 5. It is also available on the internet at the link mentioned previously.

The June election ballot will also contain the annual budget for spending interest and earnings from the Nation's set-aside funds. Thus, all eligible CPN voters will participate in this election.

A Ballot Request Period will begin on February 15, 2009 and end on June 8, 2009. There will be in-person voting from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2009 at the courtroom in the CPN administration building, 1601 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801 for all six positions.

The tribal government will mail Absentee Request Forms to all members who will be eligible to vote in the 2009 election. Additionally, to assist in CPN voters' obtaining an absentee ballot, a Ballot Request Form will be published in future editions of the *HowNiKan*. It, too, is posted on the internet at the link above.

Voters who wish to cast absentee ballots can obtain an absentee ballot by mailing back the postage-paid request form that will be mailed to them, clipping the request form from the *HowNiKan*, or downloading it from the Web site and completing and mailing it to Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Election Committee, P.O. Box 310, Tecumseh, OK 74873.

Voters who cast an absentee ballot will not be able to vote in-person in Shawnee on June 27, 2009. However, if a voter obtains an Absentee Ballot then decides to vote in person, he can exchange the Absentee Ballot for an in-person ballot on June 27, 2009 at the polling place.

Voters should remember that the Ballot Request Form must be postmarked no later than June 8, 2009. Voted absentee ballots must arrive in the Election Committee's post office box in Tecumseh, Oklahoma no later than 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2009.

[Download a Tribal legislator candidate filing form](#)

[Download a Tribal Chairman candidate filing form](#)

[Download the CPN Legislative District Map](#)