



President and Board Elections 2025

**Election of
Director**

**Wimmera Southern Mallee
Central Highlands Region**

Voting instructions,
candidates' statements
and photographs

NOTICE: The contents of candidate statements are provided by the candidates. Any enquiries about candidate statements should be directed to the relevant candidate. Candidate statements are not verified or endorsed by the Election Manager.



ARMSTRONG, Jo

I believe I have much to offer our Wimmera Southern Mallee Central Highlands councils should I be elected to represent our region on the MAV Board. My civic service commenced in 2016 and I have been proactive in working through some very difficult challenges over that time, all the while keeping community wellbeing and benefit front of mind. I recognise the importance of elected representatives leading by example and the weight of responsibility we carry as the tier of government that is most accountable and transparent to our community. I am well-placed to build connections across our region and believe we need to make the most of a purposeful forum to collaborate on positive actions that deliver better outcomes for our communities. The gains made by Ararat Rural City whilst I have served our council for two years as Deputy Mayor and currently my fifth year as Mayor, reflect my capacity to work constructively with colleagues. I have consistently demonstrated my willingness to consult with others, communicate effectively, and see the job through. It will be a privilege to broaden my service to local government by being an effective voice for our region at board level.

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DRYLIE, Tim

Growing up in Western Victoria, I developed a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities faced by regional communities. My upbringing instilled the values of resilience, hard work, and care for the land and its people, alongside deep respect for First Nations custodians who have cared for this land for thousands of years. These values have shaped my work as a Councillor. Now in my second term on Hepburn Shire Council, including time as Mayor, I have focused on delivering practical outcomes: improving local infrastructure to better connect our towns and people, supporting sustainable agriculture and local food systems, advocating for development that balances growth with community needs, and fostering wellbeing. I have actively supported renewable energy initiatives, affordable housing, and community led decision making to ensure regional voices are heard and valued. If elected to the MAV Board, I will bring a practical and solutions focused approach to address the challenges faced by regional councils. My priorities include advocating for better infrastructure, improving access to essential services, supporting industries critical to our regions' prosperity, inclusive and safe spaces, youth, biodiversity and our environment. By working together, we can ensure strong, sustainable, and climate resilient communities for the future.

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EMERSON, Murray

I have been a councillor at the Northern Grampians Shire for 12 years. During this time I have had the privilege of being Mayor 5 times. I have been an MAV representative for 10 years and a board director for 6 years. I am chair of the Wimmera Southern Mallee Central Highland group of Councils. I have worked honestly and diligently to represent all local government organisations. During this time I have assisted in bringing the MAV into a new and exciting organisation. In addition to the constant representation to State and Federal Governments we have wound up the disastrous work care scheme, and re written the MAV rules. We have appointed a new CEO. We have been dealing with a very difficult time in the MAV insurance scheme. If re elected I will continue to be a strong voice for local government. There will be a number of new board members and retaining some experience is essential. Now is the time for stability to allow us to build on what has already been achieved. I am asking for your support in electing me for a further 2 years. Vote 1 Murray Emerson