



BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES



**Voting Open To All Member-Owners
Vote For Three Candidates
April 20th-30th
Online (durangonaturalfoods.coop/vote)
Or In Store**



Democratic governance makes Durango Natural Foods unique! Instead of a small number of owners making all decisions, our approximately 2,000 member-owners shape the future of this coop. All member-owners are eligible to run for our Board of Directors and these members have chosen to volunteer their time. It is now up to you to decide who should be elected to our board and shape our small but mighty store's future. Not a member? Ask a cashier to sign up today. You too can vote and own a small chunk of our grocery store! Do you have something you'd like the BOD to address at their next meeting? Please email us at Board@durangonaturalfoods.coop or attend a meeting (every 3rd Wednesday 5:30-7:30 - @ 848 E 3rd Ave Durango). Please take part in democratic governance by reading these statements and voting!

STATEMENT

I joined the DNF Board in 2019 because I have a passion for local food systems, sustainable economies (like cooperatives!), and the community that binds it all together. As a Board member of a cooperative, I have a duty to represent the interest of our member-owners. I am honored to have seen DNF grow and evolve over the past four years. I believe that I have the ability to offer a deep knowledge of where DNF has come from, what's worked and what hasn't, where it currently stands, and leveraging these experiences to create a brighter future for DNF. Over the next 3-5 years, I feel that the Board should prioritize:

- Completing the bylaws revision project and getting approval from member owners
- Identify solutions to diversify revenue streams (ex. satellite location, expansion, value-added food production, etc.) and support the GM with the resources needed to execute.
- Navigating the City of Durango's road diet construction that will likely take place on College in the next year or two. More specifically, to ensure that the needs of DNF and its patrons are accounted for and that the traffic flow doesn't negatively impact safety or the financial health of the Co-op.
- Secure the financial resources necessary for needed building repairs and new equipment (ex. leaky roof, new refrigeration units, updated kitchen appliances, refinished floors, etc.)

I'd be happy to have the opportunity to continue supporting our little, cozy, and MIGHTY co-op. I look forward to seeing you around the store!



WESTON MEDLOCK

Work: Program Specialist Sr. for New Mexico State University
Board Experience: DNF Board since 2019 in the capacity of Vice President and currently Co-President. Steering Committee/Board of Four Corners Slow Money. Sustainability Alliance of SW Colorado.

Education: Bachelors in Sustainable Development from Appalachian State University



STATEMENT

I'm interested in the 2023 Durango Natural Foods Board of Directors position. I have been a member of the Durango community since the summer of 2008, a customer at DNF since then, and most recently an employee from 2020-2022.

I have many valuable skills to bring to the position. I like to make sure that when someone else is talking, I am listening to understand and not just to let them finish their point. This kind of listening lends itself well to problem solving. In college, I was able to learn how to work in a group towards a common goal, using everyone's unique skills, to reach a common goal.

I value health and wellness. I love to cook healthy meals and share my pictures and recipes, online or as I'm checking out. I love that DNF is committed to helping their customers take control of their health, a mission that resonates with me as a health and wellness professional.

As a former employee (truck, deli, curbside, general) I made great connections with my fellow employees and management, the farmers and vendors, the customers, and even a few members of the Board. If elected as a Board member, I feel that this is an important resource to continue to cultivate. We need to create a connection between Board members, employees and customers, as we are all integral parts of the "working machine" that can help each other and DNF be the best run COOP it can be.

I would like to see the Board focus on community connection, to continue to pursue providing healthy, affordable options and hearing the voices of the owners and employees. By using all of our valuable resources, DNF will continue to see the support and success well into the future.



MARYL WINTERSCHIED

Work: Personal Trainer

Board Experience: Four Corners Alliance For Diversity, 2018

Education: Undergraduate

STATEMENT

As a skilled finance professional with a passion for sustainable agriculture and community involvement, I believe that I would make a valuable addition to the Board of DNF.

My experience in the financial sector, particularly in asset management and investment analysis, I believe would bring a unique perspective to the Board. In addition, my background could be advantageous to the Board as material discussions will need to be continued and decisions made even in the face of today's rapidly changing economic landscape. Furthermore, I have a genuine interest in sustainability, food production, and community-driven initiatives. Together, my understanding of the Durango community and some of the challenges and opportunities facing the natural foods industry, combined with my background, would enable me to contribute meaningfully to the Board's initiatives.

In addition to my professional and personal qualifications, I am an excellent communicator and collaborator. I value open and honest dialogue and am dedicated to finding creative solutions to complex problems. I would work to advance the mission and goals of DNF and foster a positive and inclusive culture.

Areas of focus for the next 3-5 years:

-Strategic Planning: Continue to drive, refresh, and share a comprehensive strategic plan. Such a plan should identify and prioritize the Co-op's goals and objectives in the short, medium, and long-term (for example, inventory management enhancements, new, additional services, and building enhancements). This process should involve input from Co-op members, employees, and stakeholders, and should result in a clear and actionable plan for the organization's future.

-Financial Sustainability: Ensure the Co-op's long-term financial sustainability. This may involve exploring new revenue streams, reducing expenses, and implementing sound financial management practices.

-Membership Growth: Grow the Co-op's membership base. This may involve targeted marketing and outreach efforts, as well as initiatives to increase member engagement and retention.



RYAN ERICKSON

Work: Investment Analyst

Board Experience: I've had Board/Committee experience as both a voting member and as an advisor in the financial sector.

Education: Fort Lewis College, Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration Northern Arizona University, Master of Business Administration

STATEMENT



DANIEL KURZENDOERFER



Beyond my responsibilities as a technical consultant who does the software implementation development work on our projects, I am also responsible for the extensive project management and forecasting that is done before, during, and after the completion of projects. I have four years of significant experience building complex forecasts from both my previous job working in the pharmaceutical industry and in my current role at Huron Consulting. I also have two years of experience being the lead project manager on three separate \$1M+ implementation projects, which entails extremely detailed project planning, maintenance of project plans, and clear communication of progress to clients. If elected to the BOD, I will be able to use these cross-functional skills I have gained in my career to assist Durango Natural Foods in sustaining financial stability and to assist in providing strategic planning for its future. Specifically, in the next three years I would focus on working with my co-BOD members to refine and execute on a plan to achieve greater financial stability for DNF so that our organization may continue to thrive and prosper for many years to come - even in the face of adversity like needs for significant replacements or repairs to the property. My interest in joining the DNF Board of Directors stems from my love for how this town seems to provide for itself in its community, its culture, and even its groceries! This is a great opportunity for me to get more involved and to play a role in maintaining a small piece of what makes Durango special by giving back to the community via the skills I have to offer. Thank you for considering me as a potential member of your co-op's Board of Directors!



STATEMENT

I founded RadCraft as a cooperative to market the ways in which local and regional agriculture adds value in beverage products. Along the way I have become deeply ingrained in North American small grains food systems, something that I'm incredibly passionate about. Having built a 12+ year career as a liaison between farmers and consumers, I'm confident that my leadership, project management, marketing, and specific agriculture communications experience could support the work of DNF. I can't think of any better way to contribute to the place I call home than to invest time and energy into the co-op where I have found community, health, and inspiration. Thank you for this opportunity!



EMILY HUTTO

Work: CEO at RadCraft Instructor at University of Vermont Business of Craft Beer Program

Board Experience: None

Education: B.S. Journalism, University of Oregon (2009)
200 Hr. Yoga Teacher Training (2021)



STATEMENT

While I have only been a member of Durango Natural Foods Co-Op since this past Summer, I have always been a member at the co-ops in each town I have lived in. I am passionate about local foods and the local food movement and see it as an incredibly powerful pathway towards environmental and social healths! I see the difference in the quality of food and community created because of our Durango co-op and I am passionate about helping foster this however I can! I have spent the last 5 years researching alternative and community economies and their impacts on local human and nature communities. Co-ops like ours are hubs for the community economy practices that help make our world more sustainable and just for humans and the non-humans out there. It would be really neat to expand on the programming that the co-op has had experience with in the past like community education classes, outreach to local businesses, and community rooted events to celebrate our local agriculture and producers! It would be really fantastic to bring in some funding to have a mobile market to bring the co-op goods to our local populations that are not able to readily access the co-op, perhaps a "pop-up" co-op around our surrounding rural areas! I believe my experience with non-profits, my consulting firm, and teaching/community outreach would be a strong contribution to the co-op community and future and would very much look forward to being involved in a more hands-on way. Thank you!



SOLANA KLINE

Work: Geography Professor and Grants Consultant

Board Experience: I am currently building an outdoor recreation non-profit and have a non-profit based consulting firm specializing in grants, sustainable event planning, DEI incorporation, editing, etc.

Education: PhD Geography, MSc Anthropology, BA INTL Studies and Anthropology



STATEMENT

I am interested in joining the DNF board as a way of becoming part of the community and sharing my interest in healthy foods and diet. My husband and I moved here last April from Santa Rosa, CA.

There is a nice variety of food available at DNF. I would like to engage with customers by presenting recipes and food samples. Perhaps unique options that are not often thought of as a way of making the store more unique and engaging with its patrons.

I could also assist with marketing materials as my background is working as a visual brand director.

The focus over the next 3-5 years is simply keeping the price point of foods available to everyone and engaging people in healthy choices.



TRACY MARTINI

Work: Artist. Previously, Director of Brand for Easter Seals in the San Francisco Bay Area. tracymartini.com/resume

Board Experience: No previous board experience

Education: BFA from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh: Graphic Design and Photography



STATEMENT

My name is Ryan Lazo, and I moved back to Durango with my family in the fall of 2021. I am excited to submit my application for the DNF board because I enjoy being involved in the community and care deeply about the mission of DNF. With over ten years of nonprofit and board experience, I am confident I would make a good addition to the DNF board. In recent years, my volunteer experience has centered around serving organizations in the food realm. Before moving to Durango, I served as a Commissioner for the City of Moscow, Idaho's Farmers Market, a board member for the Council on Aging and Human Services (COAHS), an active member of both the Palouse-Clearwater Food Coalition and Whitman County Food Coalition, and a member of the Moscow Food CoOp's Sustainability Committee. My experience as a committed volunteer on several boards will help guide me if I'm selected. For example, the DNF board hires and evaluates the GM. I have experience evaluating and hiring staff in my professional career and volunteer board experience. Additionally, the DNF board of directors must help guide the GM on addressing deferred maintenance. While on the COAHS board, we ensured regular building upkeep and oversaw numerous building upgrades. Last, I would make a good board member because I have a history of helping build strong relationships between people and organizations. In my previous work with the Whitman County Food Coalition, we brought together local elected officials, community leaders, non-profits, and farmers to address the county's food insecurity and economic challenges. I enjoy working with organizations like Food CoOps because of their commitment to local community members and the environment. Furthermore, I strongly believe in creating spaces that are welcoming and accessible for all, and I appreciate that about DNF. Thank you for considering me for the DNF board.



RYAN LAZO

Work: Director, FLC Alumni Engagement Office

Board Experience: Council on Aging and Human Services (2015-2021), Moscow Food Coop Sustainability Committee (2019-2021), City of Moscow Farmers Market Commission (2020-2021)

Education: Master of Education (M.Ed.)



STATEMENT

I am a rational candidate for the Board of Directors because I share DNF's values, will contribute needed abilities, and will support DNF's mission.

I share DNF's values of financial and environmental sustainability, education that helps us choose health, and honesty.

I will not only bring the ability to listen and learn to the board, but also the ability of sound judgement. In addition, I am organized and reliable.

I would like to help the board communicate to member-owners and the community both what DNF can contribute to our community, and what it needs from the community to thrive.

I believe the board should help maintain DNF's independence and democratic control. DNF serves us all more accurately as a community-controlled cooperative versus an institution controlled from far away or high up.

Thank you for considering me as a board member.



HAYLEY CUNNINGHAM

Work: wife, mom of 5 children, homemaker, home educator

Board Experience: None

Education: Bachelors and Masters degrees in Viola Performance, Suzuki Teacher certifications



DNF'S SOUNDING BOARD



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE THE BOD TO ADDRESS AT THEIR NEXT MEETING? PLEASE EMAIL US AT BOARD@DURANGONATURALFOODS.COOP!

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH
FROM 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**



Sheryl McGourty
President



Weston Medlock
Vice President



Elise Boulanger
Secretary



Kate Randall
Board Member



Chrissy Mosier
Board Member



Hadley Bevill
Board Member



Cody Reinheimer
Board Member

**YOUR VOICE MATTERS!
BOARD@DURANGONATURALFOODS.COOP**