

**Karen Higgins – CAPE Region 5; Senate District 2**

I am Karen Higgins. I am a third generation Oregonian. I have been in State service working for the Department of Justice, Child Support Division for over 25 years. I am a member of the Specials Coalition and Sub Local 137. I am currently serving as a Steward.

I am running to be a CAPE council member (delegate), because I want to serve the best interest of our members. This perspective includes taking into consideration not just race and ethnicity, but also in age, gender, ability, education, family status and every other aspect of our lives that provides for our perspective on the world we share.

The political process is a vital part of building and maintaining a strong union. It is important to include and consider all of our member's best interests and the issues we face. As a CAPE member (delegate), I will communicate the politics that affect our member's best interests and the issues we are facing.

Part of the political process I will be engaged in as a CAPE member (delegate), will include candidate interviews and the endorsement process. It is important that recommended candidates respect, value and see the work each employee contributes to the operation of the services our State Government agencies provide. Additionally, candidates maintain the highest level of integrity.

I sought out State employment, because I saw it as a place of service to the public and as an opportunity to secure my future by having a strong benefit and salary package.

**Mera Gagnon – CAPE Region 5; Senate District 3**

My name is Mera and I have been one of your representatives from So. Oregon on our CAPE Council. This is our Political Action Committee (PAC) that represents our interest – and working peoples' interests – in choosing candidates we want to support in elections who are going to back us. We interview all candidates that want to be interviewed and we vote. I am not the quiet woman sitting in the back of the room – I am the one speaking up for you and your clients in the front. I take care of my own disabled daughter 24/7. Before the SEIU came on board the state paid me \$920/mo. – now it's more than triple that. So I believe in what the union can do and I believe by sitting on CAPE I can best serve all of us...I ask for your vote and Thank you for helping me to help you.