



2011 CVEA Board of Director Elections Meet the Candidates

The CVEA Board of Director elections are fast approaching. Ballots will be mailed by March 18, along with candidate biographies and your official annual meeting notice.

To be counted, return ballots must be received in the designated post office box by 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 5, 2011.

There is one seat up for election in the Copper Basin District and two seats in the Valdez District.

Three candidates have been nominated to fill these seats via the petition process.

You, as a CVEA member, will soon have the opportunity to exercise your right to vote.

To help you learn about the candidates, they were asked to respond to three important questions. The questions are listed here and the candidate responses follow.

Candidates were asked to limit their responses to 75 words per question.

Question 1

What knowledge, skills, and experience will you bring to CVEA's Board of Directors?

Question 2

What specific ideas do you have to make CVEA a better electric Cooperative?

Question 3

What ideas do you have to help the Co-op position itself for the future?



Copper Basin District
Jim Manning *Incumbent

Jim is a resident of Nelchina. He has been a member of CVEA for 21 years and has served on the Board of Directors since 2002, serving four terms as President of the Board.

Question 1

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors for the past nine years. My employment history consists of 29 years in Education. My education background consists of a Bachelor of Science, a Masters of Science, and a PhD. Since serving on the Board, I have earned a Credentialed Director Certification and a Board Leadership Certificate from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Question 2

In the near future, CVEA is pursuing the development of another hydroelectric project that will reduce our consumption of diesel fuel. There is a project to determine the feasibility of wind generation, and to evaluate the economics of that opportunity. My goal is to continue to provide cost efficient and reliable power to the members of CVEA.

Question 3

I fully subscribe to the co-op's vision to eliminate the use of fossil fuel to generate power. I envision a natural gas processing plant in the Copper Basin that will result in a greater demand for power.



Valdez District
Jeff Saxe *Incumbent

Jeff is a resident of Valdez. He has been a member of CVEA for 30 years and has served on the Board of Directors since 2005.

Question 1

I have been a CVEA board member for the last six years. I've also owned and operated two businesses in Valdez for the past 20 years.

Question 2

I would like to get CVEA off of using fossil fuels to generate power and I want to continue to work for funding of the Allison Creek Project. I would like to lower costs for the Cooperative owners, our members.

Question 3

I would like to ensure that communication is kept open between the Board of Directors and the members of the Cooperative.



Valdez District
Tom Kuckertz *Incumbent

Tom is a resident of Valdez. He has been a member of CVEA for 10.5 years and has served on the Board of Directors since 2003.

Question 1

In addition to seven years of previous service on CVEA's Board of Directors, I have worked for many years as an engineer, scientist, and manager at the Los Alamos National Laboratory and likewise at an instrumentation business using technology developed at the National Laboratory.

This experience, coupled with the perspective gained on the staff of the Regional Citizen's Advisory Council in Valdez, is directly relevant to the duties and responsibilities of a Director at CVEA.

Question 2

CVEA is already one of the finest and best professional organizations with which I have been associated. It is important that this good work continue.

I believe that CVEA will be a better cooperative if total rates for service are averaged over a year's time so that the benefit of the summer's lower hydro-power rates are shared better with the year-round residents of CVEA's service territory.

Question 3

CVEA's acquisition of the Solomon Gulch project and its development of the Allison Creek hydroplant positions the co-op for the near and immediate future.

With respect to the longer term, there is considerably more hydro power potential to be developed plus possibly renewable wind and geothermal resources. Gas, as it becomes available, needs to be integrated into the co-op's power supply.

As the State of Alaska develops its transmission infrastructure (required to distribute renewable energy), the co-op needs to integrate its operations in a fiscally responsible fashion into the Railbelt grid.

Want Your Vote to Count?

When you vote on CVEA business, such as the Board of Director election coming up in April, you are required to sign the ballot envelope. If the signature does not match the signature on the membership card on file with CVEA, the vote cannot be counted.

For residential customers, if you have changed marital status, or names, please contact CVEA to make sure those changes are reflected on your signature card. If you receive a card in the mail, please complete and bring to your local CVEA office or mail it in.

Organizations, businesses, and associations usually have board

members who are authorized to transact business for the group. The person who signs the election envelope must be an authorized signer on the account. If your Board of Directors or executive officer has changed in the past year, then it is time to update your CVEA membership card.

Please update your information as soon as possible. If you have questions or are unsure what is on your residential or business signature card, please stop by either office or call 822-3211 in Glennallen or 835-4301 in Valdez. ■