

THANKFUL | EXCITED | PREPARED

# **THURSDAY, MARCH 27**

**Meeting Location:** 

CVEC Headquarters at 317 S 8th St, Cornell

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m. | Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE GIFT & PRIZE DRAWINGS** 

Come for the meeting, stay for the PRIZES!

Each member family will receive either a free set of coasters or a trivet handcrafted by LH Products (Lake Holcombe students).

Prizes will be drawn throughout the meeting for:

- Gift certificates to local restaurants
- Gift certificates for CVEC electric bill credit
- Smart TV



Apple iPad





Your Cooperativ

#### Action will be taken on the following matters:

- 1. Cooperative reports
- 2. Election of three directors: one from District 2, 4, and 7
- 3. Vote of Bylaw Amendment
- 4. Unfinished business
- 5. New business and other business to come before this meeting

#### **Voting Instructions**

In accordance with the bylaws, any member unable to attend the meeting may vote by mail. All members will receive a Bylaw Amendment Ballot and return envelope to vote on the proposed changes to the Cooperative Bylaws. The ballot and envelope will be included with the bill that you receive in March.

Members who reside in a district whose director is up for election (districts 2, 4, and 7) at this annual

meeting will also receive an additional ballot in the same envelope as the electric bill mailed to them in March.

Please vote and return the completed ballot(s) to CVEC to be received prior to March 27 or you may bring it to the annual meeting. Please allow sufficient time to ensure your ballot reaches the CVEC office before the date of the annual meeting. Ballots received after March 27 will not be counted.

**Early Bird Prize:** Smart TV



**End of Meeting Prize:** Apple iPad



### **Steve Johnson – District 2**

N388 Eau Claire Avenue, New Auburn, WI 54757 • 715-967-2640

My past two terms as a director have been an

exciting, educational, and insightful experience. As a member of the CVEC Board, we have implemented many new avenues to keep pace with the ever-changing electrical industry; continuing build out of Broadband Technology for high-speed internet; and renewable energy sources for the present and future needs of our members.

We have built another solar garden east of Stanley, WI, increasing our solar output by 50%. Together, the New Auburn and Stanley sites produce about 7.55 GWH of renewable energy annually.

Over the past few years, Ntera, our partnership with Citizens Connected in New Auburn has been busy bringing high speed internet to CVEC members in underserved areas of our territory. At the end of 2024, we were providing these services to over 2,400 members.

The board of directors abides by the seven cooperative principles that make us seven strong. This year we highlighted cooperative principle #6, "Cooperation among Cooperatives."

CVEC linemen and equipment not only provided storm damage assistance to other co-ops in our region, but they also traveled to assist Aiken Electrical Cooperative in North Carolina to aid in restoring service after hurricane Helene devastated the area. CVEC also arranged to ship 170 transformers from inventory stock to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA). The donated transformers were undersized for most of the new services in the CVEC territory but will be a good fit for the needs of NTUA and the thousands of families in this area who have never had service before.

This year we were also involved with cooperative principle #7, "Concern for Community." CVEC along with matching grant money from Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC), our power supplier, donated funds to help build a Medivac Helicopter Pad in Holcombe, assisted Cornell Area Fire Department in purchasing a new truck, and helped the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department provide AED Defibrillators for every squad car in the county. I would like to thank you, our members, for allowing CVEC to assist our first responders and law

enforcement officers with this critical equipment.

I have completed my Credentialed Cooperative Director Program, Board Leadership Certificate, and in January of this year finished the Director Gold Credential Requirements. These recognize directors who are committed to continuing their education, advancing their knowledge, and performing their fiduciary duty to the best of their ability.

I serve as secretary/ treasurer of CVEC as well as secretary/treasurer of the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association. I serve as the Director representing the six cooperatives in Northwest Wisconsin. I am glad to be able to serve the best interests of members of our coops at the statewide level.

I continue to serve Big Bend Township on the Zoning/Ordinance Committee. I am also active in conservation efforts of the local Lake Association and the Wildlife Restoration Association of Rusk County. I would appreciate your vote and thank you for the opportunity to serve our district on the CVEC Board.

## **Doug Danielson** – District 4

17693 215th Avenue, Cornell, WI 54732 • 715-313-3200

I am Doug Danielson, a 64-year-old lifelong dairy farmer and member of CVEC since 1983. I recently sold my dairy farm north of Cadott and moved to my home in the Cleveland township and would like to dedicate some of my time going forward.

I am a graduate of Cadott High School and hold a bachelor's degree in Animal Science/ Farm Management from UW-River Falls. As a lifelong dairy farmer and member of CVEC, I know the value of cooperatives and cooperative involvement. I have been involved with many cooperatives and know the need for an informed board of directors, and I have an interest in the growing technology of energy production. I believe I could bring a knowledgeable viewpoint to the board.

The importance and need for electrical service to be delivered in a timely manner and cost-efficient

rate to each member, business and home is obvious and essential. The constantly emerging technologies, environmental laws and demands are of high interest as they will affect our cost, our future and our world environment. This is of interest to me.

It would be an honor to serve the community of this cooperative and I thank each member for this consideration.

### **Kevin Meistad** – District 4

26224 County Highway CC, Holcombe, WI 54745 • 715-202-0515

In February of 2000, my wife, Bobbie, and I moved to the area. I immediately fell in love with it here. We opened Foster's Riverview Inn on July 1, 2000, and shortly after we started Foster's Catering and Foster's Rental. I have always felt that small businesses are the backbone of a community. Bobbie and I have always been proud to be a part of that.

In our free time, we enjoy spending time with our grandkids, boating, fishing, hunting, kayaking, and most of all camping. We truly feel we are very blessed to live in this beautiful and awesome community.

I am at the end of my ninth year (three-three year terms) as a director on the CVEC board with the last five years as the vice-chairman. In the cooperative model it is very important to receive the education needed to make the right decision for the members we serve. I have finished my Credentialed Cooperative Director Certificate (CCD), Board Leadership Certificate (BLC), and the Director Gold Certificate, which is the highest education level for electric cooperative directors. I also am currently serving as chairman of the Governance Committee, a member of the Legislative Committee for the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association (WECA), and the alternate CVEC director to the Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) board.

In the 9 years I have served on the CVEC board as a District 4 director I have been involved in various cooperative issues such as representing CVEC at Lobby Days in Madison and Washington D.C. These issues directly or indirectly benefit the members we represent at CVEC.

It has been an honor to represent the interests of the members of CVEC. With my knowledge of the electric cooperative model, I would love to continue to represent the members of District four and all members of CVEC.

Thank you!

### **Brian Rohland** – District 4

17300 State Highway 64, Bloomer, WI 54724 • 715-288-6007

I was born to parents who belonged to what Tom Brokaw called "the greatest generation." As a thankful baby-boomer, I was raised along with 6 siblings on a dairy farm in Clark County. We did not have a generator; so, if the power went out, any work requiring electricity came to a standstill.

In high school, I had the privilege of being selected as a junior board member of Clark Electric Cooperative. Though many of the conversations were likely above my head, the experience of attending the board meetings gave me a lifelong appreciation for the intricacy of and necessity for a robust, versatile power grid.

My wife, Dorthy, and I have been members of CVEC since 1988, when we pioneered our "little house in the big woods" halfway between Cornell and Bloomer. We then proceeded to raise children, pets, fruit, vegetables, trees, and mosquitos!

I recently retired from a 35-year career as a FedEx delivery driver. Throughout

that time, I traversed metro, urban, and rural areas in a 10 plus county region, primarily serving Eau Claire, Chippewa, Barron, Clark, and Taylor counties. During that tenure, I witnessed firsthand the consistent and often rapid expansion of residential and business development, along with the corresponding need for electrical and other utilities.

For over 30 years, I was on the governing board of our church, serving at various times as treasurer, secretary, and chairman.

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#### **Brian Rohland** continued

The future holds both challenges and opportunities. My core values regarding electrical service can be abbreviated with the acronym "C.A.R.S." which stands for Common sense, Affordable, Reliable, and Safe. Looking forward, I desire to serve as your representative on the CVEC board of

directors for the District 4 community.

Over the past few months, I've appreciated meeting many of you in person. Please contact me if you'd like to discuss green energy, nuclear power, transmission lines, ROFR (right of first refusal), cost, the impact of AI

(artificial intelligence) on the power grid, government regulations, or any other energy related concern. I respectfully and humbly ask for your vote and the opportunity to serve as your representative for District 4 of the CVEC family. Thank you.

### John Petska – District 7

16163 190th Avenue, Bloomer, WI 54724 • 715-288-6580

First off, let me say this, I believe in the 7 Cooperative Principles, and after serving the last 27 years on CVEC's Board (the last 13 years as Board Chair), I have been a part of the process, along with my fellow Directors, in making some very sound decisions for our Co-op! I think we have made these decisions in the best interest of our members. I currently have the pleasure of serving our Co-op as CVEC's representative on the Dairyland Power Board of Directors, for the last 17 years. I've served on committees such as Policy, Labor, Audit & Risk, and Finance. I've also served 5 years on the **Executive Committee with 3 years** of that being Board Treasurer. I've

served on two Task Force committees (Defined Benefits & Wholesale Power Contract) and I currently serve on the Governance Committee, which along with the Executive Committee are two major committees at Dairyland Power! As a Board Director for Dairyland, I am 1 of 24 directors, and we are responsible for making decisions for an organization that has over \$2 billion dollars in assets.

Over these past 27 years, I've seen a lot of changes in the electric utility industry. A huge change has been with new and advanced technology. Along with new technology, we are seeing a cultural change, especially with the spread in urbanization, which in turn provides a new

generation of members coming aboard, and in turn we must try to meet their needs.

I enjoy being your director, and I appreciate the faith and trust you have in me to make sound decisions on your behalf. I take the responsibility placed in me seriously, and I promise to continue to do what I think is best for you and your Co-op. I ask for your support as your Director from District 7, and I am excited for the future of our Co-op and what lies ahead.

With that, I'd like to thank you in advance and ask for your vote on March 27. I look forward to seeing you at CVEC's Annual Meeting.

### Mike Sedlacek – District 7

13893 190th Street, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729 • 715-827-0211

My name is Mike Sedlacek, and I am running for the Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's District 7 Board of Directors position this spring.

I was an employee of Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) as a journeyman lineman from September 1978 until my retirement in January 2020. I enjoyed serving the members and working with my fellow employees through my years. I would like to continue to serve the members of CVEC as your District Director.

My wife, Jeanne, and I built our home in 1983 in the township of Eagle Point where we raised our three children. At this time, we became members of CVEC. Outside of work, I enjoyed playing softball and baseball, bowling, snowmobiling, and coaching my kids' sports. Since retiring, I enjoy woodworking, fishing, and going to my grandkid's school activities.

I would greatly appreciate your vote in the upcoming election and look forward to the opportunity to serve as your Director on the CVEC Board.



317 S. 8th Street • Cornell, WI 54732

715.239.6800 • www.cvecoop.com

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

88<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of CVEC Members

Thursday, March 27, 2025