



Power Up!

One Member, One Vote: Annual Meeting September 30

As a member of Linn County REC, one of your most important roles is to participate in the election of directors. The board of directors you elect represent you by setting the policies and directing the business affairs of the cooperative.

You can vote by mail ballot or at the **annual meeting September 30, 2011** at the Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers Local 238 Union Building located at 5000 J Street SW in Cedar Rapids. Mail ballots are mailed in early September. The annual report with meeting agenda will be mailed in your September bill.

Districts 2,3 and 7 are up for election.
The candidates are:

District #2

Hiland, Kirk ~ North Liberty

District #3

Johnson, Alyn ~ Cedar Rapids

Krug, Roger ~ Fairfax

District #7

Bickford, Norman ~ West Branch

Martinek, James ~ Solon

Vanorny, Elmer ~ Solon



District 2 Board of Director Candidate



Kirk Hiland
North Liberty

Occupation: Managing Broker, NAI Iowa Realty Commercial, Cedar Rapids and Adjunct Instructor-University of Iowa, College of Business

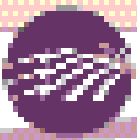
Activities/Organizations: Cedar Rapids Area Association of REALTORS (past President), Iowa Association of REALTORS, National Association of REALTORS, Boy Scouts, Ducks Unlimited

What are your strengths? "Knowledge of best business practices, economic development, life long resident of the area with understanding of the history and growth of Eastern Iowa."

What are your short term goals? "To assist in making decisions that will maximize productivity and minimize expenses given the current regulatory and rate structure system in the state."

What are your long term goals? "To be proactive in controlling electricity costs and costs associated with delivery in order to give the members the best rates and service possible in a constantly changing environment of Federal, State and Local regulation. Ultimately I would like to see that rates to Linn County REC customers are among the lowest while still providing the consistent quality service we are used to."

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "The biggest issue facing Linn County REC or any utility is providing the best service and delivery at the lowest price. This is what customers want and deserve. To do this requires constant vigilance of policies and procedures with no room for complacency. A major component of providing good rates and service is economic development and a proactive stance on this is a good place to start."



District 3 Board of Director Candidates



Alyn Johnson
Cedar Rapids

Occupation: I am semi-retired and drive school bus. I am a member of the Cedar Board of Appeals and have my own LLC which does inspections for HUD and small projects in construction.

Activities/Organizations: Cedar Executive Association (treasurer, past president), CR Tuesday Noon Optimists Club (board member)

What are your strengths? “I was a project manager for a general contractor for 22 years and was successful because I possess a strong sense of right and wrong and good judgment. I believe my background and people skills would be an asset to any organization.”

What are your short term goals? “My short term goals would be to learn the workings of the REC and to have a positive problem solving role early on.”

What are your long term goals? “Long term, I would like to be a part of an organization that will have a huge role in shaping our community.”

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? “I believe the single biggest issue facing our community and world is how to keep up with ever growing demands for energy and to do it while keeping costs in line and environmentally safe. This requires good common sense and the ability to focus on crucial issues.”



Roger Krug (incumbent)
Fairfax

Occupation: Farmer

Activities/Organizations: Lenox Mutual Insurance Assoc. (past president), National Corn Growers Assoc., American Soybean Assoc., American Legion Post 217

What are your strengths? “I listen very carefully to all of the information before making a decision and I have a strong commitment to the continued success of our cooperative. My director training courses and my role on the Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO) board have also provided valuable experience in making me a more effective director for Linn County REC. I want to continue to put that experience to work for our membership.”

What are your short term goals? “I want to continue upgrading our system each and every year to improve reliability and prepare our cooperative for the road ahead.”

What are your long term goals? “I have always kept an eye on the future needs of our members by making sure we have an ample supply of affordable electricity. This requires constant planning and a commitment to making sure co-op employees have the best technology and equipment to do their work. By making smart investments today, we will meet our long term goals for affordable and reliable electricity tomorrow.”

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? “The new and increasingly more complex regulation being imposed on our industry are creating a number of challenges. Our cooperative will have to conform to these new regulations going forward, which will drive up the price of electricity and make it much more difficult to keep energy costs affordable. I have worked hard to advocate on behalf of our membership; and last year, CIPCO actually lowered wholesale power rates by \$5.5 million. As a CIPCO director, we won't be able to do that every year, but I am committed to keeping rates as affordable as possible.”

District 7 Board of Director Candidates...more page 4



Norman Bickford
West Branch

Occupation: I was employed for over 40 years in the construction industry, managing my own company for 36 of those years. My work included building multiple homes throughout the REC service area including developing Golf View Heights. I am currently retired but continue to be active in the community and county.

Activities/Organizations: West Branch Planning and Zoning Committee (3 years), West Branch City Council (3 years), West Branch girls' softball Assist. Coach (8 years), West Branch volunteer firefighter (11 years), local Girl Scouts. I am currently assisting in the creation of a West Branch veteran memorial.

What are your strengths? "I offer a strong entrepreneurial mind set along with practical business management experience. I have been involved in a variety of successful business endeavors including a construction company, land developer, retail sales, manufacturing management and farming. I have a strong understanding of what is required to make an enterprise work and keep budgets balanced; and at the same time invest for the future."

What are your short term goals? "I am committed to serving the membership of REC by assuring that the co-op continues to deliver quality service at affordable prices."

What are your long term goals? "My long term goal is to make sure we have the policies and resources in place that puts REC in the position to sustain future growth and increasing electric demands."

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "Our societies increasing demand for electric power is placing proportionate pressures on all electric companies. REC is not immune to these pressures. To continue quality, affordable service for tomorrow's challenges requires thoughtful planning today. This planning requires working with fellow board members, management, and governments. I am confident the experience I have accumulated in similar roles will contribute significantly to building such a plan."



James Martinek
Solon

Occupation: I have maintained a law practice for almost 35 years, teach as Adjunct Faculty at Kirkwood Community College and serve as a Magistrate Judge in the Sixth Judicial District at the Johnson County Courthouse in Iowa City.

Activities/Organizations: Johnson County Board of Health (past president), Johnson County Conservation Board and the Solon School Board

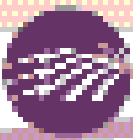
What are your strengths? "I have learned that being an effective board member is a time intensive activity. It is important to read the materials presented on each issue and be prepared for meetings, ask questions and listen to staff, cooperate with other board members and be available to the membership to bring their interests and concerns to the board. I look forward to serving the Linn County REC membership as an effective board member."

What are your short term goals? "My short term goals are to meet as many staff members as possible to learn the challenges and concerns we face and what is needed to maintain service at the high level expected by our members."

What are your long term goals? "My long term goals include expanding our efficiency and environmental education outreach to members beyond our excellent newsletter, creating a data base of those users needing electricity for home medical needs and those with private power generation capabilities, creating a rewards type program to encourage our members to patronize businesses we serve, increase the number of workshops we sponsor, not only for efficiency/conservation education but to promote our utility as a business friendly partner."

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? "The most important issue facing any non-profit utility is providing service at the lowest cost possible. Members don't want to think about electrical service; they just want it always available at what they feel is a reasonable cost."

District 7 biographies continued on page 4...



District 7 Board of Director Candidates Continued...



Elmer Vanorny (incumbent)
Solon

Occupation: Farmer. Previously worked as an electrician and installed heating and cooling units.

Activities/Organizations: Army veteran, Johnson County Cattleman’s Association, Solon Legion, Farm Bureau and Big Grove township trustee. Previous 4-H leader, county extension director and county cattleman’s director

What are your strengths? “My years of experience as a director with Linn County REC and with other organizations are one strength. This background has helped as it takes a while to get familiar with all of the issues that the cooperative faces. I prefer to remain active in the community and serving as a Linn County REC director enables me to do that.”

- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
- 5 teaspoons olive oil, divided
- 1-1/2 cups fresh or frozen corn, thawed
- 1-1/2 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 cup finely chopped cucumber
- 1/4 cup finely chopped red onion
- 2 tbsp minced fresh basil or 2 tsp dried basil
- 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

In a small bowl, whisk the lime juice, salt, pepper sauce and 4 teaspoons oil; set aside. In a large skillet, saute corn in remaining oil until tender. Transfer to a salad bowl; add the tomatoes, cucumber, onion and basil. Drizzle with dressing and toss to coat. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving or refrigerate until chilled. Sprinkle with cheese just before serving. **Yield: 4 servings.**

What are your short term goals? “My short term goals would be to continue to keep Linn County REC’s reliability in the forefront while maintaining rates as low as possible.”

What are your long term goals? “Strategic planning is something that plays a valuable role at the cooperative. It makes sure that the board and staff are on the same page as the cooperative goes forward. My longer term goals are the ones we established in strategic planning: continue to increase efficiencies within the organization through the use of technology, improve Linn County REC’s communication with members and continue to look at ways to improve the governance process.”

What is the biggest issue facing the co-op today? “There are two big issues not one. The cost of power has been rising and even more increases are coming with changes in EPA emission guidelines for generation plants. Closer to Linn County REC is the need to continue to address the growth in the service territory and maintain distribution costs.”

What’s YOUR Incentive?



Choose a new ENERGY STAR rated refrigerator rather than a non-qualified model and cut your energy bills by \$165 over the lifetime of your fridge.

Linn County REC has an incentive of **\$25 per unit on ENERGY STAR® rated refrigerators and freezers (minimum 13 cubic feet).**

Visit www.linncountyrec.com to download our appliance incentive form with complete terms and conditions.

To receive an incentive from Linn County REC:

- Must be or have been a member at service location
- Complete ALL fields on incentive form
- Provide a copy of the sales receipt
- Provide ALL additional required documentation (i.e. [Energy Star® verification](#))
- Must be received within six months of installation

Members contacted for additional information on incomplete/unsigned forms will be assessed a 10% reduction of incentive amount. Questions about our incentive program? Contact our office to speak with member services.

