

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Cheryl Osowski (DISTRICT 1)

Cheryl Osowski was first elected to the Nodak board of directors in 2017. Osowski earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Minnesota – Crookston. She spent 17 years at the University of North Dakota, serving as a personnel officer and outreach coordinator in the College of Engineering and Mines. She also served as special projects coordinator at the Red River Regional Council (RRRC) in Grafton, North Dakota. This economic and community development organization serves the counties of Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina and Walsh. Osowski served as the elected president of the Northeast North Dakota Human Resource Association for one year and as a member of the Dakota Science Center board. Osowski currently serves on the board of the Rural Development Finance Corporation. She is the bookkeeper for her husband’s business, REO Truck Repair and Salvage, LLC. Cheryl and her husband, Robert, live on their farmstead northeast of Voss, North Dakota.



Luke Ressler (DISTRICT 2 | 1-YEAR TERM)

Luke Ressler was chosen to fill the unexpired term of David Hagert, who retired in July 2025. Luke, along with his wife Elli and their two young daughters, are deeply rooted in the Hillsboro area,

where they are actively involved in farming and raising cattle. They also run a small direct-to-consumer beef business, selling beef raised on their farm to customers throughout Traill and Grand Forks counties.

A 2017 graduate of North Dakota State University (NDSU) with a Bachelor of Science in Crop and Weed Sciences, Ressler went on to work for the NDSU Soil Health Department before moving home to the farm. His commitment to the community is evident through his past service as the District 2 representative on the North Dakota Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee from 2019-2022. He currently serves on the Traill County Farm Bureau Board. Ressler is dedicated to serving rural communities and connecting with members across Nodak’s service territory.



Randy Green (DISTRICT 2 | 1-YEAR TERM)

Randy Green and his family live in Grand Forks, North Dakota. After attending NDSU for Agriculture Economics, and being a member of FarmHouse Fraternity, Randy continued

farming on his family's third-generation family farm – a career that spanned 34 years until his retirement in 2022. During his career he served on various boards and committees, most notably serving 13 years on a local Cenex Board as vice president and 12 years on the Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association in the Hillsboro District. Currently, Randy is the secretary for a Homeowners Association at Lake Belle Taine, Minnesota. After retiring from farming Randy completed his training for real estate and is a Realtor, specializing in farmland sales and management, with Nikolaisen Land Company in Cando/Devils Lake, North Dakota. Randy is also a certified coach and coaches sixth-grade tackle football. Along with his wife Angie, who formerly owned and now consults at Mexican Village Restaurant, they have one son Duncan.



Gordon Mohn (DISTRICT 2 | 1-YEAR TERM)

My name is **Gordon Mohn**, and I am seeking the board director vacancy position for Nodak's District 2. I currently live in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where I have resided since 1973. My residence was once rural Grand Forks but has been urban for some time now. I live with my wife Deb and we have raised four wonderful boys. We love and value our community. I was raised in rural Buxton, North Dakota, and raised with those same values. I am currently retired from Nodak Electric, where I worked for 43 years. I am

also glad to say I served in the North Dakota Air National Guard for 38 years. I believe in the cooperative ways and values and believe they are of vital importance for North Dakota. I have seen firsthand the role they play in Nodak’s management and leadership. They and I realize the ups and downs of rural life and business. These are trying times in this industry; I think I have a good understanding of the cooperative ways and Nodak’s philosophy of operations. I am very dedicated and would very much like your support to help Nodak grow into the future and strive to promote the cooperative ways for its members and employees.



Peter Naastad (DISTRICT 2 | 3-YEAR TERM)

Peter Naastad has served on the Nodak Electric Board since 2016. He brings with him years of business leadership experience and problem-solving abilities. Pete and his wife, Karen, were owner-operators of Naastad Brothers Inc., an excavation company based

in Hatton, North Dakota. A new generation of Naastads now owns and operates the company, but Pete still maintains an advisory role. Pete has served his community as a member of the Hatton School Board, Bethany Church Council and the Hatton Prairie Village Loyalty Club. He was a past president and a current member of the Hatton Men’s Club, and he is a great advocate for the Sox for Kids program. Peter and Karen have three children: Ben, Adam and Kristen; granddaughters Kendra, Kayla and BriAnna; and 15 grandchildren.



Bradley Barth (DISTRICT 2 | 3-YEAR TERM)

Brad Barth recently retired as the Economic Development Director for Devils Lake. Brad currently enjoys his summers fishing and guiding out of Haybale Heights Marina on Devils Lake, where he and his wife Diane have a seasonal place. During his time in Devils Lake he worked with other economic, city and county professionals in the northeast region of North Dakota helping to improve the quality of life and create opportunities for employment in the region. He served on the statewide Economic Developers

of ND Board for 8 years, serving as President in 2023/2024. In this role he worked closely with many state legislators on helping to move northeast North Dakota projects legislation forward. Prior to his time in Devils Lake, Brad served as the NDSCS Alumni/ Foundation Executive Director, leading the business recruitment and Foundation fundraising efforts for the college. Brad and Diane (a Munich, North Dakota native) met at NDSSS, as it was known then, and went on to Moorhead State University, earning a BS degree in Business Administration. Brad's early career started in software sales and marketing management. Brad and Diane have three children spread across the globe, with daughter Tara, her husband Chris and granddaughter Lily living in Hoh Chi Minh City in Vietnam; son Tyler living in Taipei, Taiwan; and son Trevor living in Portland, Oregon. Brad and Diane live on the south side of Grand Forks, an area of tremendous growth, and hopes to help represent that part of District 2.



Steven Smaaladen (DISTRICT 3)

Steven Smaaladen became a Sheyenne Valley Electric Cooperative board member in 1997 and a Nodak board member during the merger transition between Nodak and Sheyenne Valley in 2001. He was reelected to the Nodak board in 2002 and has held numerous positions, including his current role as chairman. Smaaladen attended Moorhead State University in Moorhead, Minnesota, and Trinity Bible College in Ellendale, North Dakota. He farmed with his dad and brother until 1997 and then worked

in the construction business until 2004, while also serving as a sub-rural mail carrier for the USPS. From 2004 to the present, he has served as a full-time carrier, first out of the McVillage office and currently out of the Northwood office. He serves as secretary/treasurer for the Griggs Steele Unit of the Rural Letter Carrier Association (RLCA). In 2021, he received the “Outstanding Member Award” for the North Dakota RLCA. Smaaladen currently serves on the Ora Township Board. As a member of the Finley Assembly of God Church, he serves on the church board. Smaaladen and his wife, Marsha, own and operate Country Greenhouse, located on their farm 5 miles north of Aneta. This year, they celebrate 33 years in business. Their business includes selling bedding plants, perennials, trees and shrubs, as well as a variety of landscaping projects. The Smaaladens have two sons – Zachary, his wife Rachel, and their daughter, Elanor, and Zane, a freshman at Trinity Bible College.

