

Meet The Candidates

AT-LARGE



David Schweitzer

(Incumbent)

Grand Traverse County resident

Cherryland member since 1994

What is your occupation?

I am a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and have been in the investment industry for over thirty years. I have owned Schweitzer Capital Group, a wealth management firm for individuals and businesses, since 1996.

What organizations are you currently involved with?

- CFA Institute
- NMC Business Advisory Committee
- Traverse City Economic Club
- Single MOMM
- Member of First Congregational Church for twenty-five years where I have served on the Board of Trustees

Why are you interested in serving on the board of directors?

I have served on your board for three-and-a-half years and while I have learned so much about the electric industry and formed relationships with other cooperative leaders, I am still on the upward slope of a steep learning curve. There are many challenges that your cooperative faces, such as the de-carbonization of the automobile (electric

vehicles), demand for more carbon-free generation, fast-changing technology, and cybersecurity to name a few. I am focused on addressing these issues while at the same time ensuring that we continue to provide the affordable and reliable electricity that you have come to depend on for your homes and businesses.

How will your skills, connections, resources, and expertise benefit the cooperative?

Careful financial management is critical with the many issues facing your cooperative, especially with the ongoing effects of COVID-19. As your director and as a financial analyst, it is my duty to make sure we continue to make prudent financial decisions while at the same time being proactive and staying ahead of the curve as we face new opportunities and challenges. Cherryland is in excellent financial condition as evidenced by the capital credits you receive, our healthy equity position, and recent defensive portfolio changes we made to the retiree health care plan (currently over 100% funded). I look forward to serving you for another term and ask for your vote. Please visit my website at www.votedaveschweitzer.com for a more detailed discussion on these and other issues. Thank you.



Nicola Philpott

Grand Traverse County resident

Cherryland member since 2014

What is your occupation?

Volunteer State Coordinator and Co-leader of Grand Traverse Area Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL).

What organizations are you currently involved with?

I'm President of Westwoods Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Recently, I coordinated the Westwoods Solar Project to raise funds for a solar array; a great learning tool that will save the school money. I also organized rebates for parents that purchased LED light bulbs.

Why are you interested in serving on the board of directors?

I'm running for my children because they deserve an affordable, responsible, clean energy future. In northern Michigan we see how volatile weather and lake level rise threaten our homes, livelihoods, and local economy. The good news is that the energy industry is changing swiftly to mitigate these threats. We must use new, low-cost renewable energy technologies that provide local jobs, boost

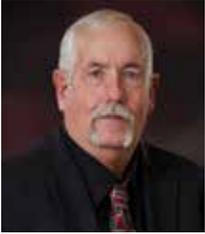
our economy, and fight climate change. I'm running because I believe Cherryland should set ambitious renewable energy goals, pursue local solar projects, and investigate opportunities to save money with large-scale clean energy projects.

How will your skills, connections, resources, and expertise benefit the cooperative?

As a scientist, I know the importance of good data and sound models in making decisions that impact people's lives. I have a doctorate in biochemistry and molecular biology, and before having children, I was a university research professor. As President of Westwoods PTO, I have become keenly aware of the double hardship of job insecurity and low pay faced by so many northern Michigan families. As Co-leader of Grand Traverse CCL, I've learned the importance of taking climate action locally.

Therefore, as a Cherryland director, I will promote local renewable energy projects which provide year-round jobs, boost our economy, and safeguard our children's future.

LEELANAU COUNTY



Tom Van Pelt

(Incumbent)

Leelanau County
resident

Cherryland member
since 1983

What is your occupation?

I own and operate our family fruit farm near Northport (I am 3rd generation, with 4th and 5th generations also living and working on the farm). In addition, I am a Captain with Leelanau Township Emergency Services.

What organizations are you currently involved with?

I am actively involved with the following organizations:

- Leelanau Township Emergency Services
- Michigan Association of Cherry Producers
- Leelanau Energy
- Region 4 (Michigan, Indiana, Ohio) NRECA Nominating Committee
- Region 4 Resolutions Committee

Why are you interested in serving on the board of directors?

I believe everyone should be involved within their community.

Electricity is a commodity that is needed and used by everyone. Reliability and affordability is the best way to impact all the members and visitors of our beautiful area.

In addition to my involvement with the Fire and Rescue, serving on the Cherryland Electric Board of Directors is another way to "give back."

How will your skills, connections, resources, and expertise benefit the cooperative?

Currently I am Chairman of the Board of Cherryland Electric Cooperative. I also represent Cherryland on the Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative Board of Directors.

Through my involvement with Cherryland, I have earned a Board Leadership Certificate from NRECA (the National organization representing electric cooperatives).

My experience as Leelanau County Board Chairman for 4 years combined with my 2 college degrees, organizational training I have received through the Fire service and my experience as an independent business owner have given me the skills to understand Budgets, Policies and proper Procedures.

I feel I am well suited to continue to represent the Members of Cherryland on their Board of Directors.

I Thank you very much for your consideration.

Director Duties And Responsibilities



The Board of Directors is the governing body of the cooperative and is responsible for establishing policies, providing strategic direction, hiring and evaluating the General Manager, providing for a plan of succession, and overseeing all major corporate decisions. It has a fiduciary responsibility to represent the members of the cooperative as provided for in state law and Cherryland Electric Cooperative Bylaws. To accomplish this, the board must structure itself so that it has the requisite knowledge and skills to carry out its duties in a manner that is efficient and cost-effective.