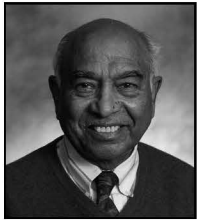


District 4



Judy Kimmes, Hampton, is the incumbent seeking re-election in District 4. She has been a Dakota Electric member for 57 years, a board member for 24 years, and is a Credentialed Cooperative Director. She has served on the Minnesota Rural Electric Association board, the Energy Alternatives board and currently on the Capital Credits Scholarship and Audit committees. Kimmes has been active as a hospice volunteer, a Master Gardener and a 4-H volunteer. She has served as a school board member, clerk of the Hampton Township board and secretary-treasurer of the Dakota County Township Officers. In 2004, she became a Blandin Community Leadership graduate. In 2013, Kimmes completed the National Rural Electric Association leadership classes. She and her husband have farmed near Hampton for 57 years.



Vijendra (VJ) Agarwal, Inver Grove Heights, seeking election in District 4, has been a Dakota Electric member for 13 years and is the president of Global Solutions and Consulting, a higher education and business consultancy aimed at new technologies. Agarwal is the former dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology, Minnesota State University, Mankato. He has a B.S. (physics, chemistry and math) and a M.S. and Ph.D. in physics. As president and co-founder of Vidya Gyan, a non-profit, he helps empower underprivileged girls in rural India and has piloted a cultural bridge initiative among children in Indian schools and Red Pine Elementary. Agarwal is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and has served on the Dakota County Planning Commission.



Michael Cahn, Rosemount, has a strong interest in renewable energy, a clean environment and electric vehicles. He has worked with cities and businesses to economically support these initiatives. Cahn has a Business Administration degree from the University of Minnesota and retired from Securian Financial after 35 years, the last 15 as director of IT infrastructure.

District 4 - continued

He has skills in cyber security, long-term planning and large project implementation. Cahn is currently a board member for Listening House, a member of the Flint Hills Community Advisory Council, chairperson of the Rosemount Utilities Commission, and a volunteer at 360 Communities. He is a 26-year Dakota Electric member and endorsed by the mayor of Rosemount, Bill Droste.



Philip Hernick, Eagan, is seeking election in District 4, and has been a Dakota Electric member for 34 years. He is retired with a background in project management, training management, marketing and information technologies and has worked for Prime Therapeutics, Silicon Graphics, Midwest Systems, Cray Research, among others. He has experience in technology design, strategic planning, market research and using technology to increase staff efficiency, customer satisfaction and profits. Hernick has a master's degree from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's from the University of St. Thomas. He also volunteered with the Peace Corps in Africa and South America, speaks Spanish and is a Master Naturalist and Minnesota Water Steward.



Paula Overby, Eagan, is seeking election in District 4 and has been a member of Dakota Electric for 32 years. Overby is an information technologies director for Friends School of Minnesota, St. Paul, and has experience with quality assurance, SQL databases, data analysis, network technologies, process design and more. Overby is a frequent presenter at national public policy conferences as a published author in the Rutledge Handbook of LGBTQIA Administration and Policy. Author of "The Transgender Myth," Overby ran for the U.S. Senate and has an educational background that includes degrees in psychology and computer science from the University of Minnesota. <https://PaulaOverby.com>



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April 12, 2021

Dear Dakota Electric Association Member:

Enclosed are your 2021 Official Ballot, candidate information and envelopes for returning your ballot.

Please read and follow voting directions carefully. If you inadvertently vote both by paper ballot and online, only the paper ballot will be counted.

Voting by mail. If you choose to vote by mail, insert your completed ballot into the white Ballot Secrecy Envelope and seal the envelope. Insert the sealed Ballot Secrecy Envelope into the green Business Reply Envelope. Tear off and discard the address stub on the back of the green Business Reply Envelope. Seal and mail the green Business Reply Envelope.

Voting online. If you choose to vote online, go to www.dakotaelectric.com. **You will need your Account Number and Election Passcode found on the backside of the enclosed green Business Reply Envelope. Or, scan the QR code near your Election Passcode with a mobile device to be quickly logged in to vote.** Then simply follow the instructions given on the website. In the past, many have found online voting to be very quick and easy.

Ballots must be received at Survey & Ballot Systems, an independent election service, no later than noon on **April 29, 2021. Please do not enclose any other correspondence to Dakota Electric Association with your ballot.** This year's annual meeting has been canceled due to COVID. View a video of this year's reports on our website on April 29.

Sincerely,
Bill Middlecamp
Elections Committee Chair

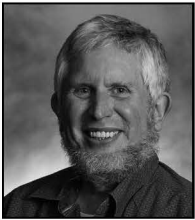
2021 Director Candidate Profiles

District 1



Jerry Pittman, Lakeville, is the incumbent seeking re-election in District 1. He has been a Dakota Electric member for 28 years and has served on Dakota Electric's board for 27 years. He currently serves as the board chair and has served as chair of Dakota Electric's subsidiary

boards (Energy Alternatives and Midwest Energy Services). Pittman is an engineer and has worked in the energy industry for more than 35 years. He currently owns The File Depot – Twin Cities, a full-service records management business that he started. He is a military veteran, a member of the Minnesota Farmers Union, Fresh Energy and Conservation Minnesota. Pittman is also a volunteer with Feed My Starving Children and Habitat for Humanity. For more information, please visit <https://linktr.ee/PittmanDEA>



Kevin Grass, Burnsville, is seeking election in District 1. He is a lifelong resident of Dakota County. Graduated from Burnsville High School in 1977, honorably discharged member of the U.S. Navy with a humanitarian medal, then graduated from Northwestern Electronics

with a degree in computer science. He has worked at Sperry/Univac building military computers, Independent Technologies as the lead technician building prototypes of telecommunications test equipment, and US West Communications as a DS1/fiberoptics designer until the dot-com crash. He started DBA Led Your. He also worked for the United States Postal Service in Farmington and raised three children mostly in Rosemount. His interests are in solar technology and LED lighting applications for homes and businesses. For additional information email kevin.grass@ledyour.com.

District 2



Clay Van De Bogart, Lakeville, is the incumbent director in District 2. He is a 24-year Dakota Electric member and has served on the board for 21 years, five years as board treasurer. Van De Bogart's board committee service includes the Capital Credits Committee, Audit Committee, Rate

Case Committee and Elections Committee. In addition, Van De Bogart represents Dakota Electric on Great River Energy's Board of Directors where his service includes board treasurer, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Risk Management Committee charter member and chair, Power Supply Committee chair, and Corporate Services Committee. In 2020, he addressed the Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association annual conference regarding renewable energy topics. Van De Bogart holds degrees in agriculture and business. He is a retired U.S. federal administrative judge, married 36 years, with four children.



Michael Hanninen, Lakeville, seeking election in District 2, has been a Dakota Electric member for 10 years. He is a lead business analyst with Thomson Reuters where he manages the business analytics side of large global projects. Hanninen has degrees and certifications from

Normandale Community College, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, and Auburn University. He is also a youth sports coach with the YMCA where he helps develop youth athletic skills, self-empowerment and team building skills and mentors other coaches. Hanninen's volunteer work has included soccer coach, cross country, track and field coach, as well as youth mentor and choir at Mary Mother of the Church.

District 3



Kenneth Danner, Apple Valley, is the incumbent seeking re-election in District 3. He is a 39-year Dakota Electric member, board secretary and serves on the Compensation and Performance Review Committee. He is a Credentialed Cooperative Director and previously served seven

years as treasurer and chair of the Audit Committee and chaired the Capital Credits Committee. Danner is retired from Collins Aerospace (Rosemount Aerospace) after working 37 years in design engineering, purchasing, quality assurance and manufacturing management. A graduate of the University of Minnesota (BSME), Danner is a Registered Professional Engineer and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and Minnesota Clockmakers Guild. He is currently serving on the Board of Elders at Emanuel Lutheran Church.



Jarod Griswold, Apple Valley, is seeking election in District 3 and has been a member of the Apple Valley community for over four years and a Dakota Electric member for two years. Griswold works for Sonesta ES Suites with experience that includes management, auditing, leadership

and communication. Past employment includes industries such as retail or customer service and employers such as Rite Aid, Champps, CVS Pharmacy and Holiday Station Stores.

Each candidate is responsible for the information contained in his/her profile.