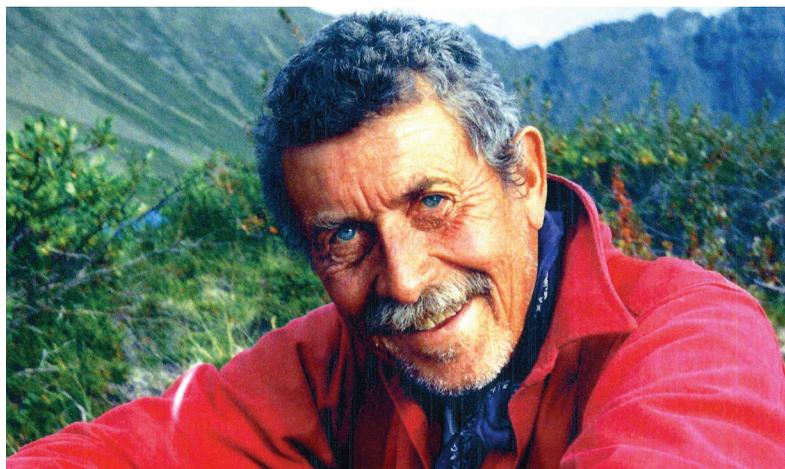


Serving Members Since 1971

CVEA Says Goodbye to Director Fred Williams After 49 Years of Service



Fred Williams and his family moved to the Copper Basin from Wyoming in 1963. Like many Alaskans, Fred grew to love the state and enjoyed the Copper Basin because of its sparsely populated surroundings and excellent hunting and fishing opportunities.

In 1971, Fred was asked to fill a vacancy on the CVEA Board of Directors. No one could have imagined he would continue to serve the members of CVEA until 2020, 49 years later.

In his early years on the CVEA Board, Fred says there were not a lot of issues, and things sure were different. One of their Board duties was to approve all of the bills that had accumulated over the month and sign checks. He remembers this taking a lot of time during the monthly meetings. At that time he believes the average cost per kWh was 8¢ and the word 'environment' was never even discussed in the board room. Then one day, that all changed. The price of oil started to climb and rates

started to rise, making the high cost to the member an ever-growing concern.

He remembers when the Government started imposing environmental regulations on utilities and how dramatically they affected the way CVEA did business. Fred noted how ironic it is that in this day and age, the environmental issues have become so prevalent, that the Cooperative has to employ a person to manage all of the environmental and regulatory impacts.

Fred believes that high electric rates, due to the cost of fuel and onerous environmental regulations, are the biggest issues facing CVEA today and into the future.

In a prior interview, Fred said he had enjoyed his time on the Board and stated his favorite thing is "being in a group who take their responsibilities seriously and are genuinely concerned with helping the members, all members, from one end of the line to the other." He said the thing he likes least is "driving between districts in the dark to attend meetings."

When asked what he would tell others interested in running for the Board, Fred replied, "I'd tell them that it is stressful, time consuming, and it is a very serious job. They need to prepare to cross difficult hurdles, work together towards a common goal, and talk to people. I'd also tell them that they will be lucky to have an opportunity to work with such great people."

Having served on the same board for 49 years, one can imagine all that Fred has seen and been a part of. He believes the biggest accomplishment of the Cooperative was building the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric Plant. Fred believes, "it remains our saving grace today." One of his proudest moments was in 1981, when he cut the ribbon of the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric Project, a project that a year later became the Cooperative's primary power source.

When asked why he has stayed on the CVEA Board of Directors as long as he has Fred said, "because there's always a project I'd like to

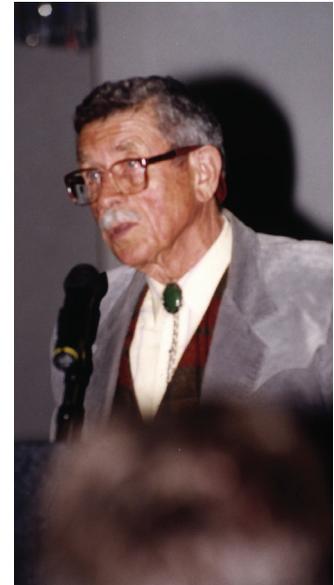
see finished." In 2011, Fred said he hoped to see the T-Line moved out of the avalanche zone on Thompson Pass and the Allison Creek Hydroelectric Project in production. Due, in part to Fred's dedication to the members, he was able to see both of those projects completed. Today, Allison Creek, in combination with Solomon Gulch, has increased hydro generation to 75 percent of total annual production.

In addition to Fred's service on the CVEA Board, he represented CVEA on the Board of the Alaska Power Association (APA), and served on the APA Executive Committee, Resolutions and Governmental Affairs Steering Committee, ACRE/CARE Committee, and the ARECA Educational Foundation. Fred received the Mason LaZelle Achievement Award, the highest level award presented by Alaska's electric industry trade association. He also has an award given for exemplary employee service, called the Hatcher-Williams-Turkington Employee Award, named after



he and two other industry leaders.

CVEA CEO Travis Million had this to say, “In the nearly 50 years that Fred has served on the CVEA Board it still amazes me the amount of information he can recall over that time span. He was involved as a board member in the commissioning of three of CVEA’s five power plants; Solomon Gulch, the Cogeneration Plant, and most recently Allison Creek. Combined those three plants account for over 92 percent of CVEA’s generation needs and at by far the lowest cost. The decisions to construct all three of these plants were not easy but I’m positive that Fred’s leadership helped the Board in those decisions. I’ll personally miss having Fred on the Board. He is extremely knowledgeable in the history of CVEA, Alaskan state history, gun collecting, and you could always count on his witty responses to questions. Thank you Fred for your 49 years of service to the members of CVEA!” ■





When:

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Time:

5:30-6:30 p.m.

Where:

CVEA board room, in each district, and via ZOOM

*registration required

Bylaws Updates Public Meeting Announced

In 2019, CVEA determined a thorough review of the corporation's Bylaws would be prudent. The goal is to ensure Bylaws are consistent with updated industry standards, and accurately represent the way the Cooperative conducts business.

CVEA leadership recently reviewed the document, in detail, and provided recommended changes to the Board of Directors at the Regular Board Meeting in June. Final recommendations will be presented to the Board in December, provided to the Membership for comment in January 2021, then approved for placement on the ballot in February. Amendments voted on by the

Membership will go into affect after the election results are provided at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

In an effort to receive advanced member input on the proposed Bylaws changes, a public meeting has been scheduled. During the meeting, recommended changes will be provided, questions answered, and public comments accepted.

Members will have an opportunity to attend in person, at the board room in each district, or virtually via Zoom. In person seating will be limited due to social distancing protocols. Registration will be required for in person or virtual attendance.

To register, please contact Nancy Heidelberg at 822-8342 or email heidelberg@cvea.org. Specific details will be provided at that time.

Where: In person at Glennallen & Valdez Board Rooms, or virtually via Zoom

When: Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

A detailed outline of recommended changes can be found at cvea.org, or by contacting Nancy Heidelberg. ■



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Board of Directors

Lon Rake, President
Yvette Delaquito, Vice President
Dan Stowe, Secretary
Will Stark, Treasurer
Paul Kildal, Director
Jan Maslen, Director
Jeff Saxe, Director
Mark Shorten, Director

P.O. Box 45
Glennallen, AK 99588
www.cvea.org

Copper Basin District
907-822-3211

Mile 187 Glenn Hwy.

Valdez District

907-835-4301

367 Fairbanks Dr.

After hours outage line

Important Dates

August

CVEA Deadline: The deadline to use your \$25 CVEA Community Cares gift certificate or submit to the CVEA Cares for Kids Summer Activity Program is August 8

CVEA Public Meeting: A public meeting has been scheduled to receive member input on proposed Bylaws changes, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 19, 2020

CVEA Board Meeting: The August meeting of the Board of Directors is 1 p.m. Thursday, August 20, 2020, in Glennallen

September

CVEA Offices Closed: The CVEA offices will be closed Monday, September 7, 2020, for Labor Day

CVEA Board Meeting: The September meeting of the Board of Directors is cancelled

AK-34



Right-of-way clearing is an important part of Copper Valley Electric's goal of delivering safe, reliable, cost-effective electric service. Tree and brush clearing can help reduce the number and length of outages especially during severe weather conditions. The nice summer weather has caused a lot of growth. If you have a tree that is within 10 feet of a power line, please call CVEA at 822-3211 or 835-4301 for removal. For additional information on right-of-way clearing or electrical safety, visit www.cvea.org.

Construction Season Will Soon Come to an End

When summer comes to an end, so will construction season. If you are planning new construction or a service upgrade before the end of the season, don't wait. Please email construction@cvea.org or call your local office as soon as possible.

Pay Your Bill and Manage Your Account Online Using Smarthub

Are you looking for convenient ways to make your life easier?

If so, log on to www.cvea.org. You can pay your CVEA monthly bill directly from your bank account or by using your debit card or Visa, Mastercard, or Discover card. You can also see your billing and payment history and track your monthly usage and cost as well as daily averages. This is a great way to manage your CVEA account. Just go to cvea.org and click the Smarthub button on the home page.