

# GET TO KNOW YOUR 2021 DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

## BOARD DISTRICT 6

### Don Shonka



Don Shonka has been a member of ECI REC since 1968. After serving in the US Marine Corp for nine years, Don and his bride of almost 60 years, Lorene, raised their four sons on the family farm outside of Independence.

Don joined the ECI REC Board of Directors in 2006 and serves on the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives Board, where he is currently the VP. Don earned his Credentialed Cooperative Director and Director Gold Certificates and has completed the Board Leadership Program. Don currently serves as a Buchanan County Supervisor and is or has been actively involved with the following organizations: St John's Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Buchanan County Fair Board, and Buchanan County Wildlife Association. In his spare time, he enjoys bowling, fishing, hunting, and spending time with his family and 13 grandchildren.

## BOARD DISTRICT 8

### Brad Jesse



Brad Jesse and his wife Renee' raised their three children, Mark, Eric, and Sara, on a farm outside Brad's hometown, La Porte City. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in Accounting from UNI, Brad pursued a career in farming and continues to be the Owner/Operator of Jesse Farms, a crop and cow-calf operation.

In his spare time, Brad is actively involved in school sports, both coaching and officiating. He is also a board member for the Black Hawk County Farm Bureau and is President on his church council. Brad enjoys traveling, reading, history, and is an avid sports enthusiast. Above all else, Brad values his faith and family.

### Nick Donlea



Nick became a member of ECI REC eight years ago when his family moved to the country after 51 years of living in Jesup. Nick and his wife, Terri, raised three children – Cameron, Haley & Taylor. Nick graduated from Waldorf College with an AA and has been in the building industry his entire career. His wife Terri is a schoolteacher who loves interior design.

Nick was elected to the ECI REC Board of Directors in 2018 and has served on other organizations within his community, including the Jesup Planning & Zoning Commission, Jesup Golf Course and presently as a School Board Member with the Jesup School District. In his spare time, he coaches basketball and builds wood projects for his house and family. He enjoys golfing, kayaking, yard work, and cheering on the Iowa Hawkeyes.

## BOARD DISTRICT 10

### Tina Dodge



Tina Dodge and her husband Carl live on an acreage outside of Masonville where they, along with their two children, have cattle and cats. Tina graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration – Accounting. Since graduation, Tina has worn multiple hats, including Buchanan County 4-H Youth Coordinator, Bookkeeper for Bowden Investment Company & Fremont Hogs, farming, church treasurer, authoring manure management plans and a stay-at-home mom.

Tina serves as a youth leader for the Hope Wesleyan Church High School, a member of the East Buchanan PTO, member of the Quasky Bowhunters archery league and a 4-H judge. In her free time, Tina enjoys gardening in the Summer and crafts in the Winter.

### Ryan Kress



Ryan Kress first became a member of ECIREC in 2003. Ryan graduated with a BA in Finance from UNI in 2004. Ryan is a grain and livestock farmer east of Winthrop where he and his wife, Dawn, reside raising their three daughters: Kading, Reagan, and Gracyn.

Ryan was first elected to the ECIREC Board of Directors in 2009. He currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer. Ryan has earned the Credentialed Cooperative Director and the Director Gold certificates and has completed the Board Leadership Program.

Ryan enjoys attending his children's activities and being active outside in his spare time. He is also active on the ISU Extension Council and the parish council of Immaculate Conception Catholic Parish in Masonville.