

Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative 2021 Board Election District 8 Candidates

Putnam County (Ohio) Townships of Perry, Jackson, Jennings, Monterey, and Marion

Justin Kerns of Fort Jennings, Ohio



OCCUPATION: Buyer for Nutrien Lima Ohio

YEARS A PPEC MEMBER: 3 years | **SPOUSE:** Shelley

ACTIVITIES/MEMBERSHIPS: Active volunteer with his wife in his church's children ministry. Two young children at home make it a challenge to commit time to extracurriculars; however, he believes this board opportunity is a great way to give back to the community and maintain family balance.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Spending time with his family including his wife and two kids, always looking for something new to learn, riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, working on his vehicles, and baking artisan sourdough bread.

QUALIFICATIONS: Is a procurement professional by trade, which includes identifying problems and determining solutions. Also speaks to a variety of professionals and determines solutions from those discussions. He believes his work foundation can be transitioned to this board capacity, and he is ready to ask questions with the interest of his district forefront in mind.

CO-OP CHALLENGES: Social and political influence constantly changing the electric industry, making it tough for PPEC to keep up and keep customers happy. Also Front line worker safety is something that is very important to him.

FOCUS: Keeping things in perspective and ensuring the co-op members' needs are met first and foremost, as well as addressing changes and using technology to stay up to date. Field workers' safety is of utmost importance; wants to ensure PPEC is the safest co-op in Ohio and sets an example for other utilities.

Adam Schnipke of Fort Jennings, Ohio



OCCUPATION: Self-employed contractor at Schnipke Contracting, LLC

YEARS A PPEC MEMBER: 16 years | **SPOUSE:** Beth

ACTIVITIES/MEMBERSHIPS: Immaculate Conception Church, Ottoville Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Green Athletic Boosters, Kalida Fish and Game

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Spending time with family, hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, and water and snow skiing

QUALIFICATIONS: Has served many leadership roles and on other committees and organizations. Owning and operating his own construction business, he has a strong understanding of how business works.

CO-OP CHALLENGES: Government regulations, generating electricity as efficiently as possible, and keeping up with the maintenance of the poles, lines, substations, transformers, etc.

FOCUS: Continue to send representatives to the state and federal level and keep a balanced budget to allow for needed future maintenance and upgrades. Also continue to maintain and upgrade existing lines, equipment, and technologies.

Kenneth Verhoff of Cloverdale, Ohio



OCCUPATION: Retired

YEARS A PPEC MEMBER: 18 years | **SPOUSE:** Doris

ACTIVITIES/MEMBERSHIPS: Jackson Township Trustee for 4 years, Columbus Grove Eagles for 41 years

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Carpentry, farming, part-time yard mowing for Vonnie's Mowing

QUALIFICATIONS: He is retired and has the time. He looked up to PPEC's former board members, Mike Langhals and Jerry Heitmeyer.

CO-OP CHALLENGES: Other new ways of producing electricity, solar fields, and wind generation. Believes PPEC needs to keep trying to stay up with all the new ways of producing electricity.

FOCUS: To put Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op at the top of the electric business with good, competitive rates.