

POWERING PROGRESS INTO THE FUTURE



Annual Meeting
3.29.2025



Tom Daugherty

**District 4
Candidate**
Member/Owner
since 2019

Education: MBA, Sustainable Business, Marylhurst University
BA, Management, Lewis & Clark State College

Employment: Self Employed Consultant

Affiliations: Water Environment Federation, Spokane Angel Alliance

Candidate statement:

I have lived my entire life between Idaho and Washington State. I learned to respect and value the land and our natural resources. I also value responsible capitalism. Our area has a housing shortage and new homes or multi-housing will need access to affordable power no matter the provider. After 45 years in the business trenches I have gained significant experience on organizational behavior. I believe I can provide strong leadership to the board of directors and be a robust contributor.

Why do you want to serve on the board of trustees?

I was a patron of Kootenai Electric Co-op in ID for 25 years before relocating to Spokane 19 years ago, so I am quite familiar with the co-op structure and service offerings. I grew up on our family lumbermill and spent early years as a logger - developing a deep appreciation for nature and outdoor activities. I have signed checks on the front for over 40 years having owned or managed multiple businesses. My interest in serving on the board stems from my experiences as an entrepreneur and outdoorsman.

What strengths would you bring to the board of trustees?

I have a long history of managing multi-million-dollar companies. Although I earned an MBA with emphasis in sustainability, there is no substitute for real world experience. Thus, my strengths include board governance, oversight, advisory matters and establishing policy. I can read financial statements and have significant experience with legal, strategy and human resource issues.

The utility industry faces many challenges. Where would you focus your attention?

Wildfire disruptions and utility risk mitigation are omnipresent. I would have a keen awareness to alternate power sources. If Google, Microsoft and Amazon proceed with mini-nuclear power plants, then maybe they pave the way for traditional suppliers. Staff retention by training and incentivization should always have mind share. Any organization is as strong as its human resource program. I would provide leadership to staff and fellow board members to help navigate these and other issues.

What else would you like the membership to know about you as a candidate?

My wife and I live on acreage and have utility easements for both Avista and Inland Power utility lines. We have accommodated tree trimming and other line protection activities. Living in a recognized wildland fire corridor, we are very conscious of the intersection of utility lines and nature. Like all patrons, we appreciate uninterrupted power. We practice prudent land management to do our part in mitigating wildfire and power interruptions. I am past chairman of a billion-dollar buying cooperative that also returned a share of profits to its members. I am also a member of the Spokane Angel's Alliance, a group that fosters entrepreneurship in the greater Spokane area. We have four grown children and three grandchildren.