



Matthew Slotemaker

District 5 Candidate

Member/Owner since 2014

Education: BA in Advertising from Washington State University in 2008

Employment: Owner of 12 Acre Films

Affiliations: None

Candidate statement:

I live on 12 acres with my wife and four kids aged 1-8. We love where we live and I often tell anyone who will listen that I never want to move. As a self-employed 30-something I feel like I have the flexibility to invest in the community, and I also believe the future of energy is critically important. There's a lot of conversation about energy on a global and national scale, but little at the regional and local levels. Inland Power is not front of mind on a daily basis for most customers, or myself to be honest, until rates change. So I'm hoping with my involvement I can listen and learn about what's going on behind the scenes and hopefully even help out a little.

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

As a member of the community I believe it's good to pitch in where I can. And like I wrote above, energy distribution is important, and it's something that I can have influence on.

What strengths would you bring to the board of trustees?

I hope I can use my background in marketing to possibly help the co-op. Not to say your current marketing is bad - I actually don't know much about it at all. I also see that the board of trustees is generally older, so hopefully as a millennial, I can bring a younger perspective to the group.

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

With the continual shift towards renewables and away from combustibles, and the changing climate, the needs for electricity are changing and will continue to change. While I don't have an agenda - like I'm not a proponent of dam breaching (not saying this because IPL has influence in this, but just to reiterate that I'm not coming in as an activist) - I do hope I can be part of preparing for our energy future instead of reacting to it.

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

I think Inland Power is so cool! In contrast to other regional utilities, knowing that my power provider is a co-op gives me the peace of mind my fees are being spent with minimal overhead. And our service is excellent. Of course we lose power during big storms, but they're usually resolved quickly and it's great to see the updates on the website.