



William N. Patterson – DMEA District 1 Candidate

Employment:

Retired

Family:

Married with Judy Patterson for 59 years, 5 children, 13 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. Two children, Glenn and Sue Frank live in Montrose.

Educational background:

Graduated from Ashland Ohio high school in 1957. Graduated from the Ohio State University with a BME (summa cum laude) and Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1971. Registered Professional Engineer in Colorado and Massachusetts.

As a board member you would have fiduciary responsibility to the members of the cooperative. What is your financial background?

Started and operated two small businesses. One was a J.I. Case construction and farm equipment dealership, and the other was TEI Rock Drills, Inc. a successful company located in Montrose. These efforts required a knowledge and experience in operating a business and understanding financial records.

What unique ability or knowledge do you think you would bring to the DMEA board?

The ability to recognize and act on business opportunities. I have managed many teams of individuals to accomplish specific tasks using communication and technical skills developed.

Please list your involvement in community organizations or boards on which you currently serve or have served in the recent past.:

Have served on many boards including the Montrose Industrial Development Board (MEDC now), Habitat for Humanity Board, and Colorado Workforce Development Board. Have served on Montrose City Council for 8 years, Montrose Board of County Commissioners for 4 years, and the DMEA Board for 6 years.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing electric cooperatives nation wide?

The changing technology of distributed generation requiring high speed communications to balance the electric grid and control diverse generation sources.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing DMEA?



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How to control electric wholesale costs and the local electric distribution costs.

What does the word cooperative mean to you?

Local control of the electric generation and distribution of electric power to the cooperative members.

Do you agree with the cooperative business model? Why or why not?

I agree with the cooperative business model but any organization must be open to new ideas and technologies that can reduce costs to the members.

What do you think is the most important of the 7 cooperative principles and why?

Number 2, Democratic Member Control.

What do you feel is the primary function of DMEA?

The Cooperative Mission "We energize and serve our communities".

What is your vision for DMEA?

To become more independent using local resources to generate and distribute electricity to our members.

How would you describe the roles and responsibilities of cooperative board members?

The DMEA Board is responsible for selecting the appropriate actions to accomplish the core values and vision that has been established. This is accomplished by selecting a CEO to manage the cooperative and reviewing their actions to ensure that the cooperative is meeting the needs of the members.

Is there anything about DMEA that you would like to change? If yes, what and why?

We all need to review the costs to members for power and develop better and lower cost ways to provide this power.

Candidate Background Statement:

Lived in Montrose for 30 years, Navy veteran. Married to Judy with 5 children, 2 living in Montrose. Graduated from Ohio State with a BME (Summa Cum Laude), Master of Mechanical Engineering, with studies completed for a PhD in Engineering. Worked as a welder with an 80 acre hay farm, as a consultant at Bolt Beranek and Newman, and as Chief Engineer, Gardner-Denver Rock Drills. Started TEI Rock drills in our basement, working



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over the years to develop the personal relationships needed for a successful business. TEI Rock Drills currently is a major employer in Montrose, manufacturing rock drills sold around the world. Building a successful business requires the fiscal responsibility and close financial management needed on our DMEA Board to provide financial oversight. As an engineer by training and work experience, I developed good analytical abilities. This provides me with a keen sense of what will work, a common sense approach to solving problems for our rural cooperative. The success of TEI is based on identifying, analyzing, and acting on market opportunities. I believe that I have the qualifications, experience, and independence to continue to serve you well. As your current Director, I have worked to keep our electric rates as low as possible with an eye on new technology and opportunities to keep them low. Our work to provide our community with high speed communications is proving successful with the introduction of Elevate Fiber as a subsidiary of DMEA at no cost to our DMEA members. I offer successful business experience, a keen analytic mind with a common sense approach, and the ability to act independently and decisively on opportunities for our cooperative. I ask for your vote so that I can continue working for you.