

# Director elections slated for Zones 4, 5 & 6

DEMOCRACY will take center stage at Claverack's 2018 annual meeting, with director election results highlighting the agenda.

Board seats are up for election in Zones 4, 5 and 6 this year. The election of directors will be conducted via mail-in ballots. Each member will receive a ballot listing the names of all candidates seeking seats on the co-op board.

Members can expect to receive the ballots this month. **The completed ballots should be returned in the addressed, stamped blue envelope included with the annual meeting notice. Claverack must receive members' completed ballots no later than July 14.**

The announcement of election results will take place during the business portion of the annual meeting.

In accordance with Claverack's by-laws, director elections take place on a rotating basis, with three zones up for election each year. Elected candidates serve three-year terms. Directors are responsible for establishing co-op policies and overseeing business operations.

Candidates who have filed petitions to run for board seats are: incumbent Gary L. Hennip, Zone 4; Travis J. Long, Zone 5; and incumbent James E. Luce, Zone 6. A profile of the candidates follows.

## Zone 4

*Zone 4 serves members in Athens, Litchfield, Orwell, Pike, Rome, Sheshequin, Ulster and Windham townships in Bradford County.*



Gary Hennip  
Zone 4

**Gary Hennip**  
773 Moore Road  
Rome, PA 18837

Gary L. Hennip of Rome was elected to his first term on the Claverack board of directors in July 2015 and was recently appointed to serve on the board of directors of Citizens' Electric Co. of Lewisburg.

Since his election, he has completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director

curriculum offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Courses completed include: Director Duties and Liabilities, Understanding the Electric Business, Board Operations and Process, Strategic Planning, and Financial Decision Making.

Hennip is a Northeast Bradford High School graduate and earned his bachelor's degree in elementary education from Mansfield University. His work with cooperatives includes 18 years of employment with the Sire Power Cooperative in Tunkhannock, Pa., where he was director of marketing for membership sales and service in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, New Jersey and New York. In addition, Hennip was employed 16 years as a dairy educator and county extension director with the Penn State University Extension Service in Bradford County.

He is the co-superintendent of the All-American Dairy Show, member of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, member and administrative council chairman of the North Orwell Union Church, Northeast Bradford Foundation vice president and trustee, and the current Northeast Bradford High School girls' varsity softball coach and assistant girls' basketball coach.

Gary and his wife, Marianne, have three children and seven grandchildren. He enjoys traveling, working outdoors and spending time with family.

## Zone 5

*Zone 5 serves members in Apolacon, Choconut, Forest Lake, Jessup, Middletown and Rush townships in Susquehanna County, and Warren Township in Bradford County.*



Travis J. Long  
Zone 5

**Travis J. Long**  
231 Long Drive  
Montrose, PA 18801

Travis J. Long of Montrose resides in Middletown Township, Susquehanna County, where he was raised until leaving to attend Juniata College

in 1996. Long obtained a bachelor's degree in environmental science and ecology in 2000.

Since then, Long has worked in the consulting engineering field, serving as a senior environmental scientist/senior project manager responsible for overseeing projects for both the public and private sector. Long is a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) with over 18 years of experience, of which 15 have been spent serving as a key staff member, as well as a board director, for Gwin, Dobson & Foreman Consulting Engineers. Long has utilized his technical experience in regard to environmental engineering to provide state-of-the-art public utilities for communities in need by offering guidance, education and results.

Long has been a member of the rural electric cooperative for over 15 years.

Travis, his wife, Christina, and their three children recently built a new home on a family farm, where they continue to work together to help mold their family and enjoy nature, country living, and the outdoors.

## Zone 6

*Zone 6 serves members in the following townships: Cherry and Colley in Sullivan County; Braintrim, Forkston, Mehoopany, Meshoppen, North Branch, Washington and Windham in Wyoming County; Tuscarora and Wilmot in Bradford County.*



James E. Luce  
Zone 6

**James E. Luce**  
1077 Bluestone Road  
Laceyville, PA 18623

James E. Luce of Laceyville has served on the Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative board of directors since January 2003 and currently holds the

position of chairman. Prior to joining the Claverack board of directors, he had served on the cooperative's Nominating Committee for more than two decades. He also serves as the vice chairman on the board of directors for C&T En-

terprises, the for-profit management services subsidiary of Claverack REC and Tri-County REC, and is secretary of the Wellsboro Electric Co. board of directors.

A lifelong resident of Wyoming County, Luce operates a fifth-generation farm in Meshoppen Township. A Credentialed Cooperative Director, Luce has also completed Board Leadership Certificate training from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Luce is a graduate of Elk Lake High School and holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture education from Penn State University. He is also a graduate of the Penn State-coordinated Kellogg Rural Leadership program. Luce serves as chairman of the Wyoming County Farmland Preservation Board and is a director on the Wyoming County Conservation District board, representing that board on the Endless Mountains Resource, Conservation and Development Council. He served the maximum number of terms as a member of the Endless Mountains Heritage Region Board of Directors.

A former 4-H leader and lifetime NRA member, Luce is a member of the Meshoppen Methodist Church, the Tunkhannock Lions Club, the South Auburn Grange, the Meshoppen Rod & Gun Club, and is president of the Meshoppen Men's Club. 