

COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER News

FROM CHUGACH ELECTRIC

issue 10 • Spring 2015

Annual meeting and election May 14

Four Chugach members are running for three seats on the cooperative's board of directors in this year's election. Election results will be announced at the May 14 annual meeting.

Chugach is a utility organized as a member-owned cooperative. The organization is governed by a 7-member board elected by and from the membership. The candidates in the 2015 election are Bettina Chastain, Sisi Cooper, Bruce Dougherty and Ron Stafford.

Chastain is a self-employed executive and engineering consultant. Cooper is a project engineer with Doyon Anvil, elected to the board in 2012. Dougherty is a health program manager with the State of Alaska, recently appointed to the board. Stafford is a self-employed consultant.

A recent resignation from the board has created a special 1-year term in this year's election. Accordingly, the two candidates who receive the most votes will be elected to 4-year

terms, while the candidate with the third-highest votes will be elected to a 1-year term.

Members will also vote on one proposed bylaw amendment. It would assist the transition to electronic voting as the primary means of voting in future Chugach elections by making edits to different sections of the bylaws. The proposed change is supported by the bylaws committee, board of directors, and election committee. Chugach began offering members the opportunity to vote

electronically in 2011. In 2014, 12.5 percent of the membership voted in the election, with 37.5 percent of the votes cast electronically via the Internet or phone.

The board set April 1 as the record date for voting in this year's election. Members have five ways to vote: using the Internet, telephone, mail service, secure drop box, or in person at the Annual Meeting. Election materials will be sent via mail or email by April 14. Members have until noon on Monday, May 11 to return a ballot by mail, or until noon on Thursday, May 14 to vote electronically.

In-person voting will be allowed at the cooperative's annual meeting May 14 at the Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center for members who haven't yet cast a ballot. Registration opens at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.



Bettina Chastain



Stanislava "Sisi" Cooper



Bruce Dougherty



Ron Stafford

Commercial Energy Seminar – April 23, 2015

Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) is hosting an educational energy seminar on commercial energy efficiency and utility billing.

Key concepts will include building monitoring, energy efficiency and living buildings. If you are a commercial building owner or facility manager this workshop

is for you. Speakers include representatives from Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, McCool Carlson Green, ENSTAR Natural Gas and Chugach Electric.

To register, visit BOMA's website: www.bomaanchorage.com. Cost of registration for BOMA members is \$20; for nonmembers is \$30. Please RSVP

by April 20, 2015. Space is limited to 35 people. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.



**Mark your calendars:
Thursday, April 23 2015**

8:30am- 11:30am

BP Energy Center

900 E. Benson Blvd.

Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6612





Commercial Energy Audits

What is a commercial energy audit?

A commercial building owner looking to lower energy bills and improve efficiencies should conduct a commercial energy audit on their facilities. Conducting an energy audit will identify the following:

- Cost effective energy efficiency measures
- Potential waste, leaks and misuse of fuel
- Equipment that needs to be replaced or commissioned
- Operational, maintenance or other inefficiencies

Typical audit findings indicate energy cost savings of approximately 30%. Energy upgrades identified in an energy audit will pay for themselves with reduction in facility operations cost and increased facility productivity.

Are there different types of commercial energy audits?

Yes. The American Society of

Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) have outlined three different levels of energy audits for commercial buildings.

Level I: Walk-through

- First step to improving efficiency
- Quick visual assessment
- Establishes a baseline for measuring improvements
- Identifies no-cost energy measures

Level II: Energy survey and engineering analysis

- Detailed look at all building components
- Includes conservation, behavioral and O&M recommendations
- Provides financial analysis of proposed measures

Level III: Detailed analysis or investment grade audit

- Long term study of building energy data
- Data is used to pinpoint targeted energy improvements
- Provides reliable payback

estimates for targeted measures.

How do I find a qualified energy auditor?

To find a qualified Certified Energy Auditor (CEA) or Certified Energy Manager (CEM) in Alaska, visit <http://www.aeecenter.org/custom/cpdirectory/index.cfm>. To find additional energy professionals, go to <http://www.akenergyefficiency.org/find-an-energy-pro/>.

What financing options are available?

Alaska Energy Authority administers the Alaska Commercial Energy Audit Program, which provides reimbursements of qualified commercial energy audits for privately owned commercial buildings. For more information visit, <http://www.akenergyauthority.org/Efficiency/CommercialAudit>.

If an audit has already been

completed and initial funding to complete the suggested improvements is needed, the Alternative Energy and Conservation Revolving Loan Fund may be able to assist. Loans may be made to purchase, construct or install energy conservation improvement in commercial buildings. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000. For more information, visit <http://commerce.state.ak.us/dnn/ded/FIN/LoanPrograms/AlternativeEnergyLoanProgram.aspx>.

Additional Sources:

- Introduction to Energy Efficiency: A guide to Managing Energy Use in Public & Commercial Facilities, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation, 2013.
- Save Energy. Save Money. You have the power. Energy Efficiency Programs for Alaska, Alaska Energy Authority, 2013.

Prepare your business for a power outage

When power outages occur, Chugach Electric works as quickly as possible to restore power; however any amount of time without electricity can affect your business. The best thing you can do is to prepare ahead of time to minimize disruptions and protect your business.

Before an outage:

- Create an outage preparedness plan with your key employees. Define operational tasks and responsibilities for your staff.
- Become familiar with the location and operation of your breaker panel and know how to shut-off equipment power

switches.

- Determine necessary outage procedures for all critical equipment.
- Create and maintain an outage kit for your business. Basic supplies should include flashlights with extra batteries, first-aid kit, floor plan of your building marked with emergency shutoffs and controls, and emergency phone numbers.

During an outage:

- Safety should be the most important consideration for you and your employees.
- Check your circuit breakers

to make sure that the outage is not being caused by equipment problems at your facility.

- Report the outage. To report, you can use the outage report tool online at www.chugachelectric.com. If you do not have internet connection, you can call Chugach Customer Service at 907-762-4366.
- Implement your outage preparedness plan.
- Complete necessary outage procedures for all critical equipment.

After an outage:

- Check your facility to make

sure everything is operating correctly.

- Communicate and report what happened to all concerned.
- Make any necessary adjustments to your outage preparedness plan.

To find more information about how to prepare for a power outage or emergency visit www.chugachelectric.com, www.ready.alaska.gov or the Emergency Management page on www.muni.org.