



INCUMBENT DIRECTORS RE-ELECTED TO BOARD



Richard Schmidt
District 1

RICHARD SCHMIDT

Richard Schmidt was a Texas barbecue business legend when he joined Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative's Board of Directors in 1994. He still is.

Schmidt owned and operated the renowned Kreuz Market in Lockhart from 1984 to 2010. His father owned the market before him, and now Schmidt's son, Keith, owns Kreuz Market. Schmidt has his own table at Kreuz's, with a slogan emblazoned on top: "There are three kinds of people: People who make things happen, people who watch things happen, people who ask 'What happened?'"

Schmidt makes things happen. He was chairman of Bluebonnet's board from 2001-2014, a time of comprehensive

modernization and innovation that turned the co-op into one of the most progressive electric cooperatives in the country. He serves on two Bluebonnet board committees: Audit & Finance and Energy Services. He represents Bluebonnet's District 1, which includes all or portions of Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales and Hays counties.

A Lockhart native, Schmidt earned a degree in business administration in 1968 from Texas Christian University, which he attended on a baseball scholarship. He worked in the frozen food industry before joining his brother in 1984 to buy Kreuz Market from their father. Schmidt's brother retired in 1997.

Schmidt and his wife, Evelyn, live in Lockhart and enjoy country music, traveling in their RV, fishing and bird hunting. Their other son, Leeman, works in technology in Austin.



Suanna Tumlinson
District 2

SUANNA TUMLINSON

Suanna Tumlinson and her husband, Kenneth, started an electrical contracting company in their basement in Dripping Springs in 1994. Through their hard work, the company, KST Electric, grew to a 650-employee firm based in Manor, with offices in five other Texas cities. Tumlinson managed the company's operations, contracts, financial obligations, insurance and corporate marketing for 16 years.

In 2010, they sold the company to California-based Rosendin Electric, the largest 100 percent employee-owned electrical contracting business in the United States. They retired from Rosendin at the end of 2013.

Tumlinson has served on the Bluebonnet Board of Directors since 2011. She serves on two Bluebonnet board committees: Technology (chair) and Member Experience. She earned Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) status in her first year on the board and the Board Leadership Certificate (BLC)

from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. She is Bluebonnet's director for District 2, which includes parts of Travis County.

She was born in Germany and grew up in an Air Force family, moving every two years until arriving in Austin and graduating from Westlake High School. She earned a teaching degree at Southwest Texas State University — now Texas State University — and taught special education in the Eanes ISD for almost 10 years. She is a member and a past president of the Manor Chamber of Commerce and is vice president of the Manor Education Foundation. She also was the Travis County Youth Show superintendent for five years and has been an officer for various youth organizations. Tumlinson attends numerous University of Texas Longhorn sporting events and enjoys needlework and crafts.

The Tumlinsons have a son, Justin, and daughter-in-law, Kristen, and are grandparents of twins.



James Kershaw
District 3

JAMES KERSHAW

James Kershaw never takes electricity for granted. He remembers when electricity didn't reach into the country. Growing up in Brenham, his rural friends and relatives used kerosene lamps because power didn't arrive until the 1940s.

Kershaw, a Bastrop lawyer, has been on the Bluebonnet board since 1982, serving as secretary/treasurer from 1987-2012. He serves on two Bluebonnet board committees: Audit & Finance and Technology. He is a director of the co-op's District 3, which is Bastrop County.

His undergraduate studies at Texas A&M University were interrupted by World War II. He served in the Navy on a ship in the Pacific. Later, he graduated from the University of Texas School of Law.

He served as Bastrop's county attorney before being elected district attorney for Bastrop, Burleson, Lee and Washington counties, a job he held from 1956 until 1972. His law practice focuses on estate planning, real estate law, banking and utilities.

He was chairman of the Salvation Army Unit in Bastrop and a bell ringer for 25 years. He was the first lawyer for, and helped organize, the Aqua Water Supply Corp., served on the board of Bastrop County FEMA, and is chairman of the board of the First National Bank of Bastrop.

Kershaw and his wife, Doris, have three children and three grandchildren. (His first wife and two sons are deceased.) The couple is active in the Calvary Episcopal Church, where he is a chalice bearer. Kershaw enjoys yard work in his leisure time.