

Director Candidates: Region 3 - Ill. (4-year term), Candidate 1 of 2



Roger Newell (Incumbent)
60 years old
Williamsfield, IL
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Farm Credit Member Since 1982

Family: Wife Julie and two daughters, Roganne Murray and Ryann Kesler, who farm in the Champaign, Illinois area with

their families, and one son Jordan, of Williamsfield, an attorney at Massie & Quick, LLC located in Galva, Illinois and also helps on the family farm.

Brief Description of Agricultural Operation and Employment/Business experience for past five years: Newell Farms is a nearly 5000-acre family farm consisting of non-gmo corn, soybeans and alfalfa with a 100 head cow-calf operation. I am also an owner/operator of Newell Brothers Trucking.

Boards or Committees in the past five years (and principal business): Compeer Financial Board of Directors 2018-present, Compeer Audit and Finance Committee 2018-present, Audit Vice-Chair 2020-present. Compeer Ag and Rural Initiative Committee 2018-2022, Compeer Groundbreakers/YBS Committee 2018-present, 1st FCS AgriBank District Farm Credit Council 2017, 1st FCS Audit Committee 2017, 1st FCS Donor Advised Fund 2017, 1st FCS Governmental Affairs Committee 2017, 1st FCS candidate for AgriBank 2017.

Community Involvement/Government Service: I have served as the Supervisor for Elba Township from 1998 to present, Knox County Zoning Committee 2022 to present, Knox County South Assessment District board, former Knox County Precinct Committeeman, Member of: Knox County Farm Bureau, Township Supervisors of Illinois, Township Officials of Illinois. I have enjoyed previously coaching t-ball, softball, and youth basketball. I attend the Williamsfield United Methodist Church.

Education: Graduated from Williamsfield Senior High School, class of 1980, Carl Sandburg College, Galesburg, Illinois, graduating class of 1982 with four degrees in applied sciences, received Director Certification, Premier Governance Series Board Training, attended Gettysburg Leadership Training Experience, Illinois Ag Leadership Class of 2000, traveling to Egypt and Germany and receiving training at the Kellogg School of Business Management.

What is your vision for the future of agriculture? As producers, we have a long history of creating a surplus in our industry. This trend will continue and drive the need for efficiencies. More utilization of technology, consulting advice, business planning and risk management will be needed to create profit on those farms. Diverse markets such as non-gmo, organic as well as alternatives that add a second income to the farm will continue to expand. There is a lot of continued discussion on volatility

in today's marketplace. Farmers are currently doing a great job managing risk on their operations and retaining profits. Utilizing digital tools to manage and address your specific financial risks will be essential in the future.

What do you believe are the primary issues facing agriculture and Compeer Financial? Five years ago, the Boards of Directors of three associations merged to become one to best represent the financial needs of a wide range of clients. Not only are farms becoming larger but there is a growing variety of specialty farms that are very diverse in their makeup. Our protein sector has also made great strides as demand continues to grow for better and healthier diets. This complex group of farmers and the ability to fund each one of these sectors adequately is an important issue for the success of the agricultural client and also for Compeer Financial as the lender. Not only to lend money but to find new ways to partner with and educate agricultural clients on the best practices to ensure their success. Compeer has invested in creating a digital platform with online tools to give clients the flexibility to save time while best serving their needs. I hope everyone can find some time to look this over and utilize some of these tools for themselves.

Why I want to serve on the Board of Directors of Compeer Financial? To represent the American Farmer in the Compeer boardroom. As Compeer Financial has reached their five-year anniversary, no matter what legacy region you reside in, whether AgStar, Badgerland or 1st Farm Credit Services, constant and reliable credit to maintain agriculture and rural communities is still the core value. I would like to continue serving on the Compeer Financial Board of Directors to ensure that the great credit opportunities that have been available to me as well as the opportunity to work with the knowledgeable and devoted leadership team, will be available to future generations of agricultural clients. My experience in audit and finance as well as the training I received during my time on the legacy 1st FCS board, together with my farm business knowledge, has given me the experience to bring continued financial responsibility while creating customized financial solutions for the Compeer customers.