

# Dan Chelko

I have been a member of Walton EMC since 1976. It has been my privilege to represent my fellow co-op members as a member of the co-op's board of directors since 1993.

When I get involved with an organization, I jump in with both feet — a fact that can be confirmed by those who have served alongside me in professional and volunteer capacities. My service on the WEMC board has been no different.

During my tenure as a board member, I have been honored to serve as president, vice president and secretary/treasurer. I have served as Walton EMC's representative on the advisory board for our wholesale electricity supplier, Oglethorpe Power Company. Additionally, I have been a member of the Walton Energy Board that oversees Walton Natural Gas and Walton Solar.

I am the only current WEMC board member who has completed the 50 hours of course work to earn a Board Leadership Program certification awarded by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. In addition, I earn professional educational credits twice each year through the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation. This commitment to professional development provides in-depth education on specific electric utility industry and governance issues. Understanding these issues helps me make well-informed decisions on behalf of my fellow WEMC customer-owners.

My work outside of the co-op has provided a deep knowledge of the co-op's service area and its people. Many of the co-op's voting members now were my students when I was an assistant principal at Brookwood High School (Gwinnett County) for 32 years. I also got to know many local families while coaching soccer at the college, high school and youth levels for many years. I was also a high-level USSF Soccer official for 27 years.

WEMC is a family and one I am proud to serve. Representing the membership has been a joy. The employees are the crown jewels that burn bright regardless of the weather conditions.

I hope my fellow co-op members will give me the opportunity to continue serving you for another three-year term.

