

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



Matt Suess

37 years old
Hanska, Minn.
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Farm Credit Member Since: 2010

Family: I am a third-generation farmer on our family farm that my grandpa Erwin started in 1949. I am one of five

kids and currently farm with my father, Loran, brother, Adam and two cousins, Tom and Scott. I got married to my wonderful wife Katelyn in the summer of 2019 who supports and helps me be a successful farmer.

Brief Description of Agricultural Operation and Employment/Business experience for past five years: I am the Secretary/Treasurer for Suess Farms Inc. and take care of all the bookkeeping, day to day management operations, and overall management of a 2,300 acre corn and soybean farm. I have been a seasonal employee at Carlson SV in New Ulm, Minn. Carlson SV is a public accounting office. I was an auditor for farm co-ops and became a senior tax preparer during my 12-year career in public accounting.

Boards or Committees in the past five years (and principal business): Board of Director for Farmers Coop of Hanska for the past five years. Board of Director for Heartland Corn Products (Ethanol Plant) for less than one year. Serve on Rules and Regulation Committee for CHS and have been on the Advisory Committee for Compeer Financial.

Community Involvement/Government Service: I've been involved with a town ball baseball team for the past 20 years. It's an amateur baseball league that our local community comes to and follows extremely well. We also do a lot of fundraisers to help fund the junior baseball leagues.

Education: Graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2008 with a bachelor of science degree in accounting.

What is your vision for the future of agriculture? My vision for the future of agriculture is very technology and data driven with the lack of labor and having to feed more people per farmer. I think that farming is going to change quite rapidly in the next five to ten years with what is going on in the world through legislation. I am always looking at new technology to improve efficiency and optimize our operations. I may not always be the first to adopt it, but never the last.

What do you believe are the primary issues facing agriculture and Compeer Financial? One of the largest issues agriculture is going to face is that farmers keep getting a little bit older and there aren't as many young farmers coming into the lifestyle. I believe that Compeer can play an important role helping to ensure that all of its members get treated fairly with the proper

opportunities and tools to guide its members into one of the best lifestyles anyone can have. The agriculture economy is going to be driven by the global markets. I also think that carbon is going to continue to be a challenge that agriculture is going to face. I do not think we fully understand what it really is and how to control carbon. I think Compeer can play a significant role in legislative affairs and can also help our younger generations get more involved in agriculture while also maintaining a strong healthy organization.

Why I want to serve on the Board of Directors of Compeer Financial? I want to serve on Compeer Financials' Board of Directors because I can bring a lot of youth, optimism, and diversity into the board room. I believe that I will be able to bring a lot of value into a board room with all business experiences and different board experiences I have accumulated over the years. I think my youth is going to be an important factor because I can help bridge the gap from older generations of farmers into the new generations to come.