

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



**Daniel Erickson** (Incumbent)  
44 years old  
Alden, Minn.  
(507) 383-8389  
jdfarms99@gmail.com  
Farm Credit Member Since: 2010

**Family:** Wife: Jenny; Children: Grace (18), Tyler (15), Karina (12).

**Brief Description of Agricultural Operation and Employment/ Business experience for past five years:** Family is the core of the Erickson farming operation. Three generations are involved on the farm. In 1999, after graduating from South Dakota State University, I moved back to begin farming. I farm near Alden with my wife, Jenny, and our three children. Jenny is a special education teacher at the Alden-Conger School. On the farm we raise 1,300 acres of corn, soybeans and alfalfa. We also custom raise up to 400 dairy heifers. Family was one of the reasons why I chose to move home and start farming. My hope is that our children are learning about hard work and responsibility growing up on a farm. All three kids enjoy helping us with daily chores and field work. They are all involved with 4-H and FFA, where they show dairy steers and goats at the county and state fair. In 2011 Jenny and I were awarded Freeborn County Farm Family of the Year. I was also fortunate to work for the Minnesota Corn Growers Association as a Regional Representative from 2006 to 2017. I'm very proud of being instrumental in starting a local young farmer peer group. This peer group has taught me many things about agriculture and business.

The past four years I have had the privilege to serve on the Compeer Board of Directors. Being a volunteer fireman I have often referred to my first year on the board as "drinking information from a fire hose". I tried very hard to learn as much as I could, as quick as I could about Compeer, AgriBank and the Farm Credit System. Since that first year, I have worked to excel in the board room, in my committees and even nationally. I serve on the Board Enterprise Risk Committee, Compeer Legislative Committee, Groundbreakers Committee, PAC Committee, Minnesota Legislative Committee and AgriBank District Farm Credit Council.

Check out our "Erickson Farms" video on YouTube to learn more about our operation.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNIUacDMpuw>.

**Boards or Committees in the past five years (and principal business):** Freeborn County Corn & Soybean Growers Association (Past President and Treasurer).

**Community Involvement/Government Service:** Alden Fire Department Officer (16 Years); Provider Pals; Alden 4-H; Sons of the American Legion; Redeemer Lutheran Church; Freeborn County Corn & Soybean Growers; Minnesota Corn

Growers Association; Minnesota Soybean Growers Association; Minnesota Youth Livestock Expo committee

**Education:** Alden-Conger High School – 1995 Graduate; South Dakota State University – 1999 General Agriculture Degree four-year Graduate.

**What is your vision for the future of agriculture?** I am excited about the future of agriculture. I anticipate continued and increasing market volatility, but this will create more opportunities for the well-managed operations. These conditions will require us to focus on sharpening our management skills and capitalizing on our resources. For us to not only survive, but thrive, in this environment it will be imperative for us to focus on our use of technology and lean on our network within the industry to get the most out of everything we do. These resources include, but are not limited to, our lenders, accountants, feed consultants, chemical and seed representatives or even respected peers.

**What do you believe are the primary issues facing agriculture and Compeer Financial?** More government regulations in all areas of agriculture; volatile markets; and financial scrutiny are the first obstacles that come to mind. While these may sound hard to deal with individually, I believe that together farmer stockholders and Compeer Financial can successfully navigate these obstacles.

**Why I want to serve on the Board of Directors of Compeer Financial?** Over the past four years it has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the Compeer Board of Directors. I hope that I have demonstrated my ability to build a strong and growing network, be a voice for the stockholder, and help build a business based on sound principles. I feel that financing is a strength of mine and I've shown discipline and collaboration by working with an exceptional Board of Directors and an outstanding Compeer team. Compeer will have a positive impact on agriculture rural communities in its trade area for years to come. It would be a privilege to continue to serve the organization to help ensure client strength and profitability along with keeping Compeer a strong and respected business.