

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



**Dan Zimmerman** (Incumbent)

64 years old  
Rosendale, Wis.  
(920) 579-1597  
dzim@centurytel.net  
Farm Credit Member Since: 1983

**Family:** Wife Kelli; 4 Daughters: Nicole (Jon), Amanda, Carmen (Jon), Kelly; 3 Step-Children: Annie (Clayton), Jack, Sam

### **Brief Description of Agricultural Operation and Employment/**

**Business experience for past five years:** I own and operate Ever Green Growers Inc. with brother, Jim Zimmerman, mother, Jean Zimmerman, and nephew, Aaron Zimmerman. We raise corn, soybeans, and wheat on 2,700 acres. Ever Green Growers is a federal grain warehouse operation with 530,000 bushels of storage. Involved in all daily farm operations for Ever Green Growers, Inc including: contracting, hedging, purchasing and selling corn, soybeans, and wheat for the farm and elevator. GPS Navigation, yield mapping, variable rate seeding and auto shutoff.

### **Boards or Committees in the past five years (and principal**

**business):** President of Rosendale Brandon School Board as well as the Chair of Teacher Negotiations and Audit Committee; President of Rosendale United Church of Christ; Badgerland Financial Board and Audit Committee; Farm Credit Foundations Board/Plan Sponsor Committee serving on its Audit Committee; served on the Audit Committee, Enterprise Risk Committee and the Fund for Rural America for the Compeer Financial Board of Directors; currently serving on the Compensation and Governance Committee and the Young Beginning Small Farmer Committee.

### **Community Involvement/Government Service:**

Fifteen years Rosendale Brandon School Board, six years as Vice President, eight years as President. Served eight years as President of the Rosendale United Church of Christ and lifelong member. Ten years partner/manager of Golden Grain Rail Elevator, Wisconsin Corn Growers, Wisconsin Soybean Association, Wisconsin Soybean Association delegate to Japan promoting Wisconsin Soybeans.

**Education:** Bachelor of science degree in farm management, minor in animal science from the University of Wisconsin River Falls (1979), Laconia High School (1975). Participated in the Farm Credit Premier Governance Series for board leadership.

### **What is your vision for the future of agriculture?**

I am very optimistic for the future of agriculture even during these difficult and trying times. It is hard to imagine how much more we produce now than just ten years ago and how much more we will produce in the near future with innovation and technology. We now, more than ever, need a strong financial partner with knowledge and expertise in agriculture. Technology will

continue to offer more exciting opportunities to produce more with less labor. Exports will continue to be very important to production agriculture.

### **What do you believe are the primary issues facing**

**agriculture and Compeer Financial?** To stay competitive and afford new technologies, we have to have economy of scale, spreading our costs over more acres and/or more animals. These investments require a lot of capital and a knowledgeable financial partner, lending us the resources to succeed. Financing the next generation will be a very big challenge. We will need to be supportive and diligent helping them finance their dreams and aspirations. We need to keep agriculture strong and prosperous in order to retain the best and brightest in production agriculture. One of my primary concerns is financing the next generation of farmers who will continue to support our agricultural communities. It is incredibly challenging for young farmers to start their businesses in this competitive, capital-intensive industry.

### **Why I want to serve on the Board of Directors of Compeer**

**Financial?** I strongly believe in giving back to our rural, local, agricultural communities through church board, school board and Compeer Financial. Serving on these boards has provided me the opportunity to help support agricultural and agricultural businesses in our local communities. In order to be successful in production agriculture, we need a solid financial partner. Compeer is a leading financial institution with a wealth of knowledge, expertise and financial resources. I have been a member for the past 38 years and I have been blessed to serve on the Badgerland Financial Board, the Compeer Financial Board, and have served on the Compeer Fund for Rural America Committee. I want to continue to return patronage to Compeer's owners and members who have produced and harvested throughout our agricultural communities. There is a strong incentive for me to continue to serve on the Compeer Board of Directors to support our agricultural industry and all those in it.