

# Chugach Electric Association's

May 2007

Number 232



ARBOR DAY  
MAY 21

For Right Tree, Right Place information visit the Chugach website



[www.chugachelectric.com](http://www.chugachelectric.com)

## Chugach members elect directors

Alex Gimarc and P. J. Hill were elected to 3-year terms on the Chugach Board of Directors. Election results were announced at the annual meeting April 26. About 23 percent of the 64,348 Chugach members of record voted in the election, up from 22 percent in 2006.

Hill is an associate professor of economics and a commercial fish-

erman. He has been a Chugach member off and on for 30 years.

Gimarc is a systems analyst for the Municipality of Anchorage, and has been a member of Chugach for 14 years.

In other voting, Chugach members passed a bylaw proposal to standardize the dates for appointing member committees and submitting bylaw proposals. A second bylaw proposal passed that allows the board to hire consultants, as needed, in addition to its CEO and financial advisor.

As a cooperative, Chugach is governed by a 7-member board elected by and from its membership. Directors are elected to 3-year, staggered terms.

A total of 239 Chugach members registered for the annual meeting at the Egan Civic & Convention Center. An estimated 350 people attended the meeting.



A total of 239 members registered at the 2007 annual meeting

### Board elects new officers

Immediately following the annual meeting, the board met to elect officers to serve for the next year. The following officers were elected:

Elizabeth Vazquez, Chairman  
Uwe Kalenka, Vice-Chair  
Alex Gimarc, Secretary  
P. J. Hill, Treasurer



Elizabeth Vazquez  
Chairman



Uwe Kalenka  
Vice Chair



Alex Gimarc  
Secretary



P. J. Hill  
Treasurer



Alan Christopherson  
Director



Jeff Lipscomb  
director



Jim Nordlund  
Director

### Election summary

Members of record for the 2007 election	64,348
Returned mail ballot envelopes	15,069
Validated returned mail ballot envelopes	14,716
Members that registered at the annual meeting	239
In-person ballots issued at the annual meeting	77
In-person ballots cast at the annual meeting	75
Total ballots cast in the 2006 election	14,791
Percentage of members of record that voted	22.9%

### Director election

(two seats on the board to be filled by the two candidates receiving the most votes)

David J. Cottrell	5,207
Alex Gimarc	8,800
P. J. Hill	9,535
Mark Wiggin	5,255

### Proposed amendments to the bylaws

	Yes	No
Member Committee Appointment	8,987	2,757
Deadlines and Bylaw Amendment		
Submittal Notification		
Board of Director Appointment	8,527	3,262
Clarification		

## Chugach board approves generation agreement

On April 25, one day before the annual meeting, elections, and swearing in of two new directors, the board of directors approved a 4-year labor contract with one of its bargaining groups for employees that work at power plants and in certain other jobs. Five directors voted for approval of the contract (Davison, Christopherson, Cottrell, Lipscomb, Nordlund) and two directors voted against approval (Kalenska, Vazquez).

Union employees had voted to approve the new contract on April 13.

The "Generation Plant Personnel Agreement" the board approved covers approximately 80 regular employees who work in a variety of technical jobs in areas like power generation, power control, communications and information technology.

The contract is one of three the utility has with workers represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1547. All three expired July 1, 2006, but both the union and Chugach continued to honor the prior contracts while negotiations have been underway on new agreements. Chugach and the union approved a new 4-year "Outside Agreement" for journey-men linemen and certain other employees in December 2006. Negotiations are ongoing for em-

ployees covered by the "Office and Engineering Agreement."

During the 4-year term of the contract employees will receive wage increases of 6 percent in the first year, 5 percent in the second and third years and a CPI (consumer price index) increase in the fourth year. They will also receive a 30 percent pension increase from \$5 to \$6.50 per hour.

As with the contract approved in December, Chugach management has stated that there will be no immediate change to rates to pay for the increases in this contract. It does not expect to file with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to add the costs of these contracts in rates in the near future, nor to try to amend a rate case currently at the commission. Initially, any additional costs from the new labor agreements will be seen as reductions to margins that would reduce future capital credits payments to members.

Last September Chugach filed paperwork asking the RCA to set rates that fairly recover the cost of both the generation & transmission and the distribution functions of the utility. If Chugach is successful, that will lead to about a 3 percent overall decrease in retail rates. Hearings on the rate case are expected to begin in August.

## 811 is national "Call Before You Dig" phone number

The national "Call Before You Dig" number for excavators and homeowners is 811. In an effort to save lives and protect underground utility lines, the Federal Communications Commission wants to eliminate the confusion of multiple "Call Before You Dig" numbers across the country.

Effective May 1, one phone call to 811 will quickly and easily begin the process of getting underground utility lines marked. The 811 call process is efficient, and callers will be routed to their local one call center who will arrange to mark all underground utility lines for free.

## Contact us

Main number	563-7494
Toll free	(800) 478-7494
Member service	563-7366
Member service fax	762-4678
Business and commercial	762-7876
Credit	563-5060
Power theft hotline	762-4731
Danger tree hotline	762-7227
Underground locates	278-3121
Regulatory Commission of Alaska	(800) 390-2782
or	276-6222
<b>To report a power outage</b>	
In Anchorage	762-7888
Outside Anchorage	(800) 478-7494

## Monthly residential service costs

(based on 700 kwh)

Customer charge/month	\$ 8.42
Energy charge $\$0.09282 \times \text{kwh} =$	\$64.97
Fuel adjustment $\$0.03415 \times \text{kwh} =$	<u>\$23.91</u>
Fuel surcharge effective 4/1/07	
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$97.30</b>
2% MOA Underground Charge =	\$ 1.95
RCC charge $\$0.000364 \times \text{kwh} =$	<u>\$ 0.25</u>
<b>Total bill</b>	<b>\$99.50</b>

## Hours

**Member Service lobby:**  
5601 Electron Drive  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Member Service phone:**  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Main office:**  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**The Chugach Outlet**  
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## Corporate Mission

Through superior service, safely provide reliable and competitively priced energy.

## Corporate vision

Powering Alaska's future

## Personnel policy

"It is a policy of Chugach Electric Association, Inc., to recruit, hire, train, compensate and promote persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, disability, veterans status, age or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state, or local law." Chugach is also an affirmative action employer.