

NEWS



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For Immediate Release:

Firelands Electric Co-op's general manager announces retirement

NEW LONDON, August 24 — Firelands Electric Cooperative General Manager April Bordas has announced she will retire February 2. Bordas worked her way to the top over the past 32 years. She joined Firelands Electric in 1985 as a billing file clerk and was promoted to billing supervisor in 1987. Bordas was appointed as the director of consumer services in 2001, overseeing both billing and metering departments, before being hired as general manager in 2010. In 2008, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Ashland University.

As general manager, Bordas is responsible for the overall operation of the cooperative relating to the management functions, including planning the co-op's day-to-day activities, directing personnel, coordinating operations and controlling costs.

The working relationship between a cooperative's board and general manager is one requiring respect and an understanding of each other's responsibilities for it to function properly. "I have been truly blessed to work for such a wonderful group of people and am grateful to have amazing employees working by my side," Bordas says.

Over the past seven years, Bordas has guided Firelands Electric in achieving several milestones, including building the new Willard-Chase substation; decreasing the co-op's line loss, which is electricity lost during transmission; and implementing a new, innovative metering system. Bordas has also taken the local co-op message to congressional representatives during her annual visits to Washington, D.C.

"I just want to say thank you to all Firelands Electric Co-op employees for working hard, supporting the co-op, and for supporting me," Bordas says. "It's all of the employees being one team that works hard to get the job done, day or night, rain or shine. Firelands Electric Cooperative is a great organization because of its dedicated employees who take great pride in what they do. Thank you all for a wonderful career."

Bordas lives in the Greenwich area with her husband, John, who is already retired. They plan to spend more of their time, especially during the winter months, at their retirement home in Florida. The Bordases have three grown daughters, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. They enjoy spending time with their family, traveling, and being active in their church.

April is the assistant treasurer of the New London Christian and Mission Alliance Church in New London. In her spare time, she also enjoys reading and shopping for bargains. In talking about her future plans, Bordas believes C.S. Lewis said it best: "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

Firelands Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy Partner, is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility serving more than 9,000 homes and businesses in rural areas of Ashland, Huron, Lorain and Richland counties ranks among the highest energy utilities in the country for customer satisfaction.

The cooperative's board of trustees has begun the search for Bordas' replacement. For more information about Firelands Electric Cooperative, visit www.FirelandsEC.com, or stay connected with the co-op through their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/FirelandsElectric/>, and Twitter feed, <https://twitter.com/Firelands>.