

2024 MCIA Annual Meeting

Board of Directors Nominee Information

Current Members of the MCIA Board of Directors

Chairman

Brad Barth, Thief River Falls, Minnesota (District 1)

Vice Chairman

Brent Benike, Baudette, Minnesota (District 1)

Secretary

Duane Dahlman, Cokato, Minnesota (Category C)

Treasurer

Grant Mehring, Fargo, North Dakota (Related Industry)

Directors

Ryan Anderson, Jackson, Minnesota (District 3)

Nancy Jo Ehlke, University of Minnesota, Saint Paul (Category B)

Kelsey Henke, Saint Peter, Minnesota (District 3)

John Kapphahn, Elbow Lake, Minnesota (District 2)

Jake Noll, Fargo, Breckenridge, Minnesota (Related Industry)

Nominees



Nancy Ehlke

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Category B: (1-year term) Nominee from the University of Minnesota

Nancy Ehlke is a professor and plant breeder in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics at the University of Minnesota. She has been a member of the department faculty since 1986 and is nationally recognized as a plant breeder working on forage legumes, turf grasses, and native plant species. She is also a fellow in both the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America. In addition to her administrative and teaching responsibilities, Nancy leads research and outreach activities in northern Minnesota with the grass and legume seed producers. She received her PhD from Pennsylvania State University. She has been an MCIA board member since 2006.



Gabel Hoseth

SPRING CREEK SEED LLC, WAUBUN, MINNESOTA
Category A: (3-year term*) Nominee from District 2

Gabel Hoseth is a young farmer in the Waubun area who owns and operates a seed business, Spring Creek Seed LLC. He works alongside his grandfather John Pazdernik of Pazdernik Farms Inc. This is a fifth-generation family farm. As a graduate of North Dakota State University with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural systems management, he is passionate about the future of farming. Along with raising seed and serving customers, Gabel enjoys sharing his passion for farming with his wife and two young daughters on their small farmstead near Flom.

He foresees serving on the MCIA Board or Directors as a great way to learn and give back to the seed industry in Minnesota. He looks forward to this unique opportunity and appreciates the consideration.

**If elected, this director would serve the remaining two years of an open board position.*



Kelsey Henke

ANDERSON SEEDS, ST. PETER, MINNESOTA
Category A: (3-year term) Nominee from District 3

Kelsey Henke is currently the Sales and Office Manager at Anderson Seeds of St. Peter. Her main role is to oversee all aspects of wholesale and retail seeds sales. She handles the accounting, customer service, and many other aspects of the office work. Before being employed by her family’s seed business, Kelsey worked for United Farmers’ Cooperative, MCIA, and BioDiagnostics.

Kelsey graduated with high honors from South Central College, Mankato, in 2012, earning an associate degree in applied science in agribusiness service and management.

Currently, she is a county and state 4-H volunteer, the secretary of the Nicollet/Sibley County Corn & Soybean Growers Association, and is a member of the MCIA Board of Directors.

Kelsey and her husband, Jeremy, reside in Gaylord, where in her free time she enjoys quilting, embroidering, and spending time with her family and friends.



Anthony Cortilet

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
Category A: (3-year term) Related Industry Nominee

Anthony Cortilet is the manager of the Seed, Weed, Hemp, and Biotechnology Section of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s Plant Protection Division. Tony has oversight of all four programs but focuses on Noxious Weed and Industrial Hemp. Recently, he has been very busy helping establish the Office of Cannabis Management.

MCIA Board Districts

If you are interested in serving on MCIA's board of directors, please see any current board member or contact Fawad Shah at fawad.shah@mncia.org.

