

Region 3

Three candidates are running for the Region 3 Director position for a 3-year term.

Robert Stradtman - 44

Fairmont, MN
507-236-9524
stradtfarms@midco.net



Family - Wife: Tari, Sons: Thomas, James and Jesse, Daughters: Mikayla and Kinze

Employment and business experience for past five years

Stradtman Farms, Inc. - Co-own and operate with parents and sister's family. The farming operation is located in Watonwan County and consists of 1050 acres, corn and soybean rotation, 9000 market hogs sold annually and also 340 acres of custom farming. Our farm has been in our family for over 120 years.

Current boards serving on and principal activity of the entity

Watonwan County Feeder Pig Coop - Vice-Chairman of a 1500 sow unit/feeder pig coop.

Affiliations/memberships

St. John's Lutheran Church (South Branch), Minnesota Pork Producers, Martin County Pork Producers, Minnesota Corn and Soybean Growers, Farm Bureau, and Blizzard Snowmobile Club.

Education

Attended St. John's Lutheran School, 1983 graduate of St. James High School, 8 years in U.S. Army.

Hobbies

I enjoy swimming, camping, snowmobiling, and watching my children's numerous sporting and music events.

What is your vision for the future of agriculture?

Agriculture is a must. We all know that. It needs to grow, improve and adapt. I envision seeing that always happening. Creating new opportunities, products, and ways of life, to name a few. Agriculture is a challenging game. The pace of agriculture has increased, giving us more to choose from and less time to decide.

Region 3

..... continued

What role do you see AgStar playing in the future of agriculture?

AgStar will continue to supply superior services, sponsorships, and seminars, etc. for its clients and also listen to members who try and/or implement new services that will play a helping hand with their operation.

What issues do you feel will impact agriculture on a county, state and federal level?

- ◆ Property and estate taxes
- ◆ Increased land prices - capital gains tax
- ◆ Environmental laws
- ◆ Food versus fuel
- ◆ Health insurance - self employed

If elected to the Board of Directors, what direction do you think AgStar should take on these issues?

If elected to the board, I'd like to see AgStar continue to educate, inform and offer sensible advice to our politicians about the items listed above on how these items impact agriculture and clients of AgStar.

What important lessons have you learned in your business career?

A lesson I have learned is not to be the first one on the block to try or have something, but more important is not to be one of the last ones either. Find that happy middle ground and take advantage of it while it is hot and do not leave anything on the table. Talk to your neighbors, listen to their comments, learn from them.

Are there any other comments you would like to share?

AgStar is a great organization and will be here to serve us for a very long time. I would love to be part of their successful team, and continue allocating patronage dividends and some day say I was a part of the team that helped get us through these challenging years.