

# INSIDE PASSAGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

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#### BRANDON SHAW NAMED NEW CEO

Inside Passage Electric Cooperative recently announced Brandon Shaw as the co-op's new CEO/General Manager. Mr. Shaw takes over from Jodi Mitchell, who retired after 17 years as the co-op's CEO. Before his current position, Shaw served more than 10 years as the operations manager for IPEC. "I look forward to continuing to serve our members and furthering IPEC's goal of reducing our cooperative's dependence on diesel fuel for generation," Shaw said. "In the last 10 years, IPEC has constructed two run-of-river hydro projects, reducing our annual diesel consumption by approximately 200,000 gallons. IPEC plans to begin construction on two more hydro projects as early as spring 2025." Brandon completed the NRECA Management Internship Program last year prior to becoming the CEO. Brandon is pictured below on the left. Congratulations Brandon!



#### WATER SUPPLY CREEK GRANT

IPEC has been awarded \$3.5 million grant from the State of Alaska Renewable Energy Fund, \$2.4 million from the New ERA federal grant and \$4.9 million in the form of a 2% loan from RUS to construct  
(water supply creek grant continued page 2, column 2)

#### HOONAH BOARD MEMBER PASSES AWAY



We are saddened at the loss of our Hoonah Board Member, Grace Villarreal. Grace passed away on November 24, 2024. We extend our sincere condolences to Grace's family and friends.

Grace was appointed to fill a vacancy for the Hoonah District in November 2009 and is a former Past President of IPEC. She was the longest tenured board member and served as Vice-President at the time of her passing.

#### IPEC 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

IPEC will hold its 21<sup>st</sup> annual meeting on May 9, 2025 at the Elementary School in Angoon. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. with voting in person until 11:30 a.m. Elaine Jack from Angoon and Larry Beck from the Chilkat Valley are running unopposed this year. Annual meeting materials were mailed to the membership on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Please make sure you sign your ballot when voting in order to be valid. Ballots must be received by May 1, 2025 by 12:00 p.m. (noon) to be counted.

We have some excellent door prizes to be given away including roundtrip airfare for two compliments of Alaska Seaplanes.

## **BOARD APPOINTS NEW BOARD MEMBER**



The IPEC Board of Directors appointed Chris Greenwald to fill a vacancy in the Hoonah District. Ms. Greenwald is a long time resident of Hoonah and worked for the school district for 33 years. Ms. Greenwald is a member of Hoonah ANS Camp 12 and enjoys regalia making and cedar bark weaving. Chris has helped with the annual meeting elections for the past two years. She will serve the unexpired term until May 2027. Welcome aboard Chris!

## **NEW SENIOR ACCOUNTANT**

IPEC hired Alice Johnson in November 2024 to join our team as the newly created Senior Accountant position. Ms. Johnson has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast and is a former Corporate Accountant for Huna Totem Corporation. Welcome aboard Alice!



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the Water Supply Creek hydroelectric project in Hoonah. It is a 350 kW run of the river project that will displace approximately 80,000 gallons of diesel fuel annually and reduce annual GHG emission by 1,548 tons. The project has an estimated life of at least 50 years, and possibly 100 years based on hydro projects in Juneau that are over 125 years old. This project will supplement the existing Gartina Falls hydro that has generated over 12 megawatt hours and saved 833,349 gallons of fuel since production began in August of 2015. That's \$2,487,321 in fuel costs saved so far.

The project consists of a .65 mile distribution line from IPEC's existing distribution system and a new powerhouse. A 350 kW turbine and 4,400 feet of penstock will be constructed as part of the project. Fortunately the project is not subject to FERC jurisdiction. With Water Supply Creek and the existing Gartina Falls hydro, Hoonah will be approximately 70% renewable and diesels off when the load is lower during the year. IPEC hopes to begin construction this year.

## **NEW OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Jason Brooks was hired in July 2024 as the new Operations Manager. Mr. Brooks is a Journeyman Wireman with 18 years of experience. He previously worked for AEL&P, Alaska Electric, Chatham Electric and Auke Bay Electric. We are excited to have a person with Jason's experience to join the IPEC team. Welcome aboard Jason!

