March 2026

TONGASS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Vol. 07 Issue 01

OUR ANNUAL MEETING: MEMBER-OWNERS GATHERING TO GUIDE THE FUTURE

Each year, Tongass Federal Credit Union's Annual Meeting brings together the people who make this cooperative possible—its Member-Owners.

This year's meeting was held on February 26 at the Ted Ferry Civic Center in Ketchikan and streamed online for anyone in any location. Seventy-two members participated in total, with 60 attending in person and 12 joining online.

Board Chair Scott Edwards opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by an invocation from Tongass FCU member and retired Revilla High School principal Alan Hauan.

Members heard updates from Tongass FCU's leadership, including reports from the Board Chair, Treasurer Jennifer Etten, and Supervisory Committee Chair Georgianna Zimmerle, highlighting our progress and financial position over the past year.

Members then voted to renew the terms of several current Board members. Following the vote, the Board remained unchanged, continuing the service of Jennifer Etten, Audrey Hudson, and Mike Cruise. The 2026 Supervisory Committee includes: Georgianna Zimmerle, *Chair*; Janice Hill, *Secretary*; Joe Mainardi, Dirk White.

As a financial cooperative, Tongass FCU is guided by its Member-Owners, and The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for everyone to hear updates, ask questions, and take part in the governance of our credit union. The evening concluded with door prize drawings for those in attendance. Winners included: Katherine Plummer, Ray Secrest, Sam McQuerry, Scott Edwards, Carla Brusetti, and Carynne Evans.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and continues to help guide the future of your credit union!

Our Annual Report is Available!

As a Tongass FCU Member-Owner, you have access to the full Annual Report and financial information of your credit union. Visit our website to download the report, or stop by your nearest Tongass FCU branch or community microsite to request a printed copy.

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD

Each year, our Tongass FCU leaders join together to connect, learn, and plan for the year ahead. This year's Leadership Summit centered on the history of credit unions and Tongass FCU, and how that history continues to shape where we're headed. This year, the team also took part in an interactive workshop hosted by Christopher Morris of the National Credit Union Foundation on "Credit Union DNA", discussing what makes credit unions unique and why that matters. As part of the workshop, staff were asked, "Why I CU?" Their answers reflected a shared belief in people helping people and a strong commitment to the communities we serve. *Some of those responses are featured in the box to the right.*

Why I CU

I get to help people on a personal level. They aren't a number, they have story" – *Courtney Hughes, Juneau Branch Manager*

"I do this work because I just want to help other people in the same way TFCU has helped me!" – *Denise Hudson, AVP of Consumer Lending*

"Credit unions have the unique ability to adapt to our members needs and provide options larger institutions can't. Together we are stronger!" – *Carynne Evens, Petersburg Branch Manager*

"We treat people as a whole, not a number." – *PJ Radcliff, AVP of Payroll & Training*

"We change people's lives financially!" – *Tammy Jobbins, Haines Branch Manager*

TONGASS FCU REPRESENTED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Tongass FCU was recently represented in Washington, D.C. at the Governmental Affairs Conference (GAC), the largest annual gathering of credit union leaders in the country. Hosted by America's Credit Unions, the conference brings together thousands of credit union professionals to discuss industry issues, share ideas, and advocate for policies that support credit union members and communities. Tongass FCU was represented by Helen Mickel, *President/CEO*; Jennifer Etten, *Board Treasurer*; Audrey Hudson, *Board Secretary*, and Marisa Fulgham, *Wrangell Branch Manager*. This year, Marisa Fulgham, our Wrangell Branch Manager, was selected as a GAC Crasher, representing Alaska as part of the program for emerging credit union leaders. It is a meaningful honor, and we were proud to see someone from our credit union chosen for this opportunity.

UPCOMING CLOSURES

May 25th, Memorial Day

June 19th, Juneteenth

Today, tomorrow, *together*.

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (ELECTED)
Scott Edwards, *Chair;* Mark Tollfeldt, *Vice Chair;* Audrey Hudson, *Secretary;* Jennifer Etten, *Treasurer;* Ron Connor; Michelle Cleaver; Mike Cruise; Rob Steward; Guylynn Hanson.

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE (APPOINTED)
Georgianna Zimmerle, Chair; Janice Hill, Secretary; Dirk White; Joe Mainardi

EXECUTIVE TEAM
Helen Mickel, *President/CEO*
Josh Cridlebaugh, *VP of Finance*
Gracia O'Connell, *VP of Operations*
Laura Castetter, *VP of Marketing & Community Development*
Lucette O'Hagan-Lovell, *VP of Commercial Lending*
Luree LeBrock, *VP of Real Estate Lending*
Steve Smith, *VP of Lending*