



Meet Feed Energy Board Member Kerty Levy



Ms. Kerty Levy has been advising Riley Resource Group since 2015. Bob Riley, Chairman of the Board of Feed Energy, has known Kerty for many years – both as a family friend and through community endeavors here in Des Moines. Impressed by Kerty’s extraordinary resume and accomplishments, Bob thought she would be a perfect addition to his board.

“Kerty had experience in global business strategy, general management and new product development, literally all over the world,” Bob said. “I thought her background would be invaluable as a board member. And, I was right.”

Kerty was recently named Managing Director for Techstars Iowa. Techstars is a mentorship-driven accelerator startup company headquartered in Boulder, Colorado. The company has 46 business

accelerators in cities around the world.

As Managing Director Kerty will work with startups in a mentor and advisory role. She said she “will provide new companies with all of the tools they need to be successful”. Those tools include helping with product development, analyzing market fit, determining investor options and networking with technical experts from all over Iowa.

Kerty said the Iowa program will welcome ten technology startups next year. The program will run for thirteen weeks from September to December 2020. Kerty hopes to make Iowa a destination state for technology entrepreneurs. Iowa could not ask for a better New Business Ambassador.

Kerty has a BA from the University of California Davis and an MBA from Harvard Business School. She grew up in Japan, Belgium, Switzerland and attended boarding school outside of Stockholm, Sweden. She also lived in Beijing and Hong Kong for six years. Kerty speaks four different languages including Chinese.

Prior to joining Techstars Kerty served as the interim director at the Iowa AgriTech Accelerator, a company focused on fostering primarily Ag related startups. She is the founder of KNLWorks and has worked for several international companies including Technomic Consultants in Hong Kong and Boston Consulting Group in Chicago. In late 2002 she moved to Des Moines and became president & CEO of the Downtown Community Alliance, an affiliate of the Greater Des Moines Partnership. In 2006 she joined Kemin Industries where she oversaw global marketing, sales, IT and HR, and eventually became president of the Kemin Personal Care division.

Kerty says she loves helping businesses grow and that is one of the things that has been most rewarding about being on Feed Energy's board. "You have to listen to your customers and pay close attention to trends," she said. "The new products that Feed Energy introduced over the last few years are examples of exactly that." She said it has been exciting to be part of the success of Antibiotic Free Advantage and the launch of the R2 line of pathogen mitigating nutrients.

Kerty is married to Frank Levy, CEO of Newbury Living, a real estate development and apartment management company headquartered in Des Moines. They have two teenage daughters. She chairs the Des Moines Airport Authority and serves on the board of Mercy Medical Center.

One of Kerty's favorite forms of recreation is rowing. She says rowing offers the unique combination of relaxing and working out at the same time. She is in her final year as president of the Des Moines Rowing Club.

When asked to share something that most people would be surprised to hear Kerty said, "I am fortunate to have been able to visit North Korea." I pointed out that visiting North Korea is not on most tourist itineraries. She said she was working in Hong Kong when Kim Jong Il came out of mourning a year after his father Kim Il Sung's death. North Korea wanted journalists from all over the world to come visit the country and meet its new leader. For the weeks leading up to a massive event, which featured a visit from Mohammad Ali, North Korea opened a tourist agency in Beijing. Seeing a once in a lifetime opportunity, Kerty and four of her colleagues applied for visas and were able to visit the country. "It was the most surreal trip I have ever taken," she said.

Chris Snyder, CEO Feed Energy, said, "It's an honor to have Kerty Levy on our board. She is engaged and passionate about our business. Kerty's real, first-hand experience in international business makes her a tremendous asset for our company."

We are proud to have Kerty Levy as a member of Feed Energy's Board of Directors and thank her for her service



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