



200 N. Ozark
Girard, KS 66743
620.724.8235
www.ckt.net

Notice of Annual Meeting
Wednesday, October 16, 2024

THIS IS YOUR REGISTRATION
PLEASE DETACH AND BRING



BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 2023

ASSET AND OTHER DEBITS	Telephone Plant	\$259,636,053.17	
	In Service	9,328,755.15	
	Under Construction	268,964,808.32	
	Total Plant	156,199,215.07	\$112,765,593.25
	Less Reserve for Depreciation & Amortization	3,853,475.03	3,853,475.03
	Plant Less Reserve		
	Other Investments	3,102,053.35	
	Cash-General Funds	4,892,847.07	
	Temporary Cash Investments	1,556,770.19	
	Accounts Receivable	6,558,741.70	
	Material		16,110,412.31
	Total Current Assets		
	Prepaid Accounts & Deferred Charges	609,195.58	609,195.58
	Total Assets & Other Debits		\$133,338,676.17
LIABILITIES & OTHER CREDITS	Long Term Debt	\$51,420,164.66	\$51,420,164.66
	Accounts Payable	1,745,918.95	
	Accrued Taxes	609,618.62	
	Other Current Liabilities	1,220,881.55	
	Total Current & Accrued Liabilities		3,576,419.12
	Deferred Credits	3,500.00	
	Donated Capital	6,948,266.09	
	Patronage Capital	65,773,721.45	
	Margins	5,616,604.85	
	Total Capital & Margins		78,342,092.39
	Total Liabilities & Other Credits		\$133,338,676.17

OPERATING STATEMENT

2023	Year to Date	Local Network Service Revenue	\$3,004,793.04
		Network Access Service Revenue	21,111,008.62
		Miscellaneous Operating Revenue	677,915.87
		Non Regulated Operations Revenue	21,718,896.86
		Total Operating Revenue	46,512,614.39
		Plant Specific Operations Expense	8,716,449.00
		Plant Non Specific Operations Exp.	14,602,577.05
		Customer Operations Expense	1,492,479.86
		Corporate Operations Expense	3,235,082.10
		Non Regulated Operations Expense	10,518,101.00
		Operating Tax Expense	1,482,471.66
		Total Operating Expense	40,047,160.67
		Net Operating Revenue	6,465,453.72
		Net Non-Operating Income	(648,848.87)
		Margins	\$5,816,604.85

2022	Year to Date	Local Network Service Revenue	\$2,995,911.95
		Network Access Service Revenue	18,933,329.41
		Miscellaneous Operating Revenue	695,541.83
		Non Regulated Operations Revenue	20,630,805.31
		Total Operating Revenue	43,255,588.50
		Plant Specific Operations Expense	7,954,703.34
		Plant Non Specific Operations Exp.	12,524,408.21
		Customer Operations Expense	1,326,706.18
		Corporate Operations Expense	2,819,538.42
		Non Regulated Operations Expense	10,269,706.18
		Operating Tax Expense	1,004,382.65
		Total Operating Expense	35,899,444.98
		Net Operating Revenue	7,356,143.52
		Net Non-Operating Income	(529,493.99)
		Margins	\$6,826,649.53

Your Community Technology Partner

Craw-Kan October 2024

OCTOBER
2024

Annual Meeting!

Where:

Girard High School Cafeteria

When:

Oct. 16, 2024

Time:

7:00 PM, Registration starts

at 5:00 PM

Board of Directors

Mary Smith,
President

John Lehman,
Vice-President

Barry Bedene,
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilda Pentola,
Director

John Kovacic,
Director

Terry Kunstel,
Director

Sharon Starr,
Director

Roger Doue,
Director

Randy Vogts,
Director

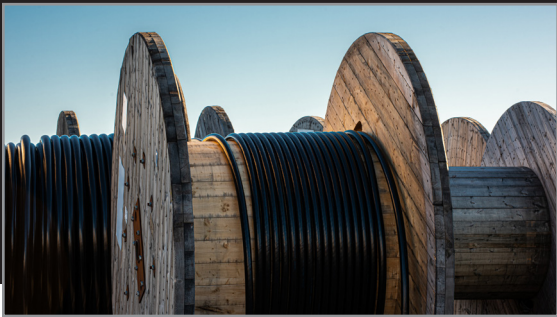
Craig Wilbert,
General Manager

The Craw-Kan Connection is
a member newsletter published by Craw-Kan.

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The
Craw-Kan
Connection

The Annual Meeting Edition



this issue

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Fiber coming to your town!

This year has been one of continuing progress toward our goal of making our Coop 100% fiber to the home. Member towns of Amsterdam and Amoret have been completed. Foster main line has been placed and we have begun cutting customers over to working service. The plowing in of cable in Colony is nearly complete and all remaining duct and fiber placement will be finished in the next month and work has just begun in Fulton and Devon.

We expect to go to bid on the new \$50 million broadband loan by the end of this year. This multi-year project will cover 10 exchanges with work starting in Hiattville and Farlington. Remaining communities included in this project are Walnut, Hepler, Brazilton, Galesburg, West Mineral, Hallowell, Crestline and Bartlett.

These projects will replace all the aging copper infrastructure that served the Coop well when we were just a “landline telephone” company. Today’s era of broadband technology requires a different mindset and an even greater focus on what it means to be a member owned cooperative. You all deserve the best we can do, whether you live in the largest or the smallest of communities. These investments will help keep us ahead of the curve regarding customers’ ever changing bandwidth needs. In the last 5 years we have seen the average household’s bandwidth usage more than double. This is why Craw-Kan and its Board of Directors have made it a priority to continue the fiber to the home buildout, which will allow the membership the ability to receive the fastest internet speeds in the industry. Our goal is to set the Cooperative up to serve its memberships’ technological needs well into the future. Thank you for your continued patronage and support and we hope to see you at this year’s Annual meeting.

Craig Wilbert
General Manager



2024 Nominating Committee

In alphabetical order pictured with General Manager Craig Wilbert and
Assistant Manager Brian Davied.

Dave Ashmore, Brian Blythe, Ron Brown,
Chris Bualle, Tosha Carson, Donnie Humble,
Linda Loffswold, Kay Mein, Lisa Parsons

Q&A Concerning “Who Is Entitled To Vote At The Annual Meeting”

Q: May I have my child, relative or neighbor vote in my place?

No, Craw-Kan’s bylaws do not allow proxy voting.

Q: Can an administrator or a person with power of attorney vote?

Yes, providing the member has the proper credentials at the time of the Annual Meeting registration.

Q: If I own a business and have a residence, may I have two votes?

No, if you are the sole owner you are considered one member and therefore, have only one vote. However if you are in a partnership or a corporation that business will have one vote and you would have one vote.

Capital Credit Checks To Be Distributed Before Christmas!

Again this year, your President

will make an announcement at the Annual Meeting concerning the amount of capital credits which will be distributed this year.

Call Before You Dig
Kansas 800-344-7233
Missouri 800-344-7483
Oklahoma 800-522-6543

Do Not Call List

To block unwanted telemarketing

calls add your phone number to the National Do Not Call Registry at www.donotcall.gov.

THREE DIRECTOR POSITIONS TO BE VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON OCT. 16, 2024

Three directors will be elected for a term of three years each. Below is a brief description of each nominee. We would like to point out that additional nominations may be made from the floor by any member.



John Kovacic

John Kovacic is a resident of rural Girard. A Girard native, he attended Girard schools before furthering his education at Pittsburg State University. Mr. Kovacic is married to Joyce (Bennett) Kovacic also of Girard. They have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and a great-grandson. John began in the Crawford County Treasurer’s Office as an Assistant County Treasurer in 1972. He was Deputy County Treasurer for one year before being elected as Crawford County Treasurer in 1975. John retired in 2005 after serving Crawford County for 30 years. He is a member of SNPJ lodge #225 in Arma and Sons of the American Legion in Girard. John is also a member of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers. In 1998, Mr. Kovacic became a certified finance officer through the University of Tennessee. John has served on the board since 2003.



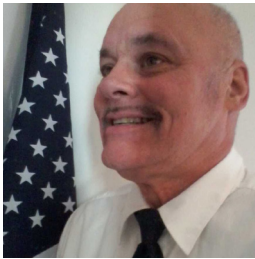
Sharon Starr

Sharon Starr is a resident of rural Girard. Sharon was born and raised in Russell, Kansas. She attended school all 12 years and graduated from Russell High School in Russell, Kansas. Sharon has served on the Girard Chamber of Commerce, the Council of Beta Sigma Phi sorority where she held numerous offices, and the Zone 6 Garden Club. Sharon retired from Walmart after 31 years as a Customer Service Manager. Her hobbies are traveling, antiquing, gardening and spending time with her family. Sharon attends the Arma Methodist Church. Sharon has served on the Craw-Kan Communications Board and has been a Director since 2006.



Randy Vogts

Randy Vogts is a native and current resident of Girard. He attended Girard Schools, graduating in 1968. Continuing his education at Kansas State University, Mr. Vogts earned a BS degree in Agricultural Economics. Randy’s professional career has been focused on the banking industry where he retired as the Executive Vice-President at GNBank in 2019. Mr. Vogts has also served on the boards of the Consolidated Rural Water District #1, Girard Medical Center Foundation, Crawford County Fair, and Craw-Kan Communications Systems. Through the years, Randy has been a member and held offices in several civic and fraternal organizations. Randy is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.



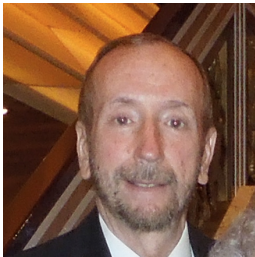
Steve Gorsline

Steve Gorsline is a resident of the Colony, Kansas exchange. After over 30 years of service to the Army and Air Force, Steve retired. Since 1997, he has owned Dominick Distributing: an internet sales company that sells just about anything a small business or new home needs. Steve is formerly the Director of the Hazel Park Veterans Council. Presently, Steve’s working on changing an 1880 house he bought in Colony & rebuilding it back to what it was in 1880. It has meant hand cutting window pediments & constructing old time pilasters. It used to be the doctor’s office for the local folks. Earlier, was the HQ for the town newspaper & then the phone office - when Colony strung up its 1st telephone wiring. Steve has a Certificate in Small Business Management from Neosho Community College & a Bachelor of Science degree from Madonna University.



Zach Parish

Zach Parish is a resident of Asbury, Missouri. Mr. Parish has lived in the Southeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri area since 2009. He is a 2008 graduate of the University of Arkansas where he studied agricultural business. Most of his professional career has been in the grain industry, working for local companies such as Scoular, Seed & Farm Supply, and Producers Coop of Girard – where he served as Grain Department Manager. Upon exiting the grain business, Zach started his own insurance company, Zach Parish Agency LLC, where he serves as owner, operator and agent. He has served as a City Alderman for the city of Asbury since 2017. Mr. Parish has a passion for community service and is always looking to give back to the region.



Dr. David Giefer

Dr. David Giefer is a resident of rural Girard where he was raised and attended local schools. After completing his early education, he went on to pursue and attain multiple bachelor’s degrees, masters degrees in multiple disciplines and ultimately a Ph.D in Chemical Engineering. Dr. Giefer worked professionally for over 40 years in the field of engineering in many locations across the USA. He held many professional licenses, society memberships and won multiple awards over the course of his career. In 2013 he returned to the area to be closer to family, retiring in 2019. Dr. Giefer wishes to make a positive contribution to the cooperative and the local community.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF CRAW-KAN TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Cooperative will be held in the cafeteria at the Girard High School, 401-415 North Summit, Girard, KS, on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., to take action upon the following matters.

- 1. Report of Officers, Directors and Committees.
- 2. Election of Three Directors of the Cooperative.
- 3. All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

In connection with the election of directors scheduled for the meeting, the following members have been nominated by the nominating committee or by petition. Three directors will be elected.

THREE YEAR TERMS-ELECT THREE

David Giefer.....(Rural) Girard
Steve Gorsline.....(Urban)Colony
John Kovacic.....(Rural) Girard
Zach Parish.....(Urban) Asbury
Sharon Starr.....(Rural) Girard
Randy Vogts.....(Urban) Girard

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the time of the meeting.

CRAW-KAN TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

(Signed).....Barry Bedene
Secretary

PRESENT DIRECTORS OF THE COOPERATIVE

President, Mary Smith.....(Urban) Hepler
Vice-President, John Lehman.....(Rural) Girard
Sec.-Treas., Barry Bedene.....(Urban) Arma
Wilda Pentola.....(Rural) Farlington
John Kovacic.....(Rural) Girard
Sharon Starr.....(Rural) Girard
Terry Kunstel.....(Rural) Arcadia
Roger Doue.....(Urban) Arma
Randy Vogts.....(Urban) Girard

Dear Member:

Enclosed is your official notice of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Inc. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria in the Girard High School (north entrance), 401-405 North Summit, Girard, KS, October 16, 2024.

Registration of members will begin at 5:00 p.m. All subscribers are welcome at the annual meeting and are urged to attend. Only qualified members will be allowed to participate in the actual business session of the annual meeting.

A short but important business meeting will be the first item on the

program. Reports will be made by the officers and the manager. Election of the three directors will follow this session.

Following the program, a drawing, will be held for door prizes in the amount of \$3,500.00. Only members present are eligible.

We extend an invitation to you to attend the 72nd Annual Meeting and exercise your vote in the business affairs of the Cooperative on October 16, 2024.

Very Truly Yours,
Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Mary Smith
President

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF CRAW-KAN TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Annual Meeting of the members of Craw-Kan Telephone Cooperative, Inc. was held in the Cafeteria at the Girard High School, 401 – 415 North Summit, Girard, Kansas at 7:00 P.M., October 18, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Mary Smith, President of the Cooperative, who presided and Barry Bedene, Secretary of the Cooperative, kept the minutes thereof.

The Secretary reported 234 members were present in person constituting a quorum of the Cooperative.

The Secretary presented and read a copy of the notice of the meeting together with proof of due mailing thereof to all members of the Cooperative and such notice and proof were ordered to be annexed to the minutes of this meeting.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting of the members held October 19, 2022 were presented to the members in printed form and upon motion duly made and seconded they were adopted as printed.

Craig Wilbert, General Manager, presented in printed form the Balance Sheet and Operating Statement for the year 2022 and gave explanation of various items on the reports. Upon motion duly made and seconded the reports were approved as printed.

The President of the Board next asked the members for any new business items. There was no new business.

The President then gave his report and announced that a retirement of capital credits would be made this year. A retirement of capital

credits will be made in the amount of \$2,525,860.18. This retirement consists of 37% of 2022.

The General Manager then presented his annual report, followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairman advised the next order of business would be voting by the members for three Directors to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the members or until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. The Chairman stated that in accordance with the by-laws, the Board of Directors had on September 13, 2023 appointed a nominating committee. He pointed out that the three elected will hold office for a three year term.

The President read the nominating committee’s report nominating the following members:

Barry Bedene, John Lehman, Wilda Pentola, Zach Parish

The President then stated that according to the by-laws, nominations could be made from the floor. No nominations were made from the floor. After the required length of time, a motion was duly made and seconded that nominations be closed. The president then appointed the following inspectors of election.

John Nick Sell, Becky Bolton, Ron Gates, Nicole Clugston

A vote of Directors was then had by ballot and the ballots were delivered to the Inspectors who proceeded to count the same.

The Certificate of the Inspectors of Election was then presented and read certifying that the following nominees received the number of votes opposite their names:

Barry Bedene 176, John Lehman 177, Wilda Pentola 144, Zach Parish 84, Kerrie Smith 1 write in

We further certify that the following persons were duly elected as directors to hold office until the Annual Meeting of members in 2026 or until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified:

Barry Bedene, John Lehman, Wilda Pentola

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.

Barry W. Bedene, Secretary

Mary L. Smith, President