



**Happy Easter**

NEWSLETTER

# Teleconnections

March 2020

## THIS ISSUE:

Annual Meeting Recap  
Board Election Results  
Door Prize Winners  
Newsletter Contest  
(546-6264)

**With the uncertainty of COVID-19, we are more than happy to help assist you as much as possible over the phone and remotely during this time. The office lobby is temporarily closed. We have the privilege and responsibility to provide an essential service our communities rely on and will continue to do so to the best of our ability.**

## Annual Meeting of Members

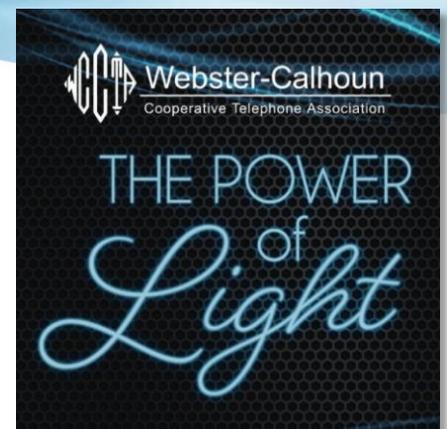
Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association held the Annual Meeting of Members on Tuesday evening, March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Southeast Valley High School Gymnasium.

BKD Partner, Jeff Naig, reviewed the financial statement based on the 2019 audit. He stepped members through the balance sheet describing the assets and liabilities of the cooperative indicating another financially positive year.

Daryl Carlson agreed that 2019 was an outstanding year financially for the cooperative and it was based on two factors: changes in regulatory funding and market moves in the financial portfolio. Internet speeds were recently doubled to WCCTA subscribers and he mentioned 2019 was a milestone in that Internet connections now exceed land line phone connections. He expressed appreciation to the staff and board of WCCTA and with plans to expand noted 2020 will be a very busy year. In regards to the decision to expand Carlson added, "We've done several feasibility studies that indicate overbuilding these communities will be a good long term investment."

Carlson also mentioned how unique the success of WCCTA is as a cooperative. After recently meeting with a group of other telco managers across the nation regarding cooperative trends and strategies he is extremely proud of what has been accomplished here.

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Board President, Alan Jacobson, talked in more detail about construction underway to expand into and invest in the neighboring communities of Lohrville, Manson, Rockwell City and Lake City. Although WCCTA remains a rock solid company it is decreasing in size. He addressed the question of cooperative membership as these communities will need to see a return on investment and it's something the board will continue to monitor. "We want you," Jacobson added as he pointed to members in an Uncle Sam fashion, "to help spread the word to gain new customers in these new communities." Expanding further into Calhoun County will have the potential to double the size of WCCTA.



**Lynn Subbert, Churdan, was recognized for his service on the Board of Directors from 2011 through 2020.**

## Board Election Results

Jacobson went on to report the results of the mail ballots for the election of directors included District 1, incumbent Craig Fillman from Paton; District 2, Troy Paup from Churdan; and District 3, incumbent Craig Larson from Vincent.

## Door Prize Winners

The evening ended as door prizes were awarded by a drawing to members in attendance: Gordon Weber, Clare, 55" TV; Dave Carlon, Gowrie, 50" TV; Bruce Light, Gowrie, 43" TV; Alan Croonquist, 43" TV; Nik Telleen, Gowrie, LED Snowflake decoration; Bill Kelly, Vincent, Fire Pit; Sharon Axnes, Badger, Blue Tooth Speaker with Light; and Morgan Fredrickson, Gowrie, Portable Worklight.



**Congratulations to Door Prize Winners!**

## Newsletter Contest

Congratulations to Sandi Schade of Thor, K A Erdman of Boxholm, and Danny Borkowski of Churdan! They all found their phone number hidden in the newsletter last month! There are three hidden in this newsletter. Can you find them? Find YOUR phone number in this newsletter and contact our office to win a \$10.00 credit on your billing statement!