



Craw-Kan

Your Community Technology Partner

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

Notice of Annual Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2023

THIS IS YOUR REGISTRATION
PLEASE DETACH AND BRING

OCTOBER
2023

The Craw-Kan Connection



Your Community Technology Partner

Craw-Kan October 2023

BALANCE SHEET December 31, 2022

ASSET AND OTHER DEBITS			
Telephone Plant	\$222,734,730.30		
In Service	39,722,057.47		
Under Construction	262,456,787.77		
Total Plant	<u>145,419,261.31</u>		\$117,037,526.46
Less Reserve for Depreciation & Amortization	3,553,477.20		3,553,477.20
Plant Less Reserve			
Other Investments			
Cash-General Funds	2,676,386.06		
Temporary Cash Investments	4,396,239.62		
Accounts Receivable	1,304,148.96		
Material	4,520,353.84		
Total Current Assets	<u>12,897,128.48</u>		
Prepaid Accounts & Deferred Charges	367,309.47		367,309.47
Total Assets & Other Debits			<u>\$133,855,441.61</u>
LIABILITIES & OTHER CREDITS			
Long Term Debt	\$55,033,639.31		\$55,033,639.31
Accounts Payable	1,817,629.72		
Accrued Taxes	323,618.03		
Other Current Liabilities	436,247.79		
Total Current & Accrued Liabilities	<u>2,577,495.54</u>		
Deferred Credits	3,500.00		
Donated Capital	6,935,210.59		
Patronage Capital	62,478,946.64		
Margins	6,826,649.53		
Total Capital & Margins	<u>76,244,306.76</u>		
Total Liabilities & Other Credits			<u>\$133,855,441.61</u>

OPERATING STATEMENT

	2022	2021
	Year to Date	Year to Date
Total Current Assets	\$2,995,911.95	\$2,980,941.59
Local Network Service Revenue	18,933,329.41	15,639,963.99
Network Access Service Revenue	695,541.83	687,107.93
Miscellaneous Operating Revenue	20,630,805.31	19,009,444.16
Non Regulated Operations Revenue	43,255,588.50	38,317,457.67
Total Operating Revenue	<u>77,505,166.00</u>	<u>65,325,896.74</u>
Plant Specific Operations Expense	7,954,703.34	6,530,551.65
Plant Non Specific Operations Exp.	12,524,408.21	12,642,380.68
Customer Operations Expense	1,326,706.18	1,249,496.77
Corporate Operations Expense	2,819,538.42	2,414,434.59
Non Regulated Operations Expense	10,267,706.18	9,872,733.13
Operating Tax Expense	1,004,382.65	1,100,142.21
Total Operating Expense	<u>35,899,444.98</u>	<u>33,809,738.53</u>
Net Operating Revenue	7,356,143.52	4,507,719.14
Net Non-Operating Income	(529,493.99)	(55,070.14)
Margins	<u>\$6,826,649.53</u>	<u>\$4,452,649.00</u>

OCTOBER
2023

The Craw-Kan Connection

The Annual Meeting Edition

this issue

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Annual Meeting!

Where:

Girard High School Cafeteria

When:

Oct. 18, 2023

Time:

7:00 PM, Registration starts

at 5:00 PM



To the Greatest Team in the Business

This letter to our members is where I usually report on our major accomplishments during the year. Rather than do that again, I thought this year I should use this space to focus on those who have made our achievements possible. Our entire Craw-Kan team. I have worked at the Coop for over 27 years, and I have witnessed its transformation from a sleepy, little landline telephone company to the leading fiber-based telecommunications company in the region. Back in 1996, we had just launched a new and very unfamiliar product called "dial up" internet. It was frustrating and revolutionary all at the same time. It couldn't handle streaming video and it tied up your phone line (we sure loved adding all those second lines) yet it allowed you to access information in ways never imagined before. Now we take that kind of access for granted and our Coop is now primarily a broadband company.

Over the years, I have had the privilege to work with some amazing people who have made this transition possible. I believe our current group is the best we have ever had. From taking care of our 10,000 owner/members to our addition of over 7,500 non-members, this team always sets the bar high when working to solve customers' needs.

I am definitely a numbers guy (the curse of a Pitt State accounting degree) and sometimes I'm sure you think no one notices you staying late to work on a project or when our weather is at its worst, you are out in it even in the middle of the night making sure any outage is fixed as quickly as possible. Guess what? You're wrong. Your desire to keep creating the best possible outcomes for this organization has led us to so many great moments. So, I want to personally thank all of you and let our members know this Coop wouldn't exist if it weren't for your hard work and dedication.

Craig Wilbert
General Manager



2023 Nominating Committee

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

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

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.

This institution is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.

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

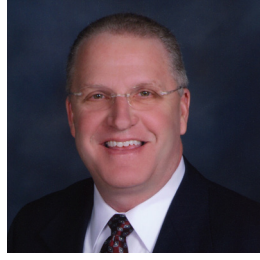
Kansas 800-344-7233
Missouri 800-344-7483
Oklahoma 800-522-6543

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. 18, 2023

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.



Barry Bedene

Barry Bedene is a resident of the Arma, Kansas exchange. Barry has owned and operated Bedene Funeral Home in Arma since 1974. He has been the past president of the Rural Fire District #2. He served on the board of directors of the First State Bank in Arma and is currently on the board of directors of the Exchange State Bank in Girard. Barry is also a former member of the Arma City Council. He was appointed to the Kansas State Board of Mortuary Arts by Gov. Finney and reappointed by Gov. Graves, Gov. Sebelius, Gov. Parkinson, Gov. Brownback, and by Gov. Kelly, also serving a term as President. He serves on the Board of Trustees on the Pittsburg State University Foundation, is a member of the Scottish Rite in Ft. Scott, the Masonic Lodge in Arma, and the Mirza Shrine. He has been on the Craw-Kan Board of Directors since 1984 and is currently serving as secretary.



John Lehman

John Lehman is a lifelong resident of Crawford County. He was raised on the family dairy farm south of Mulberry and spent his adult life with his wife, Betty, on their farm east of Girard. They have three married children and seven grandchildren. John received a BS degree in Agricultural Economics from Kansas State University. He was employed by The First National Bank of Girard for over 40 years, serving as bank president for over 25 years, until the bank merged into GN Bank in 2019. John has been an active member of numerous local, state and national banking, business, government, civic, religious and charitable boards. He is past chairman of the Kansas Bankers Association, Kansas Pooled Money Investment Board, and Trinity Lutheran Church. John joined the Craw-Kan board in 2019.



Wilda Pentola

Wilda Pentola, a rural resident of the Farlington, Kansas exchange, is a Girard native where she completed grade school and high school. She attended Pittsburg State University receiving her B.S. in 1966. After completing her Master’s degree, she went on to obtain the Educational Specialist degree from PSU. Wilda taught school in Carl Junction, Girard, and Erie, later working as the Technology Director at the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center in Greenbush. In 1990 she accepted a position as Regional Account Manager with Apple Computer Inc. in Kansas City retiring in July 2002. Wilda previously served on the board of WestRidge, an assisted living community, and is a member of the Girard Lions Club. She was elected director on the Craw-Kan board in 2002.



Zach Parish

Zach Parish is a resident of Asbury, Missouri. Mr. Parish has lived in the Southeast Kansas and Southwest 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.

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 18, 2023, 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

Barry Bedene.....(Urban)Arma
John Lehman.....(Rural) Girard
Wilda Pentola.....(Rural)Farlington
Zach Parish.....(Urban)Asbury

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 18, 2023.

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 71st Annual Meeting and exercise your vote in the business affairs of the Cooperative on October 18, 2023.

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 19, 2022.

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 152 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 20, 2021 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 2021 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 \$3,027,801.30. This retirement consists of 68% of 2021.

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 7, 2022 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:

Roger Doue
Terry Kunstel
Mary Smith

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.

A motion was made from the floor that the nominees on the ballot be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded and the motion passed. As stated in Section 3.6 of the Bylaws of Craw-Kan Cooperative, Inc.: “In the election of directors, a voice vote may be permitted if there is no competition for the seat or seats to be filled.”

The following persons were duly elected as directors to hold office until the Annual Meeting of members in 2025 or until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified:

Roger Doue
Terry Kunstel
Mary Smith

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

Barry W. Bedene, Secretary

Randy Vogts, President