

2022

# Annual Meeting of Members



**Havre - October 8th**  
MSU-Northern Student Union Building

**Big Timber - October 15th**  
Sweet Grass Fairgrounds Community Center

Registration: 8:30 AM - Meeting: 10:00 AM - Lunch served afterwards

**LOCAL SERVICE. LOCAL TECHS.**





## A letter from the President - Richard Stuker

I'd like to welcome all of the members to their Annual Meetings. In 2021, Triangle held annual meetings in both Havre and Big Timber for the first time. The purpose of this was to try and increase member involvement in the Cooperative. Despite Covid, we felt that having two meetings was a success, and this year, we will again hold annual meetings in both Havre and Big Timber. At last year's annual meetings, the membership passed some bylaw amendments, one of which allowed for mail-in ballots. This was a way to allow members who could not attend one of the annual meetings to still participate in cooperative decisions. Therefore, this year Triangle will be sending mail-in ballots to all members. On this year's ballot, there will be three trustee positions and some bylaw amendments to vote on. I would encourage all to either attend one of the annual meetings or vote via their mail-in ballot and send it in by the deadline. If you vote using the mail-in ballot, we still encourage you to attend one of the annual meetings. You will not be able to vote again, but there will be reports, door prizes, and a good meal.

As has been reported before, Triangle hopes to have the fiber to the home upgrades completed in 2024 for all of our exchanges. Though Triangle is still on track for 2024 completions, material shortages may cause some delays in meeting this timeline. These upgrades are also very costly, and the Board of Trustees continues to be very cautious in other areas, such as distribution of capital credits, to ensure we have the needed funds for these fiber upgrades and other maintenance costs. We are also waiting to see what the FCC does with regards to the Universal Service Fund settlements, which is a large portion of Triangle's revenue.

Capital credits are returned at the discretion of the Board. When deciding on the amount of capital credits to return, the board has to take into account current and future upgrades, maintenance, and other operating costs for the Cooperative. However, with the upgrades being completed in 2024 and the sale of Triangle Mobile, the board feels we have available funds to bring the capital credits rotation from 29 years down to 20 years, which will amount to about 10 million dollars of capital credits being returned to the membership. We will also offer the membership the option to take a discount on the remaining 20 years of capital credits.

I'd like to take a moment to thank the Triangle employees for all of their dedication and for keeping Triangle's services up over the last years of Covid. Their hard work, skill, and dedication to maintaining communications in our communities should be lauded, as without them, our services couldn't function. On that note, if you have a problem with your service or slow broadband, get in contact with Triangle's offices and report the problems. If you are looking for faster broadband or other services, please call in and talk to a Triangle representative about your needs.

I hope to see you at one of the Annual Meetings and remember to vote using your mail-in ballot.

Richard Stuker



## A message from the CEO/GM - Craig Gates

It has been nice to get back to some semblance of normal. I will be very happy to see our members at the annual meeting this year. Since our last annual meeting, it has been a lot closer to “normal” at Triangle. I would not say normal in the bigger and wider world, but for us, pretty close!

Throughout this “pandemic”, our employees never lost sight of our mission to serve our members. Not even through the drought, flooding, snowstorms, or the pandemic. In today’s world, that is even better than the post office’s motto. Everyone at Triangle, the Board of Trustees, Management, and all our employees thank you for your membership and we will continue to deliver you quality service!

Triangle remains committed to bringing fiber to 100% of our members. With our 2022 fiber builds well under way, we have now connected over eighty five percent (85%) of our members to fiber; next year, that number will be over ninety percent (90%). With more devices than ever being connected to the Internet, fiber optics allows Triangle to offer faster and more reliable packages. We plan on finishing all our fiber optic upgrades in 2024 and plan to have all current members cutover to fiber optic cable before the start of 2025.

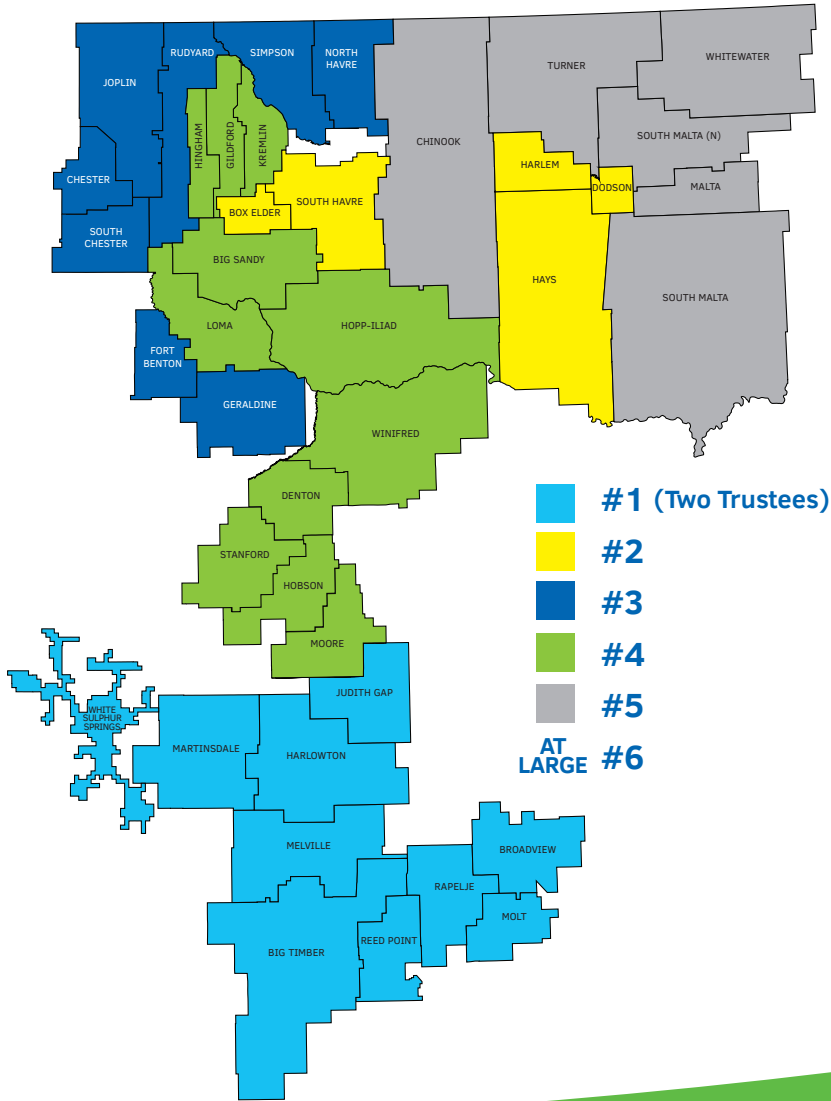
This year the board was able to offer all outstanding allocated capital credits not already in permanent equity for years 1993-2001 and a discounted offering on years 2002 to 2021. This has been made possible by the sale of Triangle Mobile to Verizon. The board plans on retiring (paying) over \$10 Million to the membership this year through the two offerings. This will bring the cooperative into a twenty-year equity position versus a twenty-nine-year position. This is good for the cooperative and good for you!

Triangle is again holding two annual meetings, one in Havre and one in Big Timber. The Havre meeting will be held at the MSU-Northern Student Union Building on October 8th and the Big Timber meeting will be held at the Sweet Grass Fairgrounds Community Center on October 15th. For the first time, members can vote using a mail in ballot. If you can’t make it to the meeting, or if you can, you can now vote by mail for trustees and the bylaw changes that the board is presenting to the membership. If you do come to the meeting and you already voted by mail, you can still attend the meeting for some great gifts, but you can only vote once. If you are unable to make it, please mail in your ballot. There are approximately 12,500 members and attendance at the annual meeting rarely exceeds 1% of the membership. This is YOUR cooperative and participating has never been easier. Please participate in-person and/or vote by mail.

As always, stay safe, stay healthy and hope to see you at the annual meeting!

Craig Gates

# Triangle Communications District Map



**Thank You to our 2022 Triangle Nominating Committee:**

Cheryl Darlington (District #4), Patricia Quisno (District #2), Tammy Bergman (District #5), Gerald Pierce (District #4), Rodney Keith (District #3), Dale Teachout (District #1), Ronald R. Riter (District #1), David Hixson (District #1), John Zinne (District #1).

# Agenda for the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Members

## **Havre - October 8th**

**MSU-Northern Student Union Building**

## **Big Timber - October 15th**

**Sweet Grass Fairgrounds Community Center**

Registration – 8:30 a.m.

Business Meeting – 10:00 a.m.

Call To Order

Invocation

Determination of Quorum (Havre)

Reconvene Meeting (Big Timber)

Reading of Notice of Meeting and Affidavit of Mailing

Members to Take Necessary Action on 2021 Minutes

Reports from Officers and Trustees

CEO/General Manager's Report

Presentation of Financial Report

Triangle Video Presentation

Bylaws

Nominating Committee Report

Election of Trustees

Cash Drawings for Members' Children under 18 yrs. Must be present to win

New Business

Meeting Recessed (Havre)

Meeting Adjourned (Big Timber)

Buffet Lunch

Prize Drawings

As your cooperative, we ask that everyone attending the annual meeting be safe and follow the COVID-19 guidelines of the State, County and CDC where applicable. You are welcome to wear a mask if you choose. Please respect a safe social distance from others when possible at the meeting. If you have been asked to quarantine during the time of the meeting, we respectfully request that you do not attend the meeting. Thank you and stay safe!

# Nominee Letters

## **DOUG LOWRY, DISTRICT #1**

It has been a privilege to serve as a trustee for Triangle Communications. I was raised and live in Triangle's southern exchange of Big Timber. I ask that the membership again allow me the opportunity to represent them on the board. I have been married to my wife, Jane Stebbins for 49 years in which we raised three boys: Jason, Jonathan and Jeffrey. I have been active in our community serving on the council of Big Timber Lutheran Church, city-county planning board, mayor of Big Timber, Big Timber Fire Department for 25 years serving several years as fire chief, school board for the grade school for several years as well as several other boards. I also had the honor of Governor Raciot appointing me to the State Board of Morticians. Thank you for your continued support for Triangle Communications and for your vote.

Thank you,  
Doug Lowry

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## **TYSON SCHUMACHER, DISTRICT #1**

Greetings Members,

I have always admired the spirit of cooperatives, members working together to share the benefits of the organization instead of only focusing on profits. In 1953 folks needed access to reliable communications and they took it upon themselves to create it from scratch and have control of its future. That is at the heart of many Montanans, if something needs doing, we do it. I would appreciate your consideration for District 1 Trustee so that I can help maintain the cooperative spirit and work to ensure its sustainability well into the future.

I believe that I am well qualified to represent the cooperative based on my professional background and personal interests. My wife Gretchen and I are originally from Minnesota, but moved to Molt, MT in 2017 where I started work as the Chief Information Officer for Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch (YBGR). YBGR is a non-profit providing care for kids across the state of Montana who have often experienced abuse and neglect. I have worked in non-profit mental health since 2005. I also offer technology consulting and have worked in public safety on 911 database software. I have also coordinated USDA Rural Development and E-Rate grant projects and reimbursements. I know the value of good stewardship and ensuring that non-profits have the same access to resources as any other agency. I will apply the same values to serve the Triangle Cooperative if I am elected as your District 1 Trustee. I will focus on ensuring that Triangle is able to continue to deliver high quality services, affordably to Montanans.

I often say, "Montana Provides." Gretchen and I enjoy all the natural resources of Montana and to me nothing is better than an early morning hike and stopping to take in

the scenery. Advocacy for children is important to both of us. I work closely with Montana state partners to try and ensure that children have access to quality mental health services. Gretchen volunteers as a Court Appointed Special Advocate in Yellowstone County. YBGR is also a working ranch, so we get the opportunity to help with branding and ensuring our cattle have high quality resources.

We have great neighbors in Triangle that truly embody the Montana spirit, always willing to lend a hand. It has been very humbling to be part of such a welcoming community.

Once in a legislative meeting I heard commentary that folks in rural areas should just “move to the city” if they want fast and reliable Internet access. I could not disagree with that statement more. Having access to reliable and affordable communications ensures that folks can participate in the local and global economy. Cooperatives like Triangle help ensure that people who choose to live and work in rural areas do not have to sacrifice quality communications in order to love where they live. These are the kinds of values I am interested in protecting. Working with non-profits across the country I have seen firsthand the impact of constant sales and consolidation of communications companies that favor profit above service and quality. My hope is that we can keep Triangle Communications sustainable for years to come, and to be unique, local, and member focused.

Respectfully,  
Tyson Schumacher – Molt, MT

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## **LIZ WERK, DISTRICT #2**

Hello Cooperative Members,

I am grateful and honored to be selected to run as the District #2 Representative. It has been fulfilling learning about the telecommunication industry and being part of a productive and progressive board. The past three years have challenged me along with Triangle to adapt to the needs of our families and local communities. The Covid-19 epidemic threw us curve balls but with the supportive board, management, and staff much was accomplished.

I have learned the importance of community involvement living in Hays the past 23 years. I taught at Mission Grade School, Hays/ Lodge Pole Elementary, and Aaniiih Nakoda College while currently working as the Fort Belknap MSU Extension Agent. My family and I are actively involved in local community activities and groups including Hays Celebration, school sports, 4-H, and various community activities/celebrations. We enjoy living on our ranch south of Hays raising horses and cows while welcoming guests from around the world to enjoy our beautiful home - the Montana prairie and Little Rocky Mountains.

If I get elected, I look forward to serving on Triangle Communications Board another 3 years. I understand the important role technology plays in breaking down boundaries to

generate rural development and strengthen educational systems. I look forward to continuing to learn the ins and outs of the industry as the cooperative grows and reaches new boundaries.

Thank you,  
Liz Werk

## **DAVE SCHWARZBACH, DISTRICT #6**

Dear Fellow Cooperative Members,

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as a member of the Triangle Communications Board. I am humbled and grateful to the nominating committee for again selecting me to run for a board position.

I was born and raised in the Havre area. My entire adult life, I have been devoted to some aspect of our cooperative. I began working for Hill County Electric in August of 1970 and served until my retirement in November of 2014. I worked 7 years on the electric crew and over 37 years as the serviceman in the Big Sandy area. I believe my former experience as an employee of the cooperative as well as a member gives me a unique perspective as a board member.

I am a strong believer in giving back to the community. I have retired from the Big Sandy Fire and Ambulance Department after 40 years of service. My last position as fireman was president. I have also taught Hunter's Safety for 21 years and have been a member of the Big Sandy Booster Club for over 35 years. I've also been a Bear Paw Sportsman for over 40 years and have helped the Big Sandy Rotary Club complete many projects over the last 30 years, including helping decorate the town for the Christmas season.

It has been a pleasure working with the present board and I look forward to the future of our cooperative as we take on the challenges of keeping up with changes in technology and communication.

Thank you,  
Dave Schwarzbach

## **Modern Internet solutions for the modern farm.**

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*Some restrictions may apply.  
Not available in all scenarios.*

**Contact us for a FREE Point to Point consultation!**





## Youth Programs

### SCHOLARSHIPS

We provide up to 37, \$1,000 scholarships to the schools in our service area and up to 3 college scholarships. **Deadline is April 1st.**

Our partnership with the Foundation for Rural Service gives students the opportunity to receive a scholarship of up to \$2,500.

### SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

K-12 schools may request up to \$1,500 each year for technology equipment, training, supplies, and more!

### TEACHER APPRECIATION PROGRAM

Funds can be used for items or expenses that are the biggest priority for the awardee. **Deadline is March 1st.**

### YOUTH NATIONAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP

We are proud to offer sponsorships for students attending a national event, such as FFA, BPA, FCCLA, etc.

### YOUTH TECHNOLOGY GRANT

Funds can be used for Science, Technology, Engineering or Math related projects. Grants up to \$500 are available. **Deadline is February 1st.**

### YOUTH TOUR TO WASHINGTON D.C. (HIGH SCHOOL)

Win the trip of a lifetime to Washington D.C.! Open to 16 or 17-year-old high school juniors. **Deadline is December 1st.**

For full program details and requirements visit  
[www.itstriangle.com/community/education](http://www.itstriangle.com/community/education)

# Balance Sheet December 31, 2021

## ASSETS

### CURRENT ASSETS

Cash General Funds	\$25,589,950	
Telecommun. Accounts Receivable	2,129,922	
Other Accounts Receivable	3,405,389	
Accounts Receivable Affiliates	4,365,947	
Interest and Dividends Receivable	435	
Materials and Supplies	6,635,883	
Prepayments	64,679	
Note Receivable - Current Portion	<u>205,900</u>	\$42,398,105

### NONCURRENT ASSETS

Investment in Affiliated Companies*	66,258,660	
Other Investments	3,499,261	
Nonregulated Investments (Net)	127,432	
Notes Receivable	443,980	
Defined Benefit Pension Prefunding	4,039,358	
Deferred Charges (Net)	<u>493,735</u>	74,862,426

### PLANT, PROPERTY, AND EQUIPMENT

Telecommun. Plant in Service	359,645,089	
Telecommun. Plant Under Construction	1,432,248	
	<u>361,077,337</u>	
Less: Accumulated Provision for Depreciation	<u>(149,905,534)</u>	211,171,803

### TOTAL ASSETS

\$328,432,334

## LIABILITIES, PATRONAGE CAPITAL, AND MARGINS

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$1,539,855	
Advance Billing and Payments	2,596,819	
Customer Deposits	160,840	
Accrued Real Estate Taxes	1,645,891	
Other Current Liabilities	2,680,005	
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	<u>4,207,976</u>	\$12,831,386

### LONG-TERM DEBT

RUS Mortgage Notes		
(Less current portion - \$4,207,976)		49,711,000

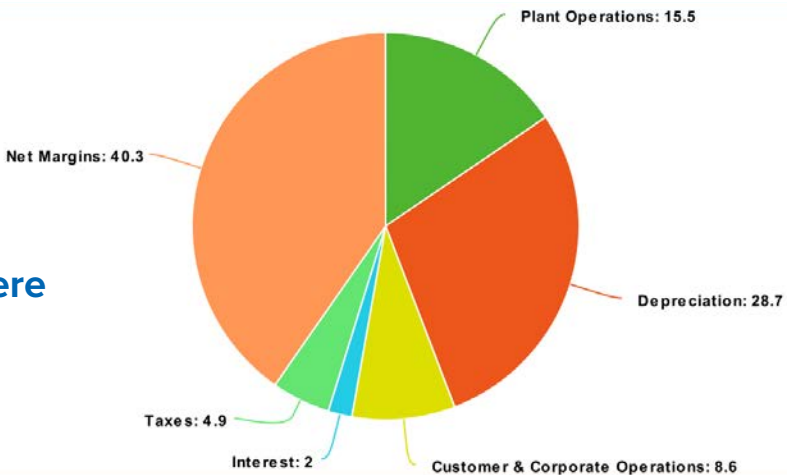
### OTHER LIABILITIES

Severance Pay		887,725
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TOTAL EQUITY 265,002,223

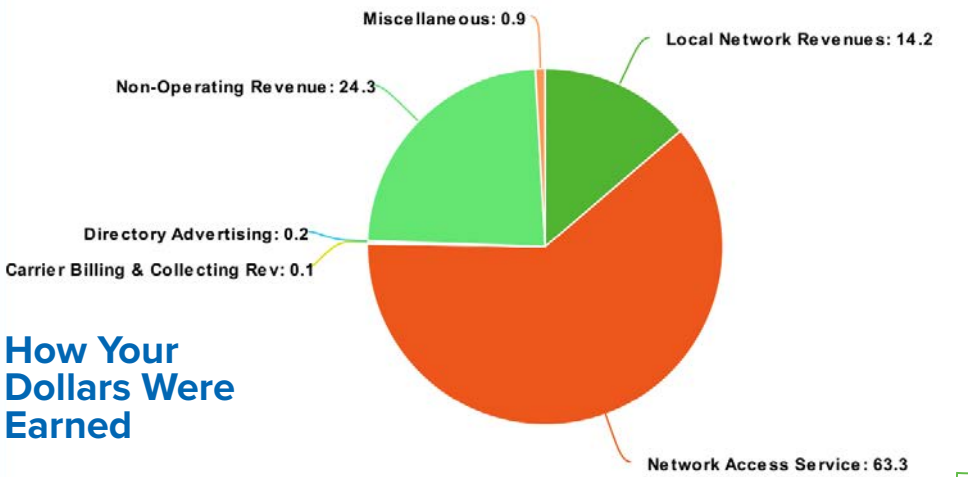
TOTAL LIABILITIES, AND EQUITY \$328,432,334

## How Your Dollars Were Spent



# Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenses

	2021	2020
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>		
Local Network Revenues	\$9,494,822	\$8,393,102
Network Access Service	42,175,841	43,669,094
Billing & Collection	80,085	79,006
Miscellaneous	<u>734,452</u>	<u>694,446</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b><u>\$52,485,200</u></b>	<b><u>\$52,835,648</u></b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
Plant Specific Operations	7,284,903	7,631,688
Plant Non-specific Operations	3,073,657	2,973,139
Depreciation	19,116,537	18,601,418
Customer Operations	2,437,671	2,796,630
Corporate Operations	<u>3,275,244</u>	<u>3,327,268</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>\$35,188,012</u></b>	<b><u>\$35,330,143</u></b>
<b>OPERATING TAXES</b>		
Other Operating Taxes - Property	<u>3,300,286</u>	<u>3,325,057</u>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES &amp; TAXES</b>	<b><u>\$38,488,298</u></b>	<b><u>\$38,655,200</u></b>
<b>NET OPERATING MARGINS</b>	<b><u>\$13,996,902</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,180,448</u></b>
<b>FIXED CHARGES</b>		
Interest on Long-Term Debt	1,327,274	2,191,967
Other Interest Expense	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL FIXED CHARGES</b>	<b><u>\$1,327,274</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,191,967</u></b>
<b>NONOPERATING INCOME (EXPENSES)</b>		
Interest and Dividends	217,132	1,255,011
Miscellaneous Income and Charges	205,743	82,328
Triangle Comm. Syst. Income	14,224,205	9,202,212
Nonoperating Income Taxes	<u>24,504</u>	<u>(7,747)</u>
<b>TOTAL NONOPERATING INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$14,671,584</u></b>	<b><u>\$10,531,804</u></b>
Nonregulated Net Income (Loss)	<u>\$(475,682)</u>	<u>\$84,924</u>
<b>NET MARGINS FOR PERIOD</b>	<b><u>\$26,865,530</u></b>	<b><u>\$22,605,209</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		
<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$242,029,582</b>	<b>\$228,294,941</b>
Add Excise & Income Tax Refunds	52,050	104,535
Deduct Retirement of Capital Credits	<u>(3,944,939)</u>	<u>(8,975,103)</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		
<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<b><u>\$265,002,223</u></b>	<b><u>\$242,029,582</u></b>



# Official Notice of the 68th Annual Meeting of Members

The sixty-eighth Annual Meeting of Members of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. of Havre, Montana will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the SUB-Ballroom on the campus of Montana State University-Northern in Havre, Montana and in Big Timber, Montana on Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Sweet Grass County Fairgrounds Community Center to take action on the following matters:

1. The election of three trustees of the Cooperative.
2. Bylaw Amendments.
3. Passing upon reports of officers, trustees and committees for the previous year.
4. Conducting such other business as may come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof.

In accordance with the bylaws, the nominating committee, composed of Cooperative members, has nominated the following individuals as candidates for the position of trustee of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.:

- District 1            Doug Lowry
- District 2            Liz Werk
- District 6            Dave Schwarzbach  
                             Colter Todd

In accordance with the bylaws, nominations by petition are also accepted.

- District 1            Tyson Schumacher (Nomination by Petition)

The name or names on this notice indicates the name in which the membership is carried. Voting must be done by the member, or in the case of a joint membership, by only one of the joint members. No voting by proxy is allowed.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. and lunch will begin after the meeting. Prizes will be awarded.

Hope to see you there!  
Richard Pokorny, Secretary/Treasurer  
Dated 9/20/2022



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*\*Not available in all areas. Contact us for details.*

 **TRIANGLE**  
COMMUNICATIONS

## Summary

### **SECTION 4.02. Special Meetings.**

This proposed bylaw change is to increase the number of trustees to be a majority quorum. Also, to adjust the number of members to match state law for the number of members to request a special meeting. The board respectfully requests that you accept this bylaw change.

**SECTION 4.02. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the members may be called by resolution of the Board, or upon written request of any ~~four~~ **three** trustees, or of the president, ~~or of not less than 200 members~~ or ten percent of all members, ~~whichever is less~~, and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members shall be held at such location and time as specified in the notice of the special meeting.

**(NEW) SECTION 4.02. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the members may be called by resolution of the Board, or upon written request of any four trustees, or of the president, or ten percent of all members, and it shall thereupon be the duty of the Secretary to cause notice of such meeting to be given as hereinafter provided. Special meetings of the members shall be held at such location and time as specified in the notice of the special meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Summary

### **SECTION 4.04. Quorum.**

This proposed bylaw change clarifies how the quorum is calculated if there is more than one annual meeting or special meeting. The board respectfully requests that you accept this bylaw change.

**SECTION 4.04. Quorum.** A quorum shall exist for transaction of business at any meeting of the members if five percent (5%) of all members or 50 members, whichever is fewer, are present. Members represented by submitted mail or electronic ballots may be counted in computing a quorum for a meeting of the members but only on those motions or resolutions as to which mail or electronic ballots are authorized and submitted. **In the event any meeting of the members occurs over more than one day or at more than one location, once a quorum has been established on the initial date or at the initial location,**

the quorum shall be determined to be met for all dates and locations of that particular meeting, regardless of a recess in the meeting or later departure of a member or members. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. The minutes of each meeting shall contain a list of members present.

**(NEW) SECTION 4.04. Quorum.** A quorum shall exist for transaction of business at any meeting of the members if five percent (5%) of all members or 50 members, whichever is fewer, are present. Members represented by submitted mail or electronic ballots may be counted in computing a quorum for a meeting of the members but only on those motions or resolutions as to which mail or electronic ballots are authorized and submitted. In the event any meeting of the members occurs over more than one day or at more than one location, once a quorum has been established on the initial date or at the initial location, the quorum shall be determined to be met for all dates and locations of that particular meeting, regardless of a recess in the meeting or later departure of a member or members. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice. The minutes of each meeting shall contain a list of members present.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Summary

### **SECTION 5.06. Nominations.**

The board is proposing this bylaw change to make trustee nominations and elections more open, transparent, and accessible to all members.

Since all candidates will be listed on mail-in ballots, the board is also asking that petitions be received at least 45 days, as opposed to 30 days, before the annual meeting to make sure the ballots are delivered to members as soon as possible to give members the maximum amount of time to vote. The board is asking to clean up language in some additional sections. The board respectfully asks for your support of this bylaw change that will make our elections open and fair for all members to run for trustee.

### **SECTION 5.06. Nominations.**

(a) Nominations by committee. Not less than forty-five (45) days

nor more than seventy (70) days before the date of the annual meeting of the members at which trustees are to be elected, the Board shall appoint a committee on nominations consisting of not less than five nor more than fourteen Association members. No member of the Board may serve on such a committee. The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Association, at least thirty (30) days before the annual member meeting, a list of nominations for trustees to be elected, listing such nominees separately by the District from which a trustee must be elected. The committee may include in such list a greater number of nominees for some or all trustee positions, provided that the committee clearly indicates, by District, those nominees who will oppose each other.-

(b) Nominations by petition. Any fifteen or more Association members, acting together, may make additional nominations by written petition containing the name(s) and address(es) of the nominee(s) and the District from which each is nominated, and the signatures, printed names and addresses of the petitioners. The petitioners must deliver the petition so that it is received at the Association's principal office at Havre, Montana, not less than **forty-five (45)** ~~thirty(30)~~ days prior to the annual member meeting. The Secretary shall post such nominations **at the Cooperative's principal office** by petition at the same place where the list of nominations by committee is posted.-

(c) List of nominees. The Secretary shall mail, with the notice of the annual member meeting or separately, but at least seven (7) days before the date of the annual member meeting, a statement of the number of trustees to be elected from each District, the names and addresses of the nominees and the District from which each is nominated, specifying separately those nominated by the committee on nominations and those nominated by petition, if any.

(d) Restrictions on eligibility. Neither the committee on nominations nor the members may **not** nominate a person, even if otherwise qualified under Section 5.05 of these bylaws, to stand for election as trustee for more than one District at the same trustee election. No person may serve or be elected to serve as trustee for more than one District at the same time.

## **(NEW) SECTION 5.06. Nominations.**

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(d) Restrictions on eligibility. Neither the committee on nominations nor the members may not nominate a person, even if otherwise qualified under Section 5.05 of these bylaws, to stand for election as trustee for more than one District at the same trustee election. No person may serve or be elected to serve as trustee for more than one District at the same time.

\* \* \* \* \*

Summary

**SECTION 7.02. Election and Term of Office.**

This is a parliamentary procedure change among the board that

happens after the annual meeting, when board members are selected as officers. This allows for the board to re-elect the same officers as the previous year if the entire board agrees. The board respectfully request your support on this bylaw change.

**SECTION 7.02. Election and Term of Office.** At the annual regular meeting of the Board held immediately after the annual meeting of the members, the Board shall elect the officers of the Association by and from the members of the Board. **A member of the Board may move to dispense with separate nominations for each office and elect the same officers to the same offices as the year prior, which the Board may approve by unanimous consent.** Otherwise, the Board may nominate and elect such officers by acclamation, without a secret ballot, except in the event more than one person is nominated for an office, in which case the Board shall conduct such election by secret ballot. If the election of officers is not held at such meeting, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as is practicable. Each officer shall hold office until the first regular meeting of the Board following the next succeeding annual meeting of the members or until such officer's successor shall have been elected and shall have qualified. A vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board by appointment of one of the remaining trustees to serve for the unexpired portion of the term of office being vacated.

**(NEW) SECTION 7.02. Election and Term of Office.** At the annual regular meeting of the Board held immediately after the annual meeting of the members, the Board shall elect the officers of the Association by and from the members of the Board. A member of the Board may move to dispense with separate nominations for each office and elect the same officers to the same offices as the year prior, which the Board may approve by unanimous consent. Otherwise, the Board may nominate and elect such officers by acclamation, without a secret ballot, except in the event more than one person is nominated for an office, in which case the Board shall conduct such election by secret ballot. If the election of officers is not held at such meeting, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as is practicable. Each officer shall hold office until the first regular meeting of the Board following the next succeeding annual meeting of the members or until such officer's successor shall have been elected and shall have qualified. A vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board by appointment of one of the remaining trustees to serve for the unexpired portion of the term of office being vacated.

# Voting Authorization Form

## Certificate of Voting Authorization of Corporation, Unincorporated Association, or School District holding a Membership in Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

The undersigned does hereby certify that he or she has been duly and regularly appointed to represent the below-mentioned corporation, unincorporated association or school district at the annual members' meeting to be held October 8, 2022 in Havre and October 15th, 2022 in Big Timber and to cast the vote for said corporation, association or school district upon each matter submitted to a vote of the members of the cooperative at said meeting.

Dated, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Corporation, Association or School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Signee for Corporation, Association or School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Signee for Corporation, Association or School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Signee for Corporation, Association or School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witnessed by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Witness for Corporation, Association or School

Representative and witness must be officers, directors, trustees or official designees of the organization being represented.

Please complete this form and bring to your Annual Meeting.

**TRIANGLE**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
PO Box 1140 • Havre, MT 59501

**GRAND PRIZE:**

**Blackstone Griddle Bundle!**



**Member gifts are  
made in Montana!**



**MAIL-IN BALLOTS MUST BE  
RECEIVED BY 10/12/2022**