SRTVEVS

Volume 42 Issue 3 / 2020

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF

SRT'S 2020 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 1, 2020 / ND State Fair Center

By action of the Board of Directors, the 2020 annual membership meeting of SRT Communications, Inc. will be held on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at the North Dakota State Fair Center - 2005 Burdick Expy. East - Minot, ND. For the safety of our members, we will not be serving a community meal. Instead, a gift card will be given to each account holder that registers to vote. The report to the members, and financial updates, will be available on the SRT Facebook page and srt.com/annualmeeting.

Registration and Voting will open at 2:00 PM and will close at 7:00 PM.

Regular business includes the election of four directors, one from each of our four districts, for a three-year term. The candidates who have been nominated are listed below.

District 1

Stanley Vangsness from Berthold, Incumbent

District 2

Jennifer Barta from Velva Kristi Miller from Maxbass, Incumbent

District 3

John Marshall from Towner, Incumbent

District 4

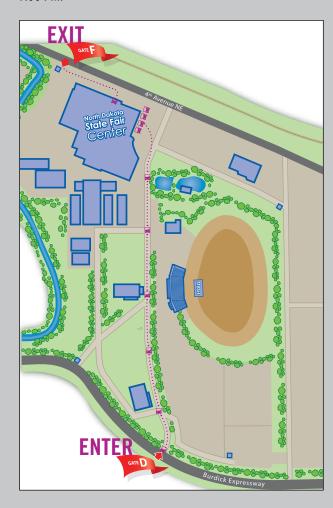
Deanna Klein from Minot, Incumbent Dawn Palumbo from Minot Ben Parker from Minot Steve Pinnow from Minot

Dated this 9th day of September 2020

Voter designation form for churches, schools, corporations, cooperatives, partnerships, public golf courses and associations is on page 6.

SRT'S DRIVE THRU ELECTION

The 2020 SRT Annual Meeting will consist of a drive-thru election at the North Dakota State Fair Center. To vote, enter the fairgrounds from Burdick Expressway and proceed toward the State Fair Center, where you will be directed to a voting station. Voting will open at 2:00 PM and close promptly at 7:00 PM.



*Per CDC recommendations, and for the continued safety of our members and guests, SRT employees will wear masks and PPE inside the State Fair Center.

SRT CARES /



UPHAM LEGION

SRT Board member John Marshall presented a check for \$7,500 to the Upham Legion Post 269 to fund the renovation project for their legion hall. The last upgrade to the building took place in the 1960s. Most recently, renovations included the replacement of a suspended ceiling, wall mounted furnace and A/C units, updated lighting, and replacing the handicap accessible concrete entry area. This legion hall is used by Upham and the surrounding area for various events, making it an important asset in the community.



Left to right / Jim Bohl, Wes Goodman, Bob McNamara, John Marshall and Bill Petersen



VELVA SPORTS COMPLEX

SRT board members Dennis Schott and Tom Jespersen presented Larry Sandy, Athletic Director of Velva Public School (pictured center), with a \$7,500 check for the Velva Sports Complex renovation. The current Velva athletics building needs updates. The new climate-controlled facility will include handicap accessible restrooms, concessions, more efficient storage for sports gear, a huddle room, and a ticket window. Congrats to the Velva community on these improvements.

BERTHOLD PARK DISTRICT

SRT Board member, Stan Vangsness, presented a check to Randy Kunz, Berthold Park District Park Board President, to fund their athletic fields refurbishment project. Berthold Park District is renovating their multi-use athletic fields that were built in the 1960s. The scope of the project entails resurfacing the fields, adding safety fencing and a scoreboard, and creating a shaded seating area for spectators. The Berthold Park District received \$7,500 towards this community improvement project.



CUSTOMERS WIN BIG WITH SRT BINGO

By popular demand, SRT Bingo returned as a fun activity for SRT customers while still practicing social distancing by playing from the comfort of their homes. SRT Bingo kicked off on June 1, and since then \$25 gift cards to various local restaurants have been awarded to 40 lucky straight bingo winners, as well as 5 portable grills given away to those with four corner bingos. The big prize was awarded to 5 blackout bingo









winners, which was a 40" 4K Vizio Smart TV. Customers were able to check for daily numbers not only on the SRT Facebook page, but also srt. com/bingo and the electronic sign outside the SRT headquarters office. SRT's Facebook page saw a great increase in engagement, giving us a way to connect to our customers even with the lack of events this year. Our participating customers seemed to have a great time playing bingo!



OCTOBER IS COOPERATIVE MONTH!

Across the country, over 40,000 cooperatives are celebrating pride in the members they serve, and the principles of cooperative business. This month, and always - Keeping you connected is why we do what we do.

Cooperative Principles

- 1. Voluntary and Open Membership
- 2. Democratic Member Control
- 3. Members' Economic Participation
- 4. Autonomy and Independence
- 5. Education, Training, and Information
- 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- 7. Concern for Community

RETIREMENTS

Tim Burckhard After 29 years at SRT, Tim retired on June 1st. Over the 29 years, Tim held several positions, including: Satellite TV Technician, Foreman, and Supervisor; Service Center Supervisor: Technical Services Coordinator and Supervisor; and since 2010, has held an Executive Staff position, serving as



Director of Field Operations. During retirement, he plans to spend time with his family and grandchildren, working on many projects around home, and enjoying the outdoors by spending more time gardening, hunting, fishing and golfing. Tim has been a very important member of the SRT team, and he will be greatly missed. Best of luck in your retirement, Tim!

JOE DITTUS

After 20 years with SRT, Joe Dittus retired on July 1st. Over the course of his career at SRT as a Special Access Coordinator, Joe worked on coordinating interstate circuit installations, local private line circuits. and more, both in the **Network Engineering** Department, as well as the Regulatory Affairs Department. After



retirement, Joe plans to spend most of his time in Garrison on the water or on the golf course. Congratulations, Joe!

TONY BEST PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF FIELD OPERATIONS

SRT is pleased to announce the promotion of Tony Best to Director of Field Operations. In his new position, Best will oversee the supervision of the construction, maintenance, and servicing operations of SRT's aerial and buried copper and fiber-optic cable facilities, switching and data facilities, service center operations, and safety inspections. Best has been an SRT employee since 1996.



holding several positions, most recently as Outside Plant and Splicer Supervisor, which led him to this position.

"Tony has proven himself throughout his career with his willingness to continue his education through lifelong learning and training, and we are certain that he will excel in his leadership role. His hands-on experience will be instrumental, especially with the continuance of the fiber optic network installation across our service territory. We are looking forward to adding him to our executive staff team," said SRT General Manager/CEO Steve Lysne.

Tony was born and raised in the Towner area, where he currently

resides with his family. He is a current council member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Towner and participates in local Ranch Rodeos during the summer months.

Best looks forward to playing an important role in SRT's upcoming years of staying on the forefront of His hands-on experience will be instrumental, especially with the continuance of the fiber optic network installation across our service territory.

technology and providing our customers the best possible service. He replaces Tim Burckhard, who retired on June 1st.



USDA Programs Encourage Rural Development in Partnership with SRT

SRT participates in the USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program. This federal program provides funding to create economic development opportunities in rural communities. SRT aids in the process by assisting with and monitoring loans to qualifying rural organizations. The first recipient of the SRT REDLG program was the Mohall Ambulance Service in 2009 to fund a portion of a new emergency services building. Then in 2015, Gooseneck Implement in Velva built a new facility and applied for a REDLG pass-through loan, in which the USDA provided a zero-interest loan to SRT for Gooseneck to fund part of its build. The most recent loan was awarded in 2017 to the United Rural Ambulance District in Berthold. They received a zero-interest loan to assist in funding a new ambulance services building for the community.

SRT is proud to support local economic development and encourages businesses to apply for the REDLG program. Applicants can apply for loans starting at \$5,000, but the project must bring economic development to the area and SRT cannot be a lender of last resort. The program is not meant to compete with local banks, instead it is meant as a supplement to other financing options. Business plans are required but SRT has a pre-application available for interested parties.

Contact us for more information and to request a pre-application.

Pre-applications can also be found at www.srt.com/srtcares.

SRT REDLG Program, Cassidy Hjelmstad, Corporate Communications

Director, 701-838-9719

OFFICIAL NOTICE

STOP TELEMARKETING CALLS

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) launched the National Do Not Call Registry to give Americans a choice about getting telemarketing calls at home.

To register your number on the Internet: logon to www.donotcall.gov and click on Register Now. If you register online, you will receive an email from www.donotcall.gov as part of the confirmation process and you will need to click on the link in that email within 72 hours after you receive it to complete your registration.

To register your number by telephone: call 1-888-382-1222; TTY call 1-866-290-4236. You must call from the number you want to register.

After 31 days, most telemarketing calls will stop, however some calls are not covered such as:

 calls from, or on behalf of political organizations, charities, and telephone surveyors

- calls from companies with whom you have an existing business relationship
- calls from companies you've given permission to call

Once you register, your registration will not expire. Telephone numbers placed on the National Do Not Call Registry will remain on it permanently due to the Do-Not-Call Improvement Act of 2007, which became law in February 2008. And you only need to register once to be on both North Dakota's list and the national do not call list as one registration simultaneously adds your number to both.

To file a complaint: if your number has been on the registry for at least 31 days, and a telemarketer calls, you may file a complaint with the FTC. Visit www.donotcall.gov or call 1-888-382-1222 (TTY 1-866-290-4236). You'll need to provide the date of the call and the phone number or name of the company that called you.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

LIFELINE AND LINK-UP

Lifeline is a government benefit program supported by the Universal Service Fund that provides a discount on landline and broadband service for qualifying consumers. Lifeline helps ensure that eligible consumers have the opportunities and security that landline phone and broadband service brings, including being able to connect to jobs, family, and emergency services.

Qualifying for Lifeline Support – Non-Tribal and Tribal

A consumer of SRT Communications, must either have a household income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance program
- Medicaid
- Veteran Pension & Survivor Pension Benefit
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

If you are requesting Lifeline on the basis of your household income, please refer to the Estimated Income Requirements for a Household at or below the Federal Poverty Guidelines. You may find this chart, which is revised annually, on the United States Department of Health and Human Services, website at http://aspe.hhs.gov.

Important Notes for Eligible Consumers Nationwide

Lifeline is available for wireless, landline and broadband services, however only one discount per household is allowed. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

Important Notes for Eligible Consumers Living on Tribal Lands

Link-Up provides eligible consumers living on Tribal lands with a one-time discount of up to \$100 on the initial installation or activation of a wireless, landline or broadband service for the primary residence.

Minimum Service Standards

Landline — unlimited local calling, toll charges will apply at your long distance company's rates.

Broadband — speed of 25x3 Mbps, and usage allowance to 1024 GB. If 25x3 Mbps is not offered, any generally available residential package that meets the minimum service standard qualifies for Lifeline.

Lifeline Support Level Phase-Down

	Landline	Broadband
12/1/2019	\$7.25	\$9.25
12/1/2020	\$5.25	\$9.25
12/1/2021	\$0.00	\$9.25

How Can I Sign Up?

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is now using a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier to review an applicant's Lifeline eligibility. You can apply for Lifeline by visiting www.CheckLifeline. org by selecting your state in the drop down menu on that site. Once the National Verifier approves your application, contact SRT to activate your Lifeline benefits.

For more details, contact the FCC at 1-888-225-5322 voice, 1-888-835-5322 TTY, or by mail at FCC, 445 12th ST SW, Washington, DC 20554. You may also visit the FCC's website at www.lifeline.gov.

UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDITS

Is your name on the list? Find out at SRT.COM/unclaimedCapitalCredits

If you find your name on the unclaimed capital credit list that listed on the website above, you may have money coming to you. These checks were returned to us by the Post Office when originally mailed.

You may even recognize someone else's name and encourage them to contact us. Individuals or their lawful heirs may claim their checks by contacting SRT at 858-1200 by May 14, 2021.

SRT 2020 Annual Meeting

Voter Designation Form

To be used by organizations such as: Churches, Schools, Corporations, Cooperatives, Partnerships, Public Golf Courses, and Associations. This form cannot be used as a proxy by individuals or individually owned businesses.

		hereby
	Organization	
J	• •	as
•		half of the above named entity at ng of SRT Communications, Inc.
Organization 1	elephone or Account	Number:
	Print name of autho	rized voter (entity)
Date:	By:	
		Signature of Officer

Organizations Can Designate Voters

Churches, schools, corporations, cooperatives, partnerships, public golf courses and associations, can designate a party to cast their vote by using the form above.

If an organization is to be represented at the Annual Meeting of SRT Communications Inc. which will be held Thursday, October, 1, 2020, an authorized representative must present this completed form to the credentials registration desk at the annual meeting.

CONNECT WITH US







2021 SRT Directory Coming Soon

The 2021 SRT Phone Directory is coming soon! Be on the

lookout for directory delivery starting mid October. Need additional phone books? 2021 SRT Phone Directories will be available at these locations, free of charge:



AFB - Minot North Star Community Credit Union			
Berthold State Bank & Trust Kenmare			
BottineauFirst National Bank & Trust Company			
of Bottineau / 424 Main St.			
State Bank of Bottineau / 105 11th St. E			
BurlingtonUnited Community Bank / 900 Johnson St.			
ButteHeritage Insurance Services			
DrakeUnited Community Bank			
GlenburnCity Hall			
Harvey First International Bank & Trust			
910 Lincoln Ave.			
First State Bank of Harvey / 700 Lincoln Ave.			
Dakota Heritage Bank / 920 Lincoln Ave.			
Kenmare State Bank & Trust of Kenmare			
4 2nd St NW			
MaxMax Farm Services / C-Store			
MinotSRT / 3615 N Broadway			
MarketPlace Foods			
MohalGate City Bank			
NewburgPeoples State Bank / Newburg Station			
SawyerSawyer City Hall			
TownerMerchants Bank / 202 S Main			
VelvaPeoples State Bank of Velva / 101 N Main			
WesthopePeoples State Bank / Main St.			

SRT Directory Recycling – October 12th through November 13th.



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Check Out What's Inside



SRT'S DRIVE THRU ELECTION



CUSTOMERS WIN BIG WITH SRT BINGO



OCTOBER IS COOPERATIVE MONTH!



STOP TELEMARKETING CALLS

END THE FRUSTRATION

School, work, entertainment - it can be overwhelming to know how much internet speed you'll need for all of your devices. We believe reliable internet is an essential part of life today, which is why our new Internet plans are built to meet your growing internet lifestyle needs.

Faster Internet is as easy as 1-2-3:

- 1. Contact us today
- 2. We'll help you pick the right plan
- 3. Love your WiFi again!





