

SRT NEWSletter

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF SRT'S 2024 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 20, 2024
ND State Fair Center
MINOT, ND

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

By action of the Board of Directors, the 2024 Annual Membership Meeting of SRT Communications, Inc. will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024 at the North Dakota State Fair Center – 2005 Burdick Expy. East – Minot, ND.

Registration and voting will open at 5:30 p.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. SRT will serve a catered meal during that same timeframe.

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 as follows:

DISTRICT 1

Cheryl Overby from Mohall

DISTRICT 2

Dennis Erber from Glenburn, Incumbent

DISTRICT 3

Bruce Degenstein from Voltaire
Faith Fahnestock from Towner/Willow City
Shawn Vedaa from Voltaire

DISTRICT 4

Stacey Diehl from Minot, Incumbent
Deven Mantz from Minot

Dated this 3rd day of June, 2024.

Voter designation form for churches, schools, corporations, cooperatives, partnerships, public golf courses, and associations is on page 7.

Updates will be available on the SRT Facebook page and srt.com/annualmeeting.

SRT CEO/GENERAL MANAGER AMONG GNDC'S 15 WOMEN YOU NEED TO KNOW

Greater North Dakota Chamber (GNDC) named Cassidy Hjelmstad, CEO and General Manager of SRT, one of its 15 Women You Need to Know in North Dakota Business for 2024.

This annual list "spotlights individuals whose achievements are driving progress in their organizations and industries." GNDC explains that the 15 Women You Should Know in North Dakota Business have taken on leadership roles in our state, and stand out for their proactive approach and exceptional leadership.

Congratulations to Cassidy on this well-earned recognition!



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2024 YOUTH AWARDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

SRT awarded five college scholarships totaling \$8,500 in 2024.

GENERAL

Applicants for the SRT Scholarship Program were judged on their scholastic performance and achievements, as well as volunteerism and community involvement. Students were required to write an essay discussing the value of traditional education, online education, and the vital role of high-speed internet in both.

TECHNICAL

The SRT Technical Scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school senior or an undergraduate student currently enrolled in a two-year or four-year college. Applicants were required to submit volunteerism and community involvement, scholastic performance, and an essay describing how they can use their education and technology to reach rural and underserved populations. A letter of recommendation from a community member or educator was also required.

“This year we had a very competitive field of scholarship applicants,” said Cassidy Hjelmstad, SRT CEO and General Manager. “It was inspiring to see so many promising, hard-working young people pursuing their future through our scholarship program, and these five students truly earned their respective awards.”



Lucas Beeter
Minot High School
Son of Renae and Kevin Beeter



Tallie Fedje
Bottineau High School
Daughter of Tiffani and Timothy Fedje



Shaylie Holen
Des Lacs - Burlington High School
Daughter of Erin Flom and Tory Holen



Mariah Lovro
TGU Granville High School
Daughter of Amanda and Allen Lovro



Jamie Thompson
MLS Mohall High School
Daughter of Gabe and Tracie Thompson

TECHNICAL

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE YOUTH TOUR

Carmen Lindekugel and Giovanna Zettell, both of Newburg High School, will represent SRT during the 2024 FRS Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. this summer. They will learn about the telecommunications industry, tour the nation’s capital, and meet with legislative leaders to discuss their experiences in rural North Dakota.



Carmen Lindekugel
Newburg High School
Daughter of Christy and Brock Lindekugel

Giovanna Zettell
Newburg High School
Daughter of Kim and Adrian Zettell



CLEMENS RECEIVES EAGLE AWARD

Travis Clemens, Sales Engineering Supervisor, earned an Eagle Award in March for delivering “an all-around great experience.” A business customer nominated Travis to the Minot Area Chamber EDC after he facilitated CAT5 cabling installation. The customer wrote, “Kind. Easy. Planned and implemented to perfection.” The customer added that their experiences with contractors “have rarely been as awesome as this one” with Travis and SRT. Thank you for the great service to our members, Travis!



MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SRT proudly supports the Minot Air Force Base and the men and women who defend our country. In January, SRT employees were honored to attend the Minot Area Chamber EDC Military Affairs Committee meeting, where they welcomed Brigadier General Colin Connor back to Minot and learned about the upcoming Sentinel project. Thank you for your service, Team Minot.

RETIREMENTS

SRT WISHES YOU THE BEST OF LUCK IN RETIREMENT!



PAT BACHMEIER

Pat’s career at SRT began in 1996 as a mobile phone technician. He went on to work construction, then as a combination technician, before retiring from his most recent position as a central office technician. In retirement, he will continue to work on his farm and is running for the North Dakota House of Representatives.



LEANNE BROSSART

Leanne retired in April after her 24-year career with SRT, most recently serving as a customer billing representative. Her retirement gift to herself is an Alaskan cruise. Leanne also plans to spend more time with her kids, grandkids, and husband, Mark. Friends can still find her serving at Homesteaders.



RHONDA MAAS

Rhonda retired in March after nearly 36 years at SRT. She began at the SRT Telephone and Computer Store before working in purchasing and accounting. She then spent 10 years as special access coordinator and the last 16 years as design engineer. In retirement, Rhonda looks forward to spending time with family and friends, gardening, traveling, and continuing agility training with her dogs.

SRT CARES



NORTH CENTRAL SEED SHOW & AG EXPO – Students visited the SRT booth at the annual Ag Expo in Mohall.



NTCA RTIME – Directors and SRT leadership attended America's largest annual rural telecommunications industry event. It focuses on policy, technology, healthcare, agriculture, community growth, and advocacy.



AIRMEN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL AWARDS CEREMONY – CEO and General Manager Cassidy Hjelmstad, Honorary Commander for the 91st Missile Wing, attended the Airmen Leadership School Awards Ceremony. Cassidy and Travis Hjelmstad are pictured with CMSgt. Kacky Crider, Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 91st Missile Wing, and Colonel Kenneth McGhee, Commander of the 91st Missile Wing.

Airmen Leadership School is a five-week course designed to develop airmen into effective front-line supervisors.



BLOOD DRIVE – Employees volunteered to give blood at SRT's biannual blood drive.

HOME & GARDEN SHOW – SRT Employees taught Home & Garden Show attendees about products and services.



KMOT AG SHOW – In January, SRT sponsored the Living Ag Classroom at the KMOT Ag Expo. Employees also educated visitors on our high-speed Fiber Internet and gave away a digital weather station.



MSU CAREER EXPO – Students got to learn about career paths at SRT and see real-time alarm and internet traffic monitoring.



PURPLE UP DAY – Employees wore purple to show their support for military children at Minot Air Force Base and all over the world.



CITYWIDE CLEANUP – Organized by the Minot Area Chamber EDC, SRT employees took part in the annual citywide cleanup by picking up litter around and near SRT headquarters.



CONNECT WITH US



SRT CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER EARNS NTCA INNOVATION AWARD

NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association recognized Shawn Grosz, SRT Chief Technology Officer, with the 2023 Excellence Award in Innovation.

The award was presented to Shawn during the NTCA Rural Telecom Industry Meeting & EXPO (RTIME) in February. Shawn earned the Innovation Award for his transformative work on 911 services in North Dakota.

SRT was the pilot telecommunications company involved in deploying North Dakota's first end-to-end Internet Protocol (IP) 911 service in support of the state's transition to Next Generation 911 (NG911). The North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo), Dakota Carrier Network (DCN), and SRT collaborated to deliver end-to-end 911 calls from SRT subscribers to seven 911 call centers — known as Public Safety Answering Points or PSAPs.

“Not only does Shawn’s work on the 911 deployment benefit SRT’s subscribers; it’s the blueprint for replicating improved services for all North Dakotans as IP-based 911 is deployed statewide,” said Cassidy Hjelmstad, SRT CEO/General Manager. “That’s an outsized impact for community good, and one example in Shawn’s accomplished career of why he is valued and revered as a telecommunications champion across our industry.”

Leading SRT’s role in the project, Shawn collaborated with statewide partners and brought the telecommunications company perspective to discussions about IP-based 911 network design.

“Collaboration was key to our success with the Next Generation 911 initiative. I am grateful to NDACo, DCN, and DCN’s other member owners, for their partnership and shared common goal for the people of North Dakota,” said Shawn. He added, “We also could not have fulfilled our role as the pilot telecommunications company without SRT’s exceptional engineering and operations staff, who worked diligently to make this critical service available to our members and first responders.”

The faster, more flexible and efficient NG911 system offers benefits to callers and first responders alike. Callers can get help quickly from any device at any time, and first responders can share life-saving information instantly.

Shawn joined SRT in 1997 and has been SRT’s Chief Technology Officer

for the last 10 years. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Minot State University. Shawn serves on NTCA’s Technical Committee and DCN’s Technical Committee, and routinely speaks in leadership groups and public forums about cybersecurity, streaming technology, and the future of broadband.

The NTCA Excellence Awards recognize broadband providers who have exceeded expectations to support their customers and community members and to advance communications services in rural America. Winners are selected by the association’s Awards Committee comprising NTCA members.



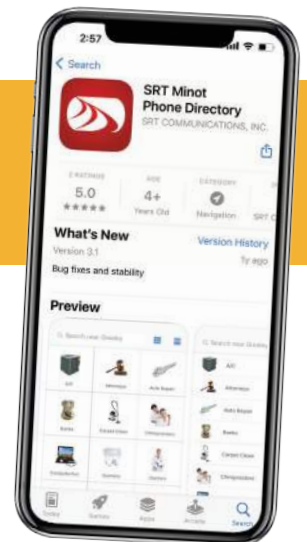
LET SRT DIRECT PEOPLE TO YOUR BUSINESS!

SRT phone books provide handy information at your fingertips. They also double as a reliable tool where your business can advertise.

Ads help customers locate your business and help you reach more than 70,000 people local to this area. The online directory and mobile app create a microsite and

digital presence with links to your business’s website and social media accounts.

To download the directory app on your smartphone, search “SRT Minot Phone Directory” in the app store today. Ad sales are happening now, so call 1.800.510.9450 to be included in the 2024 SRT Directory!



STAY CONNECTED

SRT Services for Individuals with Disabilities

SRT offers a variety of products and services for customers with disabilities. These include:

- Large-button telephones
- LifeSentry Home Safety Systems
- Possible bill discounts for meeting eligibility requirements through the Lifeline program

We continue to work to provide products and services to meet the needs of all of our customers, including those with disabilities.

Additional Resources

In addition to products and services from SRT, the following agencies and businesses offer devices to assist persons with disabilities with their telecommunications needs.

- Relay North Dakota: A free service that provides full telephone accessibility to people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, deaf-blind, and speech-disabled. Dial 711 to access this service, or visit www.relaynorthdakota.com for more information.
- North Dakota Vision Services: Provides products and services for the visually impaired, including Adaptive Aids (e.g., CCTVs, magnifiers, Talking Books) and technology resources. Call 701.795.2724 or visit www.ndvisionservices.com.
- State of North Dakota Disability Services Division: Help with assistive technology, independent living services, and more. Call 701.328.8930 or visit www.hhs.nd.gov/individuals-disabilities.

SRT 2024 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

designates and appoints _____ as
the person authorized to vote on behalf of the above named entity at
the June 20, 2024 Annual Meeting of SRT Communications, Inc.

Organization telephone or account number: _____

Print name of authorized 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, June 20, 2024, an authorized representative must present this completed form to the credentials registration desk at the meeting.

SRT DISTRIBUTES \$2.9 MILLION IN CAPITAL CREDITS TO MEMBERS

The SRT Board of Directors has approved the distribution of \$2,911,487 in credits back to members for 2024.

Credits will include the remainder of the 2000 allocation and/or a portion of the 2001 and 2023 allocations. Checks will mail in early June.

“Capital credits are one of the great advantages of belonging to a cooperative,” said Kristi Miller, SRT Board President. “Our members share in our success and SRT values the opportunity to distribute profits back to them.”

How SRT Capital Credits Work

1. At the end of the fiscal year, SRT determines whether there are excess revenues, called margins.
2. The margins are allocated to members as capital credits based on the amount spent by the member during the year.
3. The Board of Directors decides to retire, or pay, the capital credits when the cooperative's financial condition allows.
4. Members are notified how and when they will receive their capital credit distribution.

Members should inform SRT of changes to their current mailing address to ensure they receive any future capital credit retirements.

For more information on capital credits, visit srt.com/capitalcredits or call 701.858.1200.



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 This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.



Uninterrupted Family Time

BUFFER-FREE MOVIE NIGHTS

You and your family will enjoy every online minute together with fast, reliable SRT Fiber. Our Internet delivers the same high speed whether downloading or uploading and includes free Whole Home WiFi, router, and 24/7 local support.

Make the most of movie nights and more:

<p>Fiber 350 350 x 350 Mbps</p> <p>\$49.95/month</p>	<p>Fiber 700 700 x 700 Mbps</p> <p>\$69.95/month</p>	<p>Fiber GIG 1000 x 1000 Mbps</p> <p>\$89.95/month</p>
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Sign up or upgrade by July 31 and get three months free.

SRT.COM/INTERNET

Internet service speeds are founded on a wired customer device. Customer devices may connect slower over WiFi. Free Whole Home WiFi limited to standard residential service. Other restrictions may apply.

