



**you can afford  
telephone and  
broadband  
service**

# LIFELINE

**providing discounts to eligible  
low-income consumers to help  
them establish and maintain  
phone and broadband service**

You may be eligible for assistance in paying your telephone bill if you receive benefits from certain low-income assistance programs. For more information or an application form, please contact Solix at 888-627-4255. They will do the verification process with you over the phone and can provide you with an application.

Minnesota's Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) offers a monthly credit of \$3.50 on your landline telephone service plan. You may receive the TAP credit on one landline per household.

The federal Lifeline Program offers a monthly discount of \$9.25 on some landline telephone service plans. Lifeline also offers discounts on some wireless telephone service plans and some broadband internet service plans. You may receive the Lifeline discount on one telephone service per household.

The federal Lifeline Program incorporates the broadband discount (not applicable to TAP).

If you live on Tribal lands, you may qualify for additional discounts. Tribal Lands Link Up offers a one-time credit of up to \$100 on installation or activation charges. Tribal Lands Lifeline offers a monthly credit of up to \$34.25 on your landline or wireless telephone service plan.

The telephone or broadband service must be in your name. You must show proof that you or a member of your household participates in at least one of the following programs or is income eligible:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Food Support/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid/Medical Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension Benefit
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance and living on Tribal lands
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and living on Tribal lands
- Tribally Administered Head Start (for those meeting income-qualifying standards) and living on Tribal lands
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF) and living on Tribal lands

If you do not participate in any of the programs listed, you may qualify if your income is at or below 135% of the 2017 Federal Poverty Income Guidelines: (The federal poverty guidelines are typically updated at the end of January.)

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	INCOME
1	\$16,862
2	\$22,829
3	\$28,796
4	\$34,763
5	\$40,730
6	\$46,697
7	\$52,664
8	\$58,631
For each add'l person add	\$5,976

**For more information  
or an application form,  
please contact Solix at  
888-627-4255.**

**They will do the verification  
process with you over the  
phone and can provide you  
with an application.**

## TELE U WHAT

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email: info@paulbunyan.net  
online: paulbunyan.net



### BEMIDJI

1831 Anne St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Phone (218) 444.1234  
Toll Free (888) 586.3100  
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Apple Certified Repair

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

### GRAND RAPIDS

Grand Square  
1220 S. Pokegama Ave.  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Phone (218) 999.1234  
Toll Free (888) 586.3100  
Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President Kathy Peterson, District 3**  
*Inger-Wirt, Squaw Lake, Deer River, Dora Lake, Kelliher, Northome, Blackduck, Ash River, Big Falls*

**Vice President Randy Frisk, District 5**  
*Becida, Bemidji, Laporte, Itasca State Park, Lake George, Park Rapids*

**Treasurer Tim Hins, District 9**  
*Cass Lake, Puposky, Turtle River*

**Secretary Bruce Campbell, District 7**  
*Bemidji, Solway*

**Glenda Martin, District 6**  
*Ponemah, Red Lake*

**Jim Sutton, District 8**  
*City of Bemidji*

**Mark Matteson, District 4**  
*Cohasset, Grand Rapids, Coleraine, Warba, Marble, Nashwauk*



1831 Anne St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601

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COOPERATIVE NEWS AND INFORMATION • MARCH 2019

# TELE U WHAT



**COMING MARCH 19 - APRIL 8**

**March means one thing to a college hoops fan... it's tournament time! Watch live coverage from the First Four® to the Final Four®, which culminates with the NCAA® Division I Men's Basketball Championship on CBS!**

Don't miss a single shot on TNT, CBS, TBS, and truTV on Paul Bunyan Television, in high definition with PBTv HD, or on the go with PBTv Everywhere. PBTv Everywhere allows our TV customers access to various network shows, music, and even some live TV from their computer, tablet, or smart phone.

The NCAA® March Madness® Live™ app on PBTv Everywhere will provide an unlimited viewing experience throughout CBS Sports and Turner Sports' coverage of the entire tournament. Fans will have access to all games on TNT, TBS, and truTV on the digital device of their choice, by signing up and logging in to PBTv Everywhere, and all games broadcast on CBS with no registration required.

Whether viewing on a big-screen TV or a computer, tablet, or smart phone, PBTv subscribers can enjoy the excitement of NCAA March Madness anywhere they are and however they choose. With Turner's commitment to TV Everywhere, passionate fans can use the NCAA March Madness Live app as either a first- or second-screen interactive experience to enjoy all 67 tournament games.

**PBTv EVERYWHERE IS FREE TO ALL PBTv SUBSCRIBERS**

Visit paulbunyan.net and look for the PBTv EVERYWHERE icon to get started.



**Pick the winning teams of this year's college basketball tourney and you could win a credit on your Paul Bunyan Communications account**

**VISIT PAULBUNYAN.NET TO GET STARTED**

1st Place Prize  
\$500 Credit

2nd Place Prize  
\$250 Credit

3rd Place Prize  
\$100 Credit

No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. Prizes not redeemable for cash. Some restrictions may apply.

Must subscribe to PBTv service to receive PBTv Everywhere. Some restrictions may apply. NCAA, March Madness, First Four and Final Four are trademarks owned or licensed by The National Collegiate Athletic Association. TBS, TNT and truTV are trademarks of Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved.

**DECEMBER**

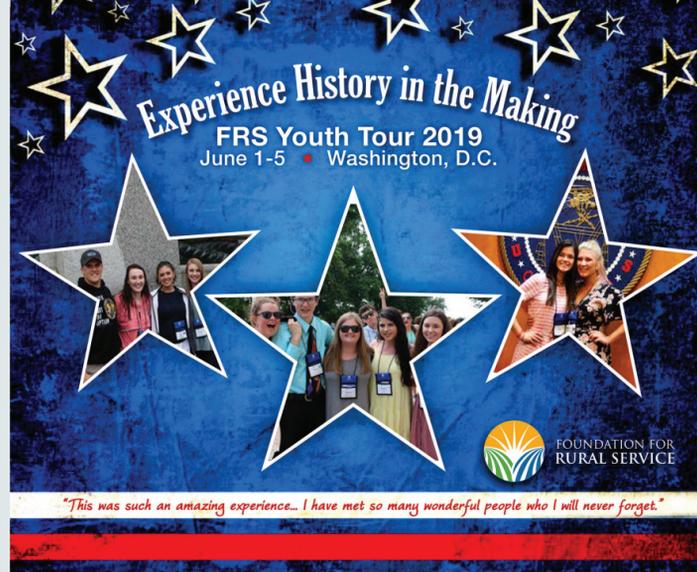
Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on December 14, 2018. Also present were CEO and General Manager Gary Johnson, CFO Dave Schultz and Administrative Assistant Kalsie Vanasse.

- Financial reports, delinquent accounts, member lists, and other service reports were reviewed and approved.
- The CEO updated the Board on our voice, video, and data services. He provided customer counts and highlights related to our various lines of business and services.
- The CEO gave an update of the Bemidji office 2nd floor remodel and the new Grand Rapids building project.
- Attendees were designated to attend the MTA Annual Convention scheduled March 18-20, 2019 in Minneapolis.
- CFO Dave Schultz reviewed the 2017 Excise Tax Refund. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the filing for 2017 Excise Tax Refund claim.
- The strategic planning session which will be held January 17 and 18, 2019 was discussed.
- Network Operations Manager Rob St. Clair reviewed the proposed order for cable related to 2019 construction.
- The CEO gave his monthly report. He reviewed meetings he attended and upcoming meetings.
- Thank you letters and correspondence were reviewed.

**JANUARY**

Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors conducted its monthly meeting on January 17, 2019. Also present were CEO and General Manager Gary Johnson, CFO Dave Schultz and Administrative Assistant Kalsie Vanasse.

- Financial reports, delinquent accounts, member lists, and other service reports were reviewed and approved.
- The CEO updated the Board on our voice, video, and data services. He provided customer counts and highlights related to our various lines of business and services. He discussed recent PBTV content contract renewals.
- Network Operations Manager Rob St. Clair reviewed quotes for additions to the cooling system as well as the routine replacement of our DC battery plant. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the purchases as presented and anticipated in the 2019 budget.
- Customer Service Manager Christie Turn provided a detailed overview of the call blocking and screening options available to our members.
- The 2019 Caucus meeting was discussed. Randy Frisk (District 5) is up for reelection this year. The Caucus meeting will be Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00pm at Nary Townhall.
- The CEO gave his monthly report. He reviewed meetings he attended and upcoming meetings. He gave an update of the Bemidji office 2nd floor remodel and the new Grand Rapids building project.



Area High School Students age 16 to 17 are encouraged to enter the Paul Bunyan Communications Essay Contest for a chance to attend the 2018 Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. June 1-5 with all expenses paid by Paul Bunyan Communications.

Students interested in attending the Youth Tour need to submit a short essay, no more than 500 words in length, on why they would like to attend the Youth Tour. Students must be 16 or 17 years of age and in high school with their parent/guardian a member of Paul Bunyan Communications.

Entries can be dropped off at the Paul Bunyan Communications office in Bemidji or Grand Rapids, or they can be mailed to:  
**Paul Bunyan Communications Essay Contest**  
 1831 Anne St. NW  
 Bemidji, MN 56601

**THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS FRIDAY, MARCH 8**

The trip features a comprehensive overview of the telecommunications industry, including careers in telecom, the critical role telecommunications plays in rural America, and how legislative and regulatory decisions affect the industry. The tour allows youth to meet with members of Congress who represent rural constituents. They also participate in educational sessions about the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Students visit some of the nation's most historic sites, including Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian Museums, and a beautiful night tour of Washington D.C.

This is the 23rd consecutive year that Paul Bunyan Communications has participated in sending a local high school student to the Youth Tour.



**Paul Bunyan Communications PICK-IT BOWL CHALLENGE WINNERS**

Paul Bunyan Communications is excited to announce the winners of the 4th Annual Pick-It Bowl Challenge, a free online contest for participants to pick the winners for the 2018 College Bowl games for a chance to win a credit on a Paul Bunyan Communications account.



Patti Ryan

**1st PLACE**  
\$500 CREDIT



Julie Owens

**2nd PLACE**  
\$250 CREDIT



Shayna Wenell-Jack

**3rd PLACE**  
\$100 CREDIT

- 4th - \$50 Credit - Ryan Reiersen
- 5th - \$25 Credit - Greg Spahn
- 6th - \$25 Credit - Brian Murawski
- 7th - \$25 Credit - Mike Britton
- 8th - \$25 Credit - Steve Lundberg
- 9th - \$25 Credit - Steven Peterson
- 10th - \$25 Credit - Gary Weaver



**LOOK FOR OUR COLLEGE BASKETBALL CONTEST COMING IN MARCH**

**Paul Bunyan COMMUNICATIONS**

**MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT FROM ANYWHERE WITH SMARTHUB**

- View/Pay your bill
- Add or change services
- Sign up for autopay or paperless billing
- Manage your notifications

Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google Play

**2019 CAUCUS MEETING DATE SET**

**DISTRICT 5 - TUESDAY, APRIL 2**  
**7:00 PM AT THE HELGA COMMUNITY CENTER (OLD NARY SCHOOL)**  
**THIS CAUCUS IS ONLY OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE COOP FROM DISTRICT 5**

The purpose of the caucus meeting is to nominate a director candidate or candidates to represent your district on the Paul Bunyan Communications Board of Directors. The current director from your district is Randy Frisk, Board Vice President and he will be seeking re-election. Directors serve a five-year term, with District Five's next term expiring in the year 2024. Once a person or persons are nominated at the district meeting, up to two names are put onto a ballot and voted on by the general membership of the Cooperative. Votes are tallied at the Annual Meeting, and results are announced at that time. Nominees with the greatest numbers of votes from the general membership will be elected Director for the district. This caucus is only open to current members from within District Five.

Please be aware of the cooperative caucus voting rules of one vote per membership and how that applies to married couples, businesses, etc. This includes understanding who is authorized on your account and therefore eligible to vote at the caucus. Often times a husband or wife may sign up for service but not put the other spouse on the account and establish "joint membership". In that instance, per the cooperative's bylaws, only the individual who is on the account is

authorized to vote. If you have any questions about your voting eligibility for these caucuses, please call our offices.

The Expectations of a Director for Paul Bunyan Communications can be found on our web site at [www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/qualifications.html](http://www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/qualifications.html) or on page 49 of the information section in the 2018 Minnesota Gold Telephone Directory.

Article III, Section 2.(b) of the Cooperative Bylaws states the required qualifications of a Director which can be found on our web site at [www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/articles.html](http://www.paulbunyan.net/cooperative/articles.html) or on page 42-48 of the information section in the 2019 Minnesota Gold Telephone Directory.

Please refer to these qualifications when you consider your nominations for a Director to represent your district or consider becoming a candidate yourself.

In addition to being an opportunity to nominate persons to represent the district, your caucus meeting is also an opportunity for you to ask questions concerning the cooperative. The meeting will be attended by several key management staff.



**Congratulations to Jace Weber and Zach Halloway who are both recent Hockey Hot Shots winners! Jace and Zach both made winning shots from center ice at Grand Rapids Thuderhawks and BSU Beaver games. Check out these awesome shots on our Facebook page at Facebook.com/PaulBunyanCommunications.**

