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Kinnunen Remains Sebekka Board Director



Bruce Kinnunen



Patty Frame



Gene Kern

The 68th annual meeting was held May 7 at the Sebekka High School Auditorium. Board president Bruce Kinnunen talked about the commitments of the cooperative. He highlighted one of our newest products—the Skybell HD Video Doorbell.

Controller Jennifer Grewe presented the financial statements. CEO Chad Bullock discussed the cooperative's growth through expansion of our fiber-optic network into neighboring rural areas. He also talked about the importance of building relationships with state and federal legislators and having strategic partnerships. Patty Frame's retirement was announced, and she was presented with a special vase recognizing her years of service. Jason Dale, CEO of Cooperative Network Services, gave his perspective of the state of our industry. He discussed regulatory reform, fighting rising TV costs, and the status of the state's broadband deployment program. Kinnunen announced that \$350,000 in capital credits will be paid to members this year.

Bruce Kinnunen was re-elected by members to continue representing the Sebekka exchange.

Door prizes were awarded after the meeting. The grand prize of one year of phone service plus 25 Mbps unlimited Internet (valued at \$719) went to Linda Roiko. Gene Kern won a 48" Vizio Smart TV and Marjory Jordan won a Google Home device. Many other prizes were also given out. Sebekka students provided the music before and after the meeting.





Emily Benson



Ashley Etter



Megan Heino



Tristen Heller



Addison Neal



Erin Olson



Morgan Palmer



Emily Veronen

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The statistics from www.statisticbrain.com are staggering:

- **9,125,000,000 tons**

Annual amount of paper used in the U.S.

- **4,000,000,000**

Total number of trees cut down yearly for paper use

- **42**

Percent of wood harvested that goes to paper production

- **16**

Percent of landfill solid waste comprised of paper

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\$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

We recently reviewed applications from area high school seniors. The committee awarded eight students \$1,000 scholarships each. Congratulations to Emily Benson, Ashley Etter, Megan Heino, Tristen Heller, Addison Neal, Erin Olson, Morgan Palmer and Emily Veronen.

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