



# EAST BUCHANAN TELEPHONE COOP

## East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative Funding Opportunities



EBTC has several ways to assist projects throughout the communities that we serve either directly or through partnerships with other organizations. These include:

**Aureon Charity Grants** – Can be applied for on a quarterly basis for community improvement projects within our service area. Grants range from \$500 - \$5,000.

Instructions can be found here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AureonGrants>. Previous recipients include the Winthrop Historical Society, Quasqueton Emergency Services, the City of Quasqueton, Loving Tanner, and others.

**Ripple Effect Grants** – Through Aureon and IADG, these grants can be used for the initial planning, feasibility studies, and engineering of larger projects, and a local match from EBTC is required to be approved by our Board of Directors. This is a great first step in planning a community building or facilities or helping businesses expand. A previous local recipient was Kids Corner Daycare for planning their initial project many years ago. Other statewide examples can be found here:

<https://core.aureon.com/BCFiles/filesimages/community-and-giving/ripple-effect-highlights.pdf>.

**Revolving Loan Funds** – These are USDA funds procured by EBTC many years ago to provide gap financing via low-interest loans to assist community businesses and other rural economic development projects. Currently over \$72,000 is available upon approval from the EBTC Board of Directors. Interest rates and loan amounts may vary. Contact EBTC at 319-935-3011 for more information. Previous recipients include Kids Corner Daycare, Winthrop Locker, and more recently Nick’s Family Grocery.

## Newsletter Highlights

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- BACK TO SCHOOL
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- 3 LUCKY WINNERS IS BACK!
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- NEW EMPLOYEES RECOGNITION

## August Employee Anniversary



4 YEARS DREW FANGMAN

## 3 Lucky Winners

To be entered into a drawing on August 26th, to win \$10.00 off your August’s Invoice. Call into the office with the locations of the names; Jordan, Stan and Hunter.



Go back to school with fast, reliable internet that can handle the load  
Contact us at 319-935-3011



## Board of Directors Nominations

The bylaws of East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative approved at the December 2020 Annual Meeting, to provide for a sixty-day period whereby cooperative members may nominate other members, or they may nominate themselves to run in the Board election at the Cooperative Membership Meeting on Monday, December 1, 2025. This sixty-day nomination period begins on August 15 and will end on October 15, 2025. If no nominations are received by October 15, the Board’s Nomination Committee will then seek members to run in the board election.

Incumbent Board members whose 3-year terms are ending and have chosen to run for re-election; therefore, the bylaws allow for only one nomination per exchange area. The incumbent board members running for re-election & another 3-year term are:

- Quasqueton – Kenny Gericke
- Aurora -Nancy Mosher
- Winthrop - Rose Hansen



Nominations will be accepted via phone 319-935-3011 or via mail sent to PO Box 100, Winthrop IA 50682 anytime after August 15, 2025. Only Cooperative members can be nominated and are eligible to vote in the election. Please contact East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative office with any questions.

**Discover the Fiber Difference**  
\*Internet only packages--no phone required\*

Lifeline Plan	Basic Plan	Fast Plan	Fastest Plan
15/15 Mbps	100/100 Mbps	500/500 Mbps	1000/1000 Mbps =1 Gig
\$49.95/month	\$84.95/month	\$114.95/month	\$154.95/month

## Fiber Update

The EBTC staff has been extremely busy. All residents in the town of Walker can now get EBTC's fiber service, so if you know folks down there, please recommend them to us!

We have also completed all our state grant projects, including a small area southeast of Independence, and also from Walker west, then north through Spencer's Grove, and then north along Hwy 150 and to Bear Creek north of 290th Street. Again, if you know residents Jordan in these areas, reliable fiber Internet is now available so please refer them to EBTC!

We launched our 2025 fiber projects this past Spring under the name of County Line Fiber, and with recent rains, work is moving slower than anticipated. These projects will extend our current fiber located west of Stanley to southern Oelwein, and then proceed south through Hazleton and connect with another EBTC fiber cable near Fontana Park.

The project in Oelwein is located "south of the RR tracks" to include a large residential area and all of the industrial park. The Hazleton project includes the entire town apart from the mobile home park where landowner permission was denied.

All locations in our summer projects need a "site survey" to have fiber brought to their home or business. We ask for your help again if you know residents or businesses in southern Oelwen and Hazleton area – they need to contact us ASAP if they haven't already. Construction crews are nearly done with "mainline" fiber and drops (fiber to homes) are currently being buried in SE Oelwein. We hope to not miss any locations that want our services! Please have them call us on our Oelwein phone number at 319-283-1188.

We hope to connect the first customers to fiber in late July or early August, and work will continue into the Winter months to connect as many customers as possible. This is our largest project to date to assist in the growth of EBTC. You can keep up to date with progress by following County Line Fiber on Facebook.

### Note from Annette

**Thank you!**

**Thank you for the cards, phone calls, kind words and retirement wishes! I have truly enjoyed my time and I am grateful that I have been able to be a part of the EBTC team for the past 25 years! ~Annette**

#### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed

#### Frosting

- 1 package cream cheese softened
- 1/2 cup butter softened
- 2 tsps vanilla extract
- 4 cups confectioner's sugar



## Banana Bars with Cream Cheese Frosting

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, 5 to 7 minutes. add eggs, sour cream and vanilla. Combine flour, baking soda and salt; gradually add to the creamed mixture. Stir in bananas Hunter.
2. Spread into a greased 15x10x1 inch pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean. 20- 25 minutes. Allow to cool completely.
3. For frosting, in a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, butter, vanilla until fluffy. Gradually beat in enough confectioner's sugar to achieve your desired consistency. Frost bars. Store in the refrigerator.

## USF Update

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the US Supreme Court released a ruling overturning a decision by a federal District Court that had been in conflict with two other federal District Court rulings. At the heart of the matter was a consumer group who filed a lawsuit stating that the Universal Service Fund (USF) process was unconstitutional, and that the FCC had overstepped the authority given to it from Congress in the Telecom Act of 1996. USF not only provides funds to rural companies, but also for low-income customers, schools & libraries, and rural healthcare centers.

The 6-3 decision by the Supreme Court keeps in place the USF mechanism that requires that rural areas are served with the approximate same Internet speeds and pricing as their urban counterparts. To accomplish this task, many rural phone companies Stan and broadband Internet providers receive federal subsidies – including EBTC. Had the Supreme Court ruled differently and the USF fund were to be dismantled, EBTC would have needed to raise Internet rates by \$75/month over the current rates! So this was a huge decision and court case for rural America - and all EBTC customers!

Now entering the game for EBTC from Walker, Iowa, the newest rising star...

**Tyson Helms!**

A graduate of North Linn, this young professional is already dialing into success with a passion for connection – whether it's fiber, copper, or community. Known for crisp communication, strong teamwork, and a signal that never drops, he's ready to plug into big projects for our cooperative mission



An ambitious intern from a small family farm in Stanley, Leo Dettbarn is currently attending Hawkeye Community College, pursuing a double major in Cybersecurity & Network Engineering & Administration. Growing up in a tightknit agricultural setting instilled a strong work ethic and a deep appreciation for hands on learning. Outside of academics, Leo enjoys working on cars and trucks, riding ATV's and motorcycling. With a unique blend of rural values, academic drive, and diverse interests, Leo brings dedication, curiosity, and adaptability to every opportunity.