



Polar Communications Press Release  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Polar 2004 Annual Meeting Held**

**PARK RIVER, ND – June 11, 2004 – The Annual Members Meeting of Polar Communications was held on Thursday, June 10, 2004. A total of 307 members registered during the meeting. Members and guests were served a BBQ beef supper prior to the meeting.**

**Governor John Hoeven's Chief of Staff, Bill Goetz greeted attendees. George Walstad, Mayor of Park River, welcomed the attendees to Park River and Rev. Jonathan Leslie of Bethel Baptist Church in Park River gave the invocation. President Loren Kadlec conducted the meeting. General Manager David Dunning and President Loren Kadlec gave a joint presentation to the members.**

**Two directors were re-elected to Polar's board of directors. Mary Jean Holm of Neche will represent District 1; and David Monson of Edinburg will represent District 2. Greg Steffes of Arthur won the director seat representing District 3 vacated by Cynthia Frost of Arthur. All three directors elected will serve a three-year term. Nominating committee members Zelda Hartje of Cavalier, District 1; Eugene Loftsgard of Park River, District 2; and Tim Iwen of Arthur, District 3 were elected to the three positions available on the nominating committee.**

**A proposal to merge Polar Telecommunications, Inc. (PTI) with Polar Communications effective January 1, 2005, giving patrons of PTI full membership in the cooperative was approved by the membership with 216 members approving the merger and 20 members rejecting the merger. Recommended by-law revisions were reported to the members. The membership voted 178 for and 49 against the by-law amendment pertaining to voting and to allow voting by mail. The by-law amendment proposing to extend the tenure of office for directors from five consecutive elected terms to eight was defeated by a vote of 137 rejecting the by-law change to 93 accepting the by-law change.**

**The winner of the \$1500 Polar Retiree Scholarship was announced. Mark Zuern of Hazen was not present to receive his scholarship. The 2004 John G. Walters \$500 Scholarships were presented to Kayla Reynolds and Griffin Gillespie of Park River, and Emily Karas of Lankin. Katie Anderson of Clifford and Leah Kylo of Buxton were not present to receive their scholarships.**

**Service awards were given to the following Polar employees: 5 Years – Shari Flanders, Dennis Cubit and Lenell Swartwout; 10 Years – Karl Blake, Lola Hagen, and Julie Thompson; 15 Years – Mike Otto and Dave Offerdahl; 25 Years – Louis Machart; 30 Years – Arvid Swendseid; 40 years – Ken Fischer. Arvid Swendseid was recognized for his recent retirement.**

**Secretary-Treasurer Mary J. Holm reported to the members.**

**Several prize drawings were held throughout the meeting.**