

# CONNECTIONS

Published By Polar Communications And Its Subsidiaries



SPRING 2007

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## Board Approves \$1.5 Million Construction Bid

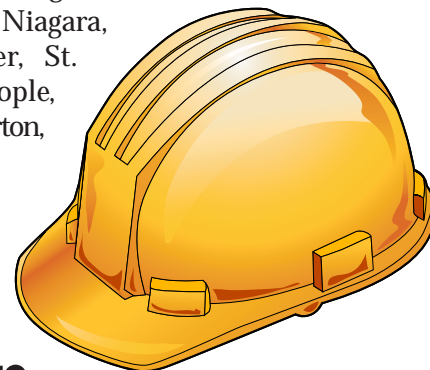
The Board of Directors of Polar Communications at their regular monthly meeting approved the 2007 construction bid. The bid was awarded to Ripley's Inc. of Erhard, MN totaling \$1.5 million. The construction bid is a portion of the company's \$7.2 million Capital Budget for 2007.

"We continue to reinvest in our network, making a commitment to our customers and the communities we serve. Each year we work toward bringing the most advanced services closer to all customers." said Brian Udby, Polar Communications Board President.

The construction will involve installing copper and fiber optic cable and Serving Area Interface (SAI) cabinets. Installing the cabinets allows the company to extend services such as voice, high speed Internet, and video further to

reach it's most rural customers.

A total of 224 miles of buried cable will be installed within an approximate 6-month period. There will be 182 miles of cable buried in the traditional Polar serving area, 18 miles in the Wolverton area, and 24 miles from Grand Forks south to complete Polar's fiber ring. Construction will be happening in the exchanges of Niagara, Gilby, Inkster, St. Thomas, Hoople, Crystal, Wolverton, and Walcott.



## Nominating Committee Meets

The Polar Communications nominating committee, as elected by the members at the 2006 annual meeting, met on March 6, 2007, at the Polar headquarters in Park River.

Committee members in attendance were: Vice Chairperson Zelda Hartje, Cavalier – District 1; Jan Maurstad, Drayton – District 1; Charles Mielke, Edinburg – District 2; Rick Walker, Hoople – District 2; Eugene Loftsgard, Park River – District 2; Chairperson Gary McLaughlin, Lankin – District 3; Ronald Dahlen, Michigan – District 3; Greg Nelson, Arthur – District 3.

Polar Board Directors whose terms expire in June are Amber Meyer and Greg Steffes. Nominations were sought for the District 2 position being vacated by David Monson

of Edinburg.

The following were nominated for the three positions as directors to be considered at the annual meeting: Amber Meyer, St. Thomas – District 1; Jon A. McMillan, Fordville – District 2; Loretta Monson, Edinburg – District 2; Greg Steffes, Arthur – District 3.

Nominations for the board of directors can also be made by petition, when fifteen or more members of Polar, acting together, sign a petition, which must be received no later than April 20, 2007, at 4:00 pm. To find the service areas that make up each district, please refer to Article IV, Section 2 of the By-laws of Polar Communications found in your telephone directory.

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## Polar's 2006 Annual Eagle Award Recipient Was Gary Greicar

Polar's 2006 Eagle Award recipient was Gary Greicar. Gary has worked in the Supply Department at Polar for 22 years. He was nominated and voted on by his peers based on the following qualifications: Goes above and beyond normal job responsibilities, will do whatever it takes to get the job done, provides new and creative ideas, shows outstanding company dedication, demonstrates teamwork and accepts challenges, is involved in the community and/or volunteer work, demonstrates outstanding customer service and/or assistance, and promotes a positive attitude.



Gary Greicar

Congratulations on this well-deserved award Gary!

## Sedler And Arneson Join Polar's Team

Brittany Sedler began her employment with Polar on March 12, 2007 as the newest Customer Service Representative. Brittany's duties include providing outstanding customer service, both in person and over the phone, answering customer inquiries and assisting customers with services such as telephone, cable TV, Internet and cellular. Brittany resides in Drayton with her fiancé David Fiebiger.



Brittany Sedler

Kellen Arneson began his employment with Polar on March 27, 2007 as an accountant. Kellen's duties include working with carrier access billing, plant accounting, capital credits and other general duties. Kellen is a graduate of UND with a Bachelor of Accountancy. He currently resides in Fairdale.



Kellen Arneson

Welcome Brittany & Kellen!

# Polar Promotes Four Employees

Carol LaHaise began her duties as Administrative Assistant on February 12th, 2007. She began her duties with Polar on June 13th, 2005 as a Customer Service Representative. Duties for her new position include clerical and record keeping, organizing meetings, coordinating scholarships and other youth activities and other administrative duties. Carol and her husband Danny reside in Grafton. They have 3 grown children, Tara, Elizabeth and Jacques.



Carol LaHaise



Mike Waechter

Mike Waechter started on Polar's Plant Construction Crew June 1, 2006. Prior to his full time employment, Mike completed an internship at Polar while attending Minnesota State Community and Technical College in Wadena, MN. He was promoted to Area Service Representative on March 1st, 2007 and will be covering the Polar's northern service territory. Mike and his wife Gloria reside in Park River with their son, Ryan. They have two other grown children, Matthew and Angie.



Brad Schatz



Tim Olson

Brad Schatz was also promoted to Area Service Representative on March 1, 2007. He began his employment with Polar on August 28, 2006 as a Combination Technician with the Construction Department. Brad graduated from Bismarck State College with a degree in Electronics and Telecommunications prior to coming to Polar. Brad resides in Park River and will be covering the Park River and surrounding service territories.

He became full time in this department on May 11, 1998. A year later he became an Equipment Technician in the Special Services Department, eventually earning the title of Network Specialist. On April 1st, 2007 Tim began his duties as Internet Supervisor. He will oversee all Internet Operations for the company. Tim and his wife Lisa reside near Park River with their son Jake.

Tim Olson started on Polar's Construction Crew as a temporary summer employee in April of 1997.

Congratulations Carol, Mike, Brad, and Tim!

## Yellow Page Sales Have Begun

Polar has once again teamed up with the Sales Team at Pinnacle Publishing to meet all of your Yellow Page Advertising needs. If you have questions regarding your Yellow Page Advertising through Polar, please feel free to contact Polar at 1-800-284-7222 or Pinnacle Publishing at 1-800-950-4301.

Yellow Page Ads must be completed by April 27, 2007 to be included in the October 2007 Directory.



Bob Hughes



Mike Christians



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Professional Installation	YES	Not available
Anti-virus protection and removal of spyware and adware	Yes, and fully automated definition updates, scans, and removal of viruses, spyware & adware.	Yes, but user must install, maintain, and support.
Automated installation of critical Microsoft patch updates	YES	Not available
Automated disc maintenance and optimization	YES	Not available
PC cleanup	YES	Not available
Firewall	YES	Yes, but does not include free remote support.
Monthly e-mail reporting	YES	Not available
24/7 technical support	FREE	Not free - \$29.95 per incident.

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# CONNECTIONS

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## Board of Directors

Greg Steffes .....Arthur  
Amber Meyer .....St. Thomas  
Beverly Jensen .....Drayton  
Eric "Ike" Meberg .....Park River  
Peter McKenzie .....Michigan  
David Monson.....Edinburg  
Ronald Steinke .....Cavalier  
Joe Torgerson .....Fairdale  
Brian Udby .....Lankin  
David L. Dunning .....General Manager / CEO

## Hours of Operation

### Business Office:

MON - FRI / 8am - 4:30pm

### Service Center:

MON - FRI / 7:30am - 6:30pm • SAT / 8am - 4:30pm  
24-Hour Customer Service / 284-7127

## Save the Date!

This year's Annual Meeting  
will be held on  
Thursday, June 7th

Meal - 5:00-6:00 pm,  
Chris Midgarden Arena

Registration - 5:15-6:15,  
Park River High School

Meeting - 6:30 pm,  
Park River  
High School