



2.2.2 Business Organization

Business Structure – Corporation

South Central Communications, Inc. DBA SCC Networks

History –

Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation (GRM) was formed January 31, 1951. The corporation was organized to furnish affordable, dependable telephone service to the rural residents of the area. The organization has grown from this dream to a multi-faceted corporation that provides service to 44 exchanges across 21 counties spanning over 4,500 square miles in northern Missouri and southern Iowa. Providing outstanding service and the latest technology remains the goal of the corporation's 100 full-time employees.

Operations began August 1, 1953, with 20 exchanges (12 in Missouri and 8 in Iowa) serving approximately 6,100 telephones. Nine additional exchanges were added by January 1, 1955. The cooperative acquired the Grand River Iowa Telephone Company in February 1979. In September 1984, the corporation purchased the Lathrop Telephone Company, which is operated as a wholly owned subsidiary of GRM. Grand River Mutual purchased the Iowa exchanges of Corydon, Lorimor, and Murray in April 1997. These three exchanges are operated as a wholly owned subsidiary of GRM known as South Central Communications, Inc. (SCC).

GRM's first push button dialing became available in August of 1979. One party service for all GRM subscribers was achieved in December 1987. The corporation began providing Internet service in both Missouri and Iowa in 1996 and was one of the first rural companies in the nation to offer high speed DSL service in 1999. GRM has worked with as many as thirteen schools to provide fiber-based interactive distance learning in its serving area beginning in 1996. In addition to local telephone and Internet, Grand River Mutual currently provides long distance services, small and large business systems, security cameras, Skitter TV, and a wide range of service features. The corporation, through partnerships, is engaged in offering cellular service in six rural service areas –five in Missouri and one in Iowa.

GRM and SCC were awarded funds through the Broadband Initiatives Program for five projects in Missouri and Iowa. Since the BIP projects, GRM has continued to work hard to bring Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) broadband service to many other exchanges. These projects will help improve educational and healthcare opportunities, contribute to the public safety, and drive economic development in the local areas that will create jobs for years to come. The future of these towns will depend on their ability to attract new businesses and generate economic growth. GRM and SCC are proud to aid in this effort by providing the technological infrastructure that residents and businesses need to be competitive in the 21st century. GRM was awarded funds through the RUS ReConnect program in the fall of 2020, which will allow completion of a FTTP broadband network in two exchanges in Iowa and six in Missouri.

GRM has extensive experience in constructing state-of-the-art FTTP network deployments. To date, GRM has completed the FTTP overbuild in 22 of its 44 exchanges. In addition, it has partially built out FTTP in 9 other exchanges. Of the remaining 13 exchanges, 3 are currently under construction to complete a FTTP network overbuild and 10 exchanges have not been upgraded. GRM estimates that approximately 60 percent of its current subscriber base have FTTP based broadband services available. 100% of the subscriber base in the three exchanges of South Central Communications, Inc. are served with FTTP.

GRM and SCC are involved extensively in community related activities. In addition to these examples, GRM also supports its communities in the following ways:

- Donate ball caps and visors to little league baseball and softball teams
- Provide free Internet to libraries and city halls that are staffed a minimum of 5 days per week
- Donate to miscellaneous organizations such as after-prom parties, FFA, FCCLA, local fairs, etc.

As displayed in the list of community related activities in which it is involved, GRM and SCC are very committed to the communities they serve. One of the guiding principles that drives GRM and SCC is to improve the lives of its communities and its subscribers. This is also the driving force behind GRM and SCC applying for the federal CARES Act fund through the state of Iowa grant program.

Table of Organization

Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation Parent/Subsidiary Organizational Chart

