

Demonstrated Experience

This form requires information about Applicant's demonstrated experience in the provisioning of Broadband across the State of Iowa. Applicant shall include relevant information about their experience that has prepared them to deploy their proposed Project, such as, for example community partnerships and service; number of years in business; number of years' experience provide the types of services sought by this NOFA; if the Applicant is a relatively new provider/market entrant an explanation of the benefits, if any of being a newer provider. Market entrant; or the level of technical experience in providing the types of services sought by this NOFA.

Grand Mound Cooperative Telephone Association (Grand Mound) has over 100 years of proven history of providing exceptional telecommunication services. Grand Mound's continuous goal is to provide members and communities with the best technology available.

In 2018, Grand Mound constructed 95 miles of fiber in a rural Fiber to the Home build for the areas surrounding Grand Mound. Currently in 2021, Grand Mound has completed 13 miles of mainline fiber construction to fixed wireless sites in rural Clinton County.

Grand Mound is a financially viable organization with the capability to meet all financial requirements outlined in this project. Grand Mound has a history of continued business success and meeting financial obligations within the communities it serves.

Grand Mound currently has 5 employees and the resumes of GM Travis Ballou and Office Manager Terri Bumann are included to provide further evidence of Grand Mound's ability to successfully implement the proposed Welton Broadband Expansion.

TRAVIS BALLOU

P.O. Box 132
Wyoming, IA 52362
563-488-4242

CAREER OBJECTIVE

To obtain a challenging position in telecommunication technology utilizing my experience and education which provides the opportunity for professional growth.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Extremely organized and motivated with the ability to coordinate and prioritize various tasks simultaneously
- Fiber to the home design and deployment
- Knowledge of DMS – 10, Siemens and Taqua switching equipment
- Deployment of ADTRAN, Calix and Pannaway equipment
- Outside plant fault locating
- Switch consolidation
- T-I trouble shooting, testing and installation
- Telco management and supervisory experience
- Strategic planning
- Experienced with underground communication line construction
- IPTV deployment
- Regulatory reporting
- Experience with NECA Tariffs
- Knowledge of the rules and regulations the FCC is trying to impose that will change the way we do business.

EDUCATION

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Ankeny, Iowa
AAS in Telecommunications Technology
GPA: 3.47/4.00
Presidents List Summer 2000

WORK EXPERIENCE

WYOMING MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, WYOMING, IOWA

7/07 to Present

General Manager

- Oversee activities directly related to providing services
- Review financial statements and other performance data to measure productivity and goal achievement and to determine areas needing cost reduction and program improvement
- Manage staff and assign specific duties
- Determine services and products to be sold, and set prices and terms, based on forecast of customer demand
- Manage all projects from start to finish

- Bid on transport / backhaul services
- Maintain and monitor networks that are owned by the Wyoming Mutual Telephone Company
- Ensure customer satisfaction
- Determine staffing requirements, interview, hire and train new employees, or oversee those personnel processes
- Responsible for investments guided by the board of directors
- Ensure Wyoming Mutual Telephone Company is in compliance with all rules and regulations

WORK EXPERIENCE

GRAND MOUND COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, GRAND MOUND, IA

1/18 to Present

General Manager

- Oversee activities directly related to providing services
- Review financial statements and other performance data to measure productivity and goal achievement and to determine areas needing cost reduction and program improvement
- Manage staff and assign specific duties
- Determine services and products to be sold, and set prices and terms, based on forecast of customer demand
- Manage all projects from start to finish
- Bid on transport / backhaul services
- Maintain and monitor networks that are owned by the Wyoming Mutual Telephone Company
- Ensure customer satisfaction
- Determine staffing requirements, interview, hire and train new employees, or oversee those personnel processes
- Responsible for investments guided by the board of directors
- Ensure Grand Mound Cooperative Telephone Association is in compliance with all FCC rules and regulations

CASCADE COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, CASCADE, IOWA

1/01 to 7/07

Telecommunications Technician

- Provided research and troubleshooting for unusual or complex problems and provided prompt information and feedback
- Test trouble shoot and maintain a wide variety of communications equipment
- Maintained a high volume of work, met restrictive deadlines and performed with absolute accuracy
- Responsible for keeping plant records up to date
- Responsible for training new personnel
- Perform installs, repairs and maintenance on the Cascade LAN and CATV system

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

TERRI BUMANN

2839 200TH AVE
CALAMUS, IA 52729

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

To obtain a position within an organization in which my knowledge of accounting, computers and customer service will be used to the greatest potential towards the growth of that organization.

EMPLOYMENT

December 2000
to Present

GRAND MOUND COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, 705 Clinton Street, Grand Mound, IA.

Position: Office Manager/Accounting

- Oversee the day-to-day operations of the office
- Assist the General Manager
- Maintain accurate and current financial records for the General Manager and Board of Directors
- Keep Accounts Payable bills current, classify them according to general ledger accounts and process checks
- Keep accurate records of our bank accounts, transfer money when needed and reconcile bank statements
- Prepare monthly worksheets from various telephone reports
- Record monthly journal entries
- Close out monthly books and prepare financial statements for the manager and Board of Directors
- Attend monthly board meetings and type board minutes
- Process bi-weekly payroll
- Make payroll tax payments
- File monthly, quarterly, bi-annual and yearly reports and payments for payroll taxes, employee NTCA savings plan, federal excise tax, sales tax, use tax, unemployment tax, state and federal income tax payments (if needed), E911 surcharges, franchise tax, and property tax
- Complete monthly Lifeline certifications and yearly customer verifications of eligibility
- File reports for International Telecommunications Traffic, Carrier Certification of Interstate Commonline Support and Advanced Service Demand Data request with NECA

- Assist consultants with billing information for filing quarterly FCC Forms 159, 481, 497, 499, 502 and IUB Quality of Service reports
- Complete semi-annual filings of FCC Forms 477, 507, 508 and CATV Royalty report
- Update GMCTA's yearly rates according to the NECA tariff rate updates
- Keep Certificate of Deposit information up to date and obtain new interest rates at maturity. Purchase new CD's when instructed by the Board of Directors
- Complete monthly CABS summary worksheets and pay any long-distance vendors as needed
- Maintain monthly summary worksheets and year-end recaps for year-end audit
- Prepare and distribute yearly allocation and patronage payments to our members
- File quarterly and yearly NECA, FCC and USAC filings and certifications
- Answer phones, assist customers in signing up for new services or problems they're having with our services, create service orders and trouble tickets, schedule installs and service calls
- Attend meetings and training with MACC, ICA, NECA, NTCA, ITCI and any other organizations to gain knowledge in the telecommunication industry
- Pay out memberships and patronage to estates when approved by the Board of Directors
- Write off bad debt accounts and turn over to collection agency
- Update company articles, By-laws, Board Operating Policies, Employee Handbook as needed

March 1996 -
December 2000

RIVER VALLEY COOPERATIVE, 111 West Davenport St, Eldridge, IA
Position: Grain Accounting Supervisor

- Oversaw the grain accounting operations for seven of the grain elevators within the company and provided computer software support
- Responsible for combining and balancing of all grain purchases and sales to the general ledger, the DPR (Daily Position Record) and detailed reports
- Issued negotiable, non-negotiable and Grain Bank warehouse receipts for grain delivered
- Responsible for making sure all warehouse receipts complied with the state regulations and laws
- Assisted with yearly grain audits by the State Dept. of Agriculture

- Prepared monthly grain reports to the Dept. of Agriculture and the Iowa Corn and Soybean checkoff
- Worked with customers on marketing of their grain
- Wrote up contracts and issued checks for the sale of grain
- Backup person for the grain merchandiser
- Answered phones and waited on customers
- Assisted with the billing of fertilizer, chemicals, feed and fuel

1984 – 1996

EASTERN IOWA AG CENTER, INC., 1416 11TH STREET, DEWITT, IA

Position: Accounting

- Was responsible for all aspects of the accounting system which included: payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, inventory, profit/loss financial statements, daily deposits, bank reconciliations, sales tax, fuel taxes and payroll taxes
- Entered all invoices for fuel, chemicals, fertilizer and other general merchandise sales
- Posted incoming customer payments
- Additional responsibilities included customer service, answered phones, took product orders, handled employee/company insurance, support person for convenience store clerks
- Assisted owner with overall operations for this company's location

EDUCATION

AIC, Bettendorf, Iowa. Completed word processing course.

CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Clinton, Iowa. Graduated from the Professional Secretarial Program.