



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Kelly Worthington
(406) 443-6377, kelly@w-t-a.org**

WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband Elects New Officers and Directors to its Board

NAPA, CA – (OCTOBER 14, 2015) – WTA is pleased to announce the election of its new officers for the coming two years: **Paul Kelly**, CEO/GM of Cordova Telephone Cooperative in Cordova, AK as President; **Jerry Piper**, Assistant Manager of Cambridge Telephone Co. in Cambridge, ID as Vice President; **Brad Veis**, Director of Finance for 3 Rivers Communications in Fairfield, MT as Secretary-Treasurer; and **Mark Gailey**, President/GM of Totah Communications in Ochelata, OK as Past President. Additionally, serving on the Executive Committee will be **Robert DeBroux**, Director of Government Affairs of TDS Telecom in Madison, WI; **Mark Feest**, General Manager of CC Communications in Fallon, NV; **Steve Hanson**, President of Tenino Telephone Company in Tenino, WA; **Jack Keen**, CEO of WNM Communications in Silver City, NM; **John Lundgren**, Vice President of Volcano Telephone Co. in Pine Grove, CA; **Archie Macias**, General Manager of Wheat State Telephone Company in Udall, KS; and **Dave Osborn**, General Manager of VTX1 in Raymondville, TX.

“WTA has many years of experience and history representing companies serving some of the country’s most rural and hard-to-serve areas, and I look forward to this opportunity to serve WTA’s members as we work toward finding answers to the many different public policy questions that face our industry,” said Paul Kelly. “I’ve spent most of my life living and working in remote Alaska, and I welcome this opportunity to use my unique experiences to perhaps bridge the gap between rural America and Washington, DC, said Kelly.”

The WTA membership elected the following members who will serve three year terms on the Board of Directors: John Lundgren, Volcano Telephone Company (CA); Jerry Piper, Cambridge Telephone Company (ID); Archie Macias, Wheat State Telephone Company (KS); Brad Veis, 3Rivers Communications (MT); Mark Feest, CC Communications (NV); Jack Keen, WNM Communications (NM); and Kip Wilson, Direct Communications (UT). Pat McElroy of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Cooperative (NE) was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board.

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WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband represents more than 280 small, rural telecommunications carriers providing voice, broadband and video services in rural America. WTA’s members serve some of the most rural and hard-to-serve communities in the country and are the providers of last resort to these communities. To learn more about WTA, visit www.w-t-a.org.