

## From the General Manager - Blake Callaham



It's hard to believe we're already approaching our 2026 Annual Meeting—and this year's celebration will feature some truly historic giveaways. As we turn the page on another year and look ahead to what's next, we're proud to be very close to serving 100% of our Cooperative Members with a strong fiber foundation, plus the growing lineup of connected technologies (often called the Internet of Things) which seem to arrive daily. Our mission remains clear: to enhance the quality of life for our Members and subscribers through technology and innovation—by delivering our vision to be your trusted technology partner, enabling your world. Technology is moving fast, and we're grateful for the opportunity to serve our membership in ways that expand what's possible across western Oklahoma, backed by the long-term sustainability and reliability of fiber optic technology.

On May 5, 2026, we'll celebrate Pioneer's 73rd anniversary—and we'd love to see you there. Drive-through registration starts at 7:30 AM, so even if your day is packed, you can swing by, pick up your favorite Pioneer swag, and receive a \$50 bill credit (yes, \$50! That's the largest Annual Meeting credit we've ever offered). If you have a little extra time, stick around for Bingo at 10:30 AM and lunch at noon, and feel free to visit our local technology experts about any Pioneer products or services.

This year, we're also asking for your support on a proposed by-law change that would allow Annual Meetings to be streamed to additional locations across Pioneer territory. We know the drive to Kingfisher can be a real commitment—especially from communities like Frederick, Hollis, Shattuck, Mooreland, Pond Creek, Comanche, and many others—where travel can take up to three hours one way. Our goal is simple: to make participation easier for members across our territory while still giving you the opportunity to watch the meeting, vote on important items, and be eligible for attendee prizes closer to home. To make that happen, we need your vote—so please join us on May 5, 2026, and vote yes on the proposed by-law change.

### Educational Scholarship Opportunities

Workforce development remains a top priority across rural broadband and technology sectors, and education is the pipeline that keeps our communities competitive. Pioneer continues to invest locally by helping students pursue in-demand training—whether through Oklahoma CareerTech programs or a four-year degree at a traditional college—so they can build the skills needed for today's connected economy.

Applications are now open for Pioneer's College and Technology Center Scholarships. The Scholarship Committee will evaluate applicants for the College Scholarship who will be entering their junior or senior year of college in August 2026. College Scholarship recipients may receive \$1,000 per semester (up to \$2,000 per year). Qualified applicants may also be considered for the Technology Center Scholarship, providing \$1,000 toward tuition and fees for an approved program.

We encourage all eligible students to apply through our website at [GoPioneer.com](http://GoPioneer.com) under Community Resources > Scholarships, where they can find application details and submission requirements. While email submission is preferred, applications may also be sent by mail. The

deadline for applying is June 6, 2026. Requirements for each scholarship are available in this issue of Tele-Topics on page 6. Completed applications should be sent to:

*Email:*

*techscholarship@ptci.com*

*collegescholarship@ptci.com*

*Mail:*

*Scholarship Committee*

*Attn: Blake Callaham*

*Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 539*

*Kingfisher, Oklahoma 73750*

Join Us for Our 73rd Anniversary Celebration!

We are thrilled to officially invite you to Pioneer's 73rd Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. This special event will be held at the Kingfisher County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building, with drive-through registration starting at 7:30 AM.

Here's what to expect:

- \$50 bill credit
- Bingo session at 10:30 AM
- Lunch served at 12:00 PM
- Business session at 1:00 PM, featuring key company updates from the Pioneer Leadership Team
- Exciting raffle prizes and giveaways
- Cash prizes totaling over \$4,600 for attendees

Join us as we celebrate the progress we made together in 2025 and look ahead to what's next for Pioneer and the communities we serve. We can't wait to see you there!

See you on Tuesday, May 5, 2026!

**Blake Callaham**  
**General Manager**

## OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

The Annual Meeting of members of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Kingfisher, Oklahoma, will be held in the Kingfisher County Exhibit Building on the grounds of the Kingfisher County Free Fair Association, located at 300 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Kingfisher, Kingfisher County, Oklahoma, at 1:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, to take action on the following matters:

- I. Certified copies of the Minutes of the District Meetings of Members in which Trustees have been elected.
- II. Report of Officers, Trustees and Committees.
- III. Consideration of Proposed By-Law Changes:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Article XIV of the By-Laws of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., that the following amendments to the By-Laws will be presented to the members of the Cooperative for approval at the Annual Meeting of the Cooperative to be held in the City of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, at the Kingfisher County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026, said meeting to commence at 1:00 p.m.

Those portions of the By-Laws proposed to be amended are hereinafter shown. Language to be deleted from the By-Laws is ~~lined through~~ and **hi-lighted gray**. Language to be added to the By-Laws is **Bold, italicized**, and hi-lighted yellow.

\*\*\*\*\*

Section 1.1 (a) made an application for membership **or request for communication services** in the Cooperative Records.

Section 1.6 **Termination of Membership**

**(d) In cases where a member has engaged in or threatened acts of violence against another member, an employee of the Cooperative, any agent acting on**

# Proposed By-Law Changes, Cont.

*behalf of the Cooperative, and/or any other person present on the property owned, leased or otherwise controlled by the Cooperative, or any other person present at any meeting or even sponsored by the Cooperative, the Board of Trustees may expel such member by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all the Trustees, provided that written notice be sent to such member by the Cooperative giving such member a reasonable opportunity to object to being expelled. At the discretion of the Board of Trustees, any expelled member may be prohibited from entering upon, access, or remaining on any property, premises, or facilities owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the Cooperative. Any expelled member may be reinstated as provided in 1.6(c) above.*

(de) The membership of a member...

(ef) Upon the withdrawal...

Section 3.3 **Notice of Member's Meetings.** Written or printed notice stating the place, day, and hour of the meeting, *including instructions for remote participation if remote participation is authorized by the Board,* and, in case of a special meeting or an annual meeting at which business requiring special notice is to be transacted, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten days nor more than twenty-five days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail, by or at the direction of the Secretary, or upon a default in duty by the Secretary, by the persons calling the meeting, to each member. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the member at their address as it appears in the records of the Cooperative, with postage thereon prepaid. The incidental or unintended failure of any member to receive notice of an annual or special meeting of the members shall not invalidate any action which may be taken by the members at any such meeting.

Section 3.5 **Quorum.** As the total number of members exceeds five hundred, fifty members or two per centum, (or such other minimum percentage as shall be fixed, from time to time, by statute), of the members present in person, whichever shall be the larger, shall constitute a quorum. If less than a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of those present in person may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice, except as otherwise provided in Section 4.3(d). The minutes of each meeting shall contain a list of the members present in person.

# Proposed By-Law Changes, Cont.

All members who register and are verified as being entitled to vote at any ~~annual or special~~ meeting **of the members, including those who participate remotely as provided herein**, will be deemed to present in person for purposes of determining a quorum. Reasonable accommodations may be made for those members who desire to avoid large or close gatherings by, among other things, providing registration and ballots to members who remain in their vehicle outside of the site of the meeting. Members will be advised as to how they will be notified, if at all, of any adjournment or runoff. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to make and adopt such other policies, procedures, rules, and regulations not inconsistent with law, the Articles of Incorporation or these By-laws, as it may deem advisable.

**Section 3.8 Remote Attendance. The Board may, in its discretion, determine that any meeting of the members be held partially by means of remote electronic communication, in addition to holding the meeting at a physical location. Such remote attendance may include, without limitation, the broadcasting of the meeting to one or more physical locations designed for members to assemble and participate by electronic means. If so authorized by the Board, the members participating remotely who are properly registered shall be deemed present in person and entitled to vote at the meeting, provided that the Cooperative implements reasonable measures to verify the identity of each person participating remotely and each such person's eligibility to vote. Proxy voting is expressly prohibited.**

Section 4.3 Election of Trustees...

(a) Following the adoption of the changes in these By-Laws, at the regular district meetings held thereafter, Trustees shall be elected for terms of three years in the districts as follows:

<del>2026</del> 2023	Districts 2, 4, 9, 11 and at-large;
<del>2027</del> 2024	Districts 6, 8, 10 and 12;
<del>2028</del> 2025	Districts 1, 3, 5 and 7;


(d)(iv) In addition **to** or in lieu of any of the specific procedures described above, the Cooperative may implement any reasonable measures, **including**

# Proposed By-Law Changes, Cont.

**procedures for remote attendance**, to provide its members a reasonable opportunity to participate in any meeting and to vote on matters submitted to the members, including an opportunity to read or hear the proceeding of the meeting substantially concurrently with the proceedings.

IV. All other business which may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.

BY  \_\_\_\_\_  
Its President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Its Secretary

(SEAL)

**If anyone needs an interpreter present because of hearing impairment, please notify us five (5) days in advance.  
Equal Opportunity Employer**

**Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's**

# 73rd Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 5

## A FUN-filled Morning

*Doors Open* **10:00 AM**

*Bingo and Prizes*  
*This is your chance to win prizes.* **10:30 AM**

*Lunch*  
*Lunch will be provided for our MEMBERS.* **12:00 PM**

*Business Meeting*  
*Learn all the great things happening with YOUR Cooperative!* **1:00 PM**

## DRIVE-THRU Registration

Join us before work to register and receive your gift in one quick stop!

OPENS AT  
**7:30 AM**

**All Drive-Thru Registration and attending Members will receive:**

**\$50 Bill Credit**

*Pizza Cutter | Cutting Board | Kitchen Scissors*  
*Entered for a chance to win additional bill credits through prize drawings held after the event.*

**Grand Prize Cash Drawings will be held for those who attend the Business Meeting at 1 PM.**

# PIONEER COLLEGE/TECHNOLOGY CENTER SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., has announced applications are available for both the 2026-2027 College Scholarship AND the 2026-2027 Technology Center Scholarship.

*The College Scholarship(s)* awarded will provide \$1,000 per semester for tuition and/or books for a maximum of \$2,000 per year.

*The Technology Center Scholarship(s)* awarded shall cover the cost of tuition and fees for \$1,000 per program.

**Review the requirements and required documents below. Visit [GoPioneer.com/community/scholarships](http://GoPioneer.com/community/scholarships) for the application.**

## REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. The son, daughter or legal dependent of a residential subscriber of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall be eligible for consideration of one (1) of up to twelve (12) *College Scholarships* OR one (1) of up to twelve (12) *Technology Center Scholarships* to be awarded each year.
2. A subscriber is defined as a member of the Cooperative whose membership account for services is located in the landline telephone exchange boundaries; and, subscribes to a retail landline dial tone service with Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

OR

Subscribes to a residential retail landline stand-alone Digital Subscriber Line Service, (DSL), provided by and using Pioneer Telephone Cooperative's landline copper or fiber facilities, with or without a corresponding analog voice, (dial tone), service.

The Scholarship Committee will consider all applicants who will be entering their Junior/Senior College year in August 2024.

The Technology Center Scholarship committee will consider all qualified applicants.

**Note:** Dependents or children of any Employee of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., shall only be eligible for consideration of the scholarship awarded from the Thirteenth (13th) District-At-Large of the Cooperative each year.

**Note:** Any scholarship granted shall be evaluated at least annually. School standards must be maintained to continue funding of the scholarship.

**Note:** The Board of Trustees of Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc., reserves full discretion with regard to the granting or renewal of any scholarship.

## ITEMS TO BE SUBMITTED

### College Scholarship Applicants

1. College and/or High School transcripts
2. ACT or SAT scores
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school administrator, instructor, or professor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Teacher Education acceptance letter if the applicant is an Education Major.
5. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
  - i. Tell us about a teacher or professor that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
  - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
6. Applicant must complete the College Scholarship Application Form
7. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
8. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

### Technology Center Scholarship Applicants

1. High School transcripts, if available
2. ACT or SAT scores, if available
3. Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from a high school or current instructor who is familiar with your character and academic performance.
4. Submit an essay of 500 words or less answering one of the following questions:
  - i. Tell us about someone that impacted you and why that made you select your current field of study.
  - ii. Tell us about your favorite "pioneer" in your field, one discovery, or moment that sparked your interest in your current field of study.
5. Applicant must complete the Technology Center Scholarship Application Form
6. Applicant must attach a studio-quality (color) picture of themselves to the Scholarship Application Form
7. Attach a list of scholarships, grants and/or tuition waivers. Include the amount of each one and how often it is received, i.e., per semester, per year, etc.

**Applications are Due June 5, 2026**

**Visit [GoPioneer.com](http://GoPioneer.com) and click 'Scholarships' for the applications.**

MAIL APPLICATION TO:  
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE / ATTN: BLAKE CALLAHAN  
PIONEER TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.  
P.O. Box 539  
KINGFISHER, OK 73750

OR

EMAIL APPLICATION TO:  
[techscholarship@ptci.com](mailto:techscholarship@ptci.com)  
[collegescholarship@ptci.com](mailto:collegescholarship@ptci.com)  
Subject: Scholarship Submission 2026



Equal Opportunity Employer

**Tele-Topics**  
**Volume 2 of 4 2026**  
 P.O. Box 539  
 Kingfisher, OK 73750  
 GoPioneer.com



**Take 5, Win \$25!**  
 Complete the entry form (all fields must be completed), clip out and mail to:  
 Pioneer Tele-Topics, PO Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pioneer Telephone #: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Skip the stamp! Fill this form out online at GoPioneer.com under Tele-Topics Newsletter**

1. Pioneer's Annual Meeting is on May 5.  
 True  
 False
2. Official Business will begin at 1:00 PM on May 5.  
 True  
 False
3. My presence at the Annual Meeting is vital and encouraged.  
 True  
 VERY TRUE!
4. I can drop-off my registration form via the Drive-Thru beginning at 7:30 AM.  
 True  
 False

PIONEER TELE-TOPICS (USPS No. 456-200), Copyright © 2025 by the Pioneer Telephone Cooperative is published quarterly by Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, 108 East Robberts Ave, Kingfisher OK 73750. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, PO Box 539, Kingfisher OK 73750.

**EDITORIAL & CIRCULATION**

Contact: Madison McCollum, Tele-Topics Editor  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750  
 E-mail: teletopics@ptci.com  
 Call: (405) 375-0274 Fax: (405) 699-3053

**Blake Callaham** *General Manager*  
**Kim Grellner** *V.P. Technology Solutions & Strategic Operations*  
**Brenda Walta** *V.P. Finance and Administration/CFO*  
**Mike Baustert** *V.P. Operations and Engineering*

**CAPITAL CREDIT ESTATE INFORMATION**

To obtain your Capital Credit balance, or begin the process to collect for a deceased member, please call toll free at **800-650-6116**.

Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
 Attn: Capital Credit Department  
 P.O. Box 539 • Kingfisher, OK 73750

POSTMASTER:  
 Send address changes to Pioneer Tele-Topics, P.O. Box 539, Kingfisher, OK 73750.

Periodical Postage paid at Kingfisher, OK 73750 and other additional entry offices.

Member subscription rate: \$2.96/year  
 Non-Member subscription rate: \$6/year

**-Board of Trustees-**

**President**  
 Jack H. Choate III, Hennessey  
**Vice President**  
 Mark Fuqua, Canton  
**Secretary**  
 Trevor Wilczek, Kingfisher  
**Treasurer**  
 Vickie Klopfenstein, Crescent  
**Assistant Secretary/Treasurer**  
 Dave Krittenbrink, Okarche

David Shepard, Helena  
 Gabe Green, Blanchard  
 Gail Parker, Thomas  
 Gerald Elczyn, Jr., Newcastle  
 Kari Cox, Watonga  
 Loyd Benson, Frederick  
 Mike Dobrinski, Okeene  
 Stacy Cline, Hennessey

*"In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, and familial status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9401 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD)."*

**Issue 1 Take 5, Win \$25 Winners**

\$25 Winners will receive their checks by mail within a few days of this publication.

**District #1** winner — **Jay Kruckenberg, Mooreland**  
**District #2** winner — **Ned Moyer, Gage**  
**District #3** winner — **Betsy McPherson, Frederick**  
**District #4** winner — **Larry Crabb, Hollis**  
**District #5** winner — **Karen Plumlee, Blanchard**  
**District #6** winner — **Rue Glover, Apache**  
**District #7** winner — **Cris Choate, Hennessey**

**District #8** winner — **Lauren Ekron, Pond Creek**  
**District #9** winner — **Darrel Holt, Garber**  
**District #10** winner — **Wade Heldermon, Kingfisher**  
**District #11** winner — **Kathryn Abruzzese, Watonga**  
**District #12** winner — **Jausa Jordanoff, Newcastle**  
**District At-Large** winner — **Corintha Hartman, Newcastle**