

2020 ICA Board of Directors Candidate Information

Tim Fencl, General Manager & CEO at Danville Mutual Telephone Company

I began my career in 1986 with the United States Army Signal Corp. I was honorably discharged from the Army after 12 years. In 1998, I was hired by the cellular provider iWireless. My positions while at iWireless were Field Operations, Operations Manager, ITC Support Manager, and IT Manager. In 2010, I joined Danville Mutual Telephone as the Wireless Manager and was promoted to General Manager and CEO in 2013.



I am a current member of the Legislative Committee and the Directors Training Committee and a past member of the Nominating Committee for Iowa Communications Alliance. In my community, I am an active member and Past Chairman of the Greater Burlington Partnership's Chamber of Commerce, the Vice President for the Danville Enhancement Committee, and a Director of the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission. I have also served on the Burlington Golf Club Board, the Business Retention & Expansion Committee, the Greater Burlington Leadership Committee, and the Greater Burlington Area Development Foundation Board.

I have a diverse background in the communications arena with experience in wireless, wired, and fiber optic communications that I would bring to the ICA Board. I also have experience in the financial manager and compliance areas and have also recently become involved in political advocacy not only for telecommunications but for my local and regional areas.

I have a strong desire to advocate for the telecommunications industry, grow our business outside of the silos that exist, evolve with the changing regulatory landscape, and develop the next group of leaders in our broadband industry.

Rachel Hamilton, Office Manager at Marne Elk Horn

I have worked for Marne Elk Horn, formerly Walnut Communications for close to 20 years. For the last 15 years I have served as the Office Manager for both the Walnut and Avoca locations.



Upon the merger of Walnut Communications and Marne Elk Horn, we formed a combined Leadership Committee of which I am a participant. This year, I am a participant in the inaugural class of the ICA Leadership Academy. In my community, I currently serve on the board of Calvary Baptist Church in Walnut as the Secretary and Treasurer. I am in my second year as a board member for Peace Haven Senior Living Center in Walnut and serve as the Treasurer for the Endowment Association of Peace Haven. In the past, I have served as a Teammates member in the mentoring program at AHSTW Community Schools.

I have spent a majority of my time with Marne Elk Horn in the operations of our company which has allowed me to gain experience in all facets of the organization. I have a very strong regulatory background and spend a good part of my job on regulatory issues and compliance. I also work in-depth on the marketing and sales side of our company. I would bring this wide range of experience with me to a board role.

Should I be elected, I look forward to gaining a better understanding of the issues we face at a state level. I am a great listener; objective and persistent about research on matters I don't understand. I am constantly looking for ways I can learn more and believe serving is a great way to be continually learning, while also positively contributing. I am passionate about our industry and providing state of the art communication services to those we serve, Marne Elk Horn represents a good portion of Western Iowa and I think a view from this perspective will also be beneficial on the board.

Kyle Manders, General Manager & COO at Bernard Telephone and Communications

I worked for 6 years as a Combination Technician at La Motte Telephone Company. In 2013, I joined Bernard Telephone and Communications as the General Manager and COO.

I am a current member of the Iowa Communications Alliance Executive Pathways Committee and a past member of the Convergence TV Committee. I also served on the ICA Future Dues Task Force. In my community, I serve as the Assistant Chief for the La Motte Fire and Rescue.



If elected, I would bring my technical background and strategic planning skills and experience to the ICA Board. If elected as a Director, my objectives in serving would be to ensure our members are represented as industry leaders and to cultivate an atmosphere where our members can prosper as businesses and as individuals.

Jan Muhl, General Manager at Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Company

I began my career with F&B Communications working as a Plant Manager and Combination Technician. In 2012, I joined Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Company as a Combination Technician and in 2015 was named General Manager.



Since 2018, I have served as an Iowa Communications Alliance Board Member. I also am currently serving or have served on a number of ICA committees including: Impact Committee, Annual Meeting & Expo Committee, Convergence TV Committee (Past Chair), and the Directors Training Conference Committee (Past Chair). In my community, I have been or currently am involved on the Calamus-Wheatland School Board (Past President), Rainbow Preschool (Past President), Wheatland Community Hall Board (Past President), St. Paul's Church Council, Lost Nation Lions, and the Lost Nation Booster Club.

I have 40 years of experience in the communications field and I believe that experience is valuation as a member of the ICA board. My main objective, if elected as a director, will be to support our member companies. I believe that the Alliance has strong Legislative, Regulatory, and Educational leadership and would like to see more become involved.