

Cooperative members & Ben Lomand Connect customers,

What a unique year 2020 has proven to be for Ben Lomand Connect, our nation and our world. Our annual meeting, held every March since 1954, was postponed due to the onset of COVID-19. The decision to postpone was made due to state/federal mandates and also hoping for a reduction in positive cases by the fall.

Unfortunately, this has not come to fruition as our state has implemented firm guidelines on large gatherings.

Due to these factors, the board of directors for Ben Lomand Connect met to discuss and ultimately postpone the 2020 annual meeting until March of next year with unanimous approval.

With the consultation of legal counsel and the health and well-being of employees and members/customers being foremost on our mind, the cancellation of this year's meeting was both appropriate and well within by-law guidelines of Ben Lomand Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

All of us at Ben Lomand Connect are looking forward to 2021 and the ability to see our members and customers face to face, hugs and handshakes included. The financial report for 2019 will be published in our Connection magazine and posted on our website. As we conclude this year, let's stay well and look forward to brighter days ahead.

Respectfully yours,

Gerald Sitz

Ben Lomand Connect Board President