

WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.  
Form DEFA14A  
March 31, 2015

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement  Soliciting Material Under Rule 14a-12  
 Confidential, For Use of the  
Commission Only (as permitted  
by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))  
 Definitive Proxy Statement  
 Definitive Additional Materials

**WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to  
Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is  
calculated and state how it was determined):

4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5) Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials:

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which  
the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or  
schedule and the date of its filing.

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- 1) Amount previously paid:
  - 2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
  - 3) Filing Party:
  - 4) Date Filed:
-

**\*\*\* Exercise Your *Right* to Vote \*\*\***  
**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the  
Stockholder Meeting to Be Held on May 14, 2015.**

WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.

WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS INC.  
4001 NORTH RODNEY PARHAM ROAD  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72212

**Meeting Information**

Meeting Type: Annual Meeting

For holders as of: March 19, 2015

Date: May 14, 2015 Time: 10:00 AM CDT

Location: Meeting live via the Internet-please visit  
[www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15).

The company will be hosting the meeting live via the Internet this year. To attend the meeting via the Internet please visit [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15) and be sure to have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow XXXX XXXX  
XXXX XXXX (located on the following page).

You are receiving this communication because you hold shares in the company named above.

This is not a ballot. You cannot use this notice to vote these shares. This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you on the Internet. You may view the proxy materials online at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) or easily request a paper copy (see reverse side).

We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting.

## **Before You Vote**

### **How to Access the Proxy Materials**

Proxy Materials Available to VIEW or RECEIVE:

1. 2014 Annual Report, Proxy Statement and Form 10-K

How to View Online:

Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) and visit: [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).

How to Request and Receive a PAPER or E-MAIL Copy:

If you want to receive a paper or e-mail copy of these documents, you must request one. There is NO charge for requesting a copy. Please choose one of the following methods to make your request:

- 1) *BY INTERNET*: [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)
- 2) *BY TELEPHONE*: 1-800-579-1639
- 3) *BY E-MAIL*\*: [sendmaterial@proxyvote.com](mailto:sendmaterial@proxyvote.com)

\* If requesting materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) in the subject line.

Requests, instructions and other inquiries sent to this e-mail address will NOT be forwarded to your investment advisor. Please make the request as instructed above on or before April 30, 2015 to facilitate timely delivery.

## **How To Vote**

### **Please Choose One of the Following Voting Methods**

Vote By Internet:

*Before The Meeting:*

Go to [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com). Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) available and follow the instructions.

*During The Meeting:*

Go to [www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15](http://www.virtualshareholdermeeting.com/WIN15). Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (located on the following page) available and follow the instructions.

Vote By Mail: You can vote by mail by requesting a paper copy of the materials, which will include a proxy card.

**Voting Items**

**The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following proposal:**

1. Election of Directors

**Nominees:**

- 1a. Carol B. Armitage
- 1b. Samuel E. Beall, III
- 1c. Francis X. Frantz
- 1d. Jeffrey T. Hinson
- 1e. Judy K. Jones
- 1f. William G. LaPerch
- 1g. William A. Montgomery
- 1h. Michael G. Stoltz
- 1i. Anthony W. Thomas
- 1j. Alan L. Wells

**The Board of Directors recommends you vote FOR the following proposals:**

- 2. To vote on an advisory (non-binding) resolution on executive compensation.
- 3. To approve amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws of Windstream Holdings, Inc. to enable stockholders to call special meetings under certain circumstances.
- 4. To approve amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws of Windstream Holdings, Inc. to eliminate super-majority provisions.
- 5. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Windstream's independent registered public accountant for 2015.

**NOTE:** Such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof. You may attend the Meeting via the Internet and vote during the Meeting. Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow available and follow the instructions.

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