Kent Buffington, 12-year employee at Wauneta Co-op Oil, assumed the role of general manager last Wednesday, Sept. 5.

By Sheri Hink

The Wauneta Breeze

Kent Buffington knows the customers at Wauneta Co-op Oil and how to serve their needs. He's been employed at the company for the past 12 years as a truck driver.

Last Wednesday, Sept. 5, he took on a new role at the company, that of general manager.

The general manager position has been vacant since Monty Mays left the position in early August of this year.

The Wauneta Co-op Oil board of directors met last Tuesday, Sept. 4. At the meeting Buffington

"put his name in the hat," as he put it, for the role of general manager. The board named Buffington as general manager at the meeting that evening.

Wauneta Co-op Oil board president Joe Barger said Buffington was a logical choice for the position.

Board secretary Kevin Kerchal said, "He knows the insides of the Co-op which makes him a good choice for the general manager position."

"He knows co-ops and not only that, he knows our co-op. He has a good attitude and has ideas on how to improve the organization," said Barger.

Buffington did not waste any time digging into his new role, beginning his duties as general manager the following morning.

Wauneta Co-op Oil customers have slotted Buffington as a "people person" who is reliable and anxious to help. These qualities will, no doubt, serve him and his customers well as he takes the reins as manager.

Barger related that the company received applications from several very qualified individuals, but Buffington moved to the top of the board's list, in part, because he's a local to Wauneta and he knows the co-op's customers and employees.

"It's exciting to work with people who already know their jobs and know what to do...and what a fun community to work in," said Buffington of his new role at the Co-op.

According to Buffington, he's spent little time behind the desk as of Friday of last week. He's busy getting to know all the facets of the business and is anxious to implement positive changes for the company.