

## PRICE COUNTY AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BROADBAND MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 6, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101, 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI

Meeting called to order by William Teeters, Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: Present – Paula Houdek, Evan Lund, TJ Podmolik, William Teeters. Absent: Jeff Hallstrand. Also present – Nick Trimner; Bob Kopisch; Ed Kane, Park Falls Area Chamber of Commerce; Laurie Hanson, Phillips Area Chamber of Commerce

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Communications and Correspondences: None.
2. Public Comment: None.
3. Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2019: Motion Houdek/Podmolik to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
4. Wisconsin Public Service Commission – Community Certification Program
  - a. Teleconference with Bayfield County (participant in program): Mark Abeles-Allison, Bayfield County Administrator, joined the meeting by conference call. They have worked with Norvado and CenturyLink in promoting the availability of broadband grants.
  - b. Application process: Mark will send the information from Bayfield County.
  - c. Resolution and/or Ordinance: Work on drafting.
5. Update on meeting with Taylor County (TJ): Taylor County is working with the electric cooperatives. The County paid \$20,000 to do an initial citizen study and \$50,000 for a stakeholder study. They've received \$2 million in funding to build a system, which is estimated at \$20 million.
6. Interaction and possible joint efforts: Discussion on what collaboration might be feasible.
  - a. Chambers of Commerce
  - b. Industrial Development Corporations
  - c. Economic Development Associations
  - d. UWEX Digital Ambassadors
7. Communication Plans: Educate the availability of broadband and cellular providers.
8. Next steps: Move forward with Community Certification Program application. Look at the permit and application process for service expansions. Get information from existing providers to find out their offerings and future plans. Motion Podmolik/Houdek to move forward with Community Certification Program (Telecommuter Forward and Broadband Forward). Motion carried.
9. Report to the County Board: Community Certification Program process.
10. Next meeting date: June 12, 9am
11. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk