

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD  
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**July 6, 2021**

Broadband Working Group

1. **Call to Order**  
Meeting was called to order by Rinard at 10:30 a.m.
2. **Roll Call**  
**Broadband Working Group Members**  
Members present: Joan Fitzgerald, Matthew Foelker, Jeff Johns, Richard Jones and Amy Rinard  
  
Members present via ZOOM: Curtis Backlund present at 10:44 a.m.  
  
Others Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator  
  
Others Present via ZOOM: Marc DeVries
3. **Certification of compliance with Open Meeting Law Requirements**  
Wehmeier certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law
4. **Communications**  
None
5. **Public Comment**  
None
6. **Approval of the March 29, 2021 working group minutes**  
Draft minutes were provided for review.  
  
Motion by Foelker/Jones to approve the March 29, 2021 Broadband Working Group meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 5-0.
7. **Approval of the agenda**  
No changes.
8. **Update on broadband grant and project**  
Wehmeier summarized broadband project activity over the last few months. Bertram continues to add bandwidth and connection points. The towers are complete. There may be an option to run fiber underground. Wehmeier talked about the FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). This may be another opportunity to expand broadband. We will be looking at servicing portions of Waterloo, Ixonia, Lake Mills, Jefferson, Koshkonong and Palmyra. The Public Service Commission (PSC) is managing the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and broadband grant funds. Wehmeier talked about the broadband grant process. The deadline for submitting the grant is July 27<sup>th</sup>. There is more information on the broadband grant available on the PSC website. This will be discussed at the Joint Executive and Finance Committee meeting. The group supports using ARPA funds for the broadband project. No action taken.
9. **Discussion and possible action on tentative state American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds**
10. **Agenda Items**
11. **Adjourn**  
Motion by Jones/Foelker to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Motion approved 6-0.