

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD  
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**November 5, 2021**

Broadband Working Group

1. **Call to Order**  
Meeting was called to order by Rinard at 10:00 a.m.
2. **Roll Call**  
**Broadband Working Group Members**  
Members present: Curtis Backlund, Matthew Foelker, Jeff Johns, Richard Jones and Amy Rinard  
  
Members present via ZOOM: Joan Fitzgerald  
  
Others Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator, Supervisor Steve Nass
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 July 23, 2021 working group minutes**  
Draft minutes were provided for review.  
  
Motion by Johns/Foelker to approve the July 23, 2021 Broadband Working Group meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 5-0.
7. **Approval of the agenda**  
No changes.
8. **Discussion and possible action on State American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant**  
Wehmeier said that none of our projects were awarded the grant. No action taken.
9. **Update on Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)**  
Wehmeier talked about a reverse auction Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). Wehmeier met with Spectrum on issues, including a construction schedule. No action taken.
10. **Discussion of Next Steps.**  
Wehmeier discussed several options to consider going forward. \$2M was allocated for matching funds for the grant. The group discussed options including partnering with our municipalities and possibly developing our own grant process. The idea of holding an education session on ARPA for our municipalities was discussed. Wehmeier will bring back grant structure ideas and timeline and reach out to our partners for project ideas. The broadband webpage will be updated to include broadband providers in our area. No action taken.
11. **Agenda Items**
12. **Adjourn**  
Motion by Foelker/Backlund to adjourn at 11:19 a.m. Motion passed 5-0.