

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

February 5, 2022

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: Curtis Backlund, Joan Fitzgerald, Matthew Foelker, Jeff Johns

Members present via ZOOM: Richard Jones and Amy Rinard

Others Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator, Marc DeVries, Mark Dodge, Bertram Communications.

Others Present via ZOOM: Walt Christensen

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 November 5, 2021 working group minutes

Draft minutes were provided for review.

Motion by Foelker/Johns to approve the November 5, 2021 Broadband Working Group meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

7. Approval of the agenda

No changes.

8. Discussion and update on potential broadband projects

Wehmeier discussed potential broadband projects with the City of Fort Atkinson/Fort School District, Spectrum Charter, and Bertram Communications. Dodge, from Bertram Communications, talked about an opportunity to work with Bug Tussel Wireless LLC/Hilbert Communications. Bug Tussel Wireless LLC works with AT&T and other carriers. He gave a presentation on the services they offer and how it may be a good option for Jefferson County to consider. Dodge provided a proposal to Jefferson County for Comprehensive Countywide Fiber, Fixed Wireless and Cellular Plan. Dodge talked about the timeline for completing the fiber projects that are planned for this year. The deadline date for the PSC grant is March 17, 2022. All members of the Broadband Working Group support continued discussions with Mark Dodge and Bug Tussel Wireless LLC, Spectrum, City of Fort Atkinson/School Board, moving forward with the grant process, looking at bonding options and gave Wehmeier the authority to move ahead with these potential projects.

Motion by Backlund/Foelker to authorize Wehmeier to move forward with these potential broadband projects, bonding options and the grant application. Motion passed 6-0.

9. Discussion and possible action for current Public Service Grant Cycle

No action taken.

10. **Discussion of Next Steps.**

No action taken.

11. **Agenda Items**

12. **Adjourn**

Motion by Foelker/Backlund to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Motion passed 6-0.

DRAFT