

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES**

July 18, 2024

Broadband Working Group

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Amy Rinard at 9:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Broadband Working Group Members present: Richard Jones, Amy Rinard, Amanda Truax present at 9:06

Members present via ZOOM: Michael Wineke

Members absent: Matthew Foelker

Others Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; Michael Luckey, Assistant to the County Administrator; Robert Preuss; Brian Udovich, Highway Operations Manager

Others Present via ZOOM: Jason Hafenstein, Gene Dahlhoff, MadRep; Mark Leonard, PSC

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 May 28, 2024 Broadband Working Group minutes

Draft minutes were provided for review.

Motion by Jones/Wineke to approve the May 28, 2024 Broadband Working Group minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.

7. Approval of the agenda

8. Discussion on Broadband equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Challenge Process

Luckey shared the list of 152 challenges that were submitted. He went over the challenge process and talked about what challenges were accepted and the ones that were not. Luckey will be meeting with the PSC to discuss the challenges that were rejected. Leonard discussed the rules that the PSC has to follow related to the challenge process. Luckey reviewed the BEAD Grant application process in general. Wehmeier and Luckey asked Leonard questions related to the process. No action taken.

9. Update on Internet Service Providers (ISP) build progress

Luckey has been scheduling meetings with ISPs to discuss their BEAD plans. Wehmeier showed maps and talked about the plans that the ISPs have for building out areas in Jefferson County. No action taken.

10. Discussion and possible action related to expansion of conduit debt for Public Service Commission Grant match and other potential project areas

The County Board approved up to \$5M of conduit debt. A final resolution will have to go to County Board for their consideration. Wehmeier showed the areas included in the Bug Tussell project proposal. They include Young Prairie, Jefferson Development, Cambridge Tower, Rapids Road, Town of Concord, Town of Palmyra, and Rock River Paradise.

Motion by Wineke/Truax to support the current list of projects and forward to the Finance Committee and County Board for their consideration. Motion passed 4-0.

11. **Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates and agenda items**
The Broadband Working Group will meet again as needed. No action taken.
12. **Adjourn**
Motion by Jones/Truax to adjourn at 10:40 a.m. Motion passed 3-0.