

Broadband Committee Meeting Notes

March 28, 2019

Present: Ken Baehler, Netwurx; Amy Rinard, Jeff Johns, Jim Mode, Russ Kutz, Vicki Pratt, and Jim Schroeder. Dodge County attendees: Jim Mielke and Nate Olson

Ben W called meeting to order at 10:30 am

Ben provided some background on how the Committee came to be: As an action item in the County's Strategic Plan, the Board created a Standing Committee. County has set aside dollars in 2019 budget to hire a consultant and for a project.

First order of business: Election of Officers

Amy Rinard nominated as Chair by Jim Mode; seconded by R. Kutz; motion approved

Jim Mode nominated as Vice Chair by R. Kutz; seconded by A. Rinard; motion approved

Jeff Johns nominated as Secretary by A. Rinard, seconded by J. Mode; motion approved.

Chair Rinard introduced Ken Baehler from Netwurx to discuss grants available for Broadband expansion. Baehler informed group of USDA and PSC Grants – pros and cons of both. Discussed recently won grant for T. of Watertown and the entire PSC application process. Provided key points on eligible applicants, eligible projects, the six main items all applications must cover, and the PSC's qualifying speeds for projects.

Consultant is scheduled to meet with County Administrator today as well to discuss possible projects to consider applying to PSC for, and the costs for each.

Next Meeting is scheduled for 4/11/19 at 10:30 am in room 112 at the Courthouse.

Motion to adjourn at 11:50 am made by J. Mode, seconded by J. Johns