

Dodge County - Broadband Workgroup

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Minutes

Call to Order

Joe Marsik, Broadband Workgroup Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Workgroup Roll Call

Ed Benter	Becky Glewen	David Guckenberger	Nicki Johnson
Joe Marsik	John Nagler	Nate Olson	Matt Powell
Justin Reynolds	Annette Thompson		

Others Present:

Lori Hill	Russ Kottke	Ken Baehler	David Roller
Mark Dodge	Tim Wright	Richard Webster	Steven Mason

Public Comment

No Public Comment.

Review, Consider, Take Action: Broadband Workgroup Minutes

Motion by Annette Thompson, seconded by John Nagler to approve the June 26, 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

Update on Dodge County's Telecommuter Forward Certification Resolution

Joe Marsik and Nate Olson reviewed that Telecommuter Forward Certification Resolution and the Dodge County Board adoption of the Resolution.

Update on Discussions with Public and Private Entities Regarding Dodge County Broadband Initiatives and Methods to Support PSC Grant

Nate Olson reviewed the outreach methods used to educate all the local unit of governments about the Dodge County Broadband Initiative. In addition to educating local officials on the activities to date, Nate advised communities how to support the upcoming PSC Broadband Expansion Grant. Letters of Support, Resolutions, and a \$1,000 contribution have all been reviewed with communities. So far, the Town of Fox Lake has submitted a resolution of support and a confirmation to contribute \$1,000. Three other towns have submitted Letters of Support too. Additionally, Annette Thompson and Nate Olson have addressed Manufacturing Business Alliance (MBA) steering committee and a quarterly meeting to inform public/private entities of the initiative and ways to support.

Review PSC Broadband Expansion Grant Status and Anticipated Timeline for Grant Application Process

Nate Olson reviewed the status of the PSC Broadband Expansion Grant, it has an anticipated release date in late August or early September with a due date in December or January 2020.

Update on Request for Interest (RFI) Submittals from Providers to the Broadband Workgroup

Nate Olson reviewed the submitted RFI's, the providers that submitted to the RFI were invited to address the Broadband Workgroup. There were three main topics the providers were asked to address; area of focus in Dodge County and potential projects, provider funding available to assist with the PSC grant, and timeline for assembling a PSC grant application.

Workgroup - RFI Responders Brief Presentations of Potential Activities to Assist Dodge County

- 1) Ken Baehler of Netwurx and Mark Dodge of Bertram gave a joint presentation. Questions and answers followed.
 - 2) Richard Webster of Ethoplex/Signal Internet gave a presentation. Questions and answers followed.
 - 3) Steven Mason of Astrea (Packerland) gave a summary on his company and advised they would not be available to submit a PSC Grant, however they would submit a Letter of Support. Questions and answers followed.
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Discuss and Determine the Need for Additional Proposals based on RFI Responders Presentations for the PSC Grant Timeline, Statement of Work, and Next Step

Discussion was held about the next steps. It was determined to make a decision on which service provider(s) the Broadband Workgroup should collaborate on a PSC Broadband Expansion Grant with at the next meeting.

Future Meeting Agenda Items

The workgroup discussed items that should be placed on the next agenda, they included but are not limited to: decision on which service provider(s) the Workgroup should collaborate on a PSC Broadband Grant with, review and determine funding amounts Dodge County should budget for in support of the PSC Grant.

Set Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 - 2:00 p.m. - Administration Building (Rooms 1H/1I)

Adjourn

Motion by John Nagler, seconded by Nate Olson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Reynolds, Secretary