



## **AD HOC BROADBAND COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes – July 27, 2021**

**Call to Order.** Chair Bostwick called the meeting of the Ad Hoc Broadband Committee to order at 9:00 A.M. via telephone conference.

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Mawhinney, Richard Bostwick, Sweeney, and Davis.

**Committee Members Absent:** Supervisor Homan

**Staff Members Present via Phone:** Randy Terronez, Assistant to County Administrator; James Otterstein, Economic Development Manager.

**Others Present:** Supervisors Wilson, Beaver, and Stevens; and Russell Berg, Nokomis Networking.

**Approval of Agenda.** Supervisor Mawhinney moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Sweeney. ADOPTED.

#### **Introduction of Russ Berg, Nokomis Networking Consultant.**

The committee and other attendees introduced themselves. James Otterstein introduced Russ Berg. Mr. Berg summarized his background and qualifications, and a proposal that was distributed to the Committee prior to the meeting. Mr. Berg highlighted some funding opportunities that he was aware of and answered some questions regarding his ability to commit to helping Rock County while working with other counties. The Committee thanked him for his comments and proposal. Mr. Berg was excused from the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

#### **Discussion regarding county broadband needs and possible solutions**

Discussion was had and members expressed their perspectives on how to proceed including:

- Inviting Mr. Berg to return to the next meeting for further discussion.
- Inviting Bug Tussel Wireless to provide their perspective.
- Obtaining more information on Taylor County's work, particularly the needs assessment.
- Inviting a representative from the Towns Association to future meetings.
- Sequencing the project steps (needs assessment prior to bring in on overall project consultant? vice-versa? Simultaneous?).

#### **Set Next Meeting Time and Place**

The next Ad Hoc Broadband Committee meeting is set for August 10, 2021 at 10:30 A.M. to occur over Zoom.

**Adjournment.** Supervisor Mawhinney moved adjournment at 10:20 A.M., second by Supervisor Leavy. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Terronez  
Assistant to the County Administrator

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.**