

**KANDIYOHI COUNTY AND CITY OF WILLMAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)
BROADBAND AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

August 6, 2018

Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building, Willmar

Present: Mark Boesch, Travis Bonnema, Donna Boonstra, Dean Bouta, Scott Froemming, Larry Kleindl, Michelle Marotzke, Les Nelson, Gregg Price and Ramsey Schaffnit

Excused: Bruce DeBlicke, David Sisser and Donn Winckler

Absent: Brian Mort

Staff: Connie Schmoll, Business Development Specialist

Secretarial: Diane Beck, Legal & Administrative Assistants, Inc. (LAA)

Chairperson Mark Boesch called the meeting to order at approximately 12:10 p.m.

MINUTES—

IT WAS MOVED BY Michelle Marotzke, SECONDED BY Larry Kleindl, to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2018 meeting as emailed. MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hiawatha Broadband Communications, Inc. update. Schmoll reported she has not received any communication from Dan Pecarina of Hiawatha Broadband Communications (HBC) since the last Broadband Committee meeting and suggested the committee look for other companies, i.e., RS Fiber, Federated Telephone Cooperative and Farmers Mutual Telephone Company. Schmoll suggested inviting Kevin Beyer of Federated or Mark Erickson of RS Fiber if they are willing to attend a Broadband Committee meeting or send an informational letter. A discussion was held regarding communicating with townships. Travis Bonnema inquired on the status of the Frontier project; Schmoll will check and report back at the next meeting. Bonnema also mentioned GraybaR Utility, which serves customers in various telephone capacities, including data broadband applications. It will host a webinar at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, August 14th.

NEW BUSINESS

Report on Rural Broadband Coalition meeting. Chair Boesch and David Sisser attended the meeting via teleconference. Boesch shared the meeting focused on the future and how to

proceed. Blandin Foundation prefers to take a less active role and is looking for someone to handle the administrative portion. In the future, the Coalition may need additional funding.

Research assistance for future ideas. Chair Boeschon suggested committee members spend a minimal amount of time to research new broadband projects and/or ideas in state or out of state. Committee members concurred and will report back at the next meeting.

September meeting date due to Labor Day. As the next Broadband Committee meeting falls on a holiday, committee members concurred to hold the next meeting on Monday, September 10th. Kleindl will secure meeting room 2057.

ADJOURNMENT—There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING—The next committee meeting is **12 noon, Monday, September 10, 2018** at Kandiyohi County Health & Human Services Building, Room 2057, Willmar.