



**MARATHON COUNTY  
BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Monday, August 28, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.  
Webex/Assembly Room, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Present/Web-Phone</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Chair John Robinson	x	
Jacob Langenhahn	x	
Gary Gisselman	x	
Mike Ritter	x	
Jennifer Aarrestad		x
Tony Sherfinski		x
Eric Budleski	x	
Milton Olson	x	
Wade Carroll		x
Jon Euting		x

**Also Present:** Valerie Carrillo, Preston Vande Voort, Gerry Klein

**VIA Web or Phone:** Kurt Gibbs, Randy Wolfram, Kimm Weber, Bill Flood, Kevin O’Brien, Todd Kruse, Scott Nyman

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:06pm.
2. **Public Comments** (15 Minute limit) – none
3. **GISSELMAN MAKE A MOTION; SECOND BY OLSEN TO APPROVE THE JULY 24, 2023 BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion:**
  - A. Update on Grant Funded/Assisted Broadband Projects
    1. Charter – Randy Wolfram – Randy shared a map of what they have completed, what they plan to complete by the end of 2023, and where they are working in 2024.
    2. Frontier – Todd Kruse – Todd recapped the conversation between him with Chairman Robinson and Gerry Klein. Frontier is looking to start construction in September.
    3. Bug Tussel – Gerry gave update based on bi-weekly meetings. They have brought 3 to 6 more towers online since the end of June.
  - B. Broadband Support Position Update – The position was approved and posted last week.
  - C. Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) State Funding and Planning
    1. Broadband Regional Workshops – UW Extension is doing a series of seminars regarding broadband.
    2. State Plan – There state plan has not been released at this time. The state was awarded \$1.1 billion for broadband expansion.
5. **Policy Discussion and Possible Action:**
  - A. Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program
    1. Identification of Unserved and Underserved Areas – Review of maps for the service areas. The maps were broken down into quadrants for easier viewing. Discussion of the RDOF areas and lack of service.
  - B. Process for determining priorities for future broadband expansion efforts – Preston will work on additional mapping for township populations for comparisons with unserved and underserved.
6. **Next Steps check recording**
  - A. Work with Preston for additional data
  - B. Provider meeting invite
  - C. Prepare for state competitive process
7. **Next Meeting:** September 25, 2023
8. **Adjournment**  
**LANGENHAHN MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING, RITTER SECOND. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:58pm.**