MARATHON COUNTY
BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING
MINUTES

Monday, February 26, 2024 at 3:00 P.M.
Assembly Room, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
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: Gerry Klein, Valerie Carrillo, Erin Andrews
VIA Web or Phone: Kevin O'Brien, Kurt Gibbs, Bill Flood, Mark Leonard, Chris Crawford, Alexander Johnson

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:07pm.
2. **Public Comments** (15 Minute limit) – none
3. **RITTER MAKE A MOTION; SECOND BY GISSELMAN TO APPROVE THE February 26, 2024 BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion:**
   A. Marathon County Library Update: Alexander Johnson, Support Services Manager – They have a few different initiatives. They have external Wi-Fi antennas at 4 of 9 locations for citizens to use the Wi-Fi when the building is not open. They are part of a pilot program lending hotspots to members of the public, using federal grant funding.
   B. Update on Grant Funded/Assisted Broadband Projects
      1. Ongoing Grants Report – There is an ongoing report in the packet.
      2. Frontier – Erin Andrews gave an overview of the submitted Frontier report. Discussion regarding the maps.
      3. Bug Tussel – Supervisor Robinson gave a brief overview of recent conversations with Bug Tussel.
      4. Charter – Chris Crawford gave updates with map overview of completions and progress.
   C. PSC Capital Fund Projects (CPF) Grant Updates – Charter and Frontier applied for funding but did not receive any.
   D. Wisconsin Digital Equity Plan – The plan was approved by the state. There is an executive summary of the approval in the packet.
   E. Marathon County Website Broadband Page – Erin gave a visual overview of the upcoming website.
5. **Policy Discussion and Possible Action:**
   A. Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program
      1. Updated Timeline
      2. FCC and PSC Map Challenges
   B. Process and timelines for maximizing ISP participation –
6. **Next Steps and Timelines**
   A. The Broadband Task Forse is set to sunset in April. The County Board needs to adopt rules to continue. No meeting in April. John, Gerry, and Erin meeting with ISPs on April to discuss targeted areas relative to BEAD.
7. **Next Meeting:** TBD
8. **Adjournment: no motion due to lost quorum**

Respectfully Submitted by Kathy Johnson