



MARATHON COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 9:00am**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI 54403**

Committee Members: Randy Fifrick, Chair; Chris Dickinson, Vice-Chair; Gary Gisselman, Jasper Hartinger, Brandon Jensen, Tom Seubert, Chris Voll

Marathon County Mission Statement: Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)

Committee Mission Statement: Provide leadership for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, monitoring outcomes, reviewing, and recommending to the County Board policies related to technology and infrastructure initiatives of Marathon County which include, but are not limited to highways, airways, waterways, etc.

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the **telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:**

Phone#: 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 146 235 4571

When you enter the telephone conference, **PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!**

The meeting will also be broadcasted on Public Access or at <https://tinyurl.com/MarathonCountyBoard>

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Comment (15 Minutes)** (Any person who wishes to address the committee during the "Public Comment" portion of the meetings, must provide his or her name, address, and the topic he or she wishes to present to the Marathon County Clerk, or chair of the committee, no later than five minutes before the start of the meeting. All comments must be germane to a topic within the jurisdiction of the committee.)
4. **Approval of the May 9, 2024, Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes**
5. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination**
 - A. Bug Tussel
 1. 2022 PSC Grant Funding/Loan
 2. 2021 Supplemental Conduit Borrowing Request
 - B. Rumble Strips as Outlined in the Marathon County Roadway Safety Plan
6. **Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, Resolution, or Policy**
7. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**
 - A. CCIT Projects: Klein
 - B. Broadband Update
 1. Bead Broadband Grant Update
 2. Frontier PSC Grant
 - C. 2024 Highway construction season update
8. **Next Meeting Date & Time, Announcements and Future Agenda Items:**
 - A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.
 - B. Next meeting: Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 9:00am
9. **Adjournment**

*Any Person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 261.1500 or email countyclerk@co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED s/s Randy Fifrick
Presiding Officer or Designee

EMAILED TO: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and other Media Groups

EMAILED BY: _____

DATE & TIME: _____

NOTICE POSTED AT THE COURTHOUSE

BY: _____

DATE & TIME: _____



MARATHON COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA WITH MINUTES

Date & Time of Meeting: **Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 9:00am**

Meeting Location: **Courthouse Assembly Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI 54403**

Randy Fifrick	Present
Chris Dickinson	WebEx
Gary Gisselman	Present
Jasper Hartinger	Absent
Brandon Jensen	Present
Tom Seubert	Present
Chris Voll	Present

Staff Present: Jim Griesbach, Kevin Lang, Dave Mack, Aaron Anklam, Gerry Klein, Erin Andrews, Dejan Adzic

Others Present: John Robinson

Meeting Recording

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Chair Fifrick called the meeting to order at 9:00am
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – (00:03)
3. **Public Comment** – (00:04)
 - A. Todd Treu, Village Of Rib Mountain
4. **Approval of the March 7, 2024, Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes** – (00:07)

Motion by Seubert, Second by Gisselman to approve the minutes. Motion carried on voice vote, unanimously.
5. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination**
 - A. Marathon County Policy on Mailboxes and Plowing Damage – (00:08)

Motion by Seubert, Second by Jensen, to approve the change to the policy on Mailboxes and Plowing Damage. Motion Carried on voice vote unanimously.
6. **Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, Resolution, or Policy** - None
7. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**
 - A. Review of Standing Committee related ordinances under section 2.04, including Mission, Duties and Responsibilities, and Jurisdiction – (00:14)
 - B. Introduction of Departments and Entities that often appear before the Committee – (00:25)
 - C. Brief Overview of Last Term discussion and action – (00:33)
 - D. Discussion regarding Potential Areas of Committee Focus during this Term – (00:38)
 - E. Rumble Strips as Outlined in the Marathon County Roadway Safety Plan – (00:38)
 - F. Broadband Update – (00:53)
 - G. BEAD Broadband grant update – (01:03)
 - H. CCITC: Workday project update – (01:14)
 - I. CCITC: IT project updates – (01:17)
 - J. WCHA Summer Road School, June 3-5, Chula Vista, Wisconsin Dells – (01:22)
8. **Next Meeting Date & Time, Announcements and Future Agenda Items**
 - A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion.
 - B. Next meeting: Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 9:00am
9. **Adjournment**

Motioned by Voll, Second by Name to Seubert. Motion Carried on voice vote, unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 10:30am

Minutes Prepared by David Holcomb

MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - _____

INITIAL RESOLUTION APPROVING
REVENUE BOND FINANCING FOR BUG TUSSEL WIRELESS, LLC

INTRODUCED BY: Finance Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To provide approval of an Initial Resolution of Marathon County to participate with other counties in accordance with an Intergovernmental Agreement pursuant to which Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin will serve as the conduit bond issuer for Revenue Bond Financing for Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC to finance a project for acquisition, construction and installation of certain telecommunications infrastructure, for the purpose of providing wireless internet and telephone communication services to businesses, governmental units and residents of rural communities where such service is currently unavailable or prohibitively expensive (the "Project"), which includes Project costs located in Marathon County in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000.

FISCAL NOTE: None.

WHEREAS, Section 66.1103 of the Wisconsin Statutes (the "Act") authorizes municipalities to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds to construct, equip, re-equip, acquire by gift, lease or purchase, install, reconstruct, rebuild, rehabilitate, improve, supplement, replace, maintain, repair, enlarge, extend or remodel industrial projects; and

WHEREAS, Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC, a Wisconsin limited liability company (the "Company"), and/or one or more of its affiliates (including, without limitation, Hilbert Communications, LLC and Cloud 1, LLC), whether existing on the date hereof or to be formed and whether owned directly or indirectly by the Company, desires to finance a project consisting of the acquisition, construction and installation of certain telecommunications infrastructure that includes, among other things (i) acquisition of tower sites by purchase or lease of land and equipping such sites with towers and electronics to provide broadband, high speed cellular, emergency communications and point to point (P2P) data communications; (ii) constructing fiberoptic data transmission facilities (cable and electronics) between towers, key community facilities, businesses and residential aggregation points; (iii) where appropriate, connecting individual premises into the broadband network including the cost of Consumer Premise Equipment (CPE); (iv) payment of capitalized interest; (v) funding of a debt service reserve fund; (vi) payment of such project costs located in Marathon County in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000; and (vii) payment of professional fees (collectively, the "Project"), all of which will be for the purpose of providing wireless internet and telephone communications services to businesses, governmental units and residents of rural communities where such service is currently unavailable or is prohibitively expensive; and

WHEREAS, Marathon County is a political subdivision of the State of Wisconsin within whose boundaries a portion of the Project is located; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 66.1103 and 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes, individual counties or two or more counties, each a "Participating County", acting pursuant to an Intergovernmental Agreement may serve as the conduit issuer for such financing; and

WHEREAS, (i) the aggregate cost of the Project in Marathon County and the Participating Counties is presently estimated to be not greater than \$250,000,000, (ii) the aggregate amount of the Project proposed to be financed with one or more issues or series of tax-exempt or taxable revenue bonds does not exceed \$250,000,000 (the "Bonds") to be issued by Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin (the "Issuing County") acting pursuant to intergovernmental powers, and (iii) the portion of the Project located in Marathon County does not exceed \$12,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Section 66.1103(3)(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that a municipality also may finance an industrial project which is located entirely outside the geographic limits of the municipality, but only if the revenue agreement for the project also relates to another project of the same eligible participant, part of which is located within the geographic limits of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes necessary infrastructure for essential services by and for Marathon County and local units of government in Marathon County and is in furtherance of the public purposes set forth in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project is a multi-jurisdictional project which is located in multiple counties to be identified, and the Company has requested that each of the Participating Counties approve an initial resolution (the "Initial Resolution") providing for the financing of the Project in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000,000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement, Fond du Lac County shall be the Issuing County of said revenue Bonds, and it shall be determined at a future date which county or counties shall be Participating Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Company has requested that Marathon County and other Participating Counties who will directly benefit from the Project to each provide a limited guaranty (the "Guaranty") to enhance the collateral position of the Company in an amount equal to the pro rata portion of the Project costs incurred and essential services benefits derived in such Participating County; and

WHEREAS, the Company will have the primary obligation to make all scheduled principal and interest payments when due on the Bonds, and Marathon County's Guaranty will apply only in the event that the Company does not make the required payments due on the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, in return for Marathon County's Guaranty, Marathon County shall receive an annual guaranty fee (based upon the amount of its Guaranty), and the Company will pay all costs to Marathon County and all expenses by Marathon County related to the bond issue; and

WHEREAS, at the option of the Company, bond insurance may be purchased with respect to the Bonds which will require approval by subsequent resolution of Marathon County;

WHEREAS, the Company shall enter into a Reimbursement Agreement (the "Reimbursement Agreement") with Marathon County agreeing to reimburse Marathon County for any payment required under Marathon County's Guaranty and to indemnify Marathon County for any and all costs, expenses and liabilities related to the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, as further security for its Guaranty, Marathon County shall receive a first mortgage on all land, buildings, and improvements of the Company located in Marathon County which are financed with proceeds of the Bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. Marathon County hereby approves that Fond du Lac County, as the Issuing County, acting pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement, shall:

(a) Finance the Project in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000,000 which includes Project costs located in Marathon County in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000; and

(b) Acting pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement by and among one or more Participating Counties, Fond du Lac County shall issue industrial development revenue bonds in one or more issues or series of tax-exempt or taxable bonds in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250,000,000 in order to finance costs of the Project located in the Participating Counties, pursuant to Section 66.1103(3)(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

2. The aforesaid plan of financing contemplates, and is conditioned upon, the following:

(a) The Bonds shall be limited obligations of the Issuing County, acting pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement, and are payable solely from revenues provided by the Company and are secured in part by the limited Guaranty of Marathon County;

(b) The Bonds shall never constitute an indebtedness of Marathon County, the Issuing County or the Participating Counties within the meaning of any state constitutional provision or statutory limitation;

(c) The Bonds shall not constitute or give rise to a pecuniary liability of the Issuing County, or the Participating Counties, or a charge against their general credit or taxing powers;

(d) The Project shall be subject to property taxation in the same amount and to the same extent as though the Project were not financed with industrial development revenue bonds;

(e) The Company shall find a purchaser for all of the Bonds;

(f) All out-of-pocket costs, including but not limited to legal fees and Trustee's fees, incurred by Fond du Lac County or the Marathon County in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds shall be paid by the Company, whether or not the Issuing County or another Participating County ultimately issues the Bonds; and

(g) Marathon County shall be paid an annual guaranty fee (based upon the amount of Marathon County's Guaranty).

3. The aforesaid plan of financing shall not be legally binding upon Marathon County nor be finally implemented unless and until:

(a) The details and mechanics of the bond financing are authorized and approved by a further resolution of Fond du Lac County, as the Issuing County, by a vote of at least three-fourths of the members-elect (as defined in Section 59.001(2m) of the Wisconsin Statutes) of the Board of Supervisors. Such approval shall be solely within the discretion of the Issuing County, acting pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement and approval of the Board of Supervisors of the Issuing County;

(b) Said approval and Guaranty are further conditioned upon terms and conditions of one or more written agreements between Marathon County and the various parties involved, ensuring that all of the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds shall be administered by a duly appointed independent trustee, that the bond proceeds shall be used exclusively for the development of the Project and for no other purpose, and that the project funds shall be paid over to the Company by the trustee only as they become needed for completion of the Project;

(c) The County Clerk of Marathon County shall cause notice of adoption of this Initial Resolution, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in Marathon County, and the electors of Marathon County shall have been given the opportunity to petition for a referendum on the matter of the aforesaid bond issue, all as required by law;

(d) Either no such petition shall be timely filed or such petition shall have been filed and said referendum shall have approved the bond issue;

(e) The county clerks of Marathon County and the Participating Counties shall each have received an employment impact estimate issued under Section 238.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes;

(f) The Bonds shall be limited obligations of the Issuing County, acting pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement and are payable solely from revenues provided by the Company and secured in part by a limited guaranty of each Participating County;

(g) All Participating Counties have entered into the Intergovernmental Agreement and identified Fond du Lac County as the Issuing County;

(h) All Participating Counties have approved their respective guaranties by a vote of at least three-fourths of the members-elect of their respective County Board of Supervisors; such subsequent approval shall be solely within the discretion of each Participating County; and

(i) All documents required to consummate the financing have been duly authorized and delivered.

4. Pursuant to the Act, all requirements that the Project be subject to the contracting requirements contained in Section 66.1103 are waived, the Company having represented that it is able to negotiate satisfactory arrangements for completing the Project and that Marathon County's interests are not prejudiced thereby.

5. The County Clerk of Marathon County is directed following adoption of this Initial Resolution (i) to publish notice of such adoption not less than one time in the official newspaper of Marathon County, such notice to be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and (ii) to file a copy of this Initial Resolution, together with a statement indicating the date the Notice to Electors was published, with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation within twenty (20) days following the date of publication of such notice.

6. This Initial Resolution is an "initial resolution" within the meaning of the Act and official action toward issuance of the Bonds. Furthermore, it is the reasonable expectation of Marathon County that proceeds of the Bonds may be used to reimburse expenditures made on the Project prior to the issuance of the Bonds. The maximum principal amount of debt expected to be issued for the Project on the date hereof is \$250,000,000.

7. Marathon County Officers and Corporation Counsel shall forthwith negotiate and confer with all interested parties, draft, edit, or approve and deliver the contracts or other documents necessary to carry out the provisions of this Initial Resolution; provided, however, that such Officers and Corporation Counsel shall present the same to the Board of Supervisors for the Board's final review, ratification, and approval of all of the specific terms and conditions contained in said documents prior to the issuance of the Bonds on behalf of

the Company. Such subsequent approval shall be solely within the discretion of Marathon County and its Board of Supervisors, notwithstanding this Initial Resolution.

Recommended for adoption this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Adopted _____

Defeated _____ by the Marathon County Board of Supervisors this

Tabled _____ day of _____, 2024.

County Board Chair

County Clerk

I, the undersigned, the duly appointed and qualified Clerk of Marathon County, Wisconsin do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the County Board of Supervisors at a meeting of said County held in open session in accordance with the requirements of Subchapter V of Chapter 19 of the Wisconsin Statutes on June 18, 2024.

MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

County Clerk

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Supervisors of Marathon County, Wisconsin ("Marathon County"), at a meeting held at the Marathon County Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau, Wisconsin, on June 18, 2024, adopted an initial resolution (the "Initial Resolution") pursuant to Section 66.1103 of the Wisconsin Statutes, as amended, expressing the intention to issue not to exceed \$250,000,000 of industrial development revenue bonds (the "Bonds") on behalf of Bug Tussel Wireless, LLC, a Wisconsin limited liability company (the "Company"), and/or one or more of its affiliates (including, without limitation, Hilbert Communications, LLC and Cloud 1, LLC), to finance a project consisting of the acquisition, construction and installation of certain telecommunications infrastructure that includes, among other things (i) acquisition of tower sites by purchase or lease of land and equipping such sites with towers and electronics to provide broadband, high speed cellular, emergency communications and point to point (P2P) data communications; (ii) constructing fiberoptic data transmission facilities (cable and electronics) between towers, key community facilities, businesses and residential aggregation points; (iii) where appropriate, connecting individual premises into the broadband network including the cost of Consumer Premise Equipment (CPE); (iv) payment of capitalized interest; (v) funding of a debt service reserve fund; (vi) payment of project costs located in Marathon County in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000; and (vii) payment of professional fees (collectively, the "Project"), all of which will be for the purpose of providing wireless internet and telephone communications services to businesses, governmental units and residents of rural communities. The Company has represented that the net number of full-time equivalent jobs which will be maintained in Marathon County is 1.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 66.1103 of the Wisconsin Statutes, all requirements that the Project be subject to the contracting requirements contained in Section 66.1103 are waived, the Company having represented that it is able to negotiate satisfactory arrangements for completing the Project and that Marathon County's interests are not prejudiced thereby.

THE BONDS SHALL NEVER CONSTITUTE AN INDEBTEDNESS OF MARATHON COUNTY, NOR SHALL THE BONDS GIVE RISE TO ANY PECUNIARY LIABILITY OF MARATHON COUNTY, NOR SHALL THE BONDS BE A CHARGE AGAINST THE GENERAL CREDIT OR TAXING POWERS OF MARATHON COUNTY. RATHER, THE BONDS SHALL BE PAYABLE SOLELY FROM THE REVENUES AND OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE DERIVED PURSUANT TO THE REVENUE AGREEMENT RELATING TO SAID PROJECT TO BE ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE ISSUING COUNTY OR ISSUING COUNTIES AND THE COMPANY.

The Initial Resolution may be inspected in the office of the Marathon County Clerk at 500 Forest Street, Wausau, Wisconsin, during business hours.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE ELECTORS OF MARATHON COUNTY MAY PETITION FOR A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF THE BOND ISSUE. Unless within thirty (30) days from the date of the publication of this Notice a petition signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the registered electors of the Marathon County is filed with the County Clerk requesting a referendum on the question of the issuance of the Bonds, the Issuing County will issue the Bonds without submitting the proposition for the electors' approval. If such petition is filed as aforesaid, then the Bonds shall not be issued until approved by a majority of the electors of Marathon County voting thereon at a general or special election.

Kim Trueblood, County Clerk
Marathon County, Wisconsin

Notice of Intent to Obtain a Municipal Industrial Revenue Bond

Section 66.1103 (4m) (a) 1 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires the person or business who intends to obtain an industrial revenue bond issue from a Wisconsin municipality to notify this intention to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation and to any collective bargaining agent in the state with whom the person or business has a collective bargaining agreement. This notification must occur at least 30 days prior to entering into the revenue agreement or signing the loan contract. The person or business must provide information on the number of full-time jobs that are expected to be eliminated, created, or maintained at the project site and elsewhere in Wisconsin as a result of the project which is the subject of this notice. The person or business named below hereby gives notice of intent to obtain an Industrial Revenue Bond pursuant to s. 66.1103 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

I. Project

A. Person: Steven J. Schneider
 Business: Bug Tussel 2, LLC
 Address: 417 Pine Street
 Post Office/ZIP: Green Bay, WI 54301

B. Project site: Marathon County, Wisconsin
 (Name of city, village or town in which the project is located)

C. Project type: Expansion at Present Location Relocation Within Same Municipality
 Relocation From Within State Relocation from Out-of-State New Business
 Branch-Wisconsin Operation Branch-Out-of-State Operat9ion Other* Wireless telecommunication infrastructure
 *(Multiple locations in Marathon County)

D. Maximum amount of IRB financing: \$12,000,000 in Marathon County

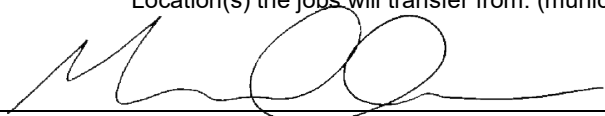
II. Employment Estimates (to result within the next 3 years)

Number of Full-Time Jobs	Before Project	To Be Maintained	To Be Created	To Be Eliminated	Net Total Number of Jobs
A. <u>At the Project Site(s)</u>	1	1	0	0	1
B. <u>Other Wisconsin Operations</u>	199	199	0	0	199
C. <u>Net Totals</u>	200	200	0	0	200

D. Will any jobs transfer from one or more locations to the project site? Yes No

Number of jobs to transfer: N/A

Location(s) the jobs will transfer from: (municipality) N/A



 Signed/Person completing this form

Mitchel Olson, General Counsel June 3, 2024
 Title Date

(920) 940-0138
 Telephone Number



Questions? Email broadband@co.marathon.wi.us

Marathon County's Broadband Website: www.marathoncounty.gov/broadband

WHAT IS BROADBAND + WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Broadband refers to high-speed internet access. It is different than cell service and is vitally important for:

- Running businesses
- Education
- Daily activities like banking or online purchasing
- Entertainment
- Access to government services
- Access to medical care from home

BEAD is a unique funding opportunity to improve Broadband access in Marathon County



In Marathon County,

15,000+

addresses have no internet service (unserved) or slow, unreliable service (underserved).

WHAT IS BEAD?

- The Federal Government dispersing \$42.5 Billion across all 50 states & territories to expand Broadband access throughout the USA
- The State of Wisconsin is receiving \$1.05 billion to grant for broadband expansion through grants from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC)
- Grants will be awarded to Internet Service Providers to help fund expansion projects to high cost/rural areas
- BEAD funding will prioritize unserved or underserved areas
- BEAD projects must be completed by end 2030 (6 years or less)

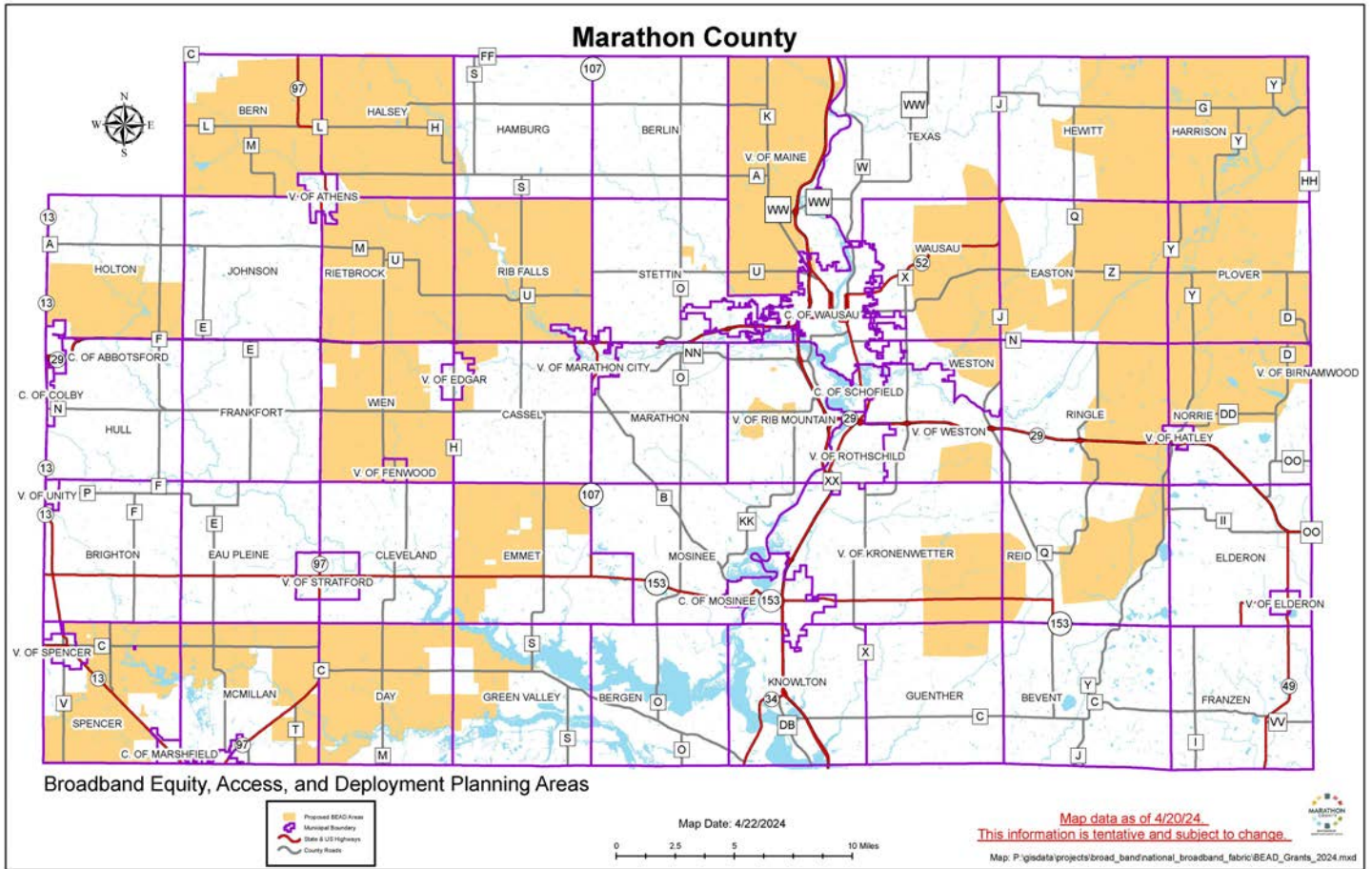


WHY IS BEAD IMPORTANT?

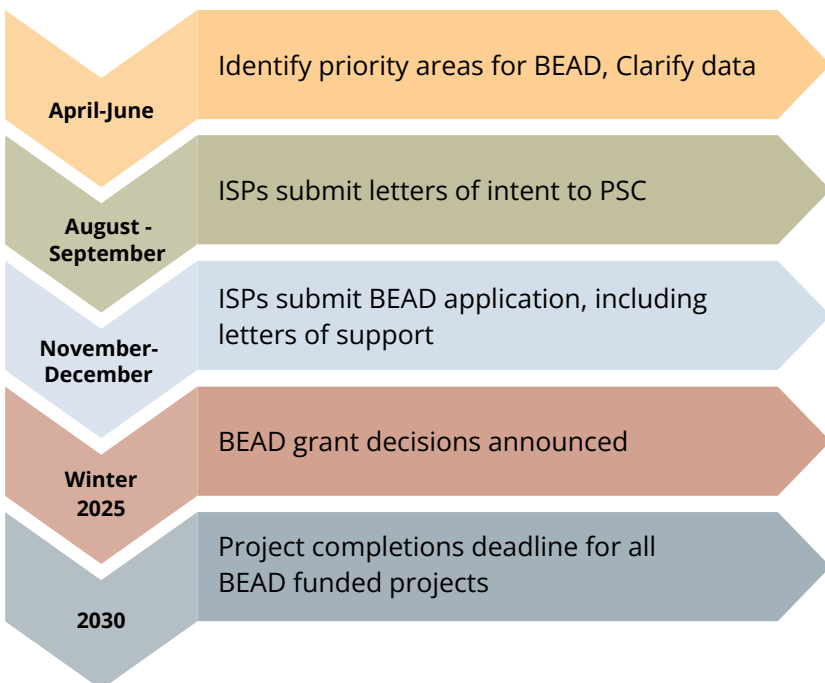
- Broadband access is necessary for work, education, public safety and healthcare
- BEAD is the best funding opportunity to make fast, reliable, and affordable internet access available to everyone in Marathon County
- Funding like BEAD will not be available for several years – we need to work together to maximize funding to Marathon County.

BEAD PRIORITY AREAS IN MARATHON COUNTY

The County is working with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to apply for BEAD grant funds to bring broadband internet to as many un/underserved addresses as possible.



BEAD TIMELINE (TENTATIVE DATES)



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Visit our Broadband website.

Scan the QR code or visit marathoncounty.gov/broadband



2. Check your address on the FCC map.

- Request service to your address on FCC map for service
- Report errors on FCC Map to Marathon County's Broadband Coordinator: broadband@co.marathon.wi.us
- FCC Map Link: <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov/home>.



PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

FY 2022 Broadband Expansion Grants

5-BF-2022

ORDER FOR LIMITED REOPENING, NOTICE, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Comments Due: Thursday, June 6, 2024 – 1:30 p.m. CT	Address Comments To: Cru Stubley Secretary to the Commission Public Service Commission P.O. Box 7854 Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854
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This is the Order authorizing a limited reopening of the Order in this docket pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 196.39 to consider changes as summarized below. This limited reopening is to provide notice of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin’s (Commission) intent to modify the Order as to project scope and budget of the grant award approved for the Frontier North Inc. (Frontier) Clark, Lincoln, and Marathon Counties project, and to provide any interested persons an opportunity to comment on the proposed modifications. This limited reopening is exclusively for the project scope and budget associated with that grant award and no other grant award approved in that Order is impacted.

On July 28, 2022, the Commission issued an Order approving \$124,967,392 in Broadband Expansion Grants to 71 projects in the Commission’s tenth program round. ([PSC REF#: 444257](#).) The Broadband Expansion Grant program is authorized by Wis. Stat. § 196.504 and in this round, funded by the State of Wisconsin through Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). Among these projects, the Commission awarded \$4,293,662 to Frontier for its Clark, Lincoln, and

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Marathon Counties project. (*Id.* at 29.) The Commission approved Frontier’s Clark, Lincoln, and Marathon Counties project based on the description provided in the application. (*Id.* at 26, stating: “Each grant award approved by this Order is for the specific project described in the grant application, at the stated project cost and in the project-area described by the project maps and other document in the grant application.”) Frontier’s application stated that the project would pass a total of 10,696 locations (812 business, 9,884 residential) including 10,044 unserved locations (755 business, 9,289 residential). ([PSC REF#: 432963.](#)) A grant agreement with Frontier, incorporating a project scope based on its application for the Clark, Lincoln, and Marathon Counties project, was executed on October 25, 2022.

Since the Order and execution of the grant agreement, Frontier has determined that its project will only serve 6,889 total locations, including only 1,642 unserved locations. ([PSC REF#: 493056](#), response to PSCW-AK-1.3.) Specifically, Frontier has determined that 3,220 of the total 10,696 locations identified in the application were counted in duplicate (*id.*); 175 of the total 10,696 locations identified in the application are now too expensive to serve (*id.*, response to PSCW-AK-1.4); and only 1,642 of the 10,044 unserved locations identified in the application are in fact unserved ([PSC REF#: 494490](#)). Frontier attributed the erroneous classification of the unserved locations to a misinterpretation of the location information provided by the consultant that was performing Frontier’s grant planning. ([PSC REF#: 494490.](#)) Frontier has indicated that it will make improvements and has moved these functions to an internal team to prevent future errors on grant applications. ([PSC REF#: 493056](#), response to PSCW-AK 1.3.)

Meanwhile, Frontier has also determined that overall project costs have increased from \$17,434,650 to \$40,153,408. Frontier attributes this overall change to the passage of time,

limitations of the former consultant’s planning model, the availability of material, and other factors. (*Id.*, response to PSCW-AK-1.2.)

Frontier has reported that construction for the project has not started, but estimates that the project was 20 percent complete based on project planning and development work that has occurred to date. ([PSC REF#: 499194](#).) Frontier requests that the Commission revise its grant agreement to correct the funded locations to 6,889 and reduce the grant amount by \$1,000,000. (*Id.*, response to PSCW-AK 1.5.) Frontier asks the Commission not to make a pro-rata reduction because it is willing to contribute \$23.7 million more than originally committed in matching funds, which would increase the total match percentage from 75 percent of total project costs in the original proposal to 92 percent in its revised request. A summary of these project changes is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Frontier’s Clark, Lincoln, and Marathon County Project Changes

Inputs	Initial	Revised	Change Number	Change %
Total locations	10,696	6,889	(3,807)	(35.6%)
Unserved locations	10,044	1,642	(8,402)	(83.6%)
Grant Request	\$4,293,662	\$3,293,662	(\$1,000,000)	(23%)
Total Budget	\$17,434,650	\$40,153,408	\$22,718,758	130.3%
Match Percent	75%	92%	17%	22.6%

Based on the information provided by Frontier, its request for scope modification appears reasonable and this draft order proposes to modify the Commission’s original Order to reflect the request. While the revised scope would reduce the number of locations served, the proposed reduction in grant funding and increase in match funding is responsive to the reduction in scope, and proceeding with the existing project would allow locations still within the scope to obtain broadband access in a more timely way than they could through separate projects yet to be

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initiated. However, the Commission requests additional evidence or comment that is relevant to this decision.

The Commission authorizes the limited reopening of this docket for the limited purpose of taking new evidence and public comment regarding the proposed project scope and budget changes. Comments are due no later than Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. CT. If no comments opposing the proposed modifications are received by the comment due date, the Secretary to the Commission is directed to sign on behalf of the Commission an Order on Reopening making the proposed changes. If comments opposing the proposed change are received, the Commission delegates authority to the Commissioner delegated for Broadband to issue a Final Decision on Reopening.

DOCUMENTS. All documents in this docket are filed on the Commission's Electronic Records Filing (ERF) system. To view these documents: (1) go to the Commission's website at <https://apps.psc.wi.gov>, (2) enter "5-BF-2022" in the box labeled "Quick Single Docket Search," and (3) select "Documents."

COMMENTS. The Commission requests comments on the above issues. Comments are due no later than Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. CT. Any broadband providers, local governments, or other interested organizations shall file comments using the Commission's Electronic Regulatory Filing (ERF) system.

Any members of the general public shall file comments either through the Commission's website or by mail as follows:

- **Web Comment.** Go to the Commission's website at <https://psc.wi.gov>, click on the "File a Comment" button. On the next page select the "File a Comment" link that appears for docket number 5-BF-2022.

Docket 5-BF-2022

- **Mail Comment.** All comments submitted by U.S. Mail shall include the phrase “Docket 5-BF-2022 Comments” in the heading, and shall be addressed to:

Docket 5-BF-2022 Comments
Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

The Commission will not accept comments submitted via e-mail or facsimile (fax).

Any material submitted to the Commission is a public record and may appear on the Commission website.

CONTACT. Please direct questions about this docket or requests for additional accommodations for the disabled to the Commission’s docket coordinator, Alyssa Kenney, at (608) 267-9138 or alyssa.kenney@wisconsin.gov.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

For the Commission:

Cru Stublely
Secretary to the Commission

CS:JF:TK:AK:bs DL:02009594

From: [Kruse, Todd](#)
To: [Erin Andrews](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] May 2024 monthly update for Frontier Communications
Date: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:00:43 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Monthly report for your May 22, 2024 deadline for ISP's:

Frontier's broadband expansion continues in Marathon County. Through May 14, 2024 we have opened for sale the following location counts for consumers to subscribe to fiber broadband service:

Total = 4,274 Customer Locations (CL's)

-

-

The 4,274 total count = 1,802 (grant) CL's + 2,472 (synergy) CL's

Todd Kruse

Fiber Partnerships Team , Business Development
todd.kruse@ftr.com | 6124235621 | Saint Paul, Minnesota



This communication is confidential. Frontier only sends and receives email on the basis of the terms set out at http://www.frontier.com/email_disclaimer.



MARATHON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER
1430 WEST STREET
WAUSAU, WI 54401

Telephone
(715) 261-1800
Fax (715) 261-1810

To: Infrastructure Committee
From: Jim Griesbach
Re: June Highway Report
Date: June 6, 2024

Paving crew is grading and shaping the gravel on County Road X south of State Highway 153 and paving on County Road X north of State Highway 153. The goal is to have all of the paving completed on County Road X before July 1st.

Bridge Crew is working on bridge maintenance, deck sealing and fixing miscellaneous damage claims.

State Crew has completed routine spring street cleaning and continue working on routine pavement and roadside maintenance.

Construction Crew has replaced culverts on County Roads KK, X, J, and Y. They are starting culvert aid projects in Holton, Marathon, Cassel and McMillan.

Mowing is planned to begin in June. There are about 2300 miles of mowing between state and county roads.

Stratford Crews are working on culvert maintenance, ditch maintenance and crack sealing.

The shop has been repairing and maintaining our fleet of equipment.

Road projects with federal funds are beginning on County Roads T and C with completion planned for mid-July. These projects have oversight through Wisconsin DOT and the work is completed by contractors.

Crews managed cleanup throughout the county from the May 21st severe weather and again on May 24. From May 21st through May 24th the department had over \$18,500 in labor and \$10,600 in equipment expenses related to storm cleanup. All trees are currently pushed clear of the roadways, crews will need to continue to cut and chip trees as time permits between projects.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Griesbach

Memo

To: Marathon County Board of Supervisors
From: John Robinson
Date: June 5, 2024
Re: Consideration of request for conduit financing to Bug Tussel Wireless in connection with 2021 Broadband expansion project and 2023 Public Service Commission project

Overview

This memorandum is intended to provide a summary of the partnership between Marathon County and Bug Tussel Wireless LLC, aimed at expanding broadband access to residents and businesses. The partnership involves projects funded by a 2021 conduit bond issuance and a Public Service Commission (PSC) grant-funded project known as the Leathercamp project. This overview is intended to provide background and context for the Board of Supervisors in evaluating whether to support requests for additional conduit borrowing to support Bug Tussel's efforts in Marathon County.

Bug Tussel Wireless LLC - Who is Bug Tussel?

Bug Tussel Wireless LLC, founded in 2003, is a telecom company wholly owned by Hilbert Communications LLC. The ownership of Hilbert Communications includes Paul Gehl, Steve Schneider, Bob Eddy, and approximately twelve other phone companies and individuals. Bug Tussel specializes in providing broadband and cellular solutions, focusing on rural and underserved areas. The company reported a 2020 revenue of \$64 million and a net income of \$19 million. Sister companies under Hilbert Communications include Red Tail Tower LLC (construction), Midwest Data Core LLC (switching and routing), Michigan Wireless LLC (spectrum holdings), and Cloud 1 Services LLC (site acquisition).

Key employees at Bug Tussel include:

- **Steve Schneider:** Founder, President, and CEO
- **Jason Wied JD:** Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel
- **Scott Feldt:** Executive Director of Public Affairs
- **Mitch Olson:** Chief Development Officer and General Counsel

Counties Worked With: In addition to Marathon County, Bug Tussel has successfully collaborated with several counties in Wisconsin, including Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Marquette, and Waushara.

Marathon County Projects

Conduit Bond Issuance (2021) In 2021, Marathon County joined four other counties led by Fond du Lac County in an effort that led to the issuance of up to \$78 million conduit bonds to

fund the expansion of broadband infrastructure in partnership with Bug Tussel. Approximately \$25 million was committed to Marathon County. The project involves the deployment of fixed wireless broadband, middle mile fiber, and fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) services. Key components include:

- **Broadband Towers:** Installation of 18 broadband towers.
- **Middle Mile Fiber:** Deployment of approximately 198.33 miles of fiber optic network.
- **Consumer Connectivity:** Connecting approximately 1,920 consumer premises.

The conduit bonding project allowed Bug Tussel to access capital at a lower interest rate. Bug Tussel is the primary payor on the bonding. As a part of the conduit bonding process, the county agreed to guarantee the repayment of funds in exchange for:

- Marathon County shall receive an annual guaranty fee equal to 40 basis points (0.40%) of the outstanding par amount of the Bonds covered by its County Guaranty, payable on a semi-annual basis on each May 1 and November 1
- Access to 24 strands of dark fiber for Marathon County's use, and
- Access to space on the towers for our use. The Sheriff's Department is installing equipment on a tower near Dancy.

To date, Bug Tussel has completed construction of towers and has been laying middle mile fiber to connect the towers. During the work they have experienced an increase in costs associated with the performance of one of their contractors; increased costs associated with construction due to the presence of rock and inflationary pressures for equipment and contractors. This has resulted in their costs going up, which resulted in Bug Tussel requesting additional conduit bonding \$5 million for this project. The terms of this conduit bonding would mirror the prior bonding terms and would have Bug Tussel as the primary payor on the bonding, with the county guaranteeing repayment in the event Bug Tussel and its associated companies defaulted.

Leathercamp Project (Public Service Commission Funded) The Leathercamp project, funded in large part by a \$3,000,000 grant from the PSC, aims to deploy 90.7 miles of fiber optic last-mile infrastructure to provide complete coverage in the Town of Knowlton, Village of Kronenwetter, and Town of Guenther., In March 2022, the County Board adopted the resolution committing \$142,175 for Bug Tussel as a forgivable loan funded through ARPA. There was also a commitment on a loan to Bug Tussel for up to \$3,000,000. However, approval of the loan was to be returned to a future Board meeting for final approval. This project focuses on:

- **Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP):** Delivering high-speed internet with symmetrical speeds of up to 1 Gbps to 636 residential locations and 16 business locations, all in underserved or unserved areas.

- **Open Access Network:** Encouraging future expansion and faster deployment of countywide fiber by providing an open network for other providers.

Project Impact and Timeline:

- **Impact:** The project aims to provide reliable, high-speed internet access to areas currently lacking sufficient broadband options. This will improve remote work capabilities, educational opportunities, and access to healthcare.
- **Construction Timeline:**
 - **Conduit Bonding Project.** 16 Towers are operational and another 7 are at various stages of construction, lease acquisition or permit approval. 182 miles of conduit have been laid some with fiber Final route design and engineering will be done soon. The main-line fiber is expected to be completed by the end of 2024, with last-mile connections starting shortly thereafter and the entire project completed in 2025.
 - **Leathercamp:** The project is underway and should be done in 2024.

The Ask

Bug Tussel's first project in the county is over budget. They have requested that the County consider supporting the issuance of an additional \$8 million of conduit bonding to fund the two projects. \$5 million in additional bonding for the 2021 Conduit Bonding Project and \$3 million to meet the County's commitment associated with the Leathercamp project.

Bug Tussel has indicated that the need for additional funding for the 2021 Conduit Borrowing project this was associated with several factors including: 1) The original intent was to place some of the fiber on overhead utility poles. Aerial spans were too far apart and so more fiber had to be buried than planned. 2) They encountered much more rock than expected in laying the fiber. 3) They had performance problems with their primary contractor who has since been terminated and replaced. 4) The costs for some of the materials and labor have gone up. Other internet providers doing work in Marathon County have experienced many of these same issues.

For Bug Tussel's second project – the Leathercamp project - Marathon County committed to partner with Bug Tussel committing to proving a forgivable loan of up to \$142,175 which would be satisfied on completion of the project and a long-term loan of up to \$3 million. The original intent was to use ARPA funding for the loan. However, the long-term loan was not eligible for ARPA and the County committed to look at providing the loan through other funding sources. The County evaluated the potential use of fund balance as the source of funding. Bug Tussel has expressed a willingness to seek conduit bonding for this project which would not affect our fund balance or commit reserves or fund balance towards a long-term debt.

What is a Conduit Bond Issuance?

A conduit bond issuance is a financing mechanism where a governmental entity issues tax-exempt bonds on behalf of a private company or project. The proceeds from the bond sale are provided to the private entity such as Bug Tussel, which is responsible for repaying the debt. Key features include:

- **Issuer:** The government entity (e.g., Fond du Lac County) issues the bonds.
- **Borrower:** Bug Tussel Wireless LLC receives the loan proceeds.
- **Repayment:** The private entity (Bug Tussel) repays the bond debt, typically with project revenues.
- **Risk and Returns:** The risk to the issuing government stems from any potential default of the borrower (i.e., Bug Tussel). The risk is mitigated somewhat by guaranties, which in this case exist with Hilbert Communications, and through the securitization of collateral, which in this instance is the towers and related fiber network. The potential benefits of the project are the expanded service to local residents and businesses, as well as the direct financial benefits received by Marathon County in connection with the administrative payments that it receives from Bug Tussel in accordance with the conduit issue (i.e., 40 basis points).
- **Timeline:** The County Board will be asked to approve an initial resolution supporting conduit bonding in June and a final resolution in September. The June vote is a simple majority vote and the September vote will require a 3/4ths vote of all members of the County Board.

Conclusion

The partnership with Bug Tussel Wireless LLC represents a significant investment in the digital infrastructure of Marathon County. By leveraging conduit bond financing and PSC funding, the access to high-speed internet will be enhanced, particularly for unserved and underserved residents and businesses, which will in turn foster economic development, enhance educational opportunities, and improve quality of life.

Active Projects (37)

Wed 5/29/24 5:17 PM

Master Priority ↕	Name ↕	Description ↕	End ↕	Health ↕	Status Comments ↕	Percent Complete ↕	Status Name ↕	Acct/Dept ↕
	Moving SIP trunks from our current T1s	Moving SIP trunks from our current T1s	Fri 6/28/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Changed Percent Complete from 85% to 90%. Once the catalog of analog lines is complete, we will close this project. Phone work will move to a new project request to upgrade the phone system in 2025. Faxing item will move to a mini project for an upgrade of our fax solution.	90%	In Progress	CCITC Department
	RFP - Internet Firewall replacement	Last year, responding to COVID we upgraded our VPN firewalls. Now we are also reaching capacity limits on our Internet facing firewalls. Replace existing redundant Firewalls for greater capacity and secured access to the Internet.	Fri 5/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Enhanced reporting software is installed and functioning. Will plan to deploy SSL decryption with IMS staff in June.	85%	In Progress	CCITC Department
	Server 2012 remediation	Microsoft Server 2012 and 2012/R2 will be at end of support on October 10th 2023. Once the server is end of support, no security updates will be available. Each of the 170+ servers will need to either decommissioned, newly built on a current operating system, upgraded in place or moved to Azure so they will receive security updates.	Fri 7/26/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Fully decommissioned another 6 servers this month. There are 20 servers that have been shut down that are pending final decommission including 7 Superior (law enforcement software) servers that are now ready to be fully decommissioned. 19 servers on Microsoft Server 2012 have not yet been upgraded or turned off. Microsoft Extended Security Updates will be applied in order to maintain patching them and protect from vulnerabilities.	98%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
	ConnectWise	Configure ConnectWise for Server Patching. Pilot patching for endpoints.	Mon 4/1/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Will meet with NCHC in June to determine maintenance windows for patching their servers. Still need to plan deployment to LEF PCs.	60%	In Progress	CCITC Department

	Cyber Security Initiatives 2024	Tracking for 2024 initiatives.	Fri 12/6/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Changed Percent Complete from 10% to 20%. Initial setup of Rapid7 SIEM is complete. Currently adding endpoints agents, server agents and network collectors. Will be testing Self Service Password Resets in late May with wider adoption in June. Mobile Device Management testing in June. Reviewing alternatives to Cisco email (anti-spam) security and encryption.	20%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
	Active Directory Integration with Workday	Currently there is no integration between Active Directory and Workday. When an employee is hired, HR is manually looking in Outlook and getting the email and phone number for the new employee. IT is not updating Workday when they are notified or a transfer or name change and the email address is updated. We need to evaluate the ability to move data between Workday and Active Directory based on specific triggers. An employee cannot update their own work contact information in Workday or Active Directory.	Mon 9/30/24	— None	Converted Project Request with Status of Requested to Project with Status of New and a Health of None.	0%	New	Human Resources (County)
	Adobe Acrobat Licensing	Adobe Acrobat Pro and Standard have been used across all the organizations for various tasks. A number of the licenses are reaching EOL, and will need to be upgraded. we don't have a good way to properly track the license that are in use and used. we may be out of compliance for license count. Additionally Adobe appears to be changing their license model and we are looking to go to the cloud controlled model.	Fri 8/30/24	— None	Converted Project Request with Status of Requested to Project with Status of New and a Health of None.	0%	New	CCITC Department


1	Workday ERP Phase 2	Complete scope identified in the ERP Implementation project, plus additional scope identified to increase efficiencies or optimize the system.	Wed 7/31/24	⚠ Yellow	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 75% to 80%. The Adaptive 2024 budget was successfully published to Workday to allow operating and personnel plan to actual reporting. This was a top priority since the beginning of the year but required significant effort to resolve data mapping issues before could be completed.</p> <p>Month End/Year End activities are underway. County has closed all months for 2023. City has loaded fixed assets in Workday and run depreciation. Sessions with a CVS consultant were held with County Finance to walk through period and year end processes in Workday. Another session is scheduled for the City on June 3.</p> <p>Are finalizing scope for Gravity, a third party solution to generate Budget Books and ACFR (Annual Comprehensive Financial Report) from Workday data. Working on finalizing costs to outsource payroll tax filing and W2s to ADP.</p> <p>County HR has loaded training assignments into Workday Learning. Security to separate courses between City, County and CCITC was configured.</p> <p>CCITC is creating a Workday reporting training plan and will conduct additional training sessions for City and County Finance in June/July. Non-finance staff that perform financial analysis for their departments will be trained in July on Workday reporting and how to manipulate Workday data exported into Excel.</p>	80%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
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2	Teller Phase 2	Increase efficiencies and optimize the system and processes for cash receipting.	Sun 6/30/24	⚠ Yellow	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 40% to 45%. AHBT (ADHOC) issue has been resolved and tested successfully. Pending City Finances ok to move to Prod.</p> <p>ETI API build has been stalled as there is an saMgr v 13.87 issue. ETI and City Finance are working on resolving the issue.</p> <p>Portfol is ready to be tested by City Finance. Also reviewing Portfol cloud option.</p> <p>Teller work has been paused while City Finance is working on the financial audit.</p>	45%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
3	Asset Management	<p>Department is looking to choose an AM software for both its vertical and in-ground infrastructure. Once a software is selected an engineering firm will be hired to implement the software for use by selected divisions of the department.</p> <p>Per Project Prioritization Committee can proceed with system selection but the goal is to implement a solution that meets both City and County needs.</p>	Mon 12/30/24	☐ Green	<p>Received revised prices from Cartegraph and Cityworks. Completed final demos with both vendors as well as conducting several reference calls.</p> <p>Current plan is staying at 80% as we complete the vendor selection. A new plan will be created for the implementation of the Asset Management program selected with a new timeline.</p>	80%	In Progress	CCITC Department


4	Marathon County Regional Forensic Science Center Technology	<p>The Medical Examiner's Office is expanding to a Regional Forensic Science Center that will include the addition of three autopsy suites, tissue donation suite, autopsy observation deck, teaching suite, a large conference room, and family bereavement room. The facility will be located at Northcentral Technical College Campus in Wausau, WI. Marathon County has identified the facility as a teaching resource for the region that would need to include technology to support the educational mission of the facility. The facility would house the Medical Examiner's Office staff and be owned and operated by Marathon County. Since this is a new construction (17,478 sq/ft) facility, the entire space will need to be programed to be a functional office space and morgue area; please see preliminary facility layout. CCIT and NTC will need to work together to determine how best to manage the technology needs for the county department and will be included in conversations as soon as possible.</p>	Thu 5/1/25	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Jessica Blahnik and Christina Wimmer from the Medical Examiners office are reviewing list of equipment needed for the Regional Forensic Science Center. Updates may be needed based on the Camera Corner bid being updated as well as budget reviews.</p>	5%	In Progress	Medical Examiner
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5	Medical Examiner Database Upgrade Phase 2 (Pathology)	<p>This project request is to complete the second phase of the database rebuild to include a pathology section and decedent body tracking system that is required for the expansion of the Medical Examiner's Office to a Regional Forensic Science Center. With the expansion to a Regional Forensic Science Center, Marathon County will start to offer forensic and medical autopsies for Marathon County cases, regional cases, and the local hospitals. The current database and internal programs are unable to manage the additional services the office will offer. There is no area for a pathologist to dictate and store the autopsy findings or generate an autopsy report.</p> <p>As part of the expansion, there will be hundreds of decedents that will be brought to the facility each year for Marathon County death investigations, hospital medical autopsies, regional coroner and medical examiner referral forensic autopsies, decedent body storage, and tissue procurement. With the increased volume of decedents through the facility, there needs to be an advanced tracking system to ensure each decedent is released to the appropriate agency or funeral home. There is currently no electronic program that tracks the decedents when they are brought to the Medical Examiner's Office and when they are released; there currently is a paper log that will not be sufficient on a large scale operation.</p>	Tue 12/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Meeting with the vendor was completed on 5/28 to discuss reporting questions and timeline. We were given a standard timeline estimate of 6 months from start to finish. Next steps would be to move onto contracts. CCIT and the Medical Examiner office has a meeting on 6/4/2024 to discuss.	20%	In Progress	Medical Examiner
6	Langlade County Sherriff's Office technology improvements	<p>Langlade County Sheriff's office requires assistance from CCITC for a number of technology needs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - moving to ESInet - integration to allow their dispatch to access the Marathon County dispatch system and vice versa - implement text to 911 service 	Fri 5/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	CCITC's work is complete and turned over to Racom and Langlade. Leaving project at 90% to allow for unforeseen changes that require our resources.	90%	In Progress	Sheriff

7	City Hall lobby renovation IT updates	With the renovation of City Hall to close off the Municipal Court offices and make upper floors accessible only to employees IT will need to implement new network connections and assist in setting up security on doors. The goal is to set up new office space for court staff (in Birch conf room) and allow visitors to contact City staff from the lobby to be allowed admittance to offices.	Fri 5/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 50% to 75%. Systems Technologies is scheduled to be on site at City Hall starting Wednesday, May 22nd for the Genetec conversion. Door controls will be brought down on Wednesday to install the new Genetec panel, doors will be brought back up on Genetec by priority starting with exterior doors.</p> <p>HR is working on printing new photo ID badges for all city employees starting with those in City Hall, PD and FD. Communication is being sent to all City employees informing them of the outage, as well as giving more information about the new badges.</p>	75%	In Progress	Mayor's Office
8	IT transition for Pine Crest sale	With the sale of the Pine Crest skilled nursing facility, CCITC will need to be involved in transition of IT services to the new owners. For any equipment that is being transitioned as part of the sale, all CCITC software and system configuration will need to be removed to ensure data security and compliance. Employees will also need to be disabled in CCITC's Active Directory and any application accounts that do not use single-sign-on. Connectivity for the NCHC office will likely need to be replaced (as Lincoln Co currently provides) and the internet and wireless services for Pine Crest terminated.	Sun 6/30/24	<input type="radio"/> Red	Per Ryan Hanson, Pine Crest Director of Nursing Home Operations and Travis Spoehr, Director - Lincoln County IT, contract details should be worked out between Lincoln County and Marco by the end of the week of May 27th.	5%	In Progress	NCH-Corporate Administration(0105)
9	1100 Lake View Remodel	The A and B areas vacated by NCHC will be remodeled to accommodate other county departments. The new CPZ area is being created out of the old cafeteria and will require data cabling to support cubicles in the center of the room and separate offices along the right side.	Fri 3/28/25	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	IT budget was sent to Chris Holman and Troy Torgerson from County Facilities and Capital Management in early May. Currently waiting for next steps, possible meeting being scheduled with Troy and Steve Wettern to discuss.	6%	In Progress	County Administration

10	Everest Metro decommission	The Everest Metro police department will be reincarnated to a new Mountain Bay Metro PD. Rothschild PD will join the new Mountain Bay Metro. Updates to both IT applications and infrastructure will be needed.	Fri 6/28/24	 Yellow	<p>Changed Status from New to In Progress.</p> <p>Changed Percent Complete from 20% to 70%.</p> <p>Changed Health from None - No health has been set to Yellow - At risk with corrective actions.</p> <p>All build has been completed from a Superior standpoint.</p> <p>We are waiting for the approval of the .gov email domain in order to get the Users created and added into Active Directory.</p>	70%	In Progress	CCITC Department
11	Preparation to abandon 210 River Drive	The County's strategic plan is to move everyone out of 210 and 212 River Drive and sell the properties. 210 River Drive is a critical hub in our fiber network downtown loop. In order to abandon it, we must move all of the electronics to a new location and recable our own fiber network as well as contracting with other providers to move their fiber interconnections.	Wed 7/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Elexco will be starting work at the library the week of June 3rd - 7th to move the existing fiber path as well as pull the new interior fiber path.</p> <p>Systems Technologies will be onsite 5/30/2024 to start work on the cabinet, camera and door card access cabling.</p>	5%	In Progress	CCITC Department
12	NCHC/CCITC HIPAA Risk Assessment	Selection and procurement of a third-party vendor to perform our HIPAA Risk Assessment in order to meet statutory requirements and address risk associated with HIPAA privacy and security compliance.	Mon 4/1/24	— None	Converted Project Request with Status of Requested to Project with Status of New and a Health of None.	0%	New	NCH-Compliance(0200)

13	Microsoft Office 365 License Update Project	To address growing Microsoft licensing costs for staff that don't need all the Office 365 functionality currently licensed for. Set the foundation for role-based security by identifying what roles are common across the CCITC user base. Apply MS Office 365 and the corresponding MS Security licenses by role. To provide more seamless controls over Azure authentication and mobile device security.	Fri 8/30/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 80% to 85%. NCHC Microsoft licensing changes has been completed. City will be transitioned and in place May 29th. County will be transitioned and in place June 5th.</p> <p>Help Desk is prepared to make the changes.</p> <p>Reminder of Microsoft Office license changes to come. Communication has been sent to City and County management.</p> <p>KB articles have been posted for reference.</p>	85%	In Progress	CCITC Department
14	Meeting Manager Software	Find meeting manager software that includes workflow and online publishing.	Fri 9/27/24	 Yellow	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 10% to 15%. Met with Megan from CivicPlus again to answer more questions about how to integrate CivicPlus with Granicus website.</p> <p>Gerry sent the CivicPlus contract to Anne to review.</p> <p>The timeline is to kickoff in June or July. Implementation will take 20-24 weeks. The change should be on the website after elections, November 5.</p>	15%	In Progress	Finance Department - City
15	Remove/reinstall security cameras for TRC renovations	The Sheriff's Training Center (CRT) is being remodeled. Are replacing the roof, outside wall steel, windows, and doors. There is an addition going on the south east side making the evidence garage larger. The big shop area is getting new wall insulation. The cameras and anything attached to the exterior will have to be removed and reinstalled.	Tue 12/31/24	— None	Converted Project Request with Status of Requested to Project with Status of New and a Health of None.	0%	New	Sheriff

16	Jail Camera Replacements - Phase One	Approved CIP project to replace analog cameras within the Jail with modern IP cameras	Fri 6/28/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	New Archivers have arrived and will be placed in service in early June.	75%	In Progress	CCITC Department
17	Marathon County Highway - Camera - Additional Placement	<p>Marathon County Highway has requested the following: Install new camera at the Hatley Highway Shop on existing pole Additional camera on the tower nearest to the Bevent Town Hall Additional camera on the tower nearest to the Hewitt Town Hall</p> <p>We are also working with NTC and they will be installing a camera on their Spencer campus sign for our use. We are currently able to see a couple of camera shots from existing NTC Spencer cameras. Last e-mail from Chet indicating they had ordered hardware on April 1st, 2024.</p>	Fri 8/30/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Changed Status from New to In Progress. Changed Percent Complete from 0% to 5%. Changed Health from None - No health has been set to Green - On track. Meeting scheduled for June 6th, 2024 to ensure that CCITC and Highway are on the same page moving forward.</p> <p>Marathon County Highway has requested the following: Install new camera at the Hatley Highway Shop on existing pole Additional camera on the tower nearest to the Bevent Town Hall Additional camera on the tower nearest to the Hewitt Town Hall</p> <p>We are also working with NTC and they will be installing a camera on their Spencer campus sign for our use. We are currently able to see a couple of camera shots from existing NTC Spencer cameras. Last e-mail from Chet indicating they had ordered hardware on April 1st, 2024.</p>	5%	In Progress	Highway Department
18	Chassis switch replacements - County	Replacement plan for the Cisco 4506 switches that will be end of life in 2023. Planning a phased approach for replacement of 3 to 5 switches per year. A switch creates a computer network by connecting multiple computer devices together. Each PC, laptop, printer, cameras, phone, etc on our network physically has a cable that goes to a wiring closet and plugs in to a switch. Typically, each switch has 48 ports to connect 48 different devices together.	Wed 7/31/24	 Yellow	Changed Health from Green - On track to Yellow - At risk with corrective actions. Resource contention and no action taken this period.	45%	In Progress	Marathon County


19	Fiber connection from Courthouse to Police, Fire and Metro	Our current connection to the police, fire and Community Development is via ancient Charter cable that we were granted in the 1980s as part of the cable franchise agreements for Marcus cable. With legal changes that happened in Madison within the last few years we cannot expect to continue to get that connection for free. In addition, it's not as fast as fiber.	Fri 8/16/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Due to resource constraints, this is not yet complete. Will develop plan of action in late May.	45%	In Progress	City of Wausau
20	E911 location services Redsky	RedSky Cloud based location reporting for compliance with FCC requirements for E911	Fri 12/6/24	 Yellow	New workplan to be developed in late May.	30%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
21	Superior DR Buildout	Superior DR Buildout	Thu 2/29/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Last two servers are moved. Verifying backups and will then close project.	99%	In Progress	CCITC Department
22	.gov transition from .ci and .co	<p>Initial business driver was the need to move election officials to .gov email addresses to meet new election security requirements. The County Clerk's office staff were transitioned to using .gov email to meet state and federal regulated election security requirements.</p> <p>The goal is to now transition all City and County staff to using .gov accounts. Use of a .gov domain for government organizations, making it an official email address scheme that has a higher security standard than *.wi.us.</p> <p>Longer term goal is to compartmentalize security controls into separate entities. This would be Phase 2.</p>	Fri 12/27/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Security Analyst continues to test different workflows where the .gov transition could affect users. Next meeting is scheduled for May 30th @ 10AM.	15%	In Progress	CCITC Department

23	Windows 11	Transition from Microsoft Windows 10 to Windows 11. This process effects almost all endpoint laptops and desktops. The process needs to be started and to a state that we can deploy all new machines that come with Windows 11 installed and do not have downgrade rights to Windows 10 (coming in fall of 2023), and the remaining upgrades need to be completed by the Windows 10 End of Life (EOL) on 10/14/2025.	Mon 9/1/25	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Team has started putting together a plan and will be putting in Change Management requests to start updating entire departments on a defined schedule. The updates will begin the last week of April.	25%	In Progress	Enterprise Wide
			12/31/2025					

Active Projects (37)

Wed 5/29/24 5:19 PM

Master Priority ↕	Name ↕	Description ↕	End ↕	Health ↕	Status Comments ↕	Percent Complete ↕	Status Name ↕	Acct/Dept ↕
24	eWISACWIS integration with Workday	<p>Need to pull check amounts, check dates, and check numbers out of Workday to input into eWISACWIS. The export needs to be in an electronic file. Additional specs can be found on the eWISACWIS website.</p> <p>NOTE: This was on the list of integrations planned as part of the Workday implementation.</p>	Wed 7/31/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<p>Changed Percent Complete from 4% to 10%. Have changed the project scope to include pulling expected payments from eWISACWIS for load into Workday rather than manually entering payments. A payment confirmation file will be sent to the state of the Workday payments made. Still need to determine how best to notify payment recipients that an electronic ACH payment has been made. Currently printed letters are being sent.</p>	10%	In Progress	Social Services
25	Opsgenie	Opsgenie is a notification platform that will allow our email alerts to be directed to the appropriate on-call CCITC staff. Escalation and response is built into the platform.	Fri 7/26/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Due to resource constraints, no progress this period.	25%	In Progress	CCITC Department
26	New Sewer TV Equipment Software	Current PipeTech software is at end of life. The version we currently have won't update our current ArcMap versions. We will evaluate our current vendor (Pipetech) as well as other software companies. This new software is needed to improve our asset management of our City's Sewer Collection System. It will keep track of the sewer lines that have been televised, as well as our new/added duty of data collection on the private sewer lateral locations. This software can track footages of televised maintenance for DNR reports, as well as many other query needs.	Fri 8/30/24	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	Water Utility, Engineering and CCITC working to complete vendor provided project checklist. We are not expecting the new utility vehicle until the end of July 24. We will not start using the new software (ITPipes) until the new vehicle is received. No problems currently.	35%	In Progress	Utilities

27	Metro Ride CAD AVL/Technology Project	The City of Wausau requests \$1,277,045 in American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funds for capital expenses incurred by the Wausau Area Transit System, d.b.a. Metro Ride. This project will allow Metro Ride to procure its first ever CAD AVL system which will provide riders with up to the minute transit information and better communications between dispatch and bus operators. It also will address long needed replacement of shop equipment that is beyond its useful life. The projects are funded at 100% Federal	Wed 12/31/25	<input type="checkbox"/> Green	SRF Consulting to provide RFP in August 2024. The RFP will be used to select a vendor for remainder of project to put a technology solution in place for MetroRide.	5%	In Progress	Transit Department
28	Back-up 911 Center Build	Currently, the 911 Center has limited capabilities should evacuation of the Center be needed. We have positions established in the Jail, however, a separate physical location is needed for Disaster Planning/response.	Wed 7/31/24	 Yellow	ESInet implementation is included in this project. Testing dates are July 15th to July 19th, 2024 Tentative go-live is July 31st, 2024	65%	In Progress	Sheriff
29	Assembly Room replace microphones	During county board meetings, it is important that all supervisors can be heard. The 18 wireless mics initially installed when we built the Assembly Room are designed to be pointed directly at the mouth. Given that many supervisors are not proficient at using mics close to the mouths, it often results in poor sound for others in the room and for those remote.	Fri 6/28/24	— None	This is an approved CIP project for 2024 but is a lower priority so will not start until later in the year.	0%	New	County Clerk
30	Bug Tussel Fiber	When the county signed the loan for \$20M for Bug Tussel to install 370 miles of fiber and 11 towers, the agreement provides 24 strands of dark fiber. The goal of the project is to provide high speed, reliable access over fiber to Sheriff towers and the highway shops. Eventually, when it's all built the final goal is to reduce or eliminate entirely, the need to install Microwave equipment which is expensive and has a short lifespan compared to fiber.	Fri 11/28/25	— None	Changed Percent Complete from 0% to 5%. Goal is to complete purchasing by end of 2024 - will get purchase orders out in November. Installation will begin in 2025.	5%	New	Sheriff
			12/31/2025					