



**MARATHON COUNTY
BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING**

Minutes

Monday, May 23, 2022, at 3:00 P.M.

Webex/Assembly Room, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
Chair John Robinson	P	
Jacob Langenhahn	W	
Gary Gisselman	P	
Mike Ritter		x
Jennifer Aarestad	P	
Tony Sherfinski	P	
Erick Budleski	W	
Milton Olson		x
Wade Carroll		x
Kurt Schoenrock		x
Jon Euting	W	

Also Present: Gerry Klein, Valerie Carrillo

VIA Web or Phone: Lance Leonhard, Kim Webber, Mark Dodge, Steve Schneider, Noor Ali Hassan

1. Call Meeting to Order: Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. Public Comments (15 Minute limit) – none
3. **MARCH 25, 2022, MINUTES TO BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING**
4. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion:**
 - A. Roles and Responsibilities of Broadband Task Force – Chair Robinson gave the back history of why the task force was created as well as the current roles and responsibilities.
 - B. Overview of Past Efforts on Broadband Expansion - Supervisor Robinson reviewed the efforts and shared a document highlighting these efforts.
 - C. Funding Sources: County, State and Federal - Supervisor Robinson discussed the various funding opportunities available to include affordability.
 - D. Partnerships with Internet Service Providers - Update provided by Mark Dodge with Bug Tussel for where they have completed install at this time. He noted the material delay for ISPs is at least 18 months out. Supervisor Robinson updated the task force about the latest round of proposals from the ISPs.
5. **Policy Discussion And Possible Action:**
 - A. Process for determining priorities for future broadband expansion efforts - Supervisor Robinson recapped funds available and what has been used at this time to help move forward. It was suggested to look at the GeoPartners map to help decide where to move forward. Administrator Leonhard gave suggestions for additional information regarding resources for new members. He stated county staff are looking for committee guidance as to what the direction they want to head.
 - B. Outreach and Public Engagement activities: Website; Speed Test; Other – Supervisor Robinson, Eric Budleski, Noor Ali Hassan, and Sarah Dowidat met after last meeting to discuss the website. Noor shared what information will be on the website. Supervisor Robinson mentioned previous and ongoing efforts to reach out to the community. The committee discussed additional potential options to expand outreach efforts.

6. Next Meeting Topics
 1. Digital Equity
 2. PSC Grants and other Funding
 3. Educational Role

7. Next Meeting: June 27, 2022

8. Adjournment

SHERFINSKI MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING, GISSELMAN SECOND. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:19pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Kathy Johnson