



**MARATHON COUNTY
BROADBAND TASK FORCE MEETING
AGENDA**

Date & Time of Meeting: **Monday, October 25, 2021 at 4:00 P.M.**

Meeting Location: **Conference Room 5, 212 River Drive, Wausau, WI**

Task Force Members: Chair John Robinson, Eric Budleski, Sandi Cihlar, Sara Guild, Jacob Langenhahn, Milton Olson, Wade Carroll, and Kurt Schoenroch

Task Force Purpose: *Develop recommendations identifying the potential role of Marathon County in facilitating the expansion of Broadband access in Marathon County. Review the Report: Broadband for Marathon County Broadband Assessment and Plan prepared by Design Nine and develop broad policies and partnership recommendations relating to the expansion of broadband/internet services throughout Marathon County.*

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health directives, Marathon County encourages Task Force members and the public to attend this meeting remotely. Instead of attendance in person, Task Force members and the public may attend this meeting by **telephone conference**. If Task Force members or members of the public cannot attend remotely, Marathon County requests that appropriate safety measures, including adequate social distancing, be utilized by all in-person attendees.

Phone #: 1-408-418-9388

Access Code: 962 376 748

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

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
2. **Public Comments (15 Minute limit)**
3. **Approval of the August 23, 2021 Broadband Task Force Meeting Minutes**
4. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion:**
 - A. Update on Grant Applications For the Wisconsin PSC’s American Rescue Act Broadband Access Grant
 - B. Update on Marathon County/Charter application to NTIA
 - C. Update on Rural Development Opportunities Fund
 - D. Potential Federal and State Funding Sources for Broadband Expansion and Affordability
5. **Policy Discussion And Possible Action:**
 - A. Support For Bug Tussel Conduit Bonding Proposal
 - B. Marathon County’s Future Role As A Fiscal Partner For Broadband Expansion
 1. Define Role of County
 2. Identify Service Gaps
 - a. Review of Marathon County Broadband Survey and Distribution Plan
 3. Commitments: Financial and Other
 - a. Potential use of ARPA funds
 4. Expectations of Internet Service Providers/Partners
 5. Partnerships to extend service too hard to reach areas
 6. Staff support for broadband expansion efforts
 - C. **Development of a Request for Proposals for Broadband Services (based on Kewaunee County approach)**
6. **Next Steps**
7. **Next Meeting: Monday, November 22, 2021 at 4pm**
8. **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 715-261-1500 or e-mail countyclerk@co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

SIGNED /s/ John Robinson
Presiding Officer or Designee

Faxed/Emailed To: Wausau Daily Herald, City Pages, and
Other Media Groups

NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

Faxed/Emailed By: T. Ranallo

BY: T. Ranallo

Faxed Date/Time: 10/21/2021 2:00 P.M.

DATE/TIME: 10/21/2021