

## **AGENDA**

Eau Claire County

### **• Broadband Committee •**

Thursday, November 14, 2019

**4:00 P.M.**

Courthouse - Room #3312  
721 Oxford Avenue • Eau Claire, WI

1. Call to order and confirmation of meeting notice
2. Public Comment (limit to 3 minutes per person)
3. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – **Discussion/Action**
  - a. October 3, 2019
4. Presentation by John Feldman on last mile wireless technology and other options - **Discussion**
5. Survey options to determine current Broadband Services in Eau Claire County – **Discussion/Action**
6. Presentation and review of maps within Eau Claire County – Rod Eslinger - **Discussion**
7. Broadband expansion grant opportunities for 2019 and 2020– **Discussion/Action**
8. Broadband Forward and Telecommuter Forward for EC County - **Discussion/Action**
9. Recap of other Broadband meetings or webinars – **Discussion**
10. Next Steps and future meetings– **Discussion/Action**
11. Adjourn

Prepared by: Samantha Cole, Administration

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## **MINUTES**

Eau Claire County

### **• Broadband Committee •**

Thursday, October 3, 2019

**4:00 P.M.**

Courthouse - Room #3312

721 Oxford Avenue • Eau Claire, WI

Members: Don Mowry, Collin Pomplun, Joseph Malual, Jerry Bauer, Kevin Groskreutz, Lynn Thompson

Others: Dave Hayden, Frank Draxler, Rod Eslinger

Don Mowry called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m. and the confirmation of meeting notice was affirmed.

There were no members of the public present.

The minutes from September 19, 2019 were reviewed. A motion was made by Mark Zuber; seconded by Lynn Thompson. The motion was approved.

Mark Zuber and Don Mowry provided an oral report on a meeting with Jim Kusilek, Operations Manager for West Wisconsin Telecom. Currently West Wisconsin Telecom is working on three projects for this round of PSE grants, however, would consider working with the committee in the future. It is suggested that agencies applying for a grant provide one-third funding, telecom to provide one-third funding and the grant to provide one-third funding.

Other highlights noted:

- Need for broadband is there, but the funding to obtain the grants along with the potential revenue does not make installing fiber for all broadband economically feasible in all cases.
- Passing resolutions for Broadband Forward and Telecommuting Forward is essential in obtaining grants

The committee discussed current broadband services in Eau Claire County. Rod Eslinger, Direct of Planning & Development, presented a GIS map of the southwest portion of the county.

The committee discussed broadband expansion grant opportunities for 2019. It is apparent that more information, research, and partnership is needed in order to apply for a grant.

An overview was provided by Rod Eslinger and Frank Draxler regarding the Western Wisconsin Broadband Alliance meeting.

Next steps noted were:

- Follow-up on Broadband and Telecommuting Forward resolutions
- Obtain and apply more information to the GIS map.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectively submitted by,

Frank Draxler  
Administrative Operations Manager