



**AGENDA**  
Eau Claire County  
Broadband Committee  
Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.  
*Virtual Meeting via Webex*

Those wishing to make public comments must submit their name and address no later than 30 minutes prior to the meeting to [rod.eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:rod.eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us). Comments are limited to 3 minutes; you will be called on during the public comment section of the meeting. Written comments will also be accepted and should be submitted to the e-mail address listed above.

**Public Access: Dial in Number: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: 145 471 5248**

*\*mute your device upon entry*

1. Call to order and confirmation of meeting notice
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment (limit to 3 minutes per person)
4. Review/Approval of December 17, 2020 Committee Minutes – **Discussion/Action**
5. SpaceX Starlink Funding and Participating Sites. – **Discussion/Action**
6. Strategy planning for areas of the County that are unserved or underserved – **Discussion/Action**
7. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) -Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021-  
**Information/Discussion**
8. Next Steps and future meetings – **Discussion/Action**
  - a. Future Meeting: February 18, 2021
9. Adjourn

**AGENDA**  
Eau Claire County  
Broadband Committee  
Tuesday, December 17, 2020  
4:00 PM  
Remote Meeting via Webex Events

Those wishing to make public comments must submit their name and address no later than 30 minutes prior to the meeting to [rod.eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:rod.eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us). Comments are limited to 3 minutes; you will be called on during the public comment section of the meeting. Written comments will also be accepted and should be submitted to the e-mail address listed above.

**Public Access:** Dial in Number: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: **145 792 9410**  
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Members Present: Lynn Thompson, Donald Mowry, Joe Alf, Sara Lipke, Luke Hanson, Mark Zuber, Scott Hoffman, Tim Laubach

Staff: Rodney J. Eslinger – Director of Planning and Development, Dave Hayden – Director of Information Systems

Others Present: John LeBrun

Press: Ryan Patterson

1. Call to order and confirmation of meeting notice.

Chairperson Mowry call to order the meeting at 4:02 p.m. and he confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed.

2. Roll Call – Members present are noted above.
3. Public Comment (limit to 3 minutes per person)

None

4. Review/Approval of December 8, 2020 Committee Minutes – **Discussion/Action**

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of December 8th. Lynn Thompson motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Luke Hanson seconded the motion; motion carried on a voice vote with all in favor of the motion.

5. SpaceX Selection Criteria – **Discussion/Action**

The committee had a general discussion on the parameters/search criteria for the SpaceX participation selection. Dave Hayden shared an updated revised map for the project, which showed a portion of the search area extending into Jackson and Trempealeau Counties. Mr. Hayden reiterated the funding sources for the project which consists of a \$25,000 grant available from the WEDC that would cover the costs of the equipment, and \$60,000 from the community.

The County has committed to be the Angela account holder and would contribute 50% of the monthly service fee or \$30,000. He also noted that the County is actively seeking partner/community contributions to cover the remaining 50% of the monthly service fee or \$30,000. The pilot project requires a minimum of 30 users and a maximum of 50 users within the search area. The entire anticipated project costs are \$85,000 and the pilot project period is 1-year.

The committee suggested the following selection criteria:

1. Participates must be in Eau Claire County and in the search area.
2. Identify a financial need.
3. Preference given to unserved or underserved properties.
4. Disperse selections across the search area.
5. Show a need for the service. (ie: Telecommuting, Telemedicine, Remote learning)

The committee also identified the following groups for the project which the committee preferred to see equal user distributions across the groups as practicable.

- Residential
- Business
- Agriculture
- Medical
- Remote Learning
- Remote work

#### 6. SpaceX Fundraising – **Discussion**

The committee discussed fundraising options. Mr. Zuber suggested reaching out to Marshfield Clinic as he understood they possibly had interest in this project and there was funding available. Mr. Hayden volunteered his staff to assist with developing a fundraising outreach effort and creating a letter that would be sent to addresses within the identified search area in Eau Claire County.

#### 7. Literacy Programming (UWEC): Chair Mowry – **Information/Discussion**

Chair Mowry updated the committee that the Literacy Programming that will be available in the fall of 2021. UWEC students have already been identified to serve as trainers. There will also be outreach to community partners, such as, 4-H groups in Drammen and Brunswick to assist as well.

#### 8. FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) a. Charter/CCO Holdings – **Discussion**

The committee was informed that Charter/CCO Holding, LLC was awarded a RDOF grant to advance broadband across the U.S., which includes a large area in Eau Claire County. Rod Eslinger reached out to the Charter/Spectrum representative for Eau Claire, who decline to comment on their plans to expand services in Eau Claire County. Scott Hoffman indicated that he may have a contact that would be able to provide the committee more details of the RDOF.

9. Appointment – **Discussion/Action**
  - a. Thomas Lange – CVTC

Scott Hoffman motioned to approve Tom Lange’s appointment to the Broadband Committee, Mark Zuber seconded the motion; motion carried on a voice vote with all in favor of the motion.

The appointment moves to the Committee of Administration and the County Board for their approvals.

10. Next Steps and future meetings – Discussion/Action
  - a. Future Meeting: January 21, 2021

11. Adjourn

**Action:** Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:19 p.m.

Respectively submitted by,

Rodney J. Eslinger  
Director of Planning and Development