

AGENDA
Eau Claire County
Broadband Committee
Thursday, June 22, 2023
4:00 P.M.

Location: Eau Claire County Courthouse 721 Oxford Ave., Room #3312, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

*Event link below can be used to connect to meeting and interact (by the chair) from computer or through the WebEx Meeting smartphone app.

Join WebEx Meeting: <https://eauclairecounty.webex.com> Meeting ID: 2595 636 4555
Password: xnT5eYnPF63

*Meeting audio can be listened to using this Audio conference dial in information.

Audio conference: 1-415-655-0001 Access Code: 25956364555##

A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting, however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.

For those wishing to make public comments, you must email Rod Eslinger at rod.eslinger@eauclairecounty.gov at least 60 minutes prior to the meeting to the start of the meeting.

*Please mute personal devices 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 April 20, 2023, Committee Meeting Minutes – **Discussion - Action**
5. Internet Service Provider (ISP) Updates – **Discussion**
6. Town of Union Release of 50 % ARPA Match Funds – **Discussion – Action**
7. Spectrum/Charter ARPA Fund Request (Town of Clear Creek) – **Discussion – Action**
8. BEAD Local Planning Project - **Update**
9. WISER (Wisconsin Internet Self Report) - **Discussion**
10. United Way Digital Equity & Inclusion Update – Amber Scharenbroch – **Discussion**
11. Next Steps and future meetings – **Discussion - Action**
 - a. Future Meeting date: July 20, 2023.
12. Adjourn

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

MEETING MINUTES

Eau Claire County
Broadband Committee
Thursday, April 20, 2023
4:00 P.M.

Courthouse – Room #3312
721 Oxford Avenue – Eau Claire, WI

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*Please mute personal devices upon entry.

Members Present: Todd Meyer, Don Mowry, Lynn Thompson, Tim Laubach, Tom Lange, Mark Zuber.

Staff Present: Rodney J. Eslinger, Director of Planning and Development, Greg Dachel, Director of Information Systems, Dave Hayden, Broadband Consultant.

Others Present: Amber Scharenbroch, Mike Hill, Carah Koch, Doug Carlson

1. Call to order and confirmation of meeting notice.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. and the meeting notice was confirmed.

2. Roll Call – Members present are noted above. A quorum was present.
3. Public Comment (limit to 3 minutes per person) – Doug Carlson gave a brief update on Starlink service in the county.
4. Review/Approval of February 16, 2023, Committee Meeting Minutes – **Discussion/Action**

The committee reviewed the meeting minutes of February 16, 2023. Mark Zuber motioned to approve the minutes with Don Mowry seconding the motion; motion carried on a voice vote with all in favor of approving the February 16, 2023 committee minutes as presented.

5. Internet Service Provider (ISP) Updates – **Discussion**

Mike Hill from Charter/Spectrum provided an update on their Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) project in Eau Claire County.

Clerk Eslinger read Travis McFarland's email into the record regarding Bloomer Telephone's process with their broadband expansion project in the Town of Seymour.

No other internet service providers (ISPs) were present.

6. Committee Membership Update – Erica Poole Recognition of Service – **Discussion**

Clerk Eslinger indicated that Erica Poole has resigned from the committee. He indicated that Marshfield Clinic is in the process of finding a replacement for Erica to serve on the committee as a health care representative. Chair Meyer said that Rozanne Traczek, Village of Fairchild's Librarian, and the Town of Fairchild Clerk would be interested in serving on the committee.

7. Town of Brunswick Release of ARPA Match Funds – **Discussion - Funds**

Clerk Eslinger provide a brief update on the Town of Brunswick request for County's ARPA Match Funds.

Tom Lange motioned to approve the Town of Brunswick release of ARPA Funds as requested with Mark Zuber seconding the motion; motion carried on a voice vote with all in favor of the motion.

8. Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Local Planning Grant Program Grant Application - **Discussion – Action**

Clerk Eslinger indicated that the BEAD application was submitted to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC). Grants were awarded on March 22, 2023, to 6 REDOs, 25 individual counties, and 4 tribal nations. Eau Claire County received an individual grant award in the amount of \$18,337.40. No action taken.

9. BEAD – County Broadband Survey, Wisconsin Public Service Commission and UW – Extension – **Discussion - Action**

Clerk Eslinger, Don Mowry and Dave Hayden discuss the BEAD PSC/Extension County Survey with the committee.

Mark Zuber motioned to approve that Mr. Hayden and Mr. Eslinger prepare a preliminary county survey for the committee to review and comment on before submitting the final to the PSC and Extension. Don Mowry seconded the motion; motion carried on a voice vote with all in favor of the motion.

10. United Way Update – Amber Scharenbroch – **Discussion**

Amber Scharenbroch, Community Impact Director with United Way indicated that a second the United Way Digital Equity Resource Fair is planned for Altoona. She also reported on the Digital Equity & Inclusion Advisory program goals. 32 individuals have signed up for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) – goal is 100; 89 devices (PC/laptops) have been handed out – goal is 300; 22 individuals have received skill training – goal is 300. The Digital Equity & Inclusion Advisory Council continues to meet monthly.

11. Next Steps and future meetings
a. June 15, 2023

12. Adjourn

Adjourn Action: Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:05 p.m.

Respectively submitted by,



Rodney J. Eslinger
Broadband Committee Clerk
Director of Planning and Development



Ethoplex, LLC.
N115W19150 Edison Dr
Germantown, WI 53022
ethoplex.com (262) 252-9000

June 9th, 2023

Kathryn Schauf
Eau Claire County Administrator
721 Oxford Ave, Suite 3520
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Hi Kathryn,

We've heard that unused ARPA funds may be reclaimed in the final decisions made between the federal executive and legislative branches as they let the bureaucrats decide on budget agreement specifics to make all the numbers fit the legislation. Eau Claire County could be affected by this.

As the head of Administration in Eau Claire County, you know where the unserved and underserved areas are that can really benefit from available ARPA funds. This would be a great time to offer municipalities broadband grants or matching funds to make sure all of your citizens have access to affordable high-speed internet access. This is very important with the vast increase in folks working from home and the growing number of students being homeschooled.

Ethoplex is a fixed wireless internet service provider that can provide broadband to residences and businesses at one tenth the cost of fiber installation and about 10 times faster than what it takes to schedule and complete a fiber-based installation in many areas. We would be happy to set up a meeting to discuss how we can be of help.

Please call/email/text me at your earliest convenience to set up a date and time so we can go over how we can help you use your ARPA funds to improve Eau Claire County broadband connections for all of your residents, before these funds are possibly clawed back.

All The Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy C. Michalak". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Timothy C. Michalak
Director of Strategic Development
(414) 208-9810
TMichalak@Ethoplex.com

Application to request County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to match local governmental units (town) for Broadband Infrastructure.

Description

By resolution file no. 21-22/034, the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors designated 2.8 million dollars of its funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to be used as matching funds in combination with ARPA funds from local units of governments (towns) for the expansion of broadband infrastructure/services within Eau Claire County.

Applications from the towns requesting matching funds shall be for broadband infrastructure/services within townships in Eau Claire County.

Application and materials

To qualify for broadband infrastructure or services matching funds:

- Application must be filed by a town municipal government from Eau Claire County.
- The town must provide a scope of work plan (provided by the internet service provider) for the project.
- Detail drawings must be attached to the application that identifies the areas in the town to be covered by the project. The drawings shall be on media no larger than 11" by 17".
- Application shall indicate the amount of the town's ARPA funds are allocated to the broadband infrastructure project (proof from town board meeting).
- Town Chair or its designee must sign the application.
- Broadband expansion projects that cross over municipal boundaries, require separate applications from each town to be considered for County ARPA fund match.

Eligible Use of Funds

The Eau Claire County Broadband Committee shall review and approve the application requests for broadband funds. Funds can only be used for broadband expansion/infrastructure projects within the town. Any requests for funds **other** than for expenses directly related to broadband expansion will not be approved by the committee. The broadband project must support a 100 Mbps download and 100 Mbps upload speeds. Project area is underserved or unserved with highspeed internet according to the Public Service Commission (PSC) definition.

Application Timeline & Procedures

Completed application shall be submitted to Rodney Eslinger, Clerk for the Broadband Committee at rod.eslinger@co.eau-claire.wi.us. Please note the maximum attachment size is 10MB. If an email and attachments exceed the allowable size, please send multiple emails.

Application shall be reviewed by the Broadband Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting (the Broadband Committee currently meets the third Thursday of the month at 4 pm). The Broadband shall act on the request to allocate the funds requested.

Successful applicants will also be required to sign an intergovernmental agreement that further defines the expectations for the ARPA fund match.

DEADLINE: January 1, 2023

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO MATCH LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

SECTION I-TOWN ARPA FUND MATCH REQUEST	
Please indicated the requested amount of County ARPA Fund Match for the broadband infrastructure project in your township.	
Project Name	Amount
1. Town of Union FTTH Project	\$ 274,000.00
2.	\$
3.	\$

SECTION II-TOWN CONTACT INFORMATION		
Town of: Union		
Mailing Address: 1506 N Town Hall Rd.		
City, State, Zip: Eau Claire WI 54703	Website URL: www.townofunion.ec.com	
Town Chair: Jennifer Meyer	Town Clerk: Beverly Christopherson	
Office Phone: 715 8746123	Email: townofunion@wwt.net	
UEI (unique Entity ID) #	SAM Registration: Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FEIN ((Federal Employee Identification Number -Tax ID): 39-1094390		

Provide a description of the scope of work for the broadband project, and attached a detailed drawing of the area to be served by the project (attach supporting documentation):

Town of Union is using ARPA Funds to help service residents in the Town of Union that are not serviced with broadband. Town of Union is working with the 24/7 Telcom for this project.

Please submit the following project-level information for the broadband project:


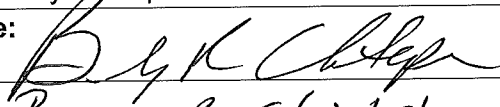



Technology to be deployed (highspeed internet)	
Pricing tiers to be offered (affordability)	
Miles of fiber	
Cost per mile	
Speeds to be offered	
System download speed	
System upload speed	
Number of households to be served	
Number of institutions and businesses to be served	
Anticipated start date	
Anticipated completion date	

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO MATCH LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

SECTION III- INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER CONTACT INFORMATION			
Name	Address	Phone	Email
247 Fiber Telcom Jim Kusilek	E 4528 Cty Rd C	715 231 2000	247fiber@nwnt.coop

SECTION IV- PROJECT FINANCE DETAIL	
Please detail how you intend to use the MATCH dollars. Attach documentation.	
Internet Service Provider (ISP) Match:	\$
Town ARPA Fund Match:	\$ 174,000.00
County ARPA Fund Match:	\$ 174,000.00
PSC Grant Application:	\$
Other Loans:	\$ —
Other financing (businesses or property owners):	\$ —
OVERALL PROJECT TOTAL:	\$

SECTION V - ATTACHMENTS		
The following required attachments are provided (check box that applies):	Yes	No
Scope of work description (if not indicated in section II)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project map of area to be serviced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town Board Approval (meeting minutes, town letter)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other documents/information:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION VI - CERTIFICATION/SIGNATURE	
By signing below, the applicant(s):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certifies that to the best of its knowledge and belief, the information being submitted in this application, and accompanying attachments, is true and correct. • Understands that unless it qualifies as a trade secret, all information submitted to the Eau Claire County Broadband Committee is subject to Wisconsin's Open Records Law. • Understand that additional information may be required and may be requested. 	
Signature: 	Signature: 
Name: 	Name: Beverly R Christopherson
Title: Town Chair 	Title: Town Clerk
Date: 	Date: 4-25-2023

Eau Claire County, WI

24-7 TELCOM, INC.
TOWN OF UNION
FTTH PROJECT
4/20/2023

Legend

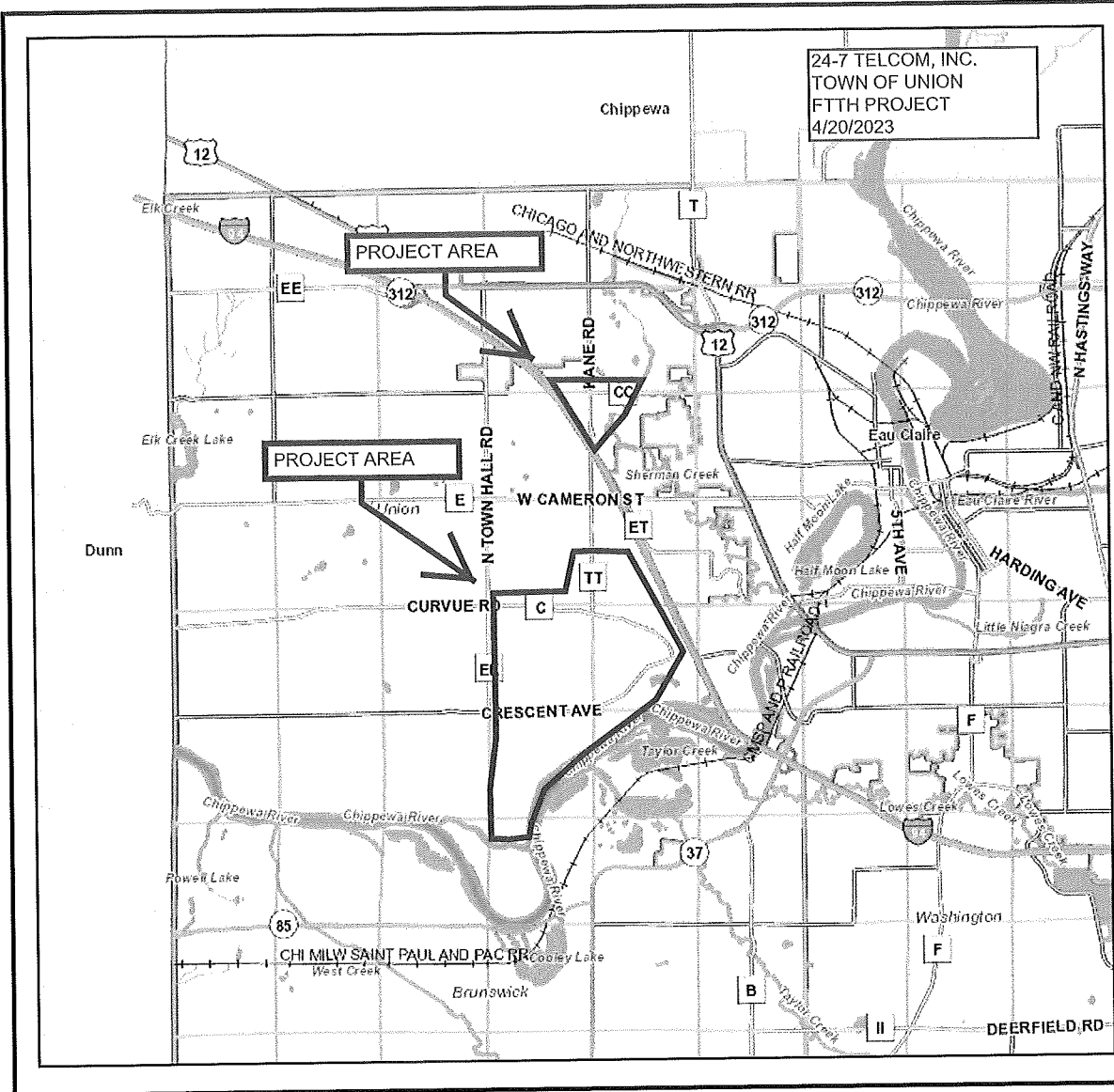
- Perks
- Sections
- Villages (Scale above 35K)
- Cities (Scale above 35K)
- Towns
- Eau Claire County
- Surrounding Counties
 - Dunn
 - Waushara
- Rivers and Streams
 - Lakes and Rivers
 - Interstate
 - US Highway
 - State Highway
 - Ramp
 - Major Arterial
 - Minor Arterial
 - Collector
 - Railroads



0 2000 4000 6000ft

DISCLAIMER: This map is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct, current, or complete and conclusions drawn are the responsibility of the user.

Author:	
Date Printed:	
09/29/21 2:33 PM	
Scale:	



From: [Jeff Emery](#)
To: [Town Of Union Chair](#); [Jim Kusilek](#)
Cc: [Rod Eslinger](#)
Subject: RE: ARPA Fund Match Application
Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 4:08:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.

Hello Jennifer,

I have included the answers below.

Technology to be deployed – FTTH (Fiber to the Home)

Pricing tiers offered

300x300Mbps = \$88.90

600x600Mbps = \$108.90

1000x1000Mbps = 158.90

We also participate in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

Miles of Fiber – 15.5

Cost per mile - \$62,400

Speeds to be offered - 300/600/1000 Mbps

System download speed - 1000Mbps

System upload speed – 1000Mbps

Number of households to be served – 133

Number of institutions and businesses to be served – 7

Anticipated start date – April 2023

Anticipated completion data – January 2024

Thank you,



Jeff Emery
Broadband Manager
[715.231.2000](tel:715.231.2000)
jemery@wwt.coop
wwt.net
Follow us:
[f](#) [@](#) [in](#)

From: Town Of Union Chair <meyerjennifer@wwt.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 11:13 AM
To: Jim Kusilek <jkusilek@wwt.coop>
Cc: Rod Eslinger <Rod.Eslinger@eauclairecounty.gov>; Jeff Emery <jemery@wwt.coop>
Subject: Re: ARPA Fund Match Application

Thank you for working on this Jim

Sent from my iPhone
Jennifer Meyer
Town of Union Chair

On May 2, 2023, at 10:46 AM, Jim Kusilek <jkusilek@wwt.coop> wrote:

T

Good morning,

Jeff and I will work to fill out the details needed for page 2.

Thank you – Jim.

From: Rod Eslinger <Rod.Eslinger@eauclairecounty.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 10:39 AM
To: Jennifer Meyer - Union <meyerjennifer@wwt.net>
Cc: Jim Kusilek <jkusilek@wwt.coop>
Subject: ARPA Fund Match Application

Hi Jennifer,

I noticed on the ARPA Fund Match application that there were a few blanks that still needed to be completed. Attached is the application for your reference and I highlighted those areas. You'll need to have Jim Kusilek provide the project level detail on page 2 and you will need to sign the application on page 3. With this email I have copied Jim, so he may assist with the project level detail on page 2.

The committee will next meet on June 15th at which time they will review and approve your request for match funds. Please remit the information prior to June 5th so it can be included in the Broadband Committee's June 15th packet.

Thank you,

Rodney J. Eslinger

Planning and Development Director

721 Oxford Ave., Suite 3344 • Eau Claire, WI 54703

Direct: 715-839-1657 **Cell:** 715-210-3624 **Fax:** 715-831-5802

Email: rod.eslinger@eauclairecounty.gov

<image001.jpg>

Planning and Development

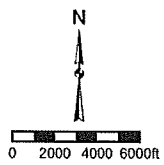
“I’ve learned that something constructive comes from every defeat.” – Tom Landry

This message is private and meant only for the person it was intended for. It may contain confidential information that cannot be shared under the law. If you are not the intended recipient or received this message by mistake, please let the sender know immediately and delete the message from your computer and any other devices. Thank you for your understanding.

Eau Claire County, WI

Legend

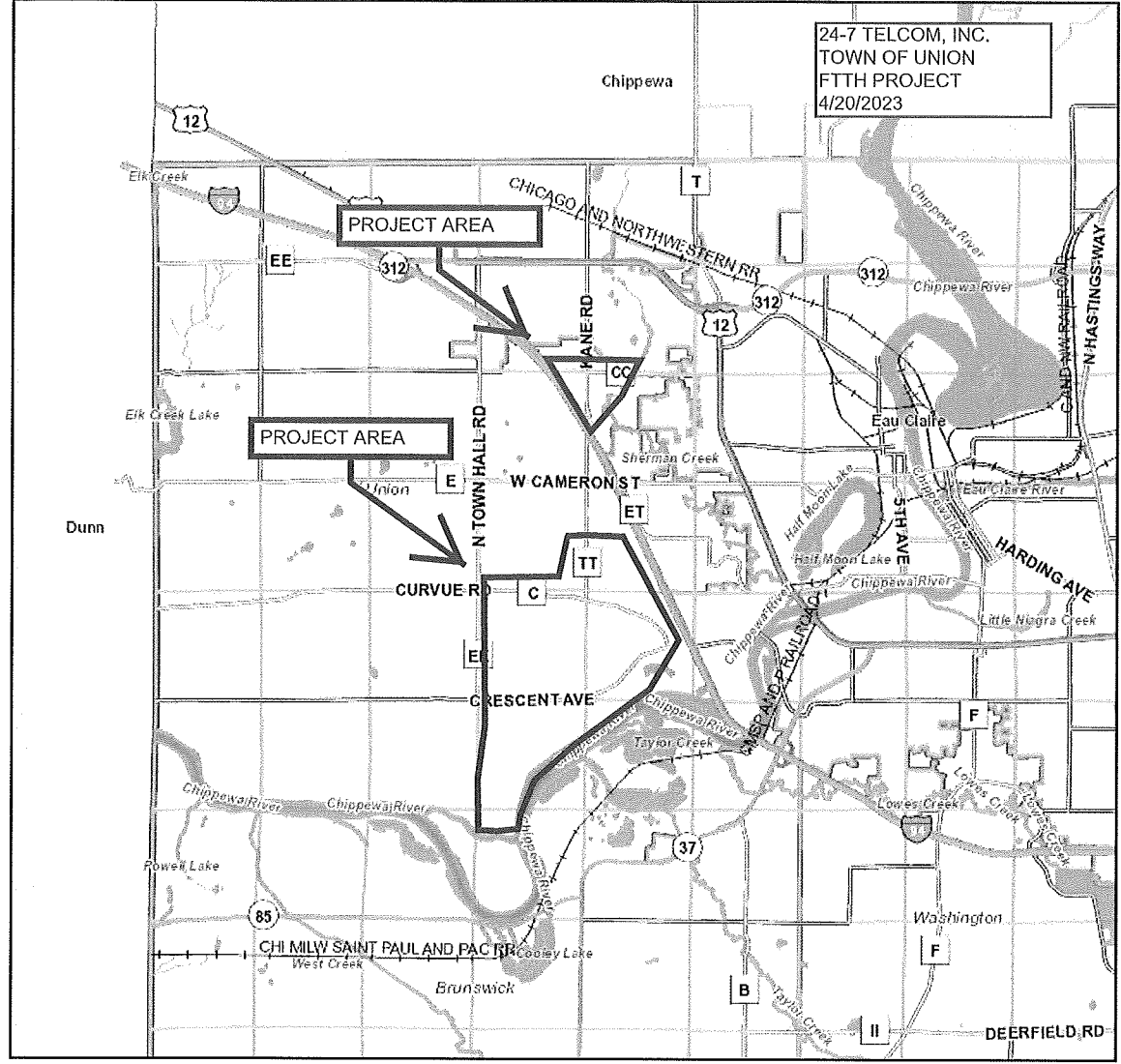
- Parks
- Sections
- Villages (Scale above 35K)
- Cities (Scale above 35K)
- Towns
- Eau Claire County
- Surrounding Counties**
 - Dunn
 - Chippewa
- Rivers and Streams**
- Lakes and Rivers
- Interstate
- US Highway
- State Highway
- Ramp
- Major Arterial
- Minor Arterial
- Collector
- Railroads



DISCLAIMER: This map is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct, current, or complete and conclusions drawn are the responsibility of the user.

<p>DATE PLOTTED: 05/23/21 9:32 PM</p> <p>SCALE:</p>	
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24-7 TELCOM, INC.
TOWN OF UNION
FTTH PROJECT
4/20/2023





FY2022 BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT APPLICATION - FUNDS REQUEST

PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME
Town of Union FTTH Project

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
FY2022 Broadband Expansion Grant Application Public Private Partnership Agreement - 3/1/2022

WISCONSIN PSC ERF #
432642

TOWNS CONTRIBUTION
\$274,000.00

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY MATCH
\$274,000.00

CONTACT INFO

24-7 Telcom Contact:
Town of Union Contact:
Jim Kusilek - Operations Manager
Jennifer Meyer - Chair
24-7 Telcom, Inc.
1506 N. Town Hall Road
E4528 Cty Rd C
Eau Claire, WI 54703
P.O. Box 247
715-456-5903
Downsville, WI 54735
meyerjennifer@wwt.net
715-231-2000
247fiber@wwt.coop

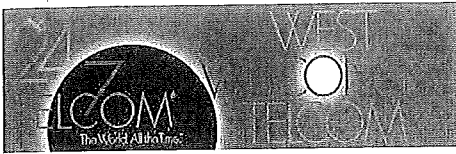
FUNDS REQUEST

DATE
3/15/2023

TOWNS FUNDS REQUEST
\$137,000.00 pd 4-10-23

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY FUNDS REQUEST
\$137,000.00 pd 4-10-23

TOWNS BALANCE REMAINING
\$137,000.00



P.O. Box 115
Downsville, WI 54735
715-664-8311

INVOICE: 104786

Invoice Date: 03/17/2023
Terms: NET 30 DAYS
Due Date: 04/16/2023
Amount Due: \$ 137,000.00

UNION TOWN HALL & OFFICE
1506 N TOWN HALL RD
EAU CLAIRE WI 54703-9687

Account: 50175
Description: FY2022 BBEG Broadband Access Grant Application Public Private Partnership
Agreement-Town of Union FTTH Project
Contact Name:
Page 1 of 1

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UOM	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	TAX
50% Eau Claire County Contribution	1.000	EACH	137,000.0000	137,000.00	

MESSAGES

PAY NOW! Invoices can now be paid online through our website, wwt.net/paynow. Payments can be made using debit/credit cards or your bank account. Enter your account number, last name, or business name, and then enter the amount you wish to pay.

Subtotal: \$ 137,000.00
Tax: \$ 0.00
Total: \$ 137,000.00
Amount Paid: \$ 0.00
Amount Due: \$ 137,000.00

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT - BILLING INQUIRIES CALL 715-231-2000



P.O. Box 115
Downsville, WI 54735
715-664-8311

Account: 50175
Invoice: 104786
Due Date: 04/16/2023
Amount Due: \$ 137,000.00

Amount Of Payment: \$ 137,000.00

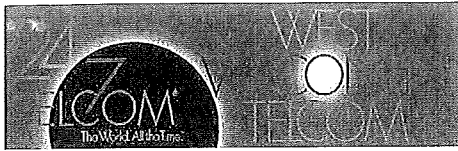
Remit To:

24-7 TELCOM
PO BOX 247
DOWNSVILLE WI 54735

*pd 4-10-23
ck # 6662*

UNION TOWN HALL & OFFICE
1506 N TOWN HALL RD
EAU CLAIRE WI 54703-9687

Check # 6662 TOTAL was \$ 274,000.00



P.O. Box 115
Downsville, WI 54735
715-664-8311

INVOICE: 104785

Invoice Date: 03/17/2023
Terms: NET 30 DAYS
Due Date: 04/16/2023
Amount Due: \$ 137,000.00

UNION TOWN HALL & OFFICE
1506 N TOWN HALL RD
EAU CLAIRE WI 54703-9687

Account: 50175
Description: FY2022 BBEG Broadband Access Grant Application Public Private Partnership Agreement-Town of Union FTTH Project
Contact Name:
Page 1 of 1

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UOM	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT	TAX
50% Contribution	1.000	EACH	137,000.0000	137,000.00	

MESSAGES		
<p>PAY NOW! Invoices can now be paid online through our website, wwt.net/paynow. Payments can be made using debit/credit cards or your bank account. Enter your account number, last name, or business name, and then enter the amount you wish to pay.</p>	Subtotal:	\$ 137,000.00
	Tax:	\$ 0.00
	Total:	\$ 137,000.00
	Amount Paid:	\$ 0.00
	Amount Due:	\$ 137,000.00

RETURN BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT - BILLING INQUIRIES CALL 715-231-2000



P.O. Box 115
Downsville, WI 54735
715-664-8311

Account: 50175
Invoice: 104785
Due Date: 04/16/2023
Amount Due: \$ 137,000.00
Amount Of Payment: \$137,000.00

UNION TOWN HALL & OFFICE
1506 N TOWN HALL RD
EAU CLAIRE WI 54703-9687

Remit To:
24-7 TELCOM
PO BOX 247
DOWNSVILLE WI 54735

Paid
4-10-2023
CK#16662

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
EUA CLAIRE COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF Union
DISTRIBUTION OF AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT FUNDS FOR
BROADBAND EXPANSION**

A. PURPOSE:

Whereas because of the American Recovery Plan Act (“ARPA”) that was passed by the United States Government in 2021, Eau Claire County and the Townships located within Eau Claire County have all received funds from ARPA which among other things can be used for the development and improvement of highspeed internet service otherwise known as “broadband” within Eau Claire County. Eau Claire County has set aside a portion of its ARPA funds and established a matching grant program, to match the amount of funds by the Towns for broadband expansion. This agreement entered into by and between Eau Claire County (“County”) and the Town of Union (“Town”) will regulate how those funds will be disbursed and administered.

B. APPLICATION PROCESS:

The Town will complete and file an application with the Eau Claire County Broadband Committee for the purpose of requesting a grant from the County’s ARPA funds for broadband purposes. The application will be filed on the form created by the Broadband Committee and will include at a minimum, the following information:

1. The amount of the Town’s ARPA funds being committed to Broadband infrastructure/improvements; and,
2. the amount of funds being requested by the Town from the County as a matching grant; and,
3. the geographical area in the Town where the broadband project will take place; and,
4. a statement on the nature of the project being planned, and an itemization of how the how the funds will be spent including what equipment will be purchased, what work will be performed, the name of the individual or company who will perform the work, and the timeline for completion of the broadband project.

The County Broadband Committee will review all applications for completeness and that the proposed project follows the rules and regulations of ARPA and will determine the following:

1. If the requested funds will be used by the Town for a broadband project as that term is defined under ARPA; and,
2. The total amount of the grant to the Town; and,
3. If any additional information is needed from the Town as part of the application process to assist the Broadband Committee with making a final determination for grant approval.

C. USE OF FUNDS BY THE TOWN:

The Town understands and agrees that the County has set aside a portion of its ARPA funds as a grant program to match the ARPA funds contributed by the Town towards Broadband improvement. In no instance will the Broadband Committee approve an allocation from Eau Claire County that exceeds the amount the Town is contributing from its own ARPA funds towards the project. The match is limited to use for broadband improvement/expansion as defined under ARPA and may not be used for any of the other purposes set forth in ARPA or for any other reason.

The funds distributed are matching funds, therefore the Town will use the Town's portion of the funds first and then use the matching funds contributed under this agreement. Any unused funds that were contributed under this program, at the completion of the project will be returned to the County so the County can either reallocate the funds or return them to the federal government consistent with ARPA.

The parties acknowledge and agree that the funds distributed under ARPA are restricted to the purposes set forth in the ARPA, and that the failure to comply with the requirements of the ARPA could cause the Town or the County to be required repay the federal government. Should at any time the federal government determine that the funds distributed to the Town were not used in compliance with ARPA and for other than broadband purposes, and informs the County that it must to repay the funds distributed to the Town, then the Town will within 10 days of being notified of the requirement to repay the funds to the federal government will pay to the County the full amount of the grant they received from the county, plus any interest or penalty assessed by the federal government.

D. REPORTING:

The American Rescue Plan Act requires local governments to keep track of and report to the federal government how ARPA funds were spent.

The Town will provide the County with the following information within 60 days of the expenditure of the grant and in no instance after December 31, 2024.

1. An itemized list of where and how the grant funds were spent, including, the following:
 - a. The date of the funds and who they were paid to.
 - b. A copy of the invoice, or payment record for each payment.
 - c. The purpose of the payment, and how it related to the broadband project

E. CONTACT PERSON/ NOTICE

The following individuals are the contact person for each organization and authorized to receive any correspondence/notices related to this agreement:

Eau Claire County:
Director of Planning and Development
Rod Eslinger
721 Oxford Ave
Eau Claire, WI 54703
715 839-4741

Town: Union
Title: Chair
Name: Jennifer Meyer
Address: 1402 Bluebird Ln
Eau Claire, WI 54739
Phone: 715 456 5903

F. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES; INDEMNIFICATION

The parties agree and acknowledge that this agreement in no way makes the County a party to the Town’s broadband project, and that the County will not at any time indemnify or assume responsibility on behalf of the Town for the planning, execution, or completion of its broadband project. The County’s responsibilities are solely limited to those set forth in this agreement. The Town will fully indemnify the County should any claims or judgments be filed against the County, including, costs, fees, or attorney fees, that stem from or are the result of the acts or omissions of the Town, its elected officials, officers, agents, or employees in relation to its broadband project for which funding is being provided under this agreement.

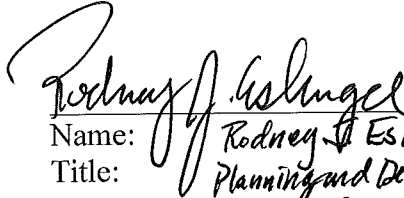
G. TERMINATION/CONCLUSION OF THIS AGREEMENT

This agreement in no instance shall extend past the conclusion of ARPA. All funds shall be expended, and all work completed consistent with the timelines established by ARPA. In the event the Town is unable to complete its project prior to these deadlines, it shall on or before the termination of ARPA complete its reporting obligations as set forth in this agreement and return all unused funds to the County.

H. AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT

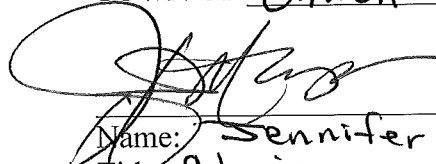
By signing this agreement, the parties acknowledge that they have the authority to act on behalf of the Eau Claire County Board and/or the Eau Claire County Broadband Committee and the Town Board to enter into this intergovernmental agreement.

EAU CLAIRE COUNTY


Name: Rodney Estinger
Title: Planning and Development Director
Committee Clerk - ECC Broadband
Committee

Date: 5-2-23

TOWN OF Union


Name: Jennifer Meyer
Title: Chair

Date: April 26, 2023

Board Meeting
February 8, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jennifer Meyer. People in attendance were Supervisors – Jeff Whyte, Mona Mathews, Jeff Bechard, Clerk Beverly Christopherson, Treasurer John McLaughlin, and see attached list of visitors. Supervisor Paul Travis was not in attendance.

Flag Salute

Comp Plan: No land use applications.

Menard's update: treating plant Town quit claim deed/road vacation legal recordings. Chair Jennifer Meyer has spoken with Attorney John Hibbard to correct the legal descriptions. Chair Jennifer Meyer made a motion to approve the road vacation legal descriptions. Nick Brenner from Menards would like to see more narrative as to why this is being changed. Need to change the words Elected to Appointed. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve the quit claim deed for the treaty plant Agreement with Town of Union and Menards. Treaty Plant was never transferred back to Menards. Supervisor Jeff Bechard seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

West Wisconsin Telcom: cont'd ARPA grant discussion/contract review.

Chair Jennifer Meyer did have a meeting with West Wisconsin Telcom regarding the agreement with the Town of Union and West Wisconsin Telcom. Partnership Agreement in needed in order for West Wisconsin Telcom to apply for grants for Broadband projects.

Project to cost upwards of \$966,000.

Town of Union has received \$147,163.99 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Town will receive a second payment in 2022 of \$147,163.99 for a total of \$294,327.98 in ARPA Funds. Town would like to commit funds to West Wisconsin Telcom for Broadband projects in the Town of Union. Eau Claire County has been matching ARPA funds used for Broadband.

West Wisconsin Telcom would request 50% upfront at the beginning of the project. Remaining funds to be distributed at end of project. Project could begin in 2023 if funding is available.

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve using \$274,000.00 in ARPA funds for Broadband infrastructure and to use the remaining \$20,327.98 to pay essential workers during 2020. Supervisor Jeff Bechard seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Roads

- A. County Line Road – Cedar Corp. brought a drawing of what County Line Road would look like upon completion. Board members were given a packet of what is needed to complete the project. This project would be available for certain grants and funding. Cedar Corp. will look into applying for grants and funding. Project is on hold until Funding is found, cost for project is \$1.6million. Next step will not happen until funding is completed.
- B. Eau Claire County Highway Department – maintenance contract discussion meeting on 02/22/2022, Chair Jen Meyer and Supervisor Jeff Whyte to attend.
- C. CTH T Updates: meeting will be next week. Waiting for information from City of Eau Claire.
- D. Any other road business: None to report.

Park Commission

A. Chair Report: Chair Fred Belay was in attendance and reported that he has met with Stephanie Travis to form a subcommittee to look into ballfields. Sherman Creek Park has a lot of work that the Park Commission has to do in 2022, Sherman Creek Park has more buckthorn than the conservancy. Conservancy Pavilion is still on hold. Tom Roach is putting the picnic tables together for the Conservancy. Park Commission approved paying Tom Roach \$50.00 for each picnic table he puts together. Security cameras are up and working. Park Commission already has pictures of someone dumping garbage. Snow Shoe hike is this Saturday and they have filled up number of people that can snow shoe. At the next Park Commission, they will talk about the 150th Anniversary for The Town of Union. Fred Belay and Dean Kallenbach will look into forming a foundation.

Visit Eau Claire:

A. Executive Director Report/Benny Anderson: Benny Anderson was in attendance. Benny Anderson went over 4th quarter numbers. They were down a little because of Covid. Day Trip section on Town Website has seen increase in numbers. Silvermine tab on website has seen lots of traffic due to their Tournament.

Township Fire Station #3 Report

A. Battalion Chief Report: Battalion Chief Dave Kleist was not in attendance.
B. Fire Inspector Duties: Township Fire is looking to decrease the number of inspections for those that don't need 2 a year. Township Fire needs to have approval from all Municipalities to pass the ordinance. Chair Jennifer Meyer made a motion to approve the change in Fire Inspector Duties. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Constable Report: No report from the Constable. Chair Jennifer Meyer did report she had to pick up kitten and took to Eau Claire County Humane Association.

Building Inspector:

A. Any updates or discussions to recent changes. Eau Claire County is doing everything.

Citizen Input & Questions

Review/Approve January 11, 2022, Board meeting Minutes:

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve January 11th meeting minutes. Supervisor Jeff Whyte seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Review/Approval Bills:

Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to approve payables as presented to board and adding Brett Huber's Payroll check, time sheet just turned in, February Settlement to Eau Claire County and school districts, Dog Licenses to Eau Claire County, ARPA payments for Essential Workers. Chair Jennifer Meyer seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.

Treasurer Report – Handed out to Board.

- A. Tax Collection & Dog Licenses updates; John McLaughlin – Town Treasurer handed Out report. Not updated as Bank Statements not received.

Licenses:

- A. **Operators:** Supervisor Jeff Bechard made a motion to approve all operators' licenses as presented to Board. Supervisor Mona Mathews seconded the motion. All voted yes, motion carried.
- B. **Liquor – Westgate Sportsman Club – Picnic License:** Tabled till March meeting
Not all paperwork handed in.
- C. Large Assembly - Blue Ox Music Festival: Tabled till March meeting.
- D. Driveway Permits:

Underground Cables:

- A. 3209 County Line Rd. – Excel Energy, gas removal approval, for building demolition
- B. Timber cutting permit filed with Eau Claire County Clerk on 01/12/2022 for property Located on CTH EE, N3737 947th St. Located on the east edge of Dunn Cty in Union. 34.63 acres.

Town Properties:

- A. Any issues open for discussion: Nothing to discuss.

Scheduled Town Meetings/Events:

- A. Saturday, February 12, 2022, Snow Shoe Hike at the Town of Union Conservancy
1pm – 3pm
- B. Tuesday, February 15, 2022, Spring Primary Election, 7am to 8pm at Union Town Hall
- C. Wednesday, February 23, 2022, Town Board Members only
Emergency Management Meeting 6-9pm at Pleasant Valley Town Hall
- D. Wednesday, March 2, 2022, Park Commission Meeting 6:30pm
- E. Thursday, March 3, 2022, Comp Plan Meeting 6:30pm
- F. Saturday, March 5, 2022, Town Board Members only/Board of Review training
Hosted by the Wisconsin Towns Assoc. District meeting 7:30am – 3:00pm
at The Florian Gardens Conference Center, Eau Claire, WI
- G. Tuesday, March 8, 2022, Town Board meeting 6:30pm

Adjourn

This Board meeting was adjourned at 9:12pm. Supervisor Mona Mathews made a motion to adjourn, and Chair Jennifer Meyer seconded the motion.

From: [Hill, Mike S](#)
To: [Rod Eslinger](#)
Subject: FW: PID 4524065 CTY HWY HH
Date: Friday, June 16, 2023 9:34:45 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[803135_4491587_Brownfield highway HH @ Foster.pdf](#)

WARNING!! This email originated outside Eau Claire County. Do not click any links or attachments unless you know the sender.

Good morning Rod, here is the data for the funding request.. I believe it is all here let me know if this works for you.

Mike

$\$39,115.64 - (8 * \$3,500) = \$11,115.64$ copay

Here is all the financial breakdown, I attached the project maps as well.

If you need anything else let me know.

Funding Request

Job Summary -- CTY HWY HH OSSEO, WI 54758				
PRISM ID	Name	Job Type	Construction Type	Status
4524065	BF Exception Clear Creek	ResidentialLineExtension - SDU	Brownfield-Line Extension	Unsubmitted
Cost/Mile	Cost/Passing	Labor Cost	Material Cost	Non Const Cost
\$56,689.33	\$4,889.46	\$32,187.09	\$6,928.55	\$0.00
Percent Complete	Percent to Budget	Rural Project Type	Revision #	1
		Other Rural	Total Const Cost	\$39,115.64
			Total Cost	\$39,115.64

Survey Data				
Passings	Footage	Architecture Type	Hub	Node
8	3656	FTTH with EPON	EAUCLAI-EAU-CLAIRE-WI	EU15E-EU15E

The contents of this e-mail message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient of this message or if this message has been addressed to you in error, please immediately alert the sender by reply e-mail and then delete this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, copying, or storage of this message or any attachment is strictly prohibited.



Set ped with 2 port OTE next to telephone ped.

Riser down pole with 24ct fiber. Bury 2" duct 621 feet to new ped by driveway pull in 24ct fiber

Riser pole

Add case and splice in 24ct fiber going north



Bury 964' of 2" duct set
ped and pull in 24ct
fiber



Bury 87' of 2" duct going north across HH. Set a ped next to power pole. Leave duct with mule tape for the installer to pull the drop later.

Set ped by phone ped on the west side of the driveway place 2 port OTE

Set ped by power transformer place 2 port OTE

Bury 496' of 2" duct and set ped with OTE on the south side of HH.

Bury 428' of 2" duct from ped to ped. Pull in 2 24ct fibers, the main feed and the back feed back to OTE at 10280 highway HH

set ped, leave slack in input 24ct

Bury 155' of 2" duct from the ped on the south side of HH to OTE at power transformer



Set ped on the west side of the driveway next to phone ped. leave duct empty with mule tape for installer to pull drop later

Bury 90' of 2" duct under highway HH. Leave duct with mule tape in it.

Set ped and 2 port OTE next to the power pole on east side of driveway

Bury 815' of 2" duct and pull in 24ct fiber.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 5-10-2023 3:59 PM

Polk County Broadband Leaders Forge Path Towards Equitable Access and Adoption

BALSAM LAKE, Wisconsin, May, 19, 2023— Thirty-five local stakeholders and internet service providers (ISPs) gathered for a luncheon in the Polk County Government Center to discuss broadband access, adoption, and affordability in Polk County on Thursday, May 4th. Tabletop displays of key information, brochures, and handouts from the special guest presenters and the West Central Wisconsin Broadband Alliance were the topics of numerous side-discussions as individuals grabbed their food, and it was clear that everyone present was energized to talk about the topic at hand. The West Central Wisconsin Broadband Alliance is a collaboration of business, educational, governmental, non-profit, and citizens partners who meet regularly to advocate for broadband expansion and adoption.

The meeting was organized by Polk County Administrator, Vince Netherland, and Cliff Albertson, a broadband consultant at Badger Communications; its aim was to address the unique challenges faced by the County in bridging the digital divide and fostering a more connected and inclusive community. The meeting brought together a diverse group of community leaders, policymakers, educators, and representatives from ISPs who recognize the critical importance of broadband access in today's society. Presenters included Jaron McCallum, strategic initiatives coordinator for the PSC Wisconsin Broadband Office; Gail Huycke, UW-Extension community development broadband outreach specialist; Danielle Jones, director of rural initiatives, WEDC Office of Rural Prosperity; and Carah Koch, Federal Program Officer for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

“I think the meeting was very informative,” said Netherland. “We called in local ISPs. We called in people from the state—we even had a federal agency representative here—and we brought in Polk County leaders from the top industries and sectors like education, healthcare, and agriculture, to come in and tell us why this is important to them and what are their obstacles to getting broadband into homes and getting adopted.”

“As a state employee of the WBO, I am always so pleased to take part and listen in on these local conversations,” said McCallum. “We do a lot at the state-wide level to promote broadband but these local conversations are key and are actually where the rubber meets the road.”

The meeting was seen by many as a testament to the strides made on broadband in Polk County. Four years ago, the Polk County Board of Supervisors made it a long-term priority to expand broadband access within the County. In 2018 and 2019, the Polk County Board of Supervisors passed Resolutions to facilitate the development and expansion of broadband internet services available to county residents and designated Polk County as a “Broadband Forward!” and “Telecommuter Forward!” community. These certifications identified Polk County as supportive of increased broadband access and committed to promoting telecommuting.

Netherland worked with industry expert, Albertson, to create an up-to-date set of data regarding broadband accessibility and availability in Polk County and engaged with the local service providers to identify opportunities for the continued growth and expansion of broadband in the area. Then, in February of last year, the Polk County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution allowing for a portion of ARPA funds to be used for matching grant funds for applications for broadband expansion submitted by local service providers to the State of Wisconsin.

“The emphasis at the time was to get the fiber in the ground and get it throughout the County border to border,” said Netherland. “Geographically, approximately 85% of the County has access to some type of high-speed internet. But what we’ve found is that doesn’t necessarily mean 85% of County residents have adopted it, or have a line to their house.”

Netherland also added, “this is not just a Polk County government effort. The real gratitude goes to our local ISPs; they are the ones risking their dollars and businesses to spread into these areas. It’s also all the support they are getting from citizens encouraging this.”

Polk County, like many other regions in rural Wisconsin, faces disparities in broadband access, which hinder opportunities for economic growth, education, healthcare, and civic engagement. While local ISPs have made substantial progress in establishing the necessary infrastructure, obstacles such as long driveways, easements, and adoption barriers persist, hindering equitable broadband availability for all residents. For many who live on a private road in Polk County, getting a local ISP to run fiber optic cable may be a challenge. During the meeting, ISPs discussed how they need to acquire easements from private property owners that are between a potential customer and a main fiber optic line in the ground. This process can be very time consuming, and if one landowner denies the ISP the right to access their property to run the cable, they can cut off other property owners from broadband access.

Participants at the meeting also engaged in discussions that emphasized the transformative impact of broadband on the present and future of Polk County. Affordable broadband internet access brings numerous benefits to a community, including economic growth through remote work, business opportunities and entrepreneurship, enhanced education with access to online resources and virtual learning, improved healthcare through telehealth services, and streamlined government services and civic engagement.

“I can see it being important to veterans since the VA is changing many of their processes to online submittal and offering things such as telehealth as virtual appointments,” said Andrew Butzler, County Veteran Service Officer. “I feel telehealth is beneficial to all age groups of veterans, regardless of them being a busy parent, or retired. Personally, I prefer my appointments by virtual because it saves me from taking a few hours off work just to drive to and from the appointment. Given our geographical location and climate, it can be difficult for veterans to travel an hour or greater for a medical appointment.”

Wojchik said, “For the agricultural community . . . there are some operations that are becoming very technologically advanced and are dependent on fast internet speed to operate equipment, manage cropping systems, and support their business decisions. I think overall the agriculture community is moving towards the need for fast reliable internet very quickly and access to this service would be a huge benefit.”

Moving forward, the group expressed its commitment to remaining advocates and champions for broadband in Polk County. Attendees pledged to continue working closely with local authorities, community organizations, and ISPs to drive forward initiatives that expand access, promote adoption, and improve affordability of broadband services.

“I think the conversations that happened at the event were fantastic,” Huycke said. “But now is not the time to take the foot off the accelerator. It will be important to build on those positive conversations and look for ways for all the stakeholders to work together. Now is the time to look for win-win solutions for all. Together public and private partners need to continue to explore partnerships to improve access, adoption and affordability on the quest to bring Internet for all.”

“Rivers, roads, and railroads led the way to prosperity and are still vitally important,” said Albertson.
“The road to the future has a new addition: broadband.”

Contact:

Ms. Claire Johnson

Communications and Public Information Specialist

715-485-9267

claire.johnson@polkcountywi.gov

###

Claire Johnson, Communications and Public Information Specialist

She/Her

Polk County Department of Administration

100 Polk Plaza, Suite 221

Balsam Lake, WI 54810

☎: 715-485-9267 / ✉: claire.johnson@polkcountywi.gov





Instructional Guide for County & Regional Stakeholders

Survey tools for broadband access, affordability & adoption data collection

Prepared by Wisconsin Broadband Office at the PSC and Boston Consulting Group

June 2023

Contents

Link to [survey](#)



Context for WISER survey



Door County case study



PSC's WISER survey promotion timeline



Checklist of tasks for survey promotion



Resources available to you



WISER survey enables counties with important broadband access & affordability data and it helps the Wisconsin Broadband Office's planning efforts for upcoming broadband funding

Collaborative efforts are needed

Collaborative efforts are needed between government, business, education and community stakeholders to **improve access, affordability and adoption**

It is critical to deploy effective **tools and resources** to help state agencies **accurately assess communities' broadband needs**

Broadband champions at local level are **critical for resident buy-in** and **effective deployment** of marketing materials

WISER survey and OptiMap-GEO speed test allow for direct resident feedback

Across the state of Wisconsin, there are a **range of survey tools** being deployed and PSC's Broadband Intelligence Project **plans to leverage all**

WISER survey and OptiMap-GEO speed test are **unique tools** that capture **different insights**:



Captures additional data highlighting critical affordability metrics (e.g., monthly cost, internet quality, and experience)



Provides insight into broadband speeds, to identify unserved and underserved areas

Increasing WISER response rates will enable better broadband planning

WISER survey delivers **important opportunities** for counties, residents and the State:

- 1 WI households **can share their full experience with internet, or lack thereof**
- 2 Your county can **better understand adoption barriers and cost burdens** facing residents, to **prioritize future broadband efforts**



WI residents will be **able to take WISER in multiple ways** such as:



Dedicated phone line



Online survey



Mailing in a simple postcard with a few questions



Door County Case Study | Successful deployment of WISER survey with ~15% response rate enabled identification of critical broadband needs

Context & approach

Door County decided to promote the WISER survey to approximately ~30K residents

Team composition

- Dedicated Broadband Coordinator to manage process and distribute marketing materials
- Appointed broadband "champions" throughout County and a diverse committee of community leaders

Marketing efforts

- Multi-channel communication across online (e.g., county web page) and physical channels (e.g., flyers in public establishments, postcards)
- A postcard version with fewer basic questions to target residents without internet access
- Talking points, business cards, and additional paper surveys provided to "champions" to distribute

Results



~15% response rate (and counting)



Response data with tagged locations allows Door County to easily identify served, underserved, and unserved areas



Real-time broadband experience data (e.g., service quality, costs to residents and businesses) can now be used planning purposes or for partnering with providers to apply for grants and infrastructure investments



Best practices for other regions

- Identify broadband "champions" to enable localized efforts to obtain buy-in from residents and increase response rates
- Engage local businesses & organizations, as trusted community insiders
 - Leverage local organizations' email distribution lists
- Use a multi-channel marketing approach
- Ensure all team members have consistent talking points
- Compile and share best practices across committees and partnerships



PSC's WISER survey promotion timeline

May 29 – June 16

Phase 1 (3 weeks)

Develop strategy

- Identified key contacts to assist with WISER promotion and other data collection tools
- Reached out to counties and REDOs with request to support
- Offered office hours to counties and organizations to learn best practices for improving survey response rates
- Created marketing materials and instructional guide for counties (*this document*)

June 19 – July 14

Phase 2 (5 weeks)

Promote WISER

- Activate and support broadband "champions" at county and regional level
- **Broadband champions & PSC/BCG work together to increase local survey response rates**
 - **Distribution of marketing materials**
 - **Usage of talking points at local events**
 - **Multi-channel approach to engage residents**
- Clean and analyze survey responses in real time

July 17 – July 28

Phase 3 (3 Weeks)

Analyze survey results

- Continue analyzing WISER survey data to gather insights for counties on access, affordability, and adoption
- Utilize OptiMap-GEO speed test data to understand residents' network performance
- PSC to share spatial data with counties
 - **Via data use agreements**

We are moving quickly through this process and have materials & resources to support counties with these efforts.

*We are asking counties to support the tasks in **bold**.*



Checklist of upcoming tasks for WBO / BCG and counties / REDOs

Wisconsin Broadband Office at the PSC has hired BCG to engage counties in collecting broadband access & affordability data

WBO & BCG

Counties & Regional Economic Development Organizations

Phase 2

Promote WISER
June 19 – July 14

- Distribute instructional guide and ship marketing materials to counties
- Support counties with postcard distribution to targeted areas & communities of interest (e.g., unserved)
 - Contingent on counties providing address list
- Collect and process data returned via postcards
- Provide continued support to counties, including but not limited to:
 - Refine marketing materials and/or talking points
 - Support process-related inquiries (via phone/email)

- Confirm support of WISER survey other tools
- Attend office hours session hosted by BCG team to understand county-wide action items, available resources, ask questions (calendar invites have been sent out)
- Post WISER marketing on websites & social media
- Provide county address list & identify areas for targeted mail outreach / surveying
- Distribute marketing materials locally (e.g., hang up flyers)

Phase 3

Analyze survey results
July 14 – July 28

- Share spatial data with counties (via data use agreement)
- Continue analyzing WISER survey data and gather insights on access and adoption
- Utilize OptiMap-GEO speed test data to understand residents' network performance
- Provide continued support to counties, including but not limited to:
 - Assistance with data analysis inquiries
 - Support with process-related inquiries (via phone/email)

- Sign data sharing agreement with PSC
- [Optional]* Conduct localized data analyses (e.g., maps of where adoption/ affordability needs or barriers are highest) to inform county broadband planning



Resources available to you

Link to [survey](#)

We will provide marketing materials to distribute within your county, including:

- Press release
- Flyers / posters to distribute in public establishments (e.g., grocery) and community organizations
- Short questionnaire on postcards
- Talking points
- Sample social media posts and text messages
- County website language to promote & link WISER

Best practices for WISER marketing & outreach from Door County can be viewed [here](#)

There are many affordability and digital equity efforts happening with Wisconsin, including:



Public Service Commission – Wisconsin Broadband Office ([link to community planning resources](#))

- BEAD Technical Assistance Team, Digital Equity Act Planning Team, Broadband Intelligence Project on access & affordability



University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension – Community Development Institute ([link](#))

- Surveying on ability to pay, statewide broadband report, and other digital equity analyses



United Way of Wisconsin – Techquity initiative

- Collective impact initiative to ensure digital equity and inclusion of every resident



Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

- Support and promotion of speed test

Non-exhaustive

For assistance throughout this process, please contact the following individuals:



Milena Bernardinello
Wisconsin Broadband Office
milena.bernardinello@wisconsin.gov



Ana Mancia
Boston Consulting Group
mancia.ana@bcg.com



Sean Moore II
Boston Consulting Group
mooreii.sean@bcg.com



Help us get internet to
YOUR
home or business



Eau Claire County is working hard to deploy high-speed internet throughout the region. We need all residents, property, and business owners to participate in this questionnaire to understand the availability and quality of internet in Eau Claire County.

Every response will better inform broadband planning across the State.

If you have internet from your home or business:

Please take the broadband survey and speed test online from your home internet connection at:



tinyurl.com/WISER2023

If you do not have internet OR if you only have cellular access:

Please call to take the questionnaire via phone:

608-261-6026