

## PRICE COUNTY AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BROADBAND MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 12, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101, 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI

Meeting called to order by William Teeters, Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: Present – Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, TJ Podmolik, William Teeters. Excused: Evan Lund. Also present – Nick Trimner, Bob Kopisch

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Communications and Correspondences: None.
2. Public Comment: None.
3. Current status of broadband in Price County: Discussion. Anyone in the county has access to Internet service through several options, however each option may have different speeds available and costs associated with the service.
4. Infrastructure:
  - a. Identify players: Price County Telephone, CenturyLink, Charter. There are several wireless providers, but only offering limited service. Cell phone coverage can be unreliable depending on where user is in the county.
  - b. What has been accomplished: Jeff explained what fiberoptic deployment has been done within the county.
  - c. What are needs going forward: Educating the public on what has been done and what is available.
5. County involvement: Public Service Commission has community certification programs: Broadband Forward and Telecommuter Forward. Contact with providers to find out their plans for expanding service.
6. Funding sources: Grant money is available to providers and communities.
  - a. State: Current governor is requesting more funding.
  - b. Federal: Citizens should contact legislators to follow where funding is going and how it is being utilized.
7. Plan going forward: Contact Bayfield and Sawyer Counties to find out what they did for the certification program.
8. Report to the County Board: Bill will provide a review of the meeting.
9. Next meeting date: second week in April.
10. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk