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**BROADBAND TASK FORCE
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M.
CLINTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROOM
100 EAST STATE STREET, ST. JOHNS, MI 48879**

1	10:00	CALL TO ORDER, ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
2	10:02	LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENTS
3	10:05	APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4	10:10	BROADBAND INITIATIVE UPDATE - GUIDEHOUSE (ADAM SMIDDY) – NO ATTACHMENT
5	10:20	BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL - PLANTE MORAN (KYLE MACYDA AND ALAN MCCARRICK) – NO ATTACHMENT
6	10:50	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
MEETING STARTS PROMPTLY AT CALL TO ORDER TIME LISTED. AGENDA ITEM TIMES MAY VARY		

PACKET INFORMATION IS CURRENT AS OF POSTING DATE. **NOTE:** ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE PRESENTED ON SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS. AGENDA ITEMS MAY ALSO BE ADDED DUE TO BUSINESS NEEDS.

TO REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS OR MATERIALS IN AN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT, PLEASE CONTACT ADMINISTRATION AT (989)224-5120 OR TDD USERS WITHIN CLINTON COUNTY MAY DIAL 9-1-1 FOR GENERAL COUNTY SERVICES OR USE MICHIGAN RELAY 1-800-649-3777 OR THE NATIONAL RELAY NUMBER OF 7-1-1 NO LATER THAN 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

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County Administrator

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BROADBAND TASK FORCE
Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Members Present:

Bob Showers, Chairperson
Bruce DeLong
Craig Longnecker
Todd Campbell (alternate)
Patti Schafer
Nicole Fickes
Jason Almerigi
Doug Riley
Wayne Smith
Kari Dickenson
Wayne Petoelje

Staff Present:

Penny Goerge
Craig Thelen
Phil Hanses

Others Present

Adam Smiddy, Guidehouse
Peter Klein, Clinton County RESA

Items of Business

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. Member Almerigi moved, seconded by Member Schafer, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
2. **Limited Public Comments:** Broadband Task Force Chairperson Showers requested limited public comments. There were none.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The November 28, 2022, minutes were presented for review and approval.

Member Almerigi moved, seconded by Member Schafer, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

4. **Clinton County Broadband Initiative:** Broadband Task Force Chairperson Showers introduced discussion regarding Clinton County's Broadband Initiative.
 - **Michigan Highspeed Internet Office (MIHI) Grant Funding** - Discussion took place regarding the ROBIN (Realizing Opportunities in Broadband Infrastructure Networks) Grant:
 - The Michigan High Speed Internet Office (MIHI) anticipates opening the 60-day ROBIN grant application window in mid-January; there is a 45-day comment and objection period (all objections will be field validated by engineers), and it is anticipated that awards would be finalized in July;
 - The required ROBIN grant match is 15% which is lower than initially anticipated, and very positive news for the project;
 - Mr. Smiddy assured the Task Members that Guidehouse has already gathered much of the information required for the ROBIN grant and will be prepared to submit Clinton County's application in a timely manner;
 - Mr. Smiddy discussed concerning news relative to fixed wireless internet service providers who have claimed service capable of speeds meeting the 100 mbps download and 20 mbps

upload speeds, as MIHI has stated these areas will not receive ROBIN funding, contradicting the federal guidance initially put out by Treasury;

- The members discussed the need to have speed tests completed to challenge some of these fixed wireless claims; community leaders will need to get involved and the Task Force can help facilitate these efforts; Mr. Smiddy assured the members he will put together some materials to make it as easy as possible.
- **Infrastructure RFP Update** - Administrator Longnecker provided an update to the members regarding the infrastructure RFP review process:
 - The FCC released an updated National Broadband Map on November 18th with the stated intent to provide more accurate location-based broadband availability data;
 - Since this data was not available to our vendors at the time of their initial proposal submission to the County, it was determined it would be in the best interests of both the Provider and the County to offer each Provider the opportunity to submit revised pricing;
 - All revised pricing forms were due on December 20, 2022 at 3 pm and the results have proved to be advantageous to the County;
 - The Task Force will meet again on January 23rd to hear Plante Moran's presentation and at that time a recommendation will be forwarded to the Ways and Means Committee;
 - Plante Moran will present their recommendation at the January 26th Ways and Means Committee and the final award and decision will be made at the January 31st Board of Commissioners Meeting;
 - Discussion followed and it was noted the County's RFP did not have a contract attached; the members were notified that a contract will only be implemented with the chosen Provider if the County is awarded the grant money needed to fund the project;
 - Administrator Longnecker thanked the evaluation team for their hard work during the holidays to evaluate proposals; the evaluation team consists of IT Director Thelen, Deputy Administrator Campbell, Finance Director Moser, and Administrator Longnecker;
 - Administrator Longnecker praised Mr. Smiddy for his impressive work; Mr. Smiddy has worked through many hurdles to get the County positioned for this grant application, such as working closely with the MIHI Office, attending many township meetings, and his budget projections were on target.
- **Mapping Issues** - The FCC maps available for evaluation of proposals have inaccuracies; challenges to FCC maps should be filed on January 13, 2023, to ensure an accurate federal map is used for Michigan to receive its equitable share of BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment) program funds;
- The next Task Force Meeting will take place on Monday, January 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

No action required.

5. **Motion to Adjourn:** Broadband Task Force Chairperson Showers adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m.