

BROADBAND COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE: BROADBAND/FINANCE
DATE: MAY 28, 2024
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARDROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lukas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chaney, Lukas, Skallerud, Wirtz

Finance Members Present: Chaney, Decorah, Lukas

Absent: Gretzinger, Marvin

Other Members: Stephanie Montgomery (E.M. Director) , Chris Shafer (FCEDP), Amber Rehberg (UW-Extension Director), Kayla Littleton (LCC), Sheriff Marvin

Others Present: Nora Matuszewski, Representative from Bug Tussel (Mitch Olson)(TEAMS), Steve Watson, Heather Ostrowski, Mary Belland(Teams)

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Shafer to approve the agenda, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2024 MEETING

Motion by Shafer to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2024 meeting, second by Wirtz. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON CONSIDERATION OF INITIAL RESOLUTION APPROVING REVENUE BOND FINANCING FOR BUG TUSSEL 2, LLC OR A RELATED LIMITED LIABILITY ENTITY. INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE JOB IMPACT OF THE PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION

This resolution was forwarded to the County Board out of a Finance meeting on May 21st, but, it had a second motion bringing it to the floor made by a personnel member in error so, it is being brought forward at this meeting again to correct the error. This could be corrected at the next Finance meeting but, the committee felt they could do it here instead of holding another meeting before full County Board in June.

Sheriff Marvin brought up several concerns about the bond financing stating he was looking out for the taxpayers. All concerns were answered by Mitch Olson (Bug Tussel) and other members.

Motion by Decorah to forward the Bond Financing for Bug Tussel in resolution form to the full County Board for possible approval, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

UPDATE- FCEDP COORDINATOR

Mary Belland updated the committee on the BEAD workshop she attended and told the committee about putting together the Technical Assistant Grant reimbursable time they spent working on the projects. She talked about grants and timelines and working with other entities as a team. There has to be an ISP for writing of the grant.

UPDATE- DIGITAL NAVIGATOR

Watson updated the committee on the progress of the program and what he found for help with his position in the future. There is a company, Human IT that is interested in taking the project over for another year or so after the current program has ended. He said there are options with them, one being they write the grant but, everything is run under the County, or they could write the grant and administer it themselves.

Motion by Decorah to have Human IT write and administer the grant, second by Chaney. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SETTING NEXT MEETING

- Broadband bonding
- Broadband updates
- FCEDP Coordinator updates
- Next meeting – June 25th at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Shafer to adjourn, second by Chaney. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Broadband meeting.