

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING IMPROVED BROADBAND ACCESS IN TAYLOR COUNTY.

THE INTERNET IS ESSENTIAL 21ST CENTURY INFRASTRUCTURE: Modern broadband internet networks are essential infrastructure in the 21st century economy. Access to modern broadband infrastructure is vital in ensuring that all communities – rural, tribal, and urban – can access opportunity and participate fully in community life.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES ARE THE LIFEBLOOD OF AMERICA: America is built on its great communities. Towns, counties, and cities are where economic activity and civic engagement live – and communities recognize modern broadband internet infrastructure as essential to enable such economic and democratic activity.

WHEREAS, improved broadband access is necessary to Taylor County businesses and citizens in the areas of economic development, medical care, education, communication, entertainment, and other future uses; and,

WHEREAS, significant portions of Taylor County are below average in speed, adoption, and capacity compared to the rest of Wisconsin, America, and our worldwide competitors; and,

WHEREAS, although Taylor County may not be a broadband provider it may work to facilitate broadband build out and improvement; and,

WHEREAS, public and private involvement in the development of a broadband improvement plan is necessary to ensure success; and,

WHEREAS, Taylor County is supporting the State broadband expansion grants program in the recent biennial budget; and,

WHEREAS, Taylor County supports communities having the ability to make their own choices. Local choice enables local self-reliance and accountability. Local choice enables local innovation, investment, and competition. Local communities, through their elected officials, must have the right and opportunity to choose for themselves the best broadband internet infrastructure for their businesses, institutions, and residents. Federal broadband policies must prioritize local choice and provide local communities full, unhindered authority to choose their own broadband future.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Taylor County Board of Supervisors duly assembled on this 18th day of April, 2017, endorses and establishes as a goal that Taylor County broadband opportunities are provided for its businesses as well as its citizenry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

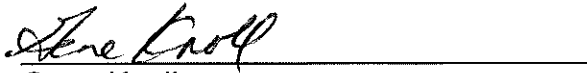
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:



Michael Bub



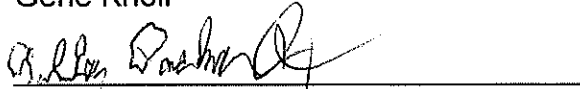
Tim Hansen



Gene Knoll



Carmen Thiede



Allen Poehnelt