EDA Meeting Minutes



Regular Meeting
Thurs. Feb. 16th, 2017
3:00 p.m.
1st Flr. Bd. Rm.
Detroit Lakes, MN

Meeting called by: Larry Knutson

Type of meeting: Regular Meeting

Attendees: Larry Knutson, Abby Anderson, Corey Askin, Hank Ludtke

Board members absent: Barry Nelson, Chris Sherman

Other Attendees: Gene Curtis, Jill Brandt, Thomas Olson, Amanda K., Mary Hendrickson, Guy Fischer,

Agenda Topics

1. Call Meeting to order: Larry Knutson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

- 2. Welcome and Introductions: New Member/Oath Administered to Corey Askin.
- 3. **Approval of Agenda:** motion to approve by Anderson, 2nd by Askin –motion carried.
- 4. Approval of January Meeting Minutes (1/19): motion to approve by Ludtke, 2nd by Anderson motion carried.
- 5. EDA: Broadband Discussion with Arvig Representatives

Arvig reps: Gene Curtis (General Manager), Jill Brandt (Core & Inside Sales Manager), Tom Olson (Regional Service Manager-West). Request for some history of Arvig – started out as cable T.V. and grew to include cable modem and broadband. In our area the service Callaway, Pickerel Lake, Audubon, Sally/Mellissa/Fox, and Detroit Lakes. Capability aims for 2017 include providing at least 200 Mbps download, 10 Mbps upload speeds on cable modem platform for area along Hwy 10 east (out of DL), and South around Lakes (fiber) also other work in Becker County planned for Osage and Callaway. Also some work starting on some local Loretel ranges (10 yr. project duration). Arvig looking to hire an 320 workers to get all of their broadband work done. Request for map showing slated Arvig broadband work in Becker County.

The incumbent provider is Century Link (some discussion about letter from Century Link to Arvig in response to Arvig's proposed broadband improvement area around Pearl Lake (Century Link objected to proposal and has jurisdiction in the area proposed). Century Link has \$324 million in federal funds via the Connect America Funds (CAF II) program which provides financial support to bring broadband to more rural MN. In return for utilizing these funds Century Link will bring broadband to more than 114,000 unserved households by the end of the program and to meet 40% of its build commitment by 2017. Broadband speeds in CAF II eligible areas (includes areas within Becker County) will vary based on customer distance from the CL facilities – the max. speed available will be 80 Mbps down and 40 Mbps upload. Per Arvig conversation with CL staff, CL is looking to get started on E. Side of Pearl Lake, Hwy 25 to Hwy 34 and Pickerel. Staff to contact Century Link (Judd Seiverson, Eng.) to invite to next EDA meeting.

6. Housing:

- Review Financial Statements & Approve Paying Bills: Some changes to balance sheet per yr. end qtr. payment from MMCDC.
- From Check Register/Invoices Presented: Workshop \$1,204.77, Hwy 34 Group Home \$150.00, Low Income Public Housing \$15,821.67, Willow Property \$1,570.11, Maple Ave. Apts. \$7,438.69, Hidden Hills Group Home

\$150.00, West River Townhomes \$11,715.03, and Section 8 Voucher \$0.0. Motion to approve financial

- statements and paying bills, motion by Askin, 2nd by Ludtke motion carried.

 7. **Open Forum:** March Audit Mtg. (March 2nd 2:00 p.m.).

 8. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made by Askin, 2nd by Anderson, motion carried. Larry Knutson adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Guy Fischer **EDA Coordinator**

/s/ Larry Knutson **EDA Board Vice President**