

Shawano County Board of Directors meeting - May 23, 2018

11. Resolution No. 36-18 to pledge County financial support for the Broadband Expansion Project Grant Application(s) submitted by SCEPI to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) for the July 16, 2018, funding cycle.

Whereas, approximately \$7.0 million in State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant funding will be available to eligible applicants in January 2018; and

Whereas, SCEPI is working in partnership with one fixed wireless provider to improve broadband service in Shawano County, including but not limited to the Towns of Belle Plaine, Washington, Wescott, and Richmond, and the Villages of Cecil and Gresham; and

Whereas, the provider is currently engaged in engineering analysis designed to produce detailed project parameters and cost estimates to be used to compile a competitive Broadband Expansion Grant application(s); and

Whereas, the Broadband Expansion Grant process is extremely competitive and applications that demonstrate public-private partnership are evaluated higher than those that do not; and

Whereas, SCEPI is seeking additional letters of support and monetary financial pledges from municipalities receiving benefit from the application, contingent upon grant approval, and includes \$1,000 coming from SCEPI; and

Whereas, a similar pledge from Shawano County would increase the overall competitiveness of the application; and

Whereas, the Shawano County Finance Committee recommends pledging \$25,000 in support of this project contingent upon receiving grant funds matching or exceeding this amount.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Shawano County Board of Supervisors, in session this 23rd day of May, 2018, that it financially supports the applications submitted to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission for the purpose of upgrading broadband service in both the central towns and villages in Shawano County, and hereby pledges **\$25,000** in financial support contingent upon the grant award matching or exceeding this pledge, with funds to be dispersed from the General Fund.

Submitted by, Gerald Erdmann

Deb Noffke

Rosetta Stern

William Switalla

Arlyn Tober

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Hoppe, seconded by Conradt, to adopt Resolution No. 36-18. Dennis Heling, Chief Economic Development Officer for SCEPI, came forward to explain need for the broadband expansion for local businesses, households, tourism, schools, etc. Heling then introduced Mark Dodge, Bertram Communications, to the Board. Dodge explained that his company is working with SCEPI to improve broadband services in Shawano County to include, but not limited to, the Towns of Belle Plaine, Richmond, Washington and Wescott and the Villages of Cecil and Gresham. Questions and comments by several supervisors. With a pledge in support from the county, an application will be submitted to the WI Public Service Commission for the purpose of upgrading broadband services to the areas mentioned. Financial support is contingent upon the grant award matching or exceeding the pledge. Resolution No. 36-18 adopted 23 Yes, 0 No, 4 absent - Krause, Schmidt, Switalla and Young.

Resolution 2018-#1

Pledge Town Financial Support for Broadband Expansion Project Grant Application of Shawano Economic Progress Inc. (SCEPI) and Bertram Communications, Inc. to Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) for the July, 2018 Funding Cycle

Whereas, approximately \$7.0 million dollars in the State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant funding will be available to eligible applicants in July, 2018; and

Whereas, the Broadband Expansion Grant process is extremely competitive; and applications that demonstrate a public/private partnership are evaluated higher than those that do not; and

Whereas, Shawano County, some neighboring communities, and Shawano Economic Progress, Inc. (SCEPI) have pledged financial support to Bertram Communications, Inc. for an application to the Broadband Expansion Grant in July, 2018; and

Whereas, expansion of Broadband in the Town of Richmond would be a benefit to the residents and businesses of the Town; and

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Town of Richmond Town Board supports the application of Shawano County Economic Progress, Inc. (SCEPI) and Bertram Communications, Inc. to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for the Shawano Area, including the Town of Richmond, for the purpose of upgrading broad service in the area, and hereby pledges \$2,000.00 in financial support contingent upon the grant award.

Adopted this 11th day of June, 2018
by the Town of Richmond Town Board:


Town Chairperson

Attested this 11th day of June, 2018


Town Clerk

Resolution 2018-01

Pledge Town Financial Support for Broadband Expansion Project Grant Application of Shawano Economic Progress Inc. (SCEPI) and Bertram Communications, Inc. to Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) for the July, 2018 Funding Cycle

Whereas, approximately \$7.0 million dollars in the State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion grant funding will be available to eligible applicants in July, 2018; and

Whereas, the Broadband Expansion Grant process is extremely competitive; and applications that demonstrate a public/private partnership are evaluated higher than those that do not; and

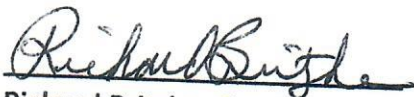
Whereas, Shawano County, some neighboring communities, and Shawano Economic Progress, Inc. (SCEPI) have pledged financial support to Bertram Communications, Inc. for an application to the Broadband Expansion Grant in July, 2018; and

Whereas, expansion of broadband in the Town of Grant would be a benefit to the residents and businesses of the Town; and


Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Town of Grant Town Board supports the application of Shawano County Economic Progress, Inc. (SCEPI) and Bertram Communications, Inc. to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for the Shawano Area, including the Town of Grant, for the purpose of upgrading broadband service in the area, and hereby pledges \$2,000.00 in financial support contingent upon the grant award.

Adopted this 6th day of August, 2018

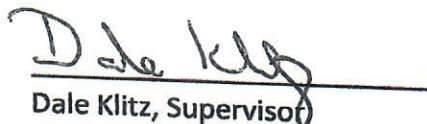
By the Town of Grant Town Board:



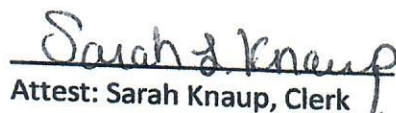
Richard Britzke, Chairman



Bill Bowers, Supervisor



Dale Klitz, Supervisor



Attest: Sarah Knaup, Clerk