## Winnebago County Industrial Development Board

## Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2021 Meeting

## County Admin Building 112 Otter Ave, Room 119, Oshkosh, WI

Board Members Present: Rob Keller, George Dearborn, Jon Doemel, Mary Krueger, Mary Anne Mueller, Morris Cox, Bob Warnke, Joel Rasmussen

Board Members Excused: Shiloh Ramos, Linda Kutchenriter, Elizabeth Hartman

Others Present: Jerry Bougie, Vicky Fitzgerald, Patty Francour, Art Rathjen, Dan Kesselmayer

Board Meeting called to order at 10:30 am by Rob Keller.

- <u>Approval of Minutes from March 22, 2021 meeting</u>. Morris Cox made a motion to amend the minutes to reflect that the vote on the March 22 minutes should be 10-0 and not 11-0, as he was not present in the meeting at the time the vote was taken. With that correction, Joel Rasmussen seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.
- 2. <u>Discussion and potential Board action on broadband activities and f</u>unding in Winnebago County: Report from US Internet, other broadband activities, possible Board action on US Internet funding request. Dan Kesselmayer from US Internet provided the Board with a report on their broadband infrastructure activities in rural Winnebago County and proposed funding for an upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the project. US Internet is requesting a \$200,000 investment from Winnebago County for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of fiber to the home infrastructure, with US Internet investing \$400,000 and the State Public Service Commission (PSC) contributing \$500,000 via their grant dollars. The proposed phase 3 would serve an additional 275 residences in the rural areas of the County. Dan indicated that the financial investment from the County would be necessary to get the grant approved from the PSC. He also indicated that Phases 1 and 2, which is already funded, will be completed by 2023. Discussion pursued. The consensus of the Board was that the \$200,000 funding request is too excessive for the IDB to provide and there may potentially be other providers that are looking for funding from the county which needs to be dealt with via a broader countywide strategy that is above and beyond what IDB can address. Joel Rasmussen made a motion to table the \$200,000 funding request for US Internet. Morris Cox seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

- 3. <u>Board review and possible action on 2022 IDB Budget</u>. Jerry Bougie provided the Board with a summary of the proposed 2022 IDB Budget. He indicated that the most significant item in the budget is the \$209,000 annual allocation from the County Board at budget time which gets reallocated as grants to local units of government and economic development entities in the County for local economic development efforts. Discussion pursued. Mary Krueger made a motion to approve the 2022 IDB Budget as presented. Mary Anne Mueller seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.
- 4. <u>Next meeting and adjournment.</u> The next meeting will be set-up as needed. Joel Rasmussen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, George Dearborn seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Submitted by,

Jerry Bougie, Recording Secretary