Today’s meeting was made possible by a grant from the United States Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration in support of the Economic Development Administration University Center at the Community Development Institute Division of Extension University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration
Funding Broadband Access Panel

Christopher Stark, Associate Professor
Community Development Institute
UW-Madison Division of Extension
Funding Broadband Access

Examples of Local Efforts:
- Scott Feldt, Kewaunee County Administrator
- Michael Bub, Chairperson, Taylor County Broadband Committee

Examples of State and Federal Efforts:
- Alyssa Kenney, Director of Digital Access, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
- Tom Barron, Economic Development Representative for the Economic Development Administration
Kewaunee County’s
Broadband Blueprint
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Award Information</th>
<th>Project Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 2017</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Door Co Broadband</td>
<td>no award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2018</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Door Co Broadband</td>
<td>Awarded $40,000</td>
<td>$80K Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2018</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Door Co Broadband</td>
<td>no award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 2018</td>
<td>Administrator proposes $1 million in 2019 budget</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2018</td>
<td>County Board removes request</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2019</td>
<td>Board Chair forms Broadband Study Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. - Nov. 2019</td>
<td>RFP for BB partner released, Bug Tussel selected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Bug Tussel Wireless</td>
<td>Awarded $960,000</td>
<td>$2.52M Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2020</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Bug Tussel Wireless</td>
<td>Awarded $1.4 million</td>
<td>$4.0M Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2021</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Bug Tussel Wireless</td>
<td>no award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2021</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Spectrum/Charter</td>
<td>no award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2021</td>
<td>Grant Application</td>
<td>Spectrum/Charter</td>
<td>pending</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kewaunee County/Bug Tussel Tower Project
Kewaunee County/Bug Tussel
Middle Mile Fiber Project
Kewaunee County/Charter Spectrum Fiber to the Home Project

Unserved Area Project Map
To Be Continued . . .
Broadband Funding Sources

- POTENTIAL BROADBAND GRANT REVENUE SOURCES:
- Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CCPF)*
- ReConnect Loan and Grant Program
- Emergency Broadband Benefit Program
- Distance Learning & Telemedicine Grants
- Rural Health Care Program
- NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Grants
- Institute of Museum and Library Services Pandemic Respond Funding
- The American Jobs Plan
- Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Phase II
- Tribal Broadband Connectivity Grants
- Emergency Connectivity Fund

WEBSITE SOURCE
Kewaunee County/Bug Tussel Loan Agreement

- 2020 KC/BTW Tower Project
  - Loan Amount: $960,000
  - Interest Rate: 3.0%

- 2021 KC/BTW Fiber Project
  - Loan Amount: $2.2 Million
  - Interest Rate: 3.0%

Through this agreement, Kewaunee County will have partnered to provide improved broadband accessibility with NO cost to the taxpayer.
Next Steps

Kewaunee County will continue to seek additional funding to achieve our ultimate goal – fiber to everyone home and business in the county.

- Kewaunee County is reviewing Bug Tussel’s ROAD & BEST Programs
- ROAD utilizes county bonding authority to fund expansion while providing interest income to the county for use of the funds. County is provided a bundle of fibers for county use and tower space for county public safety use.
- BEST provides towns last mile to towns. Towns will providing ARPA funding as a match to install fiber. Towns will receive a percentage of revenues generated up to an agreed amount.

- Kewaunee County is working with other partners to expand service.
Contact Information

- Scott Feldt
- Kewaunee County Administrator
- Address: 810 Lincoln Street, Kewaunee, WI  54216
- Email: feldt.scott@kewauneeco.org
- Phone: 920-388-7164

- Thank You
Now Presenting

- Michael Bub, Chairperson, Taylor County Broadband Committee
Funding for Infrastructure Buildout
Wisconsin Broadband Office
Vision and Mission

Vision
• All Wisconsinites have the information technology capacity needed to fully participate in society

Mission
• Make high performance broadband more accessible, resilient, and affordable in Wisconsin
How will we reach our goals?

1. Leadership and Vision
2. Data and Maps
3. Strategic Investment in Infrastructure
4. Digital Equity and Inclusion Framework
5. Partnership and Capacity Building
Broadband Office Programs and Tools

Broadband Expansion & ARPA Grants
In eight years, 351 grants & ~$172 million to spur internet build-out.

Broadband Maps & Planning Tools
100 + internet providers and federal expansion subsidies are on our maps.

Broadband / Telecommuter Forward!
Get your community recognized for being ready to expand broadband access and telecommuting options.

COVID-19 Response
Provider offering listing, Wi-Fi locations, Phone and Internet Helpline, CARES Act Grants

Governor’s Taskforce on Broadband Access
Develop, administer and provide technical assistance to the Taskforce.

Internet Discount Finder
Search for internet affordability programs.

Broadband Connectors Pilot
Partnership program with WEDC to provide technical assistance to communities.
FY 2022 Broadband Expansion Grants – State Program
Up to $129 Million available over the biennium FY22 – FY23

Stay tuned for a grant opening announcement, timelines are still TBD

The goal of the grant program is to encourage the deployment of advanced telecommunications capability in underserved areas of the state – funds are largely for infrastructure and ancillary costs

The instructions, application material are not available yet – but you can start planning NOW.
Who may Apply for a State Broadband Grant?

Applicants must fall within one of the following three applicant categories:

• An organization operated for profit or not-for-profit, including a cooperative.

• A telecommunications utility.

• A city, village, town, or county that has entered into a partnership with an eligible organization or telecommunications utility.

• Indigenous Nations or Tribes
Where may State Broadband Grants be awarded?

For an area to be considered eligible for a grant, it must be considered “underserved.”

- “Underserved” = Area served by fewer than 2 providers offering “Broadband Service”
- “Broadband Service” = 25 Mbps Download / 3 Mbps Upload
- “Unserved” area priority factor described in Application Contents & Scoring section
What Specific Items Should be Discussed in a State Grant?

The statute that authorizes the Broadband Grant Program requires that the Commission give priority to applications that include any of seven factors listed in the statute:

- Matching funds
- Existing broadband services
- Scalability
- Will not delay broadband service in adjacent areas
- Public/private partnerships
- Project impact
- Economic impact

To date, the Broadband Grant program has been quite competitive. The Commission has received many more applications than it can fund. The discussion of priority factors has been the key element of the application that the Commission has used to decide which applications to fund.
Federal Funding

**FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit:** Provide a discount of up to $50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households and up to $75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

**FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF):** Phase 1 of the auction is complete.

**FCC Emergency Connectivity Fund:** Funding for schools and libraries to aid in connecting students, school staff and library patrons to devices and broadband.

**USDA ReConnect:** Accepting applications Offers loans, grants, and loan-grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in areas of rural America that currently do not have sufficient access to broadband.

**NTIA Tribal Connectivity Fund** (Application Closed)

**NTIA Broadband Infrastructure Grant** (Application Closed)

**NTIA Connecting Minority Communities** Application due December 1st
Discussion and Questions

Wisconsin Broadband Office Team Email: 
PSCStateBroadbandOffice@Wisconsin.gov

Alyssa Kenney: 
Alyssa.kenney@Wisconsin.gov

Wisconsin Broadband Office Webpage: 
https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/WBO.aspx
Now Presenting

Tom Barron, Economic Development Representative, Economic Development Administration