

Gogebic Range Broadband Committee
July 26, 2017 meeting notes

McKindles opened the meeting in the Iron County Main Meeting Room at 12:05 pm.

Participants: Norm McKindles (primary/secondary education), Brandon Yuchasz (Gogebic.net), Mike Shouldice (Mercer resident), Joe Bonovetz (Gogebic County), and Opal Roberts (Iron Co WI Supervisor).

Bonovetz reported that Gogebic County will be meeting with Connect MI on August 8th at noon in the cafeteria at the Community College. At this point Michigan is putting their broadband money in planning.

The June 2017 grant application was submitted with projects listed for Lake of the Falls and Spider Lake. There may be another round of grants coming up. If we are not approved for this grant then we will resubmit this project if there is another round of grants. If we are approved for the current grant then we would submit projects in the area of Long and Fisher Lakes in the future.

Shouldice presented an evaluation of the Broadband Fair held in Mercer on July 18th. About 70 people attended the four hour fair. The Ipad prize was won by an out of state visitor. Most attendees were over 50 and focus may have to be on a younger audience in the future. Mailing most effective, poster least effective. Mailing was to Lake-shore property owners. Could mail to a broader audience. Town and Chamber did not promote the event effectively. A resource guide is to be collated by the Iron County Development Zone. Of the people who wrote comments there were 17 permanent residents, 3 part time property owners and 1 vacationer. Shouldice has all the documents on the planning and staging of the event for anyone who would like the information.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday August 30th at noon in the Iron County boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Submitted by Opal Roberts