Gogebic Range Broadband Committee April 25, 2018 meeting notes

McKindles opened the meeting in the Iron County Board Room at 12:00 noon.

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

Gogebic County update:

Mt Zion tower was approved at the April Ironwood City Commission meeting. The project will need formal permitting from Ironwood Township.

Nothing definite to report on the Carnegie Library white space project. FCC will not allow banding of white space so it will not be able to handle enough bandwidth. The hardware for using white space is in development.

Iron County update: PSC partially approved our grant in the amount of about \$47,000. Norm and Kelly contacted PSC grant administration and were told we would need to do a June application for the remainder of the grant request. CenturyLink has partnered with Level III Company who does not want CenturyLink to expand their current footprint. Richard Thiede's contact at CenturyLink said they would be laying fiber in Mercer and also stated that once completed all 476 numbers will be able to get a minimum of 10 Megabits Per Second of internet speed. McKindles plans to obtain the maps showing exactly where and how much fiber they will be laying in this Mercer project. Yuchasz reported on a private project Gogebic Range.net is considering in Mercer. A landowner north of Mercer who currently has a tower on his property may agree to have GogebicRange.net place equipment on it.

Community Resources: Nosal reported the launch date for the website she is working on is scheduled for mid-May.

The meeting with Bug Tussel Wireless of Green Bay, WI is scheduled for May 2nd at noon in the Iron County boardroom. Yuchasz had a conversation with this company and was told they are working with AT&T to provide cell phone and broadband service to Iron County.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday May 30th 2018 at noon in the Iron County boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53 pm.

Submitted by Opal Roberts