

Gogebic Range Broadband Committee
May 29 2019 meeting notes

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

Participants: Norm McKindles (primary/secondary education), Kelly Kline (Iron Co. Economic Development), Brandon Yuchasz (GogebicRange.net), Mike Shouldice (Mercer resident), Joe Bonovetz (Gogebic County), Jeanne Graham (GCC Student Services), and Opal Roberts (Iron Co. Supervisor)

Gogebic County update:

Bonovetz reported there is nothing new with Connect MI. Tom Stevenson had called McKindles to ask about the survey. Gogebic County does not have a resource like Kelly Kline for working on survey distribution. It is more difficult to get responses since Gogebic County does not have organizations like our Lake Associations to get information out to the public.

Iron County update:

Tower updates: Saxon Harbor – waiting on contractor. At Spider Lake the concrete is going into the ground. Work will start now that the areas have dried up. Still looking for a site for the Lake of the Falls tower. McKindles will contact the Lake of the Falls Association to seek information on service availability and possible tower sites. Mt Zion has needed to be upgraded already. Brandon has been keeping track for the past month on new installs. 80% have been in Iron County and 70% of these have been because of needing to work from home. Some installations have been due to poor cell phone service.

Internet Access Survey:

Kline has printed handouts giving information on Broadband services/providers and distributed these to the chambers and realtors.

Community Resources:

Amy Nosal was not in attendance to give her report.

McKindles mentioned the Trump ban on a Chinese company because it may be supplying telecommunications equipment to terrorists.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday June 26th, 2019 at noon in the Iron County boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Submitted by Opal Roberts