

**Gogebic Range Broadband Committee**  
**August 28 2019 meeting notes**

**McKindles** opened the meeting in the Iron County Board Room at 12:10 pm.

**Participants:** Norm McKindles (primary/secondary education), Kelly Klein (Iron Co. Economic Development), Brandon Yuchasz (Gogebic Range.net), Joe Bonovetz (Gogebic County), Amy Nosal (UW-Extension), Richard Thiede (Oma Township), and Opal Roberts (Iron County Supervisor).

**Gogebic County update:** For the Michigan Broadband Expansion grant Brandon is looking at the Watersmeet chain of lakes area but the applications are due this Friday and he will not be ready for this round of grants. The Wakefield Industrial park will be a separate grant application. Brandon will be meeting with US Representative, Jack Bergman, on Thursday to discuss these projects.

The Gogebic Range survey has had 315 responses as of today. The minimum total response target is 749 so they have achieved 42% of their goal. A message is going out to the affected school districts requesting they take the survey. The survey will continue into the fall.

**Iron County update:** Tower updates: Saxon Harbor and Spider Lake are ready for the tower and equipment. Fisher Lake is still in the hands of the DNR. The Public Service Commission reimbursement requests are slow in coming and this is slowing down the projects. Richard Thiede had researched some properties around Lake of the Falls and may have found several potential sites. One is on county land. Brandon will be checking with the Register of Deeds office to determine whether the county property has enough usable land to erect a tower.

**Internet Access Survey:** Kelly talked to the Regional Planning Commission in Spooner about our planned survey.

**Karban TV / Internet in Mercer:** Karban will terminate internet service in Mercer in October. Karban has agreed to let Gogebic Range.net use the existing towers for the installation of their equipment. Gogebic Range.net will be providing internet services only.

**Community Resources:** Amy Nosal has had conversations with the FE team about how the Ironwood site fits together with our site. Ironwood is gearing toward hosting area businesses. The Hurley Chamber is working on updating their website.

**Other:** none

Next meeting will be on Wednesday September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at noon in the Iron County boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.

Submitted by Opal Roberts