

## **Park County Broadband Advisory Board Minutes**

Date/Time: March 11, 2019, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

**Location: Fairplay Community Center  
880 Bogue Street**

√\_\_Chairman, John Carr    \_\_Vice-Chair., Ron Rose    √\_\_Sec., Pat Shepard  
\_\_BJ North                      \_\_Gene Stanley                      √\_\_Louis Gonzalez  
\_\_Bill Betz                      \_\_Mike Joffe                      \_\_Jesse Mair

Others in attendance: Commissioner Mike Brazell, Aaron Ward, Courtney Forsythe, and by conference call: Alex Telthorst

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Park County DOLA Grant and/or Project Updates
  - a. Alma and Fairplay Broadband
  - b. Fairplay Fiber and Mosquito Pass

Alex's update:

Zebulon: no Park County radios on Zebulon, but there are a temporary solar system and temporary radios. There is not enough power at this time to run the Park County radios, even for install and testing there would have to be a generator and then the warranty would start. When permanent solar system is installed, in a couple months, then the Park County radios can be installed, tested and moved to the permanent power source.

County has a track-vehicle that can be used when arrangements are made with Timm Armstrong.

There had been a question about Beaver Ridge, but it apparently has been resolved.

2. Update re: Lake George Plan

Update: Alex will meet with IT director of school. Alex did talk to fire dept., and he is still trying to find the right person to speak with for Forest Service.

The County budget has about 120K in the budget; John and Alex are on the schedule to speak at a BOCC work session on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

This will explain what has been done, and how we could proceed in Lake George. Mike B. recommends outlining the funding stream for a Lake George project. Mike also recommends asking for web design dollars—maybe this will come up under new business.

Alex update continued:

RE: putting new buildings on fiber (e.g., County building in heart of Bailey), in emails with Tom E. and discussion with Christopher from IT—it would still be about 150 feet to hook up to fiber; it is not clear how that could work without waiting for 2020 to ask for money to make that happen for the Bailey community center/CSU ext.

Alex did drive by the Bustang (RTD) site in Fairplay; 5<sup>th</sup> and Clark. The intent may be to do some remodeling, but how that is going to work is not clear.

3. Any further information re: CDOT (see remarks below from Aaron Ward)
4. Further information on potential panel at Mountain Connect (this was not discussed)
5. Follow-up on South Park Health District: John Carr has not heard back from the Health District, but in the Flume the school has opened a school-based clinic.  
Alex will plan to attend the next Health District meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Carrier updates (Century Link; South Park Telephone; RIS; Eagle Net/Zayo; ComNet; Verizon; High Country Internet; Affiniti, Neteo; T-Mobile; others)  
No vendors in attendance
2. Other items? (Vendors and public welcome to contribute)

RE: Feed Media: Lou reached out to them as he had an experience with them when the I Love You Guys needed this type of service. Alex had about a half hour chat with them regarding PCBAB needs—update webpage content, quarterly newsletter, use of social media or value of social media given our budget constraints. It appears that the PCBAB needs are too small for the Feed Media group, but they will look for a freelancer who might be able to do this on an ad hoc basis. Stacy Amend is a freelance content creation, writer, video producer who has that social media skill set—will be meeting with Alex in order

to define what the actual tasks will be and the actual costs. Alex will have more information at the next PCBAB meeting.

Mike B and Alex met with the Upper Arkansas COG and did a check in regarding regional broadband work. Participation in the planning process was necessary for DOLA funding. Chaffee is not using public funding. Custer faces challenges, but is looking to add towers similar to what we have done on Zebulon. There will be meetings monthly to update regional plan for about the next six months. The cost will be about \$10-12K split among the counties. All the counties do have projects going on.

Aaron Ward with CDOT: sounds like there is a desire for working together. There are two distinct groups in CDOT—the group (business group) that works with OIT and the Bob Fifer group working on the Smart Highway

Discussion followed about possibilities of working with CDOT both regarding Lake George project (HWY 24)

Per Alex: add to agenda going forward: Regional Broadband update item

Broadband Deployment Board update from Mike B: final appeals are done; Park County really needs to have a provider apply for these monies going forward. The next grant cycle is in July—we need a provider to apply—they (the provider) need to be able to provide 25% in funding for the project.

SPT, Park County, and COBANK met. COBANK also banks for IREA. So, COBANK could not meet for the partnership meeting of SPT, Park County, and IREA. There will be a follow-up meeting among SPT, Park County, and IREA to explore this further. Hopefully, a pilot of 1,000 homes could make the case for a viable public-private partnership. Burland homeowners expressed some interest recently.

It would be helpful if this could proceed like the Natural Gas build out.

SPT has been in talks with SilverHeels; 100-200 residents. The SilverHeels group wants to move forward.

Ranch of the Rockies also has reached out to SPT; this is a challenging location because of so many vacant lots with so few residents.

Neteo reached out to Mike B. regarding their services in Burland. Mike's question was how is this funded? Also, what is the speed?

Legislative Bill regarding easement issue for Broadband—this is really a critical state issue. It is on agenda now based on an Illinois issue.

Courtney: Looking at hard line options for Staunton: the challenge is trenching. Looking to work with ComNet who would be leasing from Century Link. John Carr requested to know when that trenching may happen so that the communities near Staunton could have opportunity to share the trench. Discussion followed about possibility of making case for a provider grant-funded project maybe for the January 2020 cycle.

IREA spoke of running miles of fiber down 285—Mike B will follow-up as he has been asking about endpoints.

Comcast has signed contract with State for providing services and extending services and improving services. This may explain their current interest in expanding beyond metro area.

Question from Lost Park: What news or updates are there about improved cell phone service in Lost Park.

At this time, there is no information regarding services for this area.

Question: Woodland Park/PEAK Internet did not make it into qualification round; it had too many missing pieces in their application. (for the Broadband Deployment Board funds)

Question for Aaron Ward from Lou G.—how can you help us? Aaron is on the business side, but it would appear that the Bob Fifer side would be the area where there is the potential to work together.

Meeting adjourned 11:29am

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, April 8, 2019