# Langlade County Broadband Commission Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Attendance: Steve Maier; County Board Supervisor; Eric Boman, Town of Upham; Angie Close, LCEDC; Niel Schueller, Town of Summit; Doug Curler, Town of Neva; Mike Cragoe Town of Upham; Sarah Lawrenz, Bertram Communications; Scot Nyman, Cirrinity

#### 1) Meeting called to order at 4:03 pm

## 2) BEAD Update:

- The PSC was notifying Internet Service Providers (ISP) preliminary awards of the first round. The ISPs are unable to say anything until the NTIA gives their stamp of approval.
- In April, NTIA issued a Notice of Programmatic Waiver. The waiver grants a 90-day extension of the Final Proposal deadline in anticipation of forthcoming and yet to be announced changes to the BEAD program and to give states sufficient time to implement them. Wisconsin's original Final Proposal deadline was July 28, 2025.
- The Commission will begin accepting BEAD Grant Round 2 submissions on May 8, 2025 which include optional revisions to applications in no decisive winner status and new applications for certain project units. <u>BEAD Grant Round 2 closes on</u> <u>Thursday May 29, 2025, at 4:59 pm CT</u>. Entities approved through the Letter of Intent process are eligible to apply.
- The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin was notified that effective Friday, May 9, 2025, the State Digital Equity Planning and Capacity Grants were unilaterally terminated by federal executive action. No applications will be reviewed.

#### 3) ISP Provider Update on current Projects

- Sarah from Bertram reiterated that she cannot disclose any information on the BEAD project at this time. She did report that moving forward all communications regarding end of life technology or any future impacts to current customers will be disclosed to the Commission.
- Scott Nyman @ Cirrinity: The Town of Summit Tower is moving forward. New
  materials are ordered and will be shipped on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Foundation work will
  begin; once done approx. 5 working days are needed in order to move and erect
  the tower. Town of Neva is one half built, it's a very rocky built but the project is
  on time. Projected date of August 30 for completion and sign ups for customers.
  This project built a drop to every home they passed for easy future access.
  Future plans for Cirrinity was discussed.

#### 4) Summit Tower Update

Niel from Town of Summit shared progress and discussed project timeline with Cirrinity as stated above. The commission spoke on next steps and working with Public Safety and best prioritized consumer cellular and fixed wireless options for the tower site.

### 5) Consumer Cell & Fixed Wireless Access

Commission discussed Emergency Service Coverage needs and action items for meetings. Once the LC Summit Tower is operational, Langlade County Emergency Services coverage (radio, data) will meet their immediate needs. A radio coverage heat map was shown on how the new Summit tower will address the area. This will also be added to the LC Broadband Plan

The Commission will continue collaborating with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to identify and pursue opportunities for improved cellular coverage and fixed wireless service in targeted areas.

- 6) Next Steps: The Commission will continue collaborating with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to identify and pursue opportunities for improved cellular coverage and fixed wireless service in targeted areas.
- 7) Next Meeting Date, June 10th, 4:00 PM
- 8) Meeting Adjourned at 5:25 pm

Angie Close, Chair