

**Lincoln County Broadband Commission Meeting**  
6:30 PM, Thursday, April 25, 2024  
Room 255/257/260, Lincoln County Service Center  
801 N. Sales Street Merrill, WI 54452  
Join by Phone: 1-252-923-3162 PIN: 683 268 421#  
**Meeting Link:** [meet.google.com/cyt-wxgo-nsq](https://meet.google.com/cyt-wxgo-nsq)

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approve Both February 22 and April 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes
4. Status/update of Lincoln County Broadband Efforts
5. Charter RDOF Update
6. BEAD Challenge Process/Timeline and Webinars
7. Outreach
  - Tomahawk Home Show recap
  - Future opportunities
8. Approve Lincoln County Broadband Plan
9. Next Meeting Time/Date
10. Adjourn

**Lincoln County Broadband Commission Meeting**  
6:30 PM, Thursday, February 22, 2024  
Room 255/257/260, Lincoln County Service Center  
801 N. Sales Street Merrill, WI 54452  
Join by Phone: (US) +1 862-283-0266 PIN: 419571710  
**Meeting Link:** <https://meet.google.com/vvz-szuh-ipi>

MINUTES

Attendance: Sherry Hulett, Ken Wickham, Bill Bialecki, Pat Voermans, Renee Krueger, Andy Faust, Gordon Sennet,

Virtual: Jennifer Bishop, Lisa White, Earl Welker, Jerome Ziegelbauer, Julie Allen, Laurie Olhoff, Travis Spoehr, Elsa Duranceau

1. Call to Order: 6:30PM
2. Introductions
3. Approve January Minutes. Pat Voermans motions to approve. Bill Bialecki seconded. Motion carried.
4. Status/Updates of Lincoln County Broadband Efforts
  - a. LCEDC Summit Update: Ken Wickham and Andy Faust will present our final plan, process, and what's next on March 14 around 2:00PM
  - b. Central WI Days: Elsa Duranceau had a chance to connect with other EDC Directors re: their broadband experiences. Met with Maryanne Lippert who graciously offered to meet with us. We encourage other commission members to join us in this initial conversation.
  - c. Tomahawk Library Survey:
  - d. BEAD Challenge Process Update: No Update
  - e. Outreach Opportunities:
    - i. Home, Sport, Travel, & Health Expo – Elsa will reach out to WJJQ to get a booth. April 13 & 14 <https://www.wjjq.com/pg/home-sport-travel-show>
    - ii. Oneida Co Expo, March 07:  
<https://business.rhinelandchamber.com/events/details/up-north-community-expo-03-07-2024-14164>
5. Broadband Plan Final Draft Review by Andy Faust:

- a. Slideshow
  - b. Affordability Program
    - i. Affordable Connectivity Program – projected to end soon
    - ii. Lifeline – PSC program
    - iii. Some internet service providers have their own programs
    - iv. PSC – Internet Discount Finder <https://apps.psc.wi.gov/InternetDiscountFinder>
  - c. Broadband Goals – Chapter 7 (pg 51)
    - i. Find Funding
    - ii. Develop relationship with ISPs
    - iii. Keep goals general
  - d. Funding: Private Sector, Fed & State Programs, Tax incentive credits, bond financing, grants from foundations.
  - e. Recommendations: Engage providers, public, and non-profits (gather and disseminate information). Gather letters of support from anchor institutions.
  - f. We need to know ISP build plans so we can advocate for areas that aren't included. Ask ISPs for updates as well as attending our meetings.
  - g. Glenn Fishbine (OptiDesign) will provide input if we have projects happening.
6. Internet Speed Testing Update: 13.2% participation rate! Anyone can continue to take the speed test. We won't have access to the information after April 1, 2024.
7. Next Meeting Time/Date
- a. March 28, 2024 – 6:30PM – 7:30PM
8. Adjourn: 7:35PM

Learn how your business has a competitive edge in federal contracts

**Businesses in these counties now have a competitive edge when competing for federal contracts.**

**Lincoln County Broadband Commission Meeting**  
6:30 PM, Thursday, April 04, 2024  
Room 255/257/260, Lincoln County Service Center  
801 N. Sales Street Merrill, WI 54452  
Join by Phone: 1-252-923-3162 PIN: 683 268 421#  
**Meeting Link:** [meet.google.com/cyt-wxgo-nsq](https://meet.google.com/cyt-wxgo-nsq)

MINUTES

Attendees: Ken Wickham, Pat Voermans, Gary Hartwig, Clyde Nelson, John Heckendorf, Heidi O'Hare, Earl Welker, Travis Wichlaz, Paul Thomas, Jerome Ziegelbauer, Jullie Allen, Lisa White, Elsa Duranceau, Travis Spoehr, Carrie Zunker, and Lisa Stabe

1. Call to Order 6:31pm
2. Introductions
3. Approve February Minutes: No quorum
4. Status/Updates of Lincoln County Broadband Efforts
  - a. Charter RDOF update
    - Has new Director of Government Affairs
    - Fiber is in the ground in Town of Scott, has not been turned on.
    - Must be completed by 2028
  - b. BEAD Challenges, Regional Workshops, Grants update: Travis
    - Only government/municipalities are allowed to make BEAD challenges.
  - c. County ARPA Funds
    - Ken will advocate for allocation of funds for Broadband
      - a. Possible Consultant
  - d. FCC Updates
    - Definition of "broadband"
      - a. 100 download / 20 upload
    - Mandates for labels

e. LCEDC Summit Update

- 115 attendees
- Andy Faust did a great presentation on the Broadband plan

f. Speed Test Update

- No longer available. The link has been removed from the LCEDC website

g. Outreach Opportunities

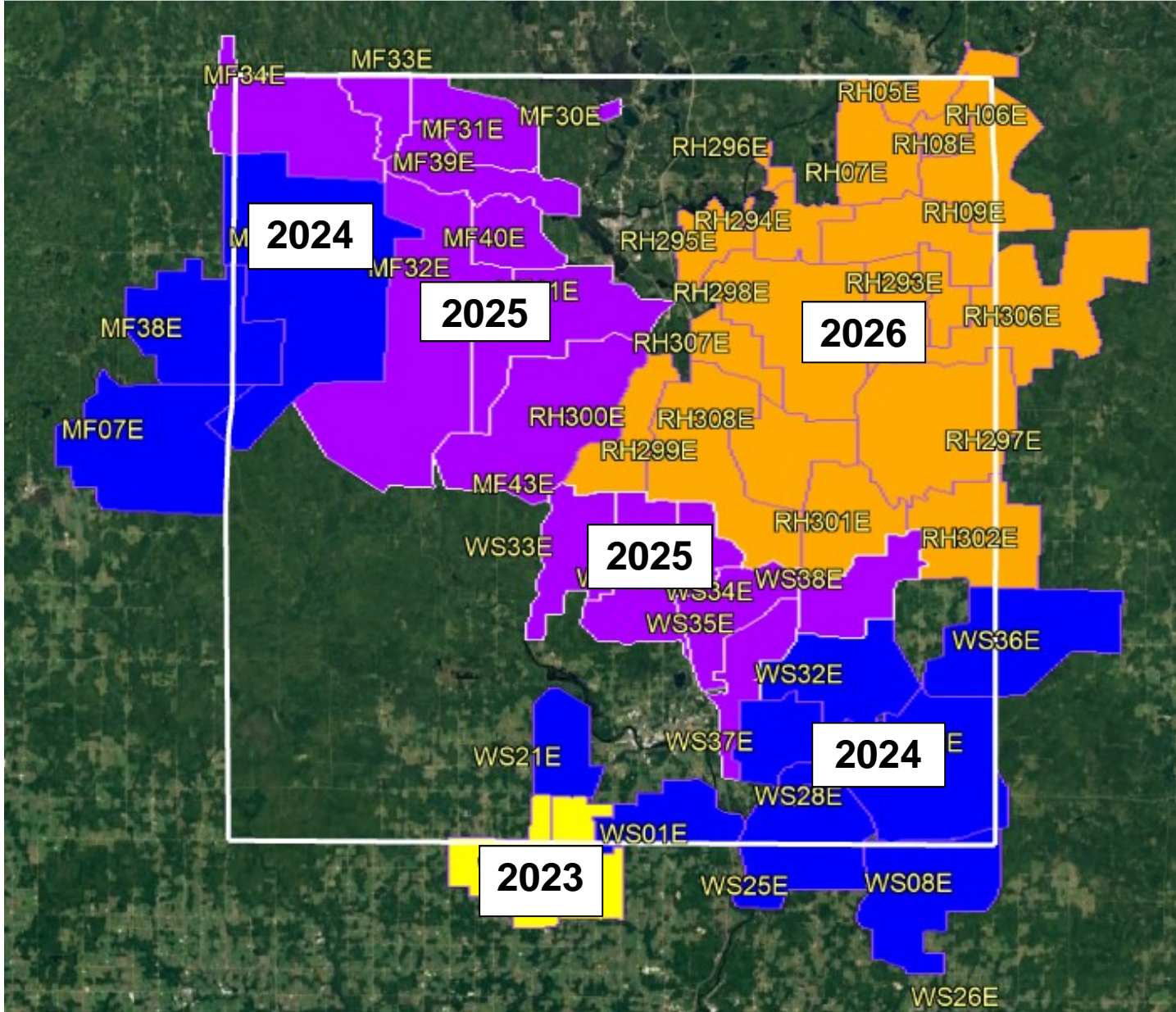
- Tomahawk Home, Sport, and Travel Show
  - Volunteers: Ken, Pat, Elsa, and Gordon
  - Message/materials

5. Approve Lincoln County Broadband Plan

6. Next Meeting Time/Date

- a. April 25, 2024 @ 6:30pm – Lincoln Co Services Center and virtual

CHARTER SPECTRUM BROADBAND FIBER PROJECT  
LINCOLN COUNTY CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE  
January 2024



YELLOW – BUILT  
IN 2023  
BLUE – 2024  
PURPLE - 2025  
ORANGE - 2026