

Telecommunications Advisory Board Meeting Minutes 4/8/20 (On GoToMeeting during COVID-19 Shutdown)

John Emerick, Jessica Robison, Joel Rittvo, Phylis Mattice, Jeff Krueger, Drew Petersen, Simon T, Kevin Heineken, Michele McClinton

John opened the meeting 6:05

Approval of 1/9/20 meeting minutes

Jess moved to approve. Joel seconded and all approved

No additions to agenda

Staff Reports:

Jeff talked about the forming of the new Broadband Authority with Garfield and Pitkin Counties

Phylis also spoke about the new Broadband Authority and the increased strength that is gained together to apply for grants.

John asked if anyone had contacted Gunnison County about joining the Authority.

Phylis said that Gunnison County has been contacted about the Authority but 1) They have started an Authority of their own and 2) The physical hurdles we have to get through to connect with them are being blocked by the USFS not allowing a tower on McClure due to roadless areas.

John wants us to keep Gunnison in the back of our minds for the future due to problems he has heard of in the Marble area.

Phylis again reiterated the problems created by the USFS restrictions.

Jeff spoke about others possibly working on broadband, Eagle County and Holy Cross. If there is an Authority it is easier to add more players.

Drew covered staff report on FM station awards and successes and problems getting those stations up and running on Crown and Upper Red Mountain. There was some problems with interference on Crown but Drew believes that has been solved. There is new equipment coming in June to help with everything.

Drew talked about problems with TV streaming from the Denver stations. Staff has installed Rohde & Swartz Relay Caster to help stabilize the internet streamed channels

Jeff reviewed the Ruedi, Thomasville, and Upper Red site construction and improvements.

John asked if Ruedi was the only construction scheduled for this year.

Jeff listed many other projects happening; LTE and microwave installs, public safety improvements, and a remodel of the Crown building to offer one of the rooms for commercial rental.

Jeff suggested a TAB field day to visit the sites. John liked the idea.

No new or old business

Joel motioned to adjourn, Jessica seconded.

John closed the meeting at 6:40pm