

FACILITIES & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Special Meeting
November 18, 2015
NOT APPROVED

Committee Members Present: D. Pullen, C. Jessup, D. Fanton, K. Graves, D. Root, N. Ungermann, C. Crandall (Absent: A. McGraw)

Others Present: M. Alger, H. Budinger, S. Burt, D. Decker, K. Dirlam, L. Gridley, S. Grusendorf, D. Healy, R. Hollis, K. Hooker, C. Knapp, K. LaForge, J. Luckey, B. Riehle, T. Ross, R. Scott, R. Sobeck-Lynch, J. Wood

Media Present: B. Quinn, *Wellsville Daily Reporter*

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:44 p.m. by Facilities and Communications Committee Chairman David Pullen.

Allegany County Telecommunication Corporation Funding

Legislator Pullen stated the Allegany County Telecommunication Corporation (LDC) Board has been moving forward, and they may have a potential Executive Director. He noted there are tasks that need to be undertaken, and they need funding. The LDC Board has requested the County to provide funding pursuant to an agreement for services to take over the operation of the Broadband Program. The County will initially provide \$100,000; paid out in a particular sequence. Legislator Pullen noted he sent out Schedule A of the proposed agreement which states the payment schedule.

Legislator Ungermann stated he has never seen a job description, or what the LDC will do, or be responsible for. He would like to see this information before voting money towards a project. Legislator Pullen gave a brief explanation and history of the LDC. He noted the County Legislature did not want to operate the Broadband system. The LDC will operate the system that is being built with \$800,000 from the Broadband Grant, and \$200,000 from the County. Legislator Pullen said there is equipment on six towers, and there will be a total of twelve towers to provide broad coverage to residents who don't have broadband service. This organization will have a contract with the County, and the County will turn over the Broadband transceivers to them. The LDC will enter into contracts with last mile providers, who will sign-up subscribers. They will be responsible for establishing operating standards, guidelines on pricing, and updating existing equipment as it becomes worn out or obsolete. Legislator Pullen said the County will not sign-up any customers. Legislator Fanton noted the majority of the LDC Board is not County affiliated.

Legislator Pullen added it is important to move forward because the Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) and Western New York Regional Information Center (WNYRIC) have been looking for means to provide service to students in the County. Legislator Pullen stated it is his understanding that there are about 4,000 students in the County without broadband. This would help solve their problem, and possibly provide funding that the LDC needs. Legislator Pullen also said Southern Tier Wireless has asked when the system will be operational. Chairman Crandall said the important piece is the County payback when the LDC is profitable; the County will receive the money back. Legislator Pullen requested a resolution to fund an allocation to the Allegany County Telecommunication Corp (Broadband LDC) per contract. (\$20,000 for 2015 from Contingency A1990.49, and \$80,000 will be included in the 2016 Budget appropriated from Fund Balance.) Cost Center A8676 is established for budget purposes, both expense and revenue.

Appropriations #		
A8676.492 - Home and Community Service Contractual		\$20,000

Fiscal Impact:

2015	\$20,000 from Contingency A1990.429
2016	\$80,000 from Fund Balance A 15.599

The request was approved on a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Fanton, and carried (Voting no: N. Ungermann). **Refer to Ways & Means**

Tablets/iPad Devices for Legislators

Information Technology Director Keith Hooker presented additional quotes for iPads. GovConnection was the cheapest quote for 20 iPads and cases. The cases come with a slim keyboard. Mr. Hooker stated it was \$429 per iPad at Staples. Legislator Graves asked about the GovConnection lease option. He wondered if it was better to lease them, and trade them in. Mr. Hooker responded sometimes it is better to lease computers than buy them, but iPads last a long time. Legislator Fanton added he has had an iPad for five years, and hasn't had any problems. County Treasurer commented there are more benefits to buy them, than lease them. Legislator Pullen noted there were other issues to discuss such as the computer use policy. These issues will be discussed at the regular Facilities and Communication Committee meeting on December 2, 2015. Legislator Pullen encouraged the Committee members to look over the various policies and proposals before the next meeting. Chairman Crandall noted there was additional information from Steuben County about their computer use. Mr. Hooker noted this information was more on how documents are distributed. It may be more appropriate for the Clerk of the Board's Office rather than as a computer use policy. Legislator Root noted they need the policies, and a new website. Mr. Hooker said he went to a meeting, and presented his website idea for funding. He is hoping to get partial or full funding. County Treasurer Terri Ross stated they can purchase the devices now, but distribute them once the computer policy is updated. Legislator Graves made a motion to purchase iPads from GovConnection for \$9,172, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried. **Refer to Ways & Means**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m. following a motion by Legislator Graves, seconded by Legislator Root, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Scott, Secretary to the Clerk of the Board
Allegany County Board of Legislators