

COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Baird at 1:30p.m. Kevin Walls and Ron West were present.

Approval of 2024 Holiday Schedule

Mr. Walls requested an additional note be added to the 2024 holiday schedule designating the Total Solar Eclipse Holiday as a onetime event that will not be reoccurring annually.

Mr. West moved to approve the 2024 holiday schedule with the requested addition. Mr. Walls seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of 2024 Commissioners' Meeting Schedule

Mr. Walls moved to approve the 2024 Commissioners' meeting schedule as presented. Mr. West seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

Discussion of Broadband Internet Service Maps for OCRA

Jarrett Moore, Manager of Government at Comcast, was present via Zoom to discuss Broadband Internet Service Maps for OCRA. He provided a list of possible eligible addresses that may be currently underserved for broadband internet services in Johnson County. He explained there is an additional 1,400 addresses found outside of the original list provided by OCRA that he believes is currently underserved.

Adam Gadberry, County Attorney summarized OCRA's request of all Counties to add any addresses to their current list of underserved parcels if they believe there are any. He explained if no action is taken by the County, the current list of parcels will be reviewed by OCRA and moved forward to the challenge phase with the providers directly.

The Commissioners expressed their confusion and concerns with the process being asked of them from OCRA.


John Sturm, President of JCFiber, came before the Commissioners to explain his review of the list from OCRA. He explained the Commissioners awarded JCFiber ARPA funding to implement a project that will serve almost all unserved residents in Johnson County. He noted the project is set to be completed by the spring of 2024. He stated after comparing the list from OCRA to the list of parcels that will be served by spring of 2024 there were only 55 addresses left that may be underserved. He requested the Commissioners' send a letter to OCRA regarding the ARPA funding that has been awarded to this project in an attempt to prevent other providers from using the OCRA funding to build over their current services.

The Commissioners came to a consensus to write a letter as requested by Mr. Sturm and take no other action at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Walls moved to adjourn. Mr. West seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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Brian Baird



Kevin Walls



Ron West

Attest:

Elizabeth A. Alvey
Auditor