

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CUSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF SILVER CLIFF
TOWN OF WESTCLIFFE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021**

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CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Canda called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Canda led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The following members were present:

Town of Silver Cliff: Mayor Wenzel, Lisa Nolan, Zoom: Stacey Schoch, Jordan Benson and Jeremy Handy

Town of Westcliffe: Mayor Wenke, Mr. Frickell, Mr. Wilhelm and Mr. Mowry, Zoom: Cathy Snow and Bess Cole

Custer County: Commissioner Canda, Commissioner Kevin Day

ABSENT:

Town of Silver Cliff: Fred Hernandez and David Elliot

Custer County: Commissioner Flower

OTHERS PRESENT

David Shipley, Eric Rypkowski, Tracy Ballard, Neal Marrs, Gavin Davis, Chad Hemmert, Peggy Miller, Ileen Squire, Wanda Jennings, and Kathy Reis, Zoom-Elliot Jackson, Steve Lasswell, Eric Gubelman, Charles Bogle, Dale Mullen, Anthony Voss and Wilson Jarvis

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Review of Request for Proposal issued for Internet Service Provider
2. Review of Proposals Received for Public-Private-Partnership Agreements
3. Discussion on Provisions of Each Proposal Received
4. Deliberation with Q&A between Elected Officials and Proposing Firms
5. Consensus Selection of Preferred Internet Service Provider (ISP)
6. Discussion of Policy Preferences with Direction for final Negotiation of Preferred Partnership Agreement with ISP

Both Hilltop and TIC Highline presented their proposals the discussion was on the comparison of what both companies are offering. The difference in estimated project cost was addressed and Hilltop explained that they looked at the maps and didn't count some of the properties that didn't have structures and that they already have some infrastructure here is how his estimate was lower. As ITC Highline figures were for every address as per the RFP. ITC Highline explained they would start in the underserved areas and work towards the Towns, Hilltop would do the towns first because of the infrastructure they already have in town and work out. Hilltop offered to cover

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ORDER OF BUSINESS CONTINUED

the 25% match for the grant and ITC Highline was offering a portion and asking the rest to be covered by the entities through cash match or additional grant funding.

Town of Westcliffe Motion:

ACTION: Mayor Wenke moved Mr. Frickell seconded to proceed with selection and approval of the proposal and Public-Private-Partnership Agreement offered by Hilltop Broadband subject to final negotiation of and authorize Westcliffe Town Board to enter into such agreement based on review and approval by our Town Attorney. Roll Call- Mayor Wenke-Aye, Ms. Cole-Aye, Mr. Frickell-Aye, Mr. Nordyke-Aye, Mr. Wilhelm-Aye and Mr. Mowry-Aye. Motion carried.

Town of Silver Cliff Motion:

Mayor Wenzel: I will entertain a motion to proceed with the selection and approval of the Proposal and Public – Private Partnership Agreement offered by Hilltop Broadband and after review and approval by town legal counsel authorize the Custer County Board of Commissioners to approve the agreement, subject to legal review by the County Attorney, at the Board of County Commissioners meeting scheduled on Friday December 17, 2021.

ACTION: Trustee Lisa Nolan so moved, and Trustee Jordan Benson seconded. Motion carried being approved by all present Mayor Wenzel, Mayor Pro-Tem Jeremy Handy, Trustees: Lisa Nolan and Jordan Benson. Motion carried.

Custer County Motion:

ACTION: Commissioner Canda moved Commission Day seconded to approve proceed with the selection and approval of the proposed Public and Private Partnership offered by Hilltop, subject to the legal review of our county attorney on December 17, 2021. Motion carried.

7. Overview of Plan to Seek ReConnect Grant Application

Adjourned

Commissioner Canda adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Recorded by:
Kathy Reis, CMC
Town Clerk