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CITY OF CONDON
WORK SESSION AGENDA
FIBER COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 12, 2019, 8:00 AM
CONDON CITY HALL

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. Committee members present were Councilor Donald Jamieson, Councilor Jan Stinchfield, Rita Rattray and Gilliam County Judge Elizabeth Farrar; staff - CA Kathryn Greiner; visitors - Lori Anderson of Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative and Nate Stice, Regional Solutions Coordinator. Absent Committee member Mayor Jim Hassing

2. Discuss Fiber IGA with Gilliam County

2.1. Discuss IGA Issues and Tasks to Include

CA Greiner explained that the draft Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is in the hands of Gilliam County's legal counsel for a review. CA Greiner stated that Condon City Councilor Fatland had some concerns of forming a new entity and not having enough city council oversight. To address these issues it was determined that the bylaws of this new entity, and any amendments to this entity, must be approved by both governing bodies. The duties of the entity would also be split with Gilliam County doing the financial portion and it would reside in the county budget and the city would do the administrative tasks - agendas, minutes and the lease agreements. CA Greiner said that she had contacted the city's telecom attorney to get a dark fiber lease templatand hopes to get it in the next week. Judge Farrar added that their telecom attorney was reviewing the IGA this week and they had a call to discuss later in the day. It appears that it will not come back on to the city and county's agendas until their October 2 meetings.

It was discussed that the IGA may need to have the city's fiber committee meet before the October 2 meetings to see if there are any other issues that need to be addressed.

2.2. Discuss Rates & Lease Agreement

CA Greiner stated that the intent of setting rates and lease agreements now will just be a recommendation to the Fiber Entity, but they will have the information to start leasing fiber when the IGA is signed. She disbursed a rate sheet that was done by consultant Adam Haas earlier in the year that suggests a starting point for a monthly recurring cost (MRC) is $500. Councilor Stinchfield stated that we want to be competitive but make enough to cover the MRC on the city and county's Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) with Inland Development Corporation. Councilor Jamieson stressed that the rates need to be reasonable, competitive and negotiable if an entity may have other items in exchange. Judge Farrar stated that Frontier TeleNet will lease fiber from the group and had set the rate at $2,000 a month.

The committee recommended $500 a month for a pair of dark fiber on their line from Arlington to Condon.

2.3. Discuss Outreach to Potential Customers

The committee discussed notifying potential customers that the fiber line is close to being ready to lease. It was the consensus of sending out a letter from the Condon Fiber Committee to as many of the telecom providers in the region that there will be dark fiber to lease. CA Greiner mentioned two entities that has shown interest, but it was determined that the first letter would go to many. Councilor Jamieson stated that the group "cast a wide net" to see who needs fiber and how we can assist. CA Greiner will draft a letter to send out and send to committee members for review. The intent is to alert area broadband users that the city and county provided this infrastructure to assist with providing fast, reliable and affordable fiber line.

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3. Other

CA Greiner asked about local service and that she has received inquiries of when our fiber is available and complaints about local service and cost. Councilor Stinchfield stated that we need to approach local providers as an entity that is wanting to help them. Rattray stated that this group has come a long ways in the process. Councilor Jamieson stated that these discussions are for the new entity to tackle once it is formed.

Stice stated that the FCC recently awarded $67 million for rural broadband with Gilliam County one of the target areas. He sent a link of the announcement. Stice was also asked about the formation of the State of Oregon's office of rural broadband. He stated that it has been formed with Chris Tamarin leading it and they are going to the next legislative session to see if they can get funding for rural projects.

4. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.