

VINTON MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 27, 2018

A special meeting of the Vinton Municipal Electric Board of Trustees was held on the 27th day of June, 2018, at 6:30 p.m., at the Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District Central Office, 1502 C Avenue, Vinton, Iowa. Chairman Elwick presided and the roll being called the following board members were present and absent: Present: Barron, Elwick, Kremer, Meyer, Woodhouse. Absent: None.

This meeting was an informational meeting for the Trustees to hear about survey results and recommendations for the broadband project.

Christy Ryken, Strategic Marketing Services, reviewed the survey results. She said they had a good response rate. Most comments were that a better internet would help businesses and improve the quality of life for residents. Mediacom and CenturyLink are two of the larger providers in Vinton. Some of the surveys requested that bundling not be a requirement for a local telecommunications utility.

Curtis Dean, SmartSource Consulting, and Todd Kielkopf, Kielkopf Advisory Services, LLC, talked about possible partnerships. A recap of the process thus far is first was the referendum, second the feasibility study was done by Farr Technologies, third was the market survey and fourth sending RFIs, request for information, for potential partners. Potential partners are CFU, ImOn, Wisconsin Independent Network, USA Communications, Unite Private Network and HR Green. Having reliable broadband is important for future economic growth. Future steps for the project are to develop frame work, determine rates, organizational structure, get additional information from partners and to engage a financial advisor and bond attorney. They outlined a future timeline to include discussing financing, report findings from the post RFIs, engineering, design, seeking bids in the winter months, then breaking ground. Approximately \$65,000 has been spent so far on this project.

The Trustees will consider the next steps to advance this project at their regular meeting on July 10th.

Motion by Barron, second by Kremer to adjourn the meeting. Question: Yes - All. The Chairman declared the motion carried. Time: 8:25 p.m.

Michael G. Elwick Chairman

Attest: _____
Cindy Michael Secretary