



Abbreviated Minutes: Complete Set of Minutes Are on File in The Clerk's Office

**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
May 30, 2023**

Attendees:

**Todd Smith, Commissioner Chairman
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner
Troy Evans, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Kim Muir, County Clerk**

ACTION ITEMS

This meeting was streamed electronically.

Discussion and decision regarding a new broadband proposal: Jared Stowell and George Swanson, with Fibercom were introduced. Neither proposal from the RFP put out by the county was accepted from Silverstar or Fibercom. Commissioner Smith has met on Zoom in two different meetings with Fibercom, Paul Sorensen and Bradley Petersen. Commissioner Smith suggested we move forward with a proposal to apply for a grant with Fibercom. The county would administer in their behalf and they will install fiber to most of the county, as well as fund the seed money. Once finished, it is Fibercom's project. The grant application is due June 20, 2023 and will be funded with ARPA funds received from the state.

If they install without a grant, price to homes would be approximately \$69/month for 2 Gig speed on internet. They do like the public partnerships on these grants and have their own plans and engineers. A map of what they are projecting was shown. The Sugar City area was shown and it will include a few areas, but it was determined that it was not feasible to include Sugar City. Commissioner Mendenhall asks that Paul communicate with Sugar City.

Broadband is still important, but this will take the county out of administering the ISPs. The county will be stepping back from the technical aspect. There will be a lot of construction going on this summer. Fibercom owns their own installation crew and they will be hiring about 60 employees to complete the project. If we agree with this grant and Fibercom, this will be a project be a partnership, but does not give a monopoly to ownership with Fibercom. The total project will cost \$17.4 million to do the full project before match. They do go outside Madison County some, but not to Newdale or Teton. We received 2 bids and we are moving forward and reaching the goals we were hoping for. We do not own any of the fiber after this. This gives us the opportunity to reach the underserved and unserved in Madison County at an affordable rate.

Senator Ricks is in favor of applying for this grant. The FCC map was discussed and we will need to stay in compliance with their data. The whole project will take approximately 3 years. After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to rescind the vote made on the RFP's at the May 22, 2023, meeting based upon the discussion today. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the new proposal received from Fybercom as part of Madison County's RFP. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve taking action to enter into a proposal with Fybercom to apply for a private public partnership to apply for a grant with the broadband team the Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Discussion and decision regarding an electrical issue at the fairgrounds: A contractor doing electrical work at the Fairgrounds told Evan Wise he would charge \$15,000 to complete the work needed at the Fairgrounds. We had him come and he dug the lines and did the work and gave us a bill for about \$25,000. The contractor justified the costs. We did not have a bid in writing, but will get bid in writing before any further work is done.

Dispatch Center: A potential dispatch center for Madison County was discussed. Cullin Sherman and Mike Courtney were present for this conversation. They showed current plans for the new dispatch center. They will get a firm bid as they proceed with their project for the electrical issues.

Commissioner Todd Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the voting was unanimous.

Approved:

Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner

Attest:

Kim Muir, County Clerk