

## Big Stone County Broadband Expansion Workgroup

Mission: Ensure affordable and reliable high speed broadband availability to all residents and businesses within Big Stone County by:

- Developing or improving relationships with broadband vendors interested in investing in the area.
- Actively seek funding opportunities such as Federal and State grants to assist vendors in funding capital investments
- Developing citizen awareness of how broadband could enhance their individual lives through practical uses such as finding information, educational opportunities, access to medical information, disabled or retired veteran benefits, government resources, or personal and business communication.
- Developing awareness of how broadband could enhance a community and provide economic development by offering an advantage to existing or new locally owned businesses.

### Workgroup Goals:

- Meet or exceed the Minnesota State recommended minimum speeds of 10Mbps download and 6Mbps upload to all residents and businesses by the end of 2017.
- Create a functional web presence of all departments of county or city government online by the end of 2017
- Ensure all broadband networks within Big Stone County have the scalability of 100Mbps download and upload by the end of 2020.

### Workgroup Structure:

- The Big Stone County Broadband Expansion Workgroup will report to and fall under the authority of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners.
- The chairperson of the workgroup will be the Big Stone County IT Director
- Representatives from Big Stone Area Growth (BSAG), Ortonville EDA, and Graceville EDA are encouraged to be active participants.
- City and Township officials are encouraged to be active participants
- One county commissioner involved with BSAG and the county commissioner heading the IT Committee will be active participants.
- All meetings will be open to the public