

**SHEBOYGAN COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 11 (2021/22)**

Re: **Supporting Broadband Expansion Projects and Grant Applications**

**WHEREAS**, there are, or will be, millions of dollars of state and federal broadband expansion grants available to eligible applicants, and

**WHEREAS**, Bertram Communications (Bertram) has contacted Sheboygan County and the Sheboygan County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) with a request to work to improve broadband service in Sheboygan County, and

**WHEREAS**, significant geographic areas and many households in Sheboygan County do not have reliable, high-speed Internet access, and broadband expansion would allow greater access to educational options, medical and mental health management, social interaction, and recreational and entertainment options, and

**WHEREAS**, Bertram is currently engaged in engineering analysis designed to produce detailed project parameters and cost estimates to be used to compile a competitive Broadband Expansion Grant application, and

**WHEREAS**, the Broadband Expansion Grant process is extremely competitive, and applications that demonstrate a public/private partnership are evaluated higher than those that do not, and

**WHEREAS**, the SCEDC supports Bertram's grant application and is interested in serving as a fiscal agent in grant administration;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Sheboygan County Board of Supervisors supports Bertram's application for grant funds for the purpose of upgrading broadband service in Sheboygan County and authorizes the County Board Chair and County Administrator to submit an accompanying letter of support.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Board Chair and County Administrator are authorized to execute similar letters of support of broadband grant applications on behalf of other service providers whose proposals for broadband expansion would serve the residents of Sheboygan County.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of July, 2021.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Vernon Koch  
Vernon Koch, Chairperson

Robert Ziegelbauer  
Robert Ziegelbauer, Vice-Chairperson

William C. Goehring  
William C. Goehring, Secretary

Keith Abler

Edward J. Procek  
Edward J. Procek

Opposed to Introduction:

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