

RESOLUTION NO.: 119—2024-25

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 The Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program has been established
2 to provide significant funding to expand high-speed internet access across the United States
3 and funding is available for unserved and underserved households and businesses within
4 Outagamie County. The BEAD Program aids to bridge the digital divide by ensuring that
5 all Americans, regardless of their geographic location, have access to reliable and
6 affordable broadband services.

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8 The availability of BEAD funding is crucial for supporting infrastructure projects that will
9 enhance connectivity for unserved and underserved households and businesses in
10 Outagamie County. The purpose of BEAD funding includes promoting economic growth,
11 improving educational opportunities, and enhancing healthcare services through better
12 internet access.

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14 The Outagamie County Board of Supervisors recognize that broadband connectivity and
15 reliability is critical infrastructure for health, safety, and quality of life for all community
16 residents to participate in the full benefits of society and economy, including access to
17 telemedicine, education, and economic opportunities. Bertram Communications is seeking
18 BEAD funding for Outagamie County.

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20 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Property, Airport, Recreation and
21 Economic Development Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does endorse Bertram
23 Communications' application for Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding to bring
24 fiber to 2,544 eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) in Outagamie County, and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does endorse the
26 application of Bertram Communication for BEAD funding to support their broadband infrastructure
27 project in Outagamie County, and

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1 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to provide the
2 attached letter, which by reference is made a part hereof, to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
3 and Bertram Communication which outlines this endorsement and verifies the applicant and geographic
4 location affected, and include the minutes from this County Board meeting, as well as forwarding a copy
5 of this resolution to the Outagamie County Development and Land Services Director.

6 Dated this ____ day of January, 2025

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8 Respectfully Submitted,

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10 PROPERTY, AIRPORT, RECREATION &
11 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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15 _____
16 Dean Culbertson

15 _____
16 Lee W. Hammen

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20 _____
21 Ronald Klemp

20 _____
21 Yvonne Monfils

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23
24
25 _____
26 Jason Winterfeldt

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29 Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: _____
30

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32 Signed: _____
33 Board Chairperson

32 _____
33 County Clerk

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36 Approved: _____

36 Vetoed: _____

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39 Signed: _____
40 County Executive

Outagamie County Clerk Letter Head

[Date]

Cru Stublely
Secretary to the Commission Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Dear Mr. Stublely,

I am writing to confirm that on [Date of County Board Meeting], the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors voted to approve Resolution [Resolution Number], endorsing Bertram Communication's application for Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding to support broadband infrastructure projects in Outagamie County, specifically to bring fiber to 2,544 eligible Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) in Outagamie County. Enclosed with this letter are the official minutes from the meeting, as well as a copy of the resolution for your reference.

The Outagamie County Board recognizes the critical importance of broadband connectivity in bridging the digital divide and supporting economic growth, educational opportunities, and healthcare services throughout our community. As outlined in the resolution, the BEAD Program provides essential funding to expand high-speed internet access to unserved and underserved households and businesses in Outagamie County, thereby enhancing quality of life and enabling residents to fully participate in our society and economy.

Bertram Communication's application aligns with Outagamie County's strategic goals to improve broadband access and reliability, essential for health, safety, and economic development in our region. Therefore, we are pleased to endorse Bertram Communication's efforts to secure BEAD funding and support their commitment to enhancing broadband infrastructure in Outagamie County.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you require any further information or documentation regarding this endorsement.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Kelly Gerrits
Outagamie County Clerk

(920) 832-5077
kelly.gerrits@outagamie.org