

## **MEDA NextGen Broadband Committee**

**November 23, 2020**

**2:00pm**

**Present: Tracy McIntyre, (Chair); Paul DeWolfe, Brian Obert, Bethany Chinadle, Kristian Richardson, Tom Kaiserski, Jennie Stapp, Geoff Feiss, Mary Roehr, Allison Corbyn, Mehmet Casey, Elvis Nuno, Sharon Peterson, Christy Dawson, and Gloria O'Rourke.**

**The committee edited and discussed the following. The Summary Subcommittee will meet prior to a special Broadband Committee meeting to be held Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

### **BROADBAND COMMITTEE KEY THEMES TO ADDRESS WITH LEGISLATION**

1. Better Mapping
  - a. Join the national mapping effort and lean into policy that could require better mapping (potentially in right of way conversation?)
  - b. Make any incentives/grants at the state level require granular mapping
2. Defining sufficient level of connectivity
  - a. With the growing prevalence of multiple internet users within a home, and the need to video conference, the upload and download speeds to work effectively have grown
  - b. Ensuring the right level of connectivity is a lead roll for economic development – as we know that just connected doesn't cut it for businesses and workforce to thrive
3. Broadband Coordinator Position Created
  - a. This position needs to reside within the office managing economic development initiative
  - b. This position needs to be dedicated solely to broadband
4. Secure dollars/develop tax relief to encourage the creation of P3s to address connectivity deficiencies
  - a. Grant matching programs (like the Wyoming legislation)
  - b. Tax relief for telcos that has an emphasis on reinvestment
  - c. Empower users to get what they need – choice in connection