

June 21, 2020

Le Sueur County Board Resolution:

The Le Sueur County board approved the January 2020 application to the Blandin Foundation to become a Blandin broadband community. In February 2020, our application was approved. Since that time a steering committee, made up of Barbara Dröher Kline, John King, Carl Menk, Brian Peterson, Layne Wilbright and Denise Reeser drove to Grand Rapids for an orientation meeting and have been meeting via ZOOM on a bi-weekly basis to start the community planning process. The steering committee was expanded to include others from the community, as well as Waterville-Elysian School district and Le Sueur Schools.

Over 60 residents from all over the county participated in survey of broadband needs followed by ZOOM a brainstorming meeting and project ideas meeting with another survey to prioritize projects and volunteer for project committee work.

Committees have started to meet; projects are being formulated and the work has begun.

Once the Blandin application is approved, current work relating to broadband enhancements paid for with CARE funds can be counted towards the 25% match. I expect we will well overmatch the 25% with volunteer time as well.

Projects will be approved by the steering committee and by Blandin, prior to funds being spent.

Therefore be it resolved:

The Le Sueur County board approves Barbara Dröher Kline completing the Blandin Foundation application for \$75,000 for technology projects as a Blandin Broadband Community and that the application be approved by Darrell Pettis, County Administrator for submission to the Blandin Foundation to release the funding.