































Call Briga

Mashall M. Schock

111 E 3rd St

Emerson, NE 68733

September 27th, 2021

The Nebraska Public Service Commission:

Village of Emerson does not adequate internet service compared to more populated areas. Internet access and speeds has become larger issue as needs have evolved. Gaming, streaming, phone and home security devices are just few items needing internet and/or wireless capabilities. Our household uses Century Link DSL for \$45/month. While I cannot tell you exact speed know has not been upgraded. Have gotten emails before only to be told not in our area. All cell phones are turned off Wi-Fi usage and use data only since would be so slow. Video games are all digital now with games having to be downloaded and updated. When my son got new system couple years ago was going to take 24-48 hours to complete set up. My brother took to Omaha and had it completed in 10 minutes. He is now college student in Norfolk and also made sure to update anything there if brought home during breaks. That is difference in speeds for rural areas compared to populated areas. Streaming using more than one device is not attempted as causes too much buffering. COVID only highlighted issues when students were working from home with poor or no internet access.

Please consider awarding our community grant funds to improve this infrastructure.

Regards,

Mashall M. Schock

Lifelong resident of Emerson

Jashall M School

Jan Gradert



PO Box 178, Emerson, NE 68733 712.389.0239 jlgradert@gmail.com

September 27, 2021

Nebraska Public Service Commission,

I am a retired widow living in Emerson on social security and a small pension so money is not in abundance. I currently choose to spend \$63.00 a month to have the convenience of internet service. This was a great help in getting me through the pre-vaccination stages of Covid-19. I was able to get almost everything I needed delivered to me or ordered online for curbside pick up. It is quite frustrating that the current internet service is not very reliable. It is slow and is often down. I have not tracked just how often it goes down but it seems like it happens a great deal. It usually happens when I am trying to accomplish something with a deadline looming. I have also experienced times at the Emerson Public Library when the internet has gone down as the librarian is checking out patrons. As the president of the Emerson Public Library Board I believe our patrons deserve reliable internet service. I would love to see that happen. The reasons stated previously are why I support the Village of Emerson applying for a grant to receive an improved Broadband Infrastructure, including fiber optic to homes and businesses in Emerson. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jan Gradert

Jan Grader



To: The Nebraska Public Service Commission

As a resident of rural Emerson, I am very interested in improving the broadband infrastructure in our area. Every facet of our lives is influenced by our internet experiences. This was brought very sharply into focus during the COVID shut-down when I worked from my home for several months.

In many instances my internet dropped, was slow and seemed unable to download large files. ZOOM sessions/meetings would freeze and drop. This made completing my work tasks extremely cumbersome.

My service provider is not very easy to work with, does not respond very quickly and charges a fee that appears to be more than what others in the area are paying. My modem is very old but appears to be a proprietary model and upgrading is not an easy process.

Other individuals in the area have indicated they enjoy high speed internet through fiber optics via an under-ground connection to their homes. They report that working from home is as responsive as being in the office. There is no slow down on video streaming/downloading or ZOOM sessions on any device. The cost is very reasonable and they belong to a cooperative, in which after a vested period, they receive dividends. They report excellent customer service via a local connection. Response is quick and reliable.

I support any help the Commission can provide to aid our community in obtaining this type of service in the Emerson area. For the community to grow, explore new business, education or economic opportunities, we need this service.

Sincerely

Corliss Hassler hasslcor@gmail.com (712) 899-4939 To the Nebraska Public Service Commission,

My name is Hunter and I live in Emerson and attend school at Emerson-Hubbard. I would like the internet to be improved in Emerson for several reasons. I like to play xbox, but it gets frustrating when I am playing games with my friends on the xbox and it crashes or logs me out. Sometimes I can't even connect with friends, because the internet isn't working properly. I also got a new tv for Christmas and I should be able to connect to the internet with it, but it is so frustrating that I usually just use my cell phone and use my data from the tower instead of the home internet. Another reason is that when I am at school sometimes when I am trying to write an essay or create a slide show it will not let me get into my google docs or google slides; this makes me fall behind in class. This also happens at home, especially when my family is all trying to use the internet on their devices. My mom says our internet should work better at home, but it seems to typically be slow and sometimes does not work at all.

I hear my mom and step-dad talk about our internet a lot; they are either complaining about it or trying to find other options. It sounds like we don't have many options in Emerson, so I think it would be great if you could help us find a better solution.

Thank you for your time,

Humber Heikes
Hunter Heikes
301 W 6th Street

Emerson, NE 68733

September 27, 2021

The Nebraska Public Service Commission;

I am writing this letter to encourage you to consider approving the grant application that would improve the Broadband Infastructure to the village of Emerson. Being in rural Nebraska, access to adequate internet is a necessity for the businesses and families residing in Emerson. The

current internet is slow and has a habit of unexpectedly dropping off service.

As the coordinator for an Emerson based program and a teacher in the school district, I can tell you first-hand what a hassle it is to not have adequate internet services. In a small rural community, it is imperative that we are able to connect with the broad world around us. Farming operations, which are a way of life in our community, rely heavily on internet service. Students complet coursework from home on their school supplied devices, but at times the internet is not reliable and they struggle to complete assignments. Businesses in the community are also

I urge you to approve the grant proposal and help bring Emerson "up to speed"!

affected by the lack of quality speed and consistent service.

Thank you for your time,

Rebecca J Barber

Rebecca Barber

TeamMates of Emerson-Hubbard Coordinator

Emerson, NE

September 24, 2021

RE: Letter of support for Grand Application from the Village of Emerson< Ne

For improved Broadband services for the Emerson, Community

TO: The Nebraska Public Service Commission

To Whom it may concern:

I am an elderly man living in the village of Emerson, NE. I was a public-school teacher in Bancroft and later Ainsworth, NE for a total of 32 years. I later worked over ten years part-time as an adjunct faculty member for Northeast Community College in Norfolk. I did my work from my home, first from Ainsworth and later when I moved back to my hometown of Emerson I also worked from my home. A dependable computer connection was important for my work.

I am very much in support of efforts to bring fiber optic cable to the Emerson Community. Although I had great connections most of the time, there were sometimes when it failed me during critical class times such as during the grading and reporting of final grades for my online students. It is difficult to communicate with my current provider. You must go through several messages and then you get someone who is not even from this area of the country. Service times for problems can be a problem.

I currently have my land-line phone and my computer hooked to my internet provider. A few months ago, I lost my connections for about two weeks. The first repair did not work, and I finally called again and got a technician who was just new on the job put he realized that I had not been provided with the correct electrical connection for my new modem. It worked well after his service call.

Again, I am very much in support of efforts to have Northeast Company out of Jackson provide a fiber optic connection for the community of Emerson.

Sincerely,

W. Richard Albrecht

September 27, 2021

The Nebraska Public Service Commission

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Gina Lawrence and I currently reside in Emerson, NE. I have lived here for 6 years. We currently have American Broadband cable modem. We pay \$78 per month for this service. We use our internet for computer use as well as television. We have switched from satellite due to rising costs. The internet service is "ok". We would prefer faster connections along with no service interruptions. The service cuts or drops out every now and then.

Thank you for your time,

Gina Lawrence

Charles Chinn

September 23, 2021

The Nebraska Public Service Commission:

I am writing this letter in support of the Village of Emerson attempting to bring high speed internet into the Community. There is a great need for this service as many people are working from home. The internet service providers that do come to the Emerson area have been providing poor service. I have been paying \$50.00 per month for 50Mbps and I am only receiving 30Mbps or less. There are many times the internet service is down in this area. I believe if high speed internet were available in Emerson in would benefit the businesses and the entire community.

Sincerely,

Charles Chinn

Dear Nebraska Public Service Commission,

I am writing this letter because I believe the Village of Emerson should receive this grant to help improve our broadband infrastructure to our little Village. I have a family of four and we all have cell phones and many devices/appliances that could use could utilize greatly from this.

We experience internet drop offs quite often and sometimes we get no service at all. We are supposed to be getting 30Mbps and we are lucky to get half that in the evenings when we are all trying to have our downtime. My kids complain because video games lag, it takes forever for apps to download and open. Sometimes we use cell phone date due to it being faster than the internet we pay for. It would be so nice to get what we pay for and I am constantly restarting the modem to reboot so we get better service. We currently pay \$50/ month for our internet.

If we get this grant we can connect and have the service to be up to date like the outside world. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hall, Resident of Emerson

September 23, 2021

Nebraska Public Service Commission

I am writing this letter in regards to the internet service I have in Emerson, NE. I currently work from home and experience dropped service weekly during the day, which makes it hard to do my job consistently.

I also have a 14 year old and an 11 year old that want to use gaming systems and/or stream shows at night and the internet has a hard time keeping up if they are both on at once. Last March 2020 when kids were sent home due to COVID we had to rotate being connected so that I could work and they could do their schooling.

I currently pay \$69.99/month for a service that has lots of interruptions.

Sincerely

Patricia A Belt