

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

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Box Butte County

Alliance, Nebraska

June 21, 2022

Nebraska Public Service Commission
1200 N St #300
Lincoln, NE 68508

Re: Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program Application

Dear Nebraska Broadband Bridge Grant Committee:

As a resident of rural Box Butte County, I am sending this letter of support for Mobius Communications Company and the potential Grant Funding through the Broadband Bridge Grant.

Box Butte County has a successful working partnership with Mobius Communications and supports their efforts to make broadband services available to all the residents of Box Butte County. While broadband coverage maps may show significant coverage of the county, this is not the case. Many of the rural residents still find themselves without adequate service, including myself. As a resident and as the Chairman of the Box Butte County Commissioners, I know firsthand the importance of not only having access to high-speed internet, but also the luxury it is to have a local provider that is working diligently to bridge the gap in coverage.

As an elected official, it is essential that we make these connections when we are given the opportunity. Through partnerships such as this, Mobius Communications continues to show their dedication to the residents of Box Butte County. The Box Butte County Commissioners have the upmost confidence that Mobius Communications can help us achieve our ultimate goal of total broadband coverage for all residents. As a sign of our commitment to this project, we are collaborating with Mobius and providing matching funds in the amount of \$475,000.00. Broadband expansion is critical in order to ensure that Box Butte County continues to progress with technology.

Mobius Communication Company has our full support in the submittal of this Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program Application. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 308.762.6565 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Steve Burke
Box Butte County Chairman of the Board

Dear Grant Committee

Having lived in the rural Box Butte county area since 1991 has been great except for the things city dwellers have without any serious or ongoing problems.

One of them is dealing with outdated phone lines in serious disrepair. When we get the much needed rain the phone is usually out or has terrible crackles or scratching and is hard to communicate

The other is terrible internet that comes and goes as we are in a low spot so the wireless connections go out periodically and is quite slow also

I am president on the ag society board and zooming is basically not possible as the connection also disappears with length or the voice is just gone and is a long time before comes back.

The current fiber line is only 2 miles away so is close but not close enough. We realize costs have skyrocketed the last 2 years but would sure appreciate this service. Hopefully sooner than later.


Cell service is also bad again because of living in a low area


Thank you for considering this and hope our plea is appreciated as the need here is high.


There is I believe 6 or 7 other homes that I am sure would appreciate better service than what we have


Sincerely
Ron and Deb Henzler

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron and Deb Henzler", written in a cursive style.


SPEEDTEST  


PING  **31** ms

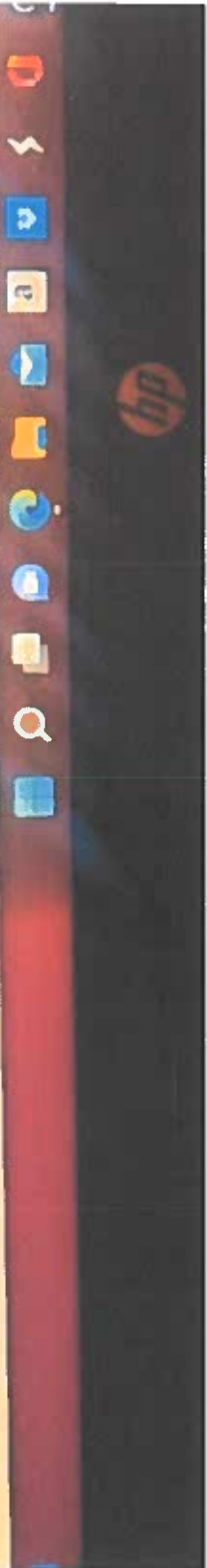
DOWNLOAD  **9.82** Mbps

UPLOAD  **3.80** Mbps



 **PC Telcom >**
Holyoke, CO

 **OPTK Networks**





Dear Grant Committee

Living in rural Box Butte County is not without its challenges.

Internet and good phone service are just 2 of them. Internet access is becoming more and more necessary to do business.

I would like to urge this committee to help Mobius expand coverage in Box Butte County.

Thank you

Don Stricker



Dear Grant Committee,

I am writing in support of bringing more fiber optics into rural Western Nebraska.

I operate a farm business, which I run from my home, 15 miles west of Alliance.

To properly run this operation I need access to the opportunities that consistent high speed internet provides. Internet is vital these days, almost all business dealings involve the internet. Rural businesses should have equal internet quality to in-town businesses.

Thanks for your consideration.

Mike Colson
7551 Perkins Road
Alliance, NE 69301

X  Speakeasy Internet Speed Test - Check Your Broadba
speakeasy.net



Speakeasy Speed T

⊖ PING

65

ms

⬇️ DOWNLOAD

2.2

Mbps

⊖ JITTER

23

ms

⬆️ UPLOAD

2.0

Mbps

Dear Grant Committee,

My Family and I have lived and worked in rural Box Butte County Nebraska most of our lives. We love almost every aspect of life here with the exception of our roads, and the SPEED OF OUR INTERNET. While I am certain you cannot help us with our roads, we sincerely hope you can help improve our sporadic, and often unreliable internet.

Our Farming /Trucking Business, my wife's independent therapy business, children's home schooling, and church functions, all depend heavily on high speed reliable internet service.

Many facets of our agriculture business, Including organic and conventional farming and trucking, where we produce and transport commodities to multiple companies in the Midwest, require dependable internet.

Homeschooling is now 100 percent dependent on high speed internet.

Church functions also now use the internet for teaching training and other events.

Particular challenging for us, in obtaining faster internet, is our geographical location where signals are blocked by hills from closer towers. Currently, with higher usage in the evenings, our internet is barely usable, and at night when my wife does her work, it becomes more sporadic, and nonfunctional. At times when our service requires multiple users, we are forced to take turns, making for longer work hours.

Our current, and other providers have informed us faster service is not possible for our area.

We have become dependent on high speed internet as the most essential tool for all aspects of our lives.

In summary, High Speed internet would be *extremely* helpful and make employee training, trucking reports, insurance training requirements, zoom meetings, farm functions, school classes, research projects and Church meetings possible and more successful.

The attached download / upload speed was tested Sunday @ 12:30 pm from direct wired Desktop computer.

We, as well as our neighborhood, would appreciate your help in allowing Mobius to provide us with **High Speed Internet Service.**

Thank You,

Carl & Susan West

Quality Haying & Hauling

The screenshot displays the Speedtest mobile application interface. At the top, there are options for 'SHARE' with social media icons, the date and time '05/05/2022 12:21 PM', and buttons for 'RESULTS' and 'SETTINGS'. The main display area features three large blue boxes with white text: 'PING ms' with a value of '40', 'DOWNLOAD Mbps' with a value of '2.34', and 'UPLOAD Mbps' with a value of '1.00'. Below these metrics, the user's name 'Mobius' is shown next to a profile icon, a large circular 'GO' button, and the server information 'PC Telcom Holyoke, CO' with a globe icon. At the bottom, there is a promotional message: 'Use Speedtest® on all your devices with our free native apps. Download Speedtest apps for:'.

SHARE [social icons] 05/05/2022 12:21 PM RESULTS SETTINGS

PING ms 40

DOWNLOAD Mbps 2.34

UPLOAD Mbps 1.00

Mobius [profile icon] GO [globe icon] PC Telcom Holyoke, CO

Use Speedtest® on all your devices with our free native apps.
Download Speedtest apps for: