

BCDA is pleased to provide this letter of support for the expansion of rural broadband by Stealth Broadband in unserved areas of Boone County. This expansion would in part be funded by the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program.

High-speed broadband in rural areas of Boone County is essential to maintain and grow economic development within Boone County. Like all other utilities, broadband access has become a valued necessity in expanding business and keeping young talent in rural areas of Nebraska.

Stealth Broadband has been working with Boone County officials to review and expand high-speed broadband service in areas of rural Boone County, where service has been limited or non-existent.

Stealth Broadband has indicated a passion for growth in rural areas of Nebraska and provides dedicated service in parts of Boone County. Stealth Broadband has shown a commitment to improving the high-speed broadband in unserved areas in Boone County and across Nebraska.

Please consider Stealth Broadband's application for Boone County in the Broadband Bridge Program.

Sincerely

⁄Jackie Valasek

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## **BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

## BRIAN J. YOSTEN ~ JON LINDGREN ~ LARRY TEMME

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July 11, 2023

To whom it may concern:

We are writing in support of Stealth Broadband as they are applying for a Broadband Bridge Program grant for the County of Boone, Nebraska. There are currently few options available in our area and of the options that are available, the speed and reliability isn't the best.

As a resident of the County, I am highly in favor of Stealth Broadband providing us access to high speed, reliable internet. We can attest to the hardship that the lack of service causes the families of this community. Children struggle to conduct adequate research for homework or school projects. Parents find it difficult to work from home.

There is value in having competition in our community, it will keep the prices affordable and the service reliable for the consumers. Granting the award to Stealth Broadband would increase competition and in turn, grant the residents of the County access to affordable highspeed internet.

We believe access to broadband internet is no longer an amenity, but rather a necessity. It will not only enhance the quality of life in the community but it will also serve as an avenue to connect us with digital resources that we are now missing.

We strongly encourage you to approve the grant request the Stealth Broadband has submitted for the County of Boone, Nebraska.

Thank you

Larry Temme,

Chairman of the Boone County Board of Commissioners