BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to administer the Nebraska Universal Service Application No. NUSF-92.43 Fund's Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska Broadband Program Received from Pinpoint Communications Inc.

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF J. THOMAS SHOEMAKER IN STANDARD APPLICATION

MAR 2 7 2015

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

- Q. Please state your name.
- A. My name is J. Thomas Shoemaker.
- Q. Please state your position with and the name of your current employer and provide a summary of your duties.
- A. My current position is that of Executive Vice President of Pinpoint Communications Inc. ("Pinpoint"). As part of my duties, I ensure that all operations comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations and I represent Pinpoint before regulatory agencies, legislative bodies, and industry associations. In the performance of my duties, I manage all activities of Pinpoint, either directly or through subordinate managers, including negotiation of interconnection agreements with other carriers; provide reports to the Board of Directors; manage the profit and loss responsibilities for Pinpoint; interpret and implement policies; plan, direct, coordinate, and oversee all of Pinpoint's lines of business; and determine objectives, establish operating procedures, and ensure the success of Pinpoint within guidelines and authority established by the Board.
- Q. Prior to assuming your current positions what was your employment background?
- A. Prior to coming to Pinpoint fourteen years ago, I spent time in both the golf industry and the retail sales space. I was an assistant golf professional for a semi private golf course

in Gilbert, Arizona. In my years with Pinpoint, I have held several positions within Pinpoint.

Q. Please describe the Applicant and its business.

A. Pinpoint is a common carrier operating as a competitive local exchange carrier and an interexchange carrier subject to the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission"). Pinpoint holds certificates of public convenience and necessity issued by this Commission and operates general telecommunications businesses in Nebraska. The Commission's September 30, 2014 Annual Report to the Legislature regarding telecommunications shows that as of December 31, 2013, Pinpoint served 709 voice lines. Pinpoint also provides high speed Internet and advanced telephone services to its customers in rural Nebraska.

Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A. My testimony is provided to support the application filed with the Commission by Pinpoint for funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Program of Pinpoint's 2015 Broadband Adoption Grant Application (the "Application"). The Application is incorporated in this testimony by reference.

Q. Can you please generally describe the Application?

A. Pinpoint proposes, in partnership with the Gothenburg Housing Authority ("Housing Authority"), to increase the access and connectivity to low-income families and the elderly living in residential housing units in Gothenburg which are managed by the Housing Authority. The overall objective of the Application is to improve the accessibility and connectivity in the commons area in two of the Housing Authority's low income facilities. Pinpoint proposes to provide a fiber to the premises facility that will

provide 100 Mbps to each of the facilities in the proposal. This bandwidth will enable video conferencing, Tele-health implementation and improved email communications. In addition, this Application will provide updated equipment and expand the number of work stations available in the commons areas. It will also provide WIFI connectivity in these areas.

- Q. Are there additional details and supporting information in the Application?
- A. Yes. These details are contained in the Application filed with the Commission.
- Q. Do you support the Staff recommendation regarding the Application?
- A. Yes. I appreciate the Staff's recommendation to approve the Application and believe that the Commission should adopt the Staff's recommendation regarding the Application. I would also add that the Application is unopposed by any third party.
- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 27th day of March, 2015, the original, five copies, and an electronic copy of the foregoing pleading were delivered to:

Nebraska Public Service Commission Shana Knutson 1200 N Street, Suite 300 Lincoln, NE 68508

Shana.Knutson@nebraska.gov

Paul M. Schudel