

**Nebraska Universal Service Fund**  
**Broadband Program**  
**2016 Broadband Adoption Grant Joint Application**

**Arlington Telephone Company**  
**Blair Telephone Company**  
**Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company**  
**Rock County Telephone Company**  
**HunTel CableVision**  
**Consolidated Telephone Company**  
**Consolidated Telco, Inc.**  
**Consolidated Telecom, Inc.**  
**The Curtis Telephone Company**  
**Hamilton Telecommunications**  
**Nebraska Central Telephone Company**  
**Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company**  
**Three River Telco**

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**Submitted to the Nebraska Public Service Commission**  
**March 28, 2016**

Nebraska Rural LECs  
Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Program  
2016 Broadband Adoption Grant Application

**Project Information**

Substantial barriers to broadband adoption persist in the State of Nebraska and those barriers continue to increase the digital divide that pervades through many underserved populations, including the low income, minorities, disabled, elderly and those living in rural areas. The progressive approach of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (“Commission”) has made grant funding available through the Nebraska Broadband Adoption Grant Program to provide specific and targeted support to foster innovative programs geared toward increasing broadband adoption rates and closing the digital divide in the State of Nebraska. The Commission has set aside funding to determine what programs are most effective at promoting broadband adoption among low-income consumers and non-adopters. The Commission has specifically asked for proposals to bring broadband availability to community centers or public facilities where low-income and elderly consumers can obtain public access to free broadband service and digital literacy training.

For broadband adoption programs, partnerships between multiple entities can maximize limited funding, foster the sharing of information and resources and encourage stakeholders with a mutual goal, in this case, connectivity to underserved populations at locations where they can obtain free broadband service and digital literacy training. The Rural Local Exchange Carriers (“RLECs”) listed below, in partnership with local schools, senior centers, libraries, and community centers within their service areas and Consortia Consulting, propose to provide in-depth digital literacy training at locations within the RLECs’ service areas.

RLECs participating:

American Broadband Companies

- Arlington Telephone Company
- Blair Telephone Company
- Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company
- Rock County Telephone Company
- HunTel CableVision

The Consolidated Companies Inc.

- Consolidated Telephone Company
- Consolidated Telco, Inc.
- Consolidated Telecom, Inc.
- The Curtis Telephone Company

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Hamilton Telecommunications

Nebraska Central Telephone Company

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company

Three River Telco

Research identifies the major barriers to broadband adoption as access, affordability, relevancy and usefulness.<sup>1</sup> Research also indicates that even when access to the Internet is available, a large proportion of individuals do not have a sufficient level of “digital readiness” to use online applications.<sup>2</sup> Although there are rising expectations that everyone will easily grasp the latest digital innovations, many Americans lack skills to use the newest and most helpful applications. The proposed project serves an important function in overcoming barriers, especially for those who need digital literacy training but may not have the resources to purchase Internet access at home or do not have the necessary equipment. Providing training at locations where the public has access to free Internet service assists in promoting the relevance and usefulness of broadband Internet service to those currently not subscribing and to those who may be subscribing but lack the requisite digital skill set necessary to access relevant sites needed for educational and career development.

The participating RLECs recognize that the more knowledge individuals possess on the relevance of the Internet and the more computer and online skills one has, the more likely the desire will be to not only access the Internet, but to have a sufficient level of understanding to use online applications. The training programs for this application are designed to increase individuals’ knowledge of the Internet and relevant skill set in an easy to understand, non-intimidating format. By increasing the confidence in current non-adopters and those with low Internet skill sets use of computers and the Internet, we believe the objectives of increased adoption and utilization can be achieved.

To maximize the availability of this training, the RLECs training partner, Consortia Consulting, will utilize a “train-the-trainer” model. Consortia will train individuals from each RLEC, and will provide all necessary materials and resources needed for the local provider to offer successful workshops in their communities. By training individuals within each local company and providing them with the requisite skills, tools, and materials, they can be the “go-to” place for training and supporting their community members in the use of the Internet with on-line

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<sup>1</sup> *Internet Connectivity and Use in Nebraska: A Follow-Up Study* (April 2014), Vogt et al, pages 6-10.

<sup>2</sup> *Digital Readiness: Nearly one-third of Americans lack the skills to use next-generation “Internet of things” applications*, John B. Horrigan, PhD, June 2014-Included in the Application.

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skills and knowledge. The local provider can repeat its training at multiple locations and at multiple times depending on the relevant needs of those individuals in the communities they serve.

**RLEC Information**

**The ABB Companies**

The American Broadband companies (“ABB companies”) in Nebraska have approximately [REDACTED] access lines and [REDACTED] broadband customers. ABB offers the following Internet access speed tiers:

25/1 Mbps, 15/1 Mbps, 10/1 Mbps, 5/1 Mbps, and 3/1 Mbps

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband service in the ABB companies’ service areas.

The ABB companies plan to target numerous staff for training including Marketing and IT staff from American Broadband, Library Directors, Chamber or Economic Development contacts from each community, and Technology Coordinators from individual school districts. Planned training to the communities will occur in the Fall of 2016.

Potential training sessions will occur at multiple locations including the following:

Arlington Multi-Purpose Senior Center, Osmond Senior Citizens Center, Rock County Senior Center in Bassett, Meadow View Public Housing in Bassett, Blair Senior Center, Emerson Senior Center, the Laurel Senior Center, Happy Days Senior Center in Lyons, Golden Oaks Senior Center in Oakland, the Pioneer Senior Citizens Center in Pender, the Wakefield Senior Center, the Walthill Senior Center, the Chatt Senior Center in Tekamah, the Wayne Multi-Purpose Center, the Winnebago Senior Center.

Library locations include:

Arlington Public Library, Rock County Public Library, Blair Public Library, Carroll Public Library, Emerson Public Library, Keene Memorial Library, Laurel Community Learning Center, Meadow Grove Public Library, Osmond Public Library, House Memorial Library in Pender, Lied Tekamah Public Library, Gardner Public Library in Wakefield, Walthill Public Library, Little Priest Tribal College & Winnebago Public Library, Wayne Public Library, and Nebraska Indian Community College Library in Macy

The ABB companies initial focus will be on elderly and low income patrons, specifically in their tribal areas (Winnebago, Macy, Walthill, Emerson, and Pender). ABB plans to hold an initial session in both the senior center and library of those communities.

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The ABB companies' priority will be to reach out to those communities that have a higher percentage population of both low income and elderly, as well as their tribal communities.

The training time will vary by location. ABB will meet with trainers from each individual location to determine the best time of day to reach the identified audience. ABB will offer both a daytime and evening option.

The ABB companies have had success taking mobile offices out to tribal communities to help promote Lifeline telephone service. Based on the ABB companies' presence in the community for these events, they have witnessed positive growth in access lines. The ABB companies goal is by providing this type of training in their communities, they will see the same type of growth with broadband, as well as being able to empower community leaders about using broadband for economic development.

The main point of contact for this project is:

Name: Pam Adams  
Title: Marketing Manager  
Office Telephone Number: 402-426-6297  
Email: [padams@americanbb.com](mailto:padams@americanbb.com)

Consolidated Companies Inc.

The Consolidated Companies ("Consolidated") provide broadband in 24 exchanges in Nebraska. Consolidated provides service to approximately [REDACTED] access lines and broadband customers. Consolidated offers the following advertised broadband speed tiers:

20/10 Mbps, 15/5 Mbps, 10/1Mbps, and 5/1 Mbps

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband in the Consolidated service area.

The Director of Administrative Services for Consolidated along with their Plant Manager will receive the initial training. They will then train Customer Service Representatives and field staff, who will in turn train members of the communities. Consolidated plans to provide training to their communities during the Summer and Fall of 2016. Training will occur at schools, libraries, community centers and other anchor institutions. Training sessions will occur in Curtis, Eustis, Brady, Merna, Dunning, Thedford, Mullen, Hyannis, Arthur, Paxton & Wallace. Training sessions will occur during the day and in the evening as well as on the weekends in order to attract as many individuals in the communities as possible.

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The main point of contact for this project is:

Name Ryan Pate or Julie Steinhoff  
Title Plant Manager or Director of Administration Services  
Office Telephone Number: 800-742-7464  
Email: rpatecci@nebnet.net or jsteinhoff@nebnet.net

Hamilton Telecommunications

Hamilton Telecommunications provides broadband in 9 exchanges in Nebraska. Hamilton has approximately [REDACTED] access lines and approximately [REDACTED] broadband customers. Hamilton offers the following advertised broadband speed tiers:

30/2 Mbps, 18/2 Mbps, 12/1.5 Mbps, 7/1 Mbps, and 2/1 Mbps

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband in the Hamilton Service area.

Customer Service Representatives will receive the training and will train members of the community. Planned training to the communities will occur in the Fall of 2016. Hamilton plans to provide 5 or 6 community training courses, likely located at its main office building. This would allow individuals to bring their own portable devices. Hamilton will also have devices available for training purposes for those individuals who do not have access to their own device, choose not to bring their own device, or are unable to bring their device (e.g., desktop computers and Chromebooks).

Much of the training will be held at Hamilton's office where conference rooms are available that can accommodate around 20 individuals from the community. There is also a senior center and library available if necessary. Training may also be held at the community center in Doniphan. Hamilton plans to hold five or six training sessions in Aurora and one or two session in Doniphan. The training sessions will most likely occur in the evenings during the week.

The main point of contact for this project is:

Name: Pat Shaw  
Title: General Manager  
Office Telephone Number: 402-694-5101  
Email: pat.shaw@hamiltontel.com

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Nebraska Central Telephone Company provides broadband in 20 exchanges. Nebraska Central has approximately [REDACTED] access lines and [REDACTED] broadband subscribers. Nebraska Central offers the following advertised speed tiers:

20 /1 Mbps, 15/1 Mbps 10/1 Mbps, 5 /1 Mbps, 3/1 Mbps, 1 Mbps/384 kbps, 256 kbps/256 kbps

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband in the Nebraska Central service area.

Nebraska Central employees and potentially teachers and librarians will receive training and will train members of the community. Planned training to the communities will occur in the Fall and Winter of 2016. Potential locations for training include Burwell Public Library, Gibbon Public Library, North Loup Public Library, and Sargent Community Center. Training will occur in late afternoons and evening with one or two training sessions per location.

All of the specified institutions subscribe to Broadband service from Nebraska Central and have a limited number of computers. NCTC proposes a “bring your own device” training class and will have Chromebook devices available to those who do not have one.

The main point of contact for this project is:

Name Bob Krier  
Title Marketing/Community Relations Rep  
Office Telephone Number: 308-468-6939  
Email: [bobk@nctc.net](mailto:bobk@nctc.net)

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company (“Northeast”) provides broadband in 29 exchanges in Nebraska.

Northeast serves [REDACTED] access lines and has [REDACTED] broadband customers. Northeast offers the following advertised broadband speed tiers:

1 Gbps/1 Gbps, 50 /50 Mbps, 25 /25 Mbps, 12 /12 Mbps, 12/3 Mbps, 8/1 Mbps, 4 /1 Mbps, and 2 /1 Mbps.

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband in the Northeast service area.

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The Customer Service Director, Billing Clerk and Customer Service Representative will receive the initial training who will in turn train members of the communities. Northeast plans to provide training to their communities during the Summer and Fall of 2016. Potential training sessions will take place at senior Citizen centers in rural communities, community centers in rural communities, legion halls in rural communities, and schools in rural communities. Potential locations include schools in Allen, Bartlett, Butte, Clarks, Clearwater, Coleridge, Jackson, Newcastle, Spencer, Stuart, Weston/Malmo, and Winside. Community center locations include Craig, Long Pine, Martinsburg, and Ulysses. Other potential locations include the Decatur Senior Citizens Center, the Dixon/Concord Community Center, and the fire hall meeting room in Linwood. Training will occur during daytime and evening hours.

Northeast serves rural areas in Nebraska with populations ranging from 100 to 600. Northeast provides FTTP to every resident within their exchange boundaries. Northeast has found that demand for broadband has been stifled due to limited Internet training in these rural areas.

The main point of contact for this project is:

Name: Ranae Chase  
Title: Marketing & CSR Director  
Office Telephone Number: 402-632-4321  
Email: reschmid@nntc.net

### Three River Telco

Three River Telco provides broadband in five exchanges. Three River has approximately [REDACTED] access lines and broadband subscribers. Three River offers the following advertised broadband speed tiers:

25/1 Mbps, 15/1 Mbps, and 10/1 Mbps

Approximately [REDACTED]% of subscribers which have access to broadband have adopted broadband service in the Three River Telco service area.

Customer Service Representatives, Computer technicians, and Company Supervisors will receive the training and will train members of the community. Three River Telco plans to provide at least three training community trainings courses in the summer and fall of 2016, with at least one training course occurring in Lynch, Springview, and Ainsworth.

Training will occur in the evenings at the Lynch Community Hall, the Multi-Purpose room at Keya Paha High School in Springview, and at Ainsworth High School. Three River Telco will

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have devices available for training purposes for those individuals who do not have their own device, choose not to bring their own device, or are unable to bring their own device.

The main point of contact for this project is:

Name: Neil Classen  
Title: General Manager  
Office Telephone Number: 402-569-2666  
Email: [neil@threeriver.net](mailto:neil@threeriver.net)

### **Company Training Partner**

Consortia Consulting is a Nebraska company that has been providing financial, regulatory, and managerial resources and services to rural telecommunications companies for 25 years. Consortia assists clients make the difficult financial and operational decisions encountered in today's rapidly changing environment. Their consultants average more than 20 years of telecommunications experience, applying extensive knowledge and expertise to resolve critical issues impacting rural companies' financial performance.

Consortia brings rural telecommunications companies together to work jointly on projects of interest and importance to the industry, believing that the group is always more powerful than the individual company can be alone. Consortia is an employee-owned company dedicated to the well-being of rural companies and the people who work tirelessly to ensure that all customers in Nebraska and across the country have access and the knowledge to use the most advanced communications network in the world.

Consortia's trainer, Carissa Swenson, has a background in education and training. She has a Master's Degree in Instructional Technology and bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Business Education. Carissa has spent most of her professional career teaching and training. Carissa's background has enabled her to help people learn how to utilize broadband and devices that connect to it through presentations, hands-on training, educational materials and videos. Her experience will help guide the trainers through the process. The topics of training are discussed in the Project Information section below.

#### Contact Information:

Carissa Swenson  
Consortia Consulting  
[cswenson@consortiaconsulting.com](mailto:cswenson@consortiaconsulting.com)

Dan Davis  
Consortia Consulting  
[ddavis@consortiaconsulting.com](mailto:ddavis@consortiaconsulting.com)  
402-441-1672

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The training provided by Consortia which in turn will be taught by the local providers in their respective communities, are designed to increase adoption through digital literacy programs. The following topics will be taught by Consortia. Each provider can gauge which of these courses is best taught and when to members of their communities:

**Broadband Adoption Strategies**

This course leads off the “train the trainers” session. This course focuses on how to “connect” with non-adopters on a personal level, allowing new users to feel comfortable in the learning environment. In addition to the training topics as outlined below, this session will provide the trainers with strategies and tips for working with anyone who is just learning how to use the Internet or those who just want to take their knowledge to the next level.

**Broadband Basics & Safety**

This course teaches the basics of going online, including email basics, understanding search engines and web browsers, identifying secure websites, creating strong passwords, understanding terms such as Wi-Fi, identifying phishing and spam. Overall, this course focuses on what makes the online experience enjoyable and safe.

**Broadband Based Office**

This course will help to guide users through word processing and spreadsheet basics since these are the core programs used in business, schools and homes. In addition, this course will show users how and where they can obtain these tools for free using Google Drive, allowing users to create and access documents such as resumes and budgets by accessing the Internet with, a connected device.

**Broadband “Connections”**

This course focuses on using the Internet to connect with professional and personal contacts. Concepts regarding social media platforms, good social media etiquette, and how to set up a Facebook, LinkedIn or Pinterest accounts will be taught. Learning how to use programs such as FaceTime and Skype to make video calls over a high speed Internet connection will also be discussed.

**Broadband Productivity**

This workshop teaches users about free or low cost tools available online to help them stay more organized and efficient and ways to be productive from anywhere using a broadband connection. This course will allow users to become familiar with online tools such as Dropbox, LastPass, and Sign-Up Genius.

**Broadband Memories and Crafts**

This course will focus on sites for creating videos from pictures, digital scrapbooks, or photo gifts. Sites that help local artist and crafters sell their work online will also be discussed.

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The trainers and workshop attendees of the program will complete online surveys in order to track the progress of the workshops and generate useful information to report on the program.

**Financial Information**

The description of the itemized cost categories included in the grant and as shown on the attached budget include:

Training cost of company personnel. This amount includes the time and any associated expenses, of participating company personnel that will be trained in the broadband adoption and digital literacy courses.

Facility rental. This amount includes the potential charges that maybe incurred to rent facilities or pay personnel at the facilities where company training and community training will occur.

Public Notification includes all cost needed to adequately inform the public of where, when, and the content of the broadband training events.

Training partner expense includes the time and travel expenses of two individuals, including the main trainer and project coordinator from the training partner, Consortia Consulting. In addition, the training partner will publish and provide training manuals for company personnel as well as all training materials for each of the community participants.

Curriculum development for broadband workshops. This amount includes the time required for the program's instructor, Carissa Swenson, to the develop the curriculum needed to train the participating company personnel and the time required to develop the curriculum that company personnel will use during their training sessions in their communities.

Chromebooks will be purchased and provided to participants during the training. This will assure that participants at the training will have access to the necessary hardware to access the Internet during the training and can get trained on the ease of using Internet access devices.

**Verifications**

The RLECs commit to abide by all applicable Commission rules, regulations and orders.

The RLECs commit to using the 2016 Broadband Adoption Grant Program funding for the purposes intended and which have been approved by the Commission through the application process.

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The RLECs commit to fulfilling all reporting and audit requirements adopted by the Commission for oversight of the Broadband Adoption Grant Program funds.

Included with this application is an Affidavit from each company attesting to the truth and accuracy of all information included in this application.

**NUSF 92 Broadband Adoption Application  
Budget for The Nebraska Rural LECs  
Broadband Adoption and Digital Literacy Training Program**

**Itemized Cost per Participating Company**

Training Cost of Company Personnel (5 People)	
Facility Rental	
Public Notification/advertising of Training Events	
Training Partner Cost	
Training Partners Time and Travel (Two Trainers)	
Trainers Training Manuals	
Community Participant Training Materials	
Curriculum Development for Broadband Workshops	
Chromebooks (10 Broadband access only laptops)	
<b>Total Cost Per Participating Company</b>	
Number of Participating Companies	6
<b>Total NUSF 92 Grant Application Funding Request</b>	

**BEFORE THE  
NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of                    )  
Nebraska Rural LECs    )  
Seeking Support Funding from the                        )  
Nebraska Universal Service Fund                        )  
Broadband Adoption Grant Program                     )  
  )

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_

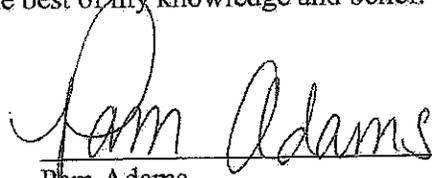
**AFFIDAVIT OF PAM ADAMS  
IN SUPPORT OF  
NEBRASKA RURAL LECS  
NEBRASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND BROADBAND PROGRAM  
2016 BROADBAND ADOPTION GRANT APPLICATION**

I, Pam Adams, being of lawful age and duly sworn, state as follows:

1. My name is Pam Adams. My business address is 1605 Washington Street; P.O. Box 400; Blair, NE 68008. I am the Marketing Manager of American Broadband.
2. I submit this affidavit in support of the Matter of the Application of the Joint Application of Nebraska Rural LECs Seeking Support Funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program.
3. I hereby verify that, as the Marketing Manager, I have reviewed the information and documentation submitted in support of the Nebraska Rural LECs' Grant Application for funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program and filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission on March 29, 2016 and attest to the truth and accuracy to the best of my knowledge and belief of all of the information included in Nebraska Rural LECs' application.
4. This completes my affidavit.

**VERIFICATION**

I, Pam Adams, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Adams". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

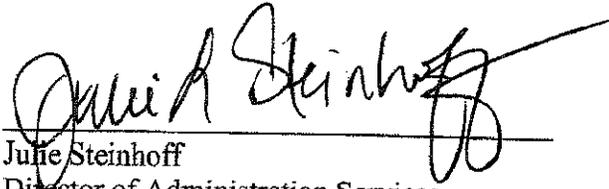
Pam Adams  
Marketing Manager  
American Broadband



4. This completes my affidavit.

**VERIFICATION**

I, Julie Steinhoff, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Steinhoff", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and includes a large flourish at the end.

Julie Steinhoff  
Director of Administration Services  
Consolidated Companies, Inc.

**BEFORE THE  
NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of )  
Nebraska Rural LECs ) Application No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Seeking Support Funding from the )  
Nebraska Universal Service Fund )  
Broadband Adoption Grant Program )  
)

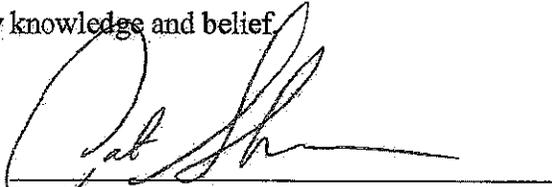
**AFFIDAVIT OF PAT SHAW  
IN SUPPORT OF  
NEBRASKA RURAL LECs  
NEBRASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND BROADBAND PROGRAM  
2016 BROADBAND ADOPTION GRANT APPLICATION**

I, Pat Shaw, being of lawful age and duly sworn, state as follows:

1. My name is Pat Shaw. My business address is 1001 12<sup>th</sup> Street; Aurora, NE 68818. I am the General Manager of Hamilton Telecommunications.
2. I submit this affidavit in support of the Matter of the Application of the Joint Application of Nebraska Rural LECs Seeking Support Funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program.
3. I hereby verify that, as the General Manager, I have reviewed the information and documentation submitted in support of the Nebraska Rural LECs' Grant Application for funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program and filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission on March 29, 2016 and attest to the truth and accuracy to the best of my knowledge and belief of all of the information included in Nebraska Rural LECs' application.
4. This completes my affidavit.

**VERIFICATION**

I, Pat Shaw, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Shaw", is written over a horizontal line.

Pat Shaw  
General Manager  
Hamilton Telecommunications



knowledge and belief of all of the information included in Nebraska Rural LECs' application.

4. This completes my affidavit.

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Bob Krier, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



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**Bob Krier**  
**Marketing/Community Relations Representative**  
**Nebraska Central Telephone Company**

**BEFORE THE  
NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of                    )  
Nebraska Rural LECs    )  
Seeking Support Funding from the                            )  
Nebraska Universal Service Fund                            )  
Broadband Adoption Grant Program                         )  
  )

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT OF RANAE CHASE  
IN SUPPORT OF  
NEBRASKA RURAL LECS  
NEBRASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND BROADBAND PROGRAM  
2016 BROADBAND ADOPTION GRANT APPLICATION**

I, Ranae Chase, being of lawful age and duly sworn, state as follows:

1. My name is Ranae Chase. My business address is 110 East Elk Street; P.O. Box 66; Jackson, NE 68743. I am the Marketing and CSR Director of Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company.
2. I submit this affidavit in support of the Matter of the Application of the Joint Application of Nebraska Rural LECs Seeking Support Funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program.
3. I hereby verify that, as the Marketing and CSR Director, I have reviewed the information and documentation submitted in support of the Nebraska Rural LECs' Grant Application for funding from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Adoption Grant Program and filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission on March 29, 2016 and attest to the truth and accuracy to the best of my knowledge and belief of all of the information included in Nebraska Rural LECs' application.

4. This completes my affidavit.

**VERIFICATION**

I, Ranae Chase, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*Ranae Chase*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ranae Chase

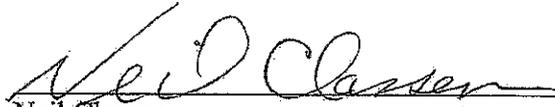
Marketing and CSR Director

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company



**VERIFICATION**

I, Neil Classen, declare under penalty of perjury that the statements in this Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Neil Classen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Neil Classen  
General Manager  
Three River Telco