

**LOVELAND BROADBAND TASK FORCE**  
**November 3, 2016 Minutes**  
**Medical Center of the Rockies – 2500 Rocky Mountain Avenue, Loveland**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Task Force Members Present:** Dave Kavanagh, Doug Rutledge (left at 11:40), Fernando Pedroza, Joe Wilson

**City Council Liaison Present:** John Fogle

**Task Force Members Absent:** Jason Frisbie, Julie Klein, Paul Langfield, Mindy McCloughan, Josh Smith, Richard Toftness

**City Staff Members Present:** Bill Westbrook, Briana Reed-Harmel, Kathy Gross, Kim O’Field, Tom Hacker

**Consultant Present:** Kyle Hollifield from Magellan Advisors, John Honker from Magellan Advisors via conference call

**Audience Present:** Paul Morris, network engineer at Medical Center of the Rockies (MCR)

Briana Reed-Harmel ran the meeting in the absence of chairperson Mindy McCloughan. Call to order at 10:05 by Briana.

Briana called for a motion to approve the October 6, 2016 meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously after a motion from Doug Rutledge and a second from Fernando Pedroza.

**Overview of Hosted Facility**

Fernando Pedroza started by giving an overview of the UCHealth network. This organization is one of the largest health systems in Colorado with a lot of connectivity, and is in expansion mode. The PVHS medical fiber network in the Loveland and Fort Collins area has traditionally been made up of “rings”. The MCR campus, Harmony campus and Lemay campus are all connected via large dark fiber from PRPA. Smaller medical facilities are connected by smaller rings within the big rings. The data centers have been consolidated and a new location for a major data center, which drives which rings are being connected at all hospitals, is being selected.

**Broadband Assessment and Feasibility Analysis**

Kyle Hollifield presented a preliminary feasibility analysis presentation reviewing the state of broadband in Loveland. Kyle updated the group about where we are with community outreach and consultant development of the assessment and feasibility analysis. Loveland’s outreach results were pronounced to be mostly typical, such as residential and business subscriber percentages, cost, upload/download speeds and similar factors. An atypical result is the very

high rate of survey respondents which claim that they will likely change to a municipal broadband utility. Over 92% of respondents say they will change to a municipal utility if/when that is offered. Common themes in Loveland are: cost too high for services received, few providers/lack of choice, lack of redundancy for business users, and uncertainty about future needs being met. Redundancy is a big issue for key accounts, businesses, emergency services, and others. Current lack of infrastructure is detrimental and affects economic development. Discussion veered toward preparing for the upcoming city council presentation on December 13, making sure that we make a clear and meaningful presentation, including a snapshot of what Longmont does/Longmont data. We plan to focus on financials at this meeting and bring more information to a future meeting. We will return to council early in 2017 with more news, and ask council for their thoughts and direction.

In discussion about business models, risk/reward, investment and control were given by Magellan as the three things to weigh. Magellan is starting to see more public/private partnerships. They advise that they have never seen an open access model that works. To eventually make a group recommendation, the task force would like to know how things are going in the other communities that have had certain business models. Magellan has a white paper which includes that information; that white paper will be placed on our task force website so the task force can learn what people are doing in other places and see their satisfaction numbers.

### **Update on City's Project Status**

Loveland is through the outreach portion of the assessment and feasibility study. Regarding the fiber asset inventory, Loveland is done with their portion and has enough from PRPA to move forward. City staff attended the Business Appreciation Breakfast which unfortunately did not increase our business survey response much. The Magellan calling campaign, targeting businesses to complete the survey and achieve statistical relevance will begin soon. The annual Key Accounts Meeting will be on December 8 and City staff will speak about broadband at that event. Larimer County has an override of SB-152 on the ballot. Loveland is participating in regional broadband meetings with Longmont, Estes Park, Fort Collins and Larimer County. Dave Kavanagh asked for meeting notes from the regional meetings.

### **Future Agenda/Other Discussion**

Upcoming Council Presentation

Location of next meeting - Chamber of Commerce (pending approval from Mindy McCloughan)

Meeting adjourned at 11:58

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Gross  
Recording Secretary