

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors • (209) 966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2015-80

MEETING: February 17, 2015

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor

RE: Receive Presentation, and Adopt Resolution in Support of Cal.Net
Broadband Projects in Mariposa

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Receive a Presentation from Central Sierra Connect Broadband Consortium (Darrell Slocum), and Cal.Net Representatives; and Adopt a Resolution Showing Support for Cal.Net Broadband Projects in Mariposa County.

The Central Sierra Connect Broadband Consortium (CSC) is a collective of local community leaders from five Mother Lode counties which includes members from the Boards of Supervisors, business owners, Internet service providers (ISPs,) economic development directors, and other concerned community members whose mission is to bridge the digital divide by bringing broadband to the people and the people to broadband.

Since 2012, the CSC has been working to garner ISP interest in applying for California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grant funding for providing broadband in Mariposa County. Cal.net has shown interest in Mariposa County, and has worked for months to identify where unserved and underserved broadband areas are located within the County; create a business and financial plan to support planned infrastructure build out; and has applied for CASF matching grant funds.

A Resolution showing support of Cal.net Broadband Projects in Mariposa County is being requested to assist Cal.net in their CASF grant application process.

No General Fund money is required nor requested for these projects.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has adopted Resolutions supporting projects and issues that will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the Resolution. Cal.net may lose the competitive edge needed to win an award

for CASF funding.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None. No General Fund money is required nor requested.

ATTACHMENTS:

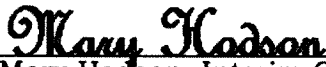
CSC Memo for Mariposa BOS Packet (PDF)

CSC Priority Areas - Mariposa (PDF)

Proposed Mariposa County Res in Support for Calnet (DOCX)

CAO RECOMMENDATION

Requested Action Recommended



Mary Hoelson, Interim CAO 2/10/2015

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

SECONDER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier

MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-80

A RESOLUTION SHOWING SUPPORT FOR CAL.NET BROADBAND PROJECTS IN MARIPOSA COUNTY

WHEREAS, broadband or high speed internet has become a ‘required utility’ in today’s world for multiple reasons, including, but not limited to: economic development, public safety, healthcare, education and smart grid technology; and

WHEREAS, in California, Mariposa County ranks among the lowest, at 57 out of 58 counties in terms of broadband access for Internet speed and all technology according to a December 31, 2013 national survey for the State; and

WHEREAS, Cal.net, Inc, a Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISP) from Shingle Springs, California is interested in expanding the area it serves to the greater Central Sierra Nevada region; and

WHEREAS, for the last several years, Cal.net has tested and has begun utilizing new broadband technology known as “ TV White Space (TVWS)” which has proven effective in providing broadband to those who live deep in forested areas; and

WHEREAS, new commercial products utilizing rural broadband TVWS technology have now been certified by the Federal Communications Commission; and

WHEREAS, as a component of its broadband infrastructure build out plan for Mariposa County, Cal.net has applied for a California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grant; and

WHEREAS, the CASF grant process ranks applications, in part, by support shown via local government resolutions and letters from the community verifying such support; and

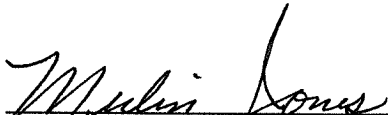
WHEREAS, Cal.net’s plans include completing rural broadband projects comprising TVWS and other fixed-wireless broadband technologies for the Mariposa County area, including, but not necessarily limited to: numerous unserved and underserved areas between Highway 49, J132 and Highway 120; and

WHEREAS, it is Cal.net’s desire to utilize its own capital investment funds as a match for CASF grant funding to reach a greater number of unserved and underserved broadband households in the Mother Lode region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California, does hereby support Cal.net’s efforts to bring their innovative broadband technology to our community which will assist us in our determination to bridge the digital divide which still exists in this county.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, State of California, this 17th day of February, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, CARRIER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE



MERLIN JONES, Chair
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



RENÉ LaROCHE
Clerk of the Board



STEVEN W. DAHLEM
County Counsel