

CITY OF CONDON
Fiber Committee Notes
Thursday, August 10, 2017, 3 p.m.
City Hall – Council Chambers

Present: Councilors Jan Stinchfield & Donald Jamieson, Chief Dale Scobert, Rita Rattray, Elizabeth Farrar & CA Kathryn Greiner; **Absent:** Mayor Jim Hassing & Consultant Adam Haas **Guests:** Leanne Durfey

CA Greiner introduced Adam Haas, Convergence Communication that was invited to the meeting to discuss the Zayo offer and what the city should be asking for in the negotiations. Haas is a telecommunication consultant that has worked with wireless, fiber and telephone. He gave some background that he has worked with the Warm Spring Tribe to build their telecom system for approximately 15 years with project management, grant writing and grant administration. He is also versed in rural broadband issues. Haas stated that you do not want to be an “island” of the fiber and it appeared that the City of Condon is in a good position to move forward. Councilor Stinchfield stated that Centurylink received money from the FCC to get broadband to rural areas and Gilliam County was not included. Haas discussed ‘next generation 911’ and FirstNet as opportunities for this area. Haas noted that AT&T was awarded a contract under First Net grant and is expected to be installing other towers in the nation.

Haas discussed aggregating services of the companies to lower the cost and noted that wireless had a great role in the deployment of internet to the rural areas, but “fiber is king.” He said that microwave/ wireless has severe limitations.

Councilor Jamieson stressed that the agreement with Zayo needs to provide the City of Condon with a “competitive edge” over other neighboring communities for business to locate. CA Greiner stated that she had emailed Home Telephone, Windwave and LSN to see what their needs would be to get to Condon and she received comments from LSN and Windwave. They discussed potential monthly lease rates and if dark fiber was needed. Haas stated that part of the negotiation may be to contribute capital funds up front to bring down the operational costs, or capacity to go all the way to the Pittock Building. A discussion was also held if the city would construction a POP for multiple users to use as a bargaining point.

Chief Scobert asked if Haas knew how much fiber was needed to go to a cell tower. Haas said he would ask some of his contacts as he did not know.

Haas will get information from CA Greiner to talk to Tom Wolff of CBEC, Chris Burns of Zayo and the contracts as they come in.