

Richland County Board
SPECIAL MEETING
March 19, 2024

Convene

Chairman Travis Paddock called the special meeting of the Richland County Board to order at 6:30pm on March 19, 2025, at the Jail Meeting Room. The meeting was proclaimed open, the Pledge of Allegiance recited, and a Silent Prayer was offered. Attendance: Dennis Graves, Present; Cindy Given, Present; Brian VanBlaricum, Present; Steve Schonert, Present; Alexis Rothrock, Present; Travis Paddock, Present; Morgan Henton, Absent.

Motion/Vote – Illinois Office of Broadband Grant

Shelly Harmon with RCDC and Taegan Garner with Greater Wabash were in attendance to discuss the grant. It is Federal money to help communities offer Broadband to all citizens. Taegan stated that this grant would help low-income families, rural families, senior citizens and more. It would also provide devices such as laptops to students that do not have access as well as develop skills. Taegan also stated that if awarded, a committee would be developed to help but would ultimately be up to the county board. Shelly stated that it would most likely be August before they know if the county was awarded the grant. It is a 3-year grant offering \$30,000 - \$300,000 per year. There will be a consultant that will do surveys and keep track of everything to be turned into the state for reimbursement. Greater Wabash and RCDC would like to proceed with the grant application using the County name as the government entity. Steve Schonert made a motion to be the oversight entity to apply for the grant. Cindy Given seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Cindy Given made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alexis McFarland seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Amanda Troyer
County Clerk

Travis Paddock
County Board Chairman