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Ph. 712-725-2381
Fax 712-725-2082

Jr/Sr High School
801 First St. Box 678
Hull, IA 51239-0678
Ph. 712-439-2440
Fax 712-439-1419

February 21, 2019

Office of the Chief Information Officer
% Jeff Franklin
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Mr. Franklin,

I was recently made aware of a proposed project by Premier Communications to install fiber optics in the rural areas of Hull and Boyden, Iowa. I want to go on record to say I fully support this project!

As the Superintendent of the Boyden-Hull School District I cannot stress the importance of quality internet for our students, especially in the rural areas. Boyden-Hull is a 1 - 1 district, which means all of our high school students are given a laptop to take home with them. This allows the students to complete their work at home and for those students that do not have access to quality internet it can really be a struggle. In fact, our district covers roughly 110 square miles which in turn means we have a large population of rural students.

As we all know, education is changing. Much of the learning and studying is dependent on technology and the internet. If the students in my district can get what's best for them, than that is what I want.

Sincerely,

Steve Grond
Superintendent

Administration

Steven D. Grond, Superintendent
Dan A. Pottebaum, Jr/Sr High Principal
Thomas W. Kerr, Elementary Principal

Board of Education

Jake Ten Haken, Pres.
Jason Moser
Mark Nilles

Gina Woelber
Laura Woelber

Lori Hoven, Business Manager & Board Secretary

Office of the Chief Information Officer
% Jeff Franklin
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, IA 50319



Matt Schuiteman
District 3 Director

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Sioux Center, IA 51250
(712) 441-1028
ajsfarms@premieronline.net
www.iowafarmbureau.com

Dear Mr. Franklin,

I have the privilege of living in Sioux County – which encompasses Boyden, Hull and Ireton, Iowa. I am writing to support the fiber buildout project that is being proposed by Premier Communications. As a member of the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation state board of directors I can't emphasize enough how important the internet is to the farmers in this area.

You may or may not know but Sioux County is the number one producer of hogs, cattle, dairy, poultry, beans and corn in the state of Iowa. The economic impact in terms of dollars and employment are some of the highest in the country. More and more agriculture is dependent upon technology. From marketing crops and livestock, updating the software on planters and combines to watching futures – everything is done via the internet.

I personally know many of the farmers in the area that is being proposed for the fiber buildout. Many of these are multi-generation farms and I would like nothing more than to see these passed on to the next generation. Technology is valuable to these farmers and I know it will help them to have successful farming operations. I strongly encourage your support for this great project.

Matthew A. Schuiteman
District 3 Director, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation

RESOLUTION 2019-08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SIOUX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SUPPORTING THE
INSTALLATION OF FIBER OPTICS BY PREMIER COMMUNICATIONS TO THE RURAL
AREAS OF HULL, BOYDEN AND IRETON, IOWA**

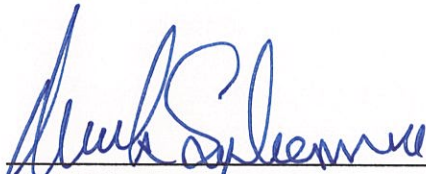
WHEREAS, Premier Communications has identified a need to make improvements to the communication system in rural Hull, Boyden and Ireton by a complete rebuild and installation of fiber optics; and the Sioux County Board of Supervisors fully supports the need for this project.

WHEREAS, the project will be financed by Premier Communications, including an application to the State of Iowa's Broadband Grant Program.


WHEREAS, investment in infrastructure, such as the proposed fiber project, will greatly benefit businesses, agriculture and residents alike in the rural areas of Hull, Boyden and Ireton by providing state-of-the-art broadband services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sioux County Board of Supervisors does hereby express its enthusiastic support for the Hull, Boyden and Ireton rural fiber installation project and furthermore encourages the State of Iowa to act favorably upon the application for financial assistance.

Signed this 12th day of February, 2019



Mark Sybesma
Chairman, Sioux County Board of Supervisors

Attest: 

Ryan Dokter
Sioux County Auditor



https://www.nwestiowa.com/scnews/supervisors-support-premier-fiber-optics/article_fb166ba0-3481-11e9-8dfe-43b6129289e2.html

FEATURED

Supervisors support Premier fiber optics

Renee Wielenga rwielenga@nwestiowa.com Feb 20, 2019 Updated Feb 20, 2019

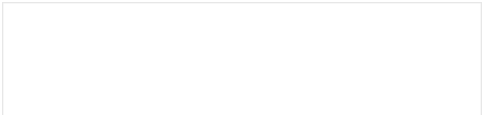


Scott Te Stroete, chief marketing and sales officer with Premier Communications, talks with the Sioux County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday regarding the amount of fiber optic cable its laid for its customers.

[Renee Wielenga \[rwielenga@nwestiowa.com\]\(mailto:rwielenga@nwestiowa.com\)](mailto:rwielenga@nwestiowa.com)

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MORE INFORMATION



SIOUX CENTER—Premier Communications seeks to access some broadband grant funding with the support of the Sioux County Board of Supervisors.



Supervisors drop property tax levy rate

The Sioux Center-based telecommunications company made the request at the Tuesday, Feb. 12, board of supervisors meeting.

Gov. Kim Reynolds announced in December that \$1.3 million for broadband grants are available through the Office of the Chief Information Officer to improve broadband access for lowans and eliminate underserved areas, or targeted service areas, across the state.

The grant program allows communication service providers, including telecommunication companies, cities and towns, to apply for up to 15 percent of their broadband project costs in targeted service areas. Communications service providers are encouraged to apply for a grant to install broadband infrastructure in these underserved areas.

Applications may be submitted online beginning Feb. 18, and must be submitted no later than March 15.

“The state of Iowa has not done this before and we would love to show them support from various agencies on our application,” Scott Te Stroete, Premier chief marketing and sales officer, told the supervisors. “It would be great if state of Iowa could help us pay for some of this.”

Premier is looking at a \$7 million project this year alone. The supervisors at its Feb. 5 meeting approved permits for burying fiber around Boyden, Hull and Ireton.

Sioux County property remains valuable

Supervisors bump health insurance portions

Sioux County Fair Board mulls site options

ReadiFuels-Iowa seeks to build new plant



Premier Communications is looking at installing about \$7 million in fiber optic cable around Boyden, Hull and Ireton this year, the areas in blue pointed out by Scott Te Stroete, chief marketing and sales officer with Premier.

Photo by Renee Wielenga

Renee Wielenga rwielenga@nwestiowa.com

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“It’s about \$8,000 a customer to get fiber in so the return on investment is quite lengthy, but we feel it’s worth it as a company to support our customers in this way,” Te Stroete said.

The Sioux-Center based company serves 28 N’West Iowa communities with internet, cable TV, phone and information technology services for homes and businesses.

The company has installed more than 2,600 miles of fiber optic line, about \$100 millions worth, since it started installing fiber in 2010.

“Over the years, Premier Communications has spent millions of dollars in our redundant fiber network — it’s something we take great pride in,” Te Stroete said. “We realize that reliable service is crucial in today’s every changing world and that’s why we take it so seriously because in the end it’s all about the network.”

The supervisors agreed to put its support of Premier’s fiber optic projects in a letter to be submitted with the company’s grant application.

Renee Wielenga

