

August 3, 2020

Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa
200 E. Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-281-5503

RE: Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Program – NOFA #003

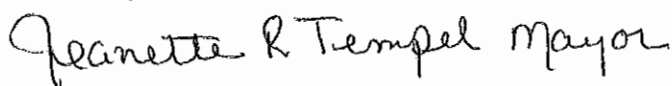
Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Cooperative Telephone Exchange (CTE). We would like to express our full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion grant application for CTE. They have a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities, as well as a strong reputation for excellent customer service and community commitment. We are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for our city. With the assistance of this grant, CTE's expanded broadband network will enable us to overcome geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through the touch of a keyboard. As an unserved rural area with limited availability to advanced Internet services, we face many challenges including limited medical resources and distance between patients, physicians, specialists and facilities. Because of the rural nature of our area, our students do not receive equitable broadband resources as other students in more urban learning centers. Our community currently lacks the research; distance learning, video and other tools that advanced broadband can bring to a rural school. Especially with the current COVID-19 pandemic, our community has seen the direct impact of limited broadband access. Therefore, it is extremely important that broadband grant funding be obtained to provide much needed broadband service to our area.

As a very small community of 199 population, it is extremely important to provide our citizens with state-of-the-art services so that our residents may stay in our communities and receive the same services provided in larger communities. CTE has worked very hard to make that happen and this grant would go a long way to provide stellar service to all our residents.

CTE has a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities and has a strong reputation for community commitment and customer service, we are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for the City of Kamrar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanette R. Tempel Mayor".

Jeanette Temple, Mayor City of Kamrar
414 Elm Street, PO Box 77
Kamrar, IA 50132
515-539-3477



*Home of the
Hawks*

*South Hamilton Community Schools
315 Division Street
Jewell, Iowa 50130*

*Dr. Ken Howard, Superintendent of Schools
ken_howard@s-hamilton.k12.ia.us
Superintendent's Office: 515-827-5479*

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200 E. Grand Ave.
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RE: Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Program – NOFA
#003

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Cooperative Telephone Exchange (CTE). We would like to express our full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion grant application for CTE. They have a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities, as well as a strong reputation for excellent customer service and community commitment. We are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for our Community School District. With the assistance of this grant, CTE's expanded broadband network will enable us to overcome geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through the touch of a keyboard. As an unserved rural area with limited availability to advanced Internet services, we face many challenges including limited medical resources and distance between patients, physicians, specialists and facilities. Because of the rural nature of our area, our students do not receive equitable broadband resources as other students in more urban learning centers.

Our community currently lacks the research; distance learning, video and other tools that advanced broadband can bring to a rural school. Especially with the current COVID-19 pandemic, our community has seen the direct impact of limited broadband access. Therefore, it is extremely important that broadband grant funding be obtained to provide much needed broadband service to our area.

The South Hamilton Community School District serves about 720 students from the communities of Jewell, Stanhope, Randall, Ellsworth, and the surrounding areas. A significant percentage of these students have limited or no access to internet services due to low or no access to broadband capabilities. This reality causes numerous issues during a time of normality, however, the onset of COVID-19 and its effects has caused many

more problems as schools opt to provide remote learning as an alternative to on-site education.

CTE has a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities and has a strong reputation for community commitment and customer service, we are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for the South Hamilton Community Schools.



Sincerely,
South Hamilton CSD
315 Division Street
Jewell, IA 50130
515-827-5479

Start HERE...Soar ANYWHERE!



August 3, 2020

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200 E. Grand Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50309
515-281-5503

RE: Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion Grant Program – NOFA #003

Dear Chief Information Officer and Review Committee:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Cooperative Telephone Exchange (CTE) both in my capacity as Mayor of Stanhope and as an individual who has lived in Stanhope all my life. I would like to express my full support of the Empower Rural Iowa, Emergency Broadband Expansion grant application for CTE. As a long-time member of this community, I can attest to the fact that Cooperative Telephone Exchange has a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to our community and other rural communities, as well as a strong reputation for excellent customer service and community commitment. We are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for the City of Stanhope and surrounding area. With the assistance of this grant, CTE's expanded broadband network will enable us to overcome geographical distances, empower us through information, and bring the world to us through the touch of a keyboard. As an unserved rural area with limited availability to advanced Internet services, we face many challenges including limited medical resources and distance between patients, physicians, specialists and facilities. Because of the rural nature of our area, our students do not receive equitable broadband resources as other students in more urban learning centers. Our community currently lacks the research; distance learning, video and other tools that advanced broadband can bring to a rural school. Especially with the current COVID-19 pandemic, our community has seen the direct impact of limited broadband access. Therefore, it is extremely important that broadband grant funding be obtained to provide much needed broadband service to our area.

Without the broadband service provided by CTE our city office and members of our community would greatly feel the loss, particularly in these times when many businesses and individuals are working remotely through on-line connections.

CTE has a long and successful history of providing state-of-art broadband service at advanced speeds to other rural communities and has a strong reputation for community commitment and customer service, we are confident in their capabilities of enhancing broadband service for the City of Stanhope and surrounding areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold L. Hove". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".

Harold L. Hove, Mayor
City of Stanhope
930 Iowa Street
P.O. Box 193
Stanhope IA 5024
(515) 826-3679 (home)
(515) 689-3378 (cell)