

### Demonstrated experience – OCIO Application

**The Community Agency (TCA)** is a joint effort between four Northwest Iowa cities who had the future in mind. It is owned by the cities of Hartley, Paullina, Primghar, and Sanborn. TCA's goal is to provide high-tech telecommunication service with hometown customer service that the citizens deserve.

TCA began providing cable television service in 2000 to the four communities through a state of the art Hybrid Fiber Coaxial Network. Over the years, TCA has continued to be a growing asset to the communities by offering services that otherwise would not be available. These services include High Speed Internet, Digital Cable with High Definition, and Telephone Service, VOIP telephone service, OTT/Steaming Services and Wireless Internet that covers most of O'Brien County to help its rural neighbors.

Since 2019, TCA has been converting each of the Cities to Fiber in order to remain a leader in the telecommunications field. Offering all of TCA's services on fiber gives unlimited potential to our citizens.

All four communities, Hartley, Paullina, Primghar, and Sanborn, are proud of their municipally owned utilities. These services provide many different opportunities for their citizens. Municipally owned means keeping the revenues within the communities for the benefit of their citizens. TCA is glad to furnish these services and is continually working to meet the cities goals.

**Evertex, Inc.**, founded in 1986 and **United Farmers Telephone Company**, founded in 1905, are headquartered in **Everly, Iowa** and subsidiaries of Evertex Enterprises.

Evertex is a total communications provider offering an array of services via fiber, cable, copper, fixed wireless and satellite. These services include Internet, IPTV, Digital Phone and Cable TV. The company started offering some of the 1<sup>st</sup> dial up Internet services in 1995 and grew the business into the network it is today.

United Farmers Telephone Company deployed FTTH in 2008 and is a 1 GB capable network to every town, rural customer and business in the Everly exchange. We also have redundant fiber rings that are managed and maintained by our staff to serve all the fiber and wireless sites in Northwest Iowa that we serve.

We have been operating as a Fixed Wireless Service Provider (WISP) since 2001 in Northwest Iowa and serve 40 fixed wireless sites that are all fed via licensed wireless Point to Point and fiber connection in Northwest Iowa. Evertex holds and has deployed the BRS spectrum for Mason City, Sioux City, and Fort Dodge and recently purchased CBRS licenses to meet the demands of customer needs.

Evertex, Inc. is managed by Roxanne White as CEO. Roxanne has over 36 years of service to this industry and the company. She has been the CEO since 2000 and was a past Board Chair of the Iowa Communications Alliance (ICA). Roxanne and her team of 14 employees have established unique partnerships with Municipalities, ILEC's, CLEC's

and rural electrical cooperatives across the State of Iowa. This aggressive team has opened the door to new opportunities extending the coverage area while closing the gap for underserved areas.

Evertex and TCA have worked together on joint projects and efforts since 2011. Both companies have been providing fixed wireless to rural O'Brien county and recently also just purchased CBRS spectrum to further the investment in rural areas.

A fiber-to-the-home project offering 100/100 service would not be feasible in the areas currently served by fixed wireless, unless matching state funds can be awarded for this project, as requested.

The proposed FTTH system offers:

- a. Calix Shelf with redundant internetworking paths. Dual 10G connections to Core Router.
  - i. Core Router has connections to two 10G fiber routes.
- b. Capable of up to 1 gigabit connection to every premises served.
- c. 10G to 100G interconnection between Hubs

Current Evertex Network and Operations:

Network Capacity Planning: 1) Evertex Core network currently has redundant 10GB connections to geographically diverse Internet providers. BGP is used to balance traffic and failover during upstream network maintenance or outage scenarios. 2) Wireless and FTTH client access points are connected via 1GB or 10GB fiber depending on capacity needs. 3) Evertex has redundant voice switch attached directly to Evertex Core routers with multiple 1GB connections. 4) Links between remote access points to the core network are either 1GB or 10GB fiber depending on capacity needs. Network Capacity Monitoring: Evertex network monitoring tracks usage on all site to site links and links to customer access points. When capacity reaches predefined levels, alerts are issued so that technicians can plan for increased capacity. Network Latency monitoring: Evertex network monitoring tracks latency to all customer access points and alerts are issued if it increases beyond predefined levels.