

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-313

APPROVE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE
WASHINGTON STATE BROADBAND OFFICE
AWARDING LEWIS COUNTY \$23.5 MILLION TO
INSTALL BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE IN AND
AROUND WINLOCK

WHEREAS, high-speed broadband service is increasingly essential for full participation in modern life, including access for education, employment, medical care and recreation; and

WHEREAS, rural areas face a digital divide in which extending high-speed broadband service to them is cost-prohibitive, and so are left out of the digital arena; and

WHEREAS, recent years have seen an influx of public funding to overcome the difficulty in extending such service, including the Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO) Infrastructure Acceleration Grants; and

WHEREAS, through a concerted effort of Lewis County, the Lewis County PUD, the Economic Alliance of Lewis County, and ToledoTel, Lewis County won a grant award of \$23.5 million for the installation of fiber optic broadband infrastructure to every parcel within Winlock and the surrounding rural areas, which infrastructure is capable of upload and download speeds of at least 1GB per second; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County, ToledoTel and WSBO have worked through regulatory and unprecedented supply chain disruptions to reach agreement on a Grant Agreement to implement the award; and

WHEREAS, the broadband services from this project will be a game-changing boost to the Winlock area's growth, economic development and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds the Grant Agreement to be in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of County Commissioners approves of the Grant Agreement and authorizes the County Manager to sign on its behalf.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 27th day of September, 2022.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Jonathan Meyer, Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Amber Smith
By: Amber Smith,
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM
Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

ATTEST:



Sean D. Swope
Sean D. Swope, Vice Chair

Rieva Lester
Rieva Lester,
Clerk of the Lewis County Board of
County Commissioners

F. Lee Grose
F. Lee Grose, Commissioner