

April 16th, 2021

Will Seuffert
Executive Secretary
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

Re: In the Matter of the Minnesota Public Utilities Information Request sent to all Rural
Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) Grant Winners

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

Attached please find Federated Telephone Cooperative's response to the Minnesota Public Utilities
Commission information request filed in Docket No. P523/AM-21-81.

Please contact the undersigned if further information is needed at 651-621-8306.

Sincerely,

/s/ **Mary T. Buley**

Mary T. Buley
Consultant for Federated Telephone Cooperative

Additional Information Requested from ETC Petitioners

ETC Applicant Name: Federated Telephone Cooperative		
MPUC Docket Number: P523/AM-21-81		
	Yes (Certify)/No	Additional Information (Attach additional pages as necessary)
1. Please certify the applicant's commitment to meeting the service and performance quality requirements applicable to its support type. See 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1).	Yes	
2. Will the applicant offer standalone voice telephony service? See 47 CFR 54.101(b). Applicants holding an ETC designation in MN should describe, in sufficient detail to understand the offering, their existing voice telephony service offered to customers, including tariff sheets and contracts, proof of making offerings for this service to consumers in their existing census blocks covered by their present ETC designation, and the number of customers using the applicant's offered voice telephony service in both total numbers and as a percent of customers served in the state. Indicate whether the offering for the RDOF census blocks covered by this application will be the same standalone service and if not, describe how it will differ. See 47 CFR 54.101(b).	Yes	<p>The same standalone voice telephony service will be offered in the RDOF census blocks.</p> <p>Local Phone service includes calling features of Telemarketer Screening, Caller ID, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, 8# Speed Dial, 3 way calling and Premium Voice Mail.</p> <p>Federated ILEC: Total Possible Customers: 2,776 Customers as of April: 2,274 Percentage: 81.916%</p> <p>Federated CLEC: Total Possible Customers: 4,659 Customers as of April: 2,875 Percentage: 61.708%</p> <p>See attachments.</p>

<p>3.If so, will the applicant do so through its own facilities, meaning “any physical components of the telecommunications network that are used in the transmission or routing of the services designated for support” or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier’s services (including the services offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier)? See 47 CFR 54.201(d)(1).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Federated Telephone is going to use its own facilities to provide service.</p>
<p>4.For the voice telephony service, identify the customer point of contact (name, address, contact information), and confirm this contact person is legally authorized to represent the applicant in communications with customers.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>MacKenzie Gilbertson Federated Telephone Cooperative PO Box 156, 405 2nd St E Chokio, MN 56221 320-568-2622 mackenzie.gilbertson@aciracoop.net</p>
<p>5.Does the voice telephony service have "access to the emergency services provided by local government or other public safety organizations, such as 911 and enhanced 911, to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems"? See 47 CFR § 54.101(a).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>6. Please describe how the applicant will remain functional in emergency situations, namely, what is “its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.” 47 CFR § 54.202(a)(2)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Our buildings have DC battery backup designed for 8 hours of backup. In addition to that, we utilize standby generators which automatically turn on if commercial power is lost. Our core networks (connecting offices) are designed in a redundant route configuration, where if facilities get damaged on one spot, the gear will automatically re-route traffic around the area with the problem. Our core network is currently at 30% capacity, with plenty of unused bandwidth to handle a surge in traffic.</p>
<p>7.Please describe the extent to which the offered voice telephony services will be offered at “rates that are equal or lower to the Commission’s reasonable comparability benchmarks for fixed wireline services offered in urban areas.” 47 CFR 54.804(b)(2)(iii).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Rates offered will be equal or lower to the Commission's reasonable comparability benchmarks for fixed wireline services offered in urban areas</p>
<p>8.Will the applicant satisfy additional requirements applicable to all high- cost ETCs, such as Lifeline obligations? 47 CFR § 54.405</p>	<p>Yes</p>	

<p>9.If so, will the applicant commit to e-file documentation evidencing the offering of Lifeline service in the required census blocks as required by 47 CFR § 54.405(b).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Current Lifeline providers should provide evidence of prior and current communications, including advertisements and website communications as described in 47 CFR § 54.405(c) for census blocks for which it currently receives support and the number of Lifeline customers being served. b. Future Lifeline providers should provide planned communications as described in 47 CFR §54.405(c). 	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Federated Website: https://fedtel.net/lifeline-tap-discounts/ See Attachments</p>
<p>10.If the answer to question 3 above is through an affiliate or by offering a managed voice solution (including VoIP) through resale of another carrier’s services, identify the other carrier, describe the legal relationship between the applicant and the other carrier, and describe how the other carrier will comply with the requirements listed above.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>11.Will the applicant commit to notifying the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Minnesota Department of Commerce and the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General if it has failed to meet its milestones for the identified census blocks under the FCC RDOF grant obligations? 47 CFR 54.320(d).</p>	<p>Yes</p>	

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

The rates for Local Exchange Service are subject to the conditions set forth herein and the General Regulations governing provision of service. The General Regulations are set forth in Section 2 of this tariff book.

Local Exchange Service

- A. The Local Exchange Service Rates are for service only and do not include any terminal equipment beyond the point of demarcation.
- B. The rates applicable to Local Exchange Service are composed of a Line Access Rate component and an Access Surcharge plus applicable Extended Area Service components and usage charges.
- C. Service Upgrades
 - 1) At the option of the Company, services will be upgraded to business individual line and residence individual line or two party services as facilities for the provision of such services permit.
 - 2) Upgrading of business and residence services may be accomplished on a line by line basis at the option of the Company.
 - 3) As an exchange is upgraded, as set forth in 1) above, the rates shown on the appropriate rate schedule will be applied.
- D. Extended Area Service
 - 1) Establishment and discontinuance of EAS will be contingent upon Commission authorization.
 - 2) Extended Area Service rate component.
 - a) EAS is a premium-type service offering made by the Company to certain exchanges, under specific conditions.
 - b) The Extended Area Service rate component, where applicable, is included in the Local Exchange Service Rate.
- E. Taxes
 - 1) Applicable taxes levied by state, county and local taxing authorities are in addition to the rates set forth in this tariff. (See also General Regulations, Section 2).
- F. Surcharges
 - 1) The total monthly charges will include amounts to be collected for the telephone assistance plan (TAP), the telecommunications access for the communication-impaired persons fund (TACIP), the 911 program and the state surcharge on 900/976 calls originating in Minnesota.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

PACKAGE PRICING

Rates

Exchanges: – Appleton, Benson, Beardsley, Clinton, Graceville, Kerkhoven,
Morris, Murdock, Ortonville Pennock and Sunburg

Class of Service	<u>Monthly Rates</u>
Residential:	
Basic	\$ 22.50 (I)
Business:	
Basic	\$ 33.50

All rates are billed in advance. Payment for service is due when the statement is rendered.

Installation fees and service charges are in Section 6 of this tariff.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

Extended Area Service (EAS)

<u>Exchange</u>	<u>EAS to Exchange</u>
Appleton	Big Bend Correll Holloway Milan
Beardsley	Clinton Graceville
Benson (includes Clontarf, DeGraff & Swift Falls)	Danvers
Clinton	Beardsley Big Stone City, S.D. Graceville Ortonville
Graceville	Beardsley Clinton
Kerkhoven	Murdock Sunburg Pennock Willmar
Morris	Chokio Cyrus Donnelly
Murdock	Kerkhoven Pennock Sunburg
Pennock	Kerkhoven Murdock Sunburg Wilmar
Ortonville	Big Stone City, S.D. Clinton Odessa
Sunburg	Broton Kerkhoven Murdock Pennock Terrace

(N)

(N)

(N)

(N)



CHOKIO OFFICE: 405 2ND ST E, PO BOX 156
CHOKIO, MN 56221
320.324.7111

MORRIS OFFICE: 201 STATE HWY 9, PO BOX 107
MORRIS, MN 56267
320.585.4875

INTEGRATED HOME WI-FI

Our Integrated Home Wi-Fi provides you with fiber fast access to the Internet on all your Wi-Fi capable devices such as smart phones, tablets, gaming systems, and laptops.

No need to purchase your own wireless router! When you subscribe to the Happy Home or Connected Home option, we will provide you with the initial router at no extra cost.

Wi-Fi not reaching all areas of your home? No problem - we can add a Wi-Fi extender for just \$6.95 per month for the first extender and \$4.95 per month for any additional. Wired Extenders may be needed in some locations at \$9.95 per month for the first and \$6.95 per month for any additional.

NEED MORE SPEED?

Additional Speeds Available:
\$20/month per 100M
Increment up to 1 GIG!

CONNECTED HOME 50 Mbps Internet

INTERNET ONLY

- ✓ 50M/50M Internet
- ✓ Integrated Home Wi-Fi

\$74.95 per month
No Taxes or Surcharges on Internet Only

PHONE + INTERNET

- ✓ 50M/50M Internet
- ✓ Integrated Home Wi-Fi
- ✓ Local Phone
- ✓ Calling Features**

\$69.95 per month*
*Taxes & Surcharges Apply to Phone Service

HAPPY HOME 300 Mbps Internet

INTERNET ONLY

- ✓ 300M/300M Internet
- ✓ Integrated Home Wi-Fi

\$84.95 per month*
No Taxes or Surcharges on Internet Only

PHONE + INTERNET

- ✓ 300M/300M Internet
- ✓ Integrated Home Wi-Fi
- ✓ Local Phone
- ✓ Calling Features**

\$79.95 per month*
*Taxes & Surcharges Apply to Phone Service

CABLE TV SERVICE:

SIMPLY BASIC

- ✓ 2-22 Channels
- ✓ No Set Top Box Required

\$36.95 per month*

EXPANDED BASIC

- ✓ 2-22 Channels
- ✓ 24-60 Channels
- ✓ No Set Top Box Required

\$78.95 per month* (Includes Simply Basic)

ADDITIONAL MONTHLY SERVICE OPTIONS:

Local Phone Only....\$22.50*

Includes Calling Features**

*Taxes & Surcharges Apply to Phone Service

SOLUTIONS LONG DISTANCE:

10¢ = per minute
\$26.95 = 350 Minutes
\$36.95 = Unlimited***

CALLING FEATURES:

**Included with Local Phone

Telemarketer Screening, Caller ID, Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, 8# Speed Dial, 3-Way Calling & Premium Voice Mail.

* Pricing is for residential subscribers only. Prices and Packages subject to change. Prices do NOT include taxes, surcharges and activation fees, if applicable. Must have Local Phone or Internet to subscribe to Federated Cable TV. Customer owned wiring in some buildings may limit speed. Happy Home data usage is 2 Terabytes per month. Connected Home data usage is 1 Terabyte per month. Users who exceed the monthly usage will be assessed a fee. The fee is \$10.00 for each 100 gigabytes over the included monthly data usage. Ex) 1-100 gigabytes over would equal \$10. Data usage, also known as bandwidth usage, is the total amount of data, photos, videos and other files that are sent, received, downloaded and uploaded each month.


*** Solutions Unlimited Long Distance plan is designed for one (1) residential phone line. The plan covers direct-dialed local and nationwide voice calls within the United States - including Alaska and Hawaii. The plan does not include commercial use, 900 calls, 800 services, International Calls, Directory Assistance, Operator Assistance, multi-line conference calls, data (including dial-up internet connections), chat lines, multi-housing units or any other special Operator Handled calls. Commercial facsimile, auto-redialing, resale and telemarketing are also strictly prohibited. Residential customer voice usage is classified as using 3000 minutes or less per month of long distance calling. Usage may be monitored and customer may be required to show compliance. Federated Telephone reserves the right to immediately suspend, restrict, bill excessive usage charges or cancel your service without prior notice if your usage is not consistent with typical residential customer usage. Additional regulatory charges and taxes may apply. Regulations and rates are subject to change. Federated Telephone reserves the right to discontinue the plan at its sole discretion with due notice to the customer. Customer must retain all elements of bundle to qualify for package pricing.



All employees are employed by ACIRA and perform work for Farmers Mutual Telephone Company & Federated Telephone Cooperative. We use the best of both cooperatives to share resources and technologies to give our members an amazing customer experience while keeping expenses down.

www.fedtel.net

Do You Qualify for Telephone/Internet Assistance?

 **LIFELINE** www.LifelineSupport.org

If your income level falls below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or if you are currently receiving benefits under one or more of the following programs: Medicaid/Medical Assistance, SNAP, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing assistance or the Veteran's Pension or Survivor's Pension Benefit, you may be eligible for payment assistance on your phone and/or Internet service.



Contact Federated Telephone to help answer any questions or determine if you qualify for assistance.

320-324-7111 • www.fedtel.net

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

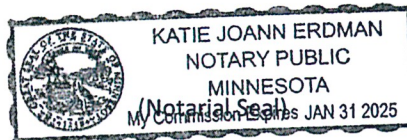
STATE OF MINNESOTA }
COUNTY OF STEVENS } ss.

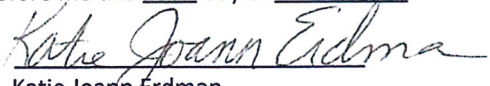
Shelly Anfinson, being duly sworn, on oath states as follows: I am the publisher of the **Stevens County Times** or the publisher's designated agent. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated in this Affidavit, which is made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §331A.07.

- (A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements to constitute a qualified newspaper under Minnesota law, including those requirements found in Minnesota Statutes §331A.02.
- (B) The dates of the month and the year and day of the week upon which the public notice attached/copied below was published in the newspaper are as follows:
The printed **LIFELINE TELEPHONE/INTERNET FEDERATED TELEPHONE** was printed and published once a week, for 1 week(s); it was first published on Tuesday, the 23RD day of FEBRUARY 2021, and was thereafter printed and published on every Tuesday to and including Tuesday, the 23RD day of FEBRUARY, 2021.
- (C) The publisher's lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space, as determined pursuant to § 331A.06, is as follows: \$11.60/inch.
- (D) Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §580.033 relating to the publication of mortgage foreclosure notices: The newspaper's known office of issue is located in Stevens County. The newspaper complies with the conditions described in §580.033, subd. 1, clause (1) or (2). If the newspaper's known office of issue is located in a county adjoining the county where the mortgaged premises or some part of the mortgaged premises described in the notice are located, a substantial portion of the newspaper's circulation is in the latter county. **FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAITH NOT.**


Shelly Anfinson / Publisher

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of March 2021.




Katie Joann Erdman
Notary Public, Stevens County,
Minnesota
My Commission Expires 01-31-2025