AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Ratification of Correspondence; Support for Wester

Action Requested: Motion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

The attached letter was stamped and distributed on 10/21/2016.

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 10/26/2016

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 11/1/2016

Revised April 2015

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

October 21, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

Gunnison County is very supportive of Western State Colorado University's application for Security Fiber Redundancy in the Gunnison Valley. We also support the Region 10 Broadband Project, which is another critical project that we have been working on for over five years in an effort to resolve a number of issues associated with the lack of fiber connection within the community. The Region 10 broadband initiative includes infrastructure to connect from Montrose to Gunnison, as well as fill in the gaps between the cities within our county. Western's proposal will create a link to the east rather than the west which is our current fiber pathway, and we see Western's proposal as a possible way to solidify consistent and safe communication within the Valley, secure 911 service, ensure stability to local businesses, and support our student body that is critical to our local economy.

Quality fiber service is a basic utility need for our community, and we have many issues impacting the viability and security of our community due to the lack of redundancy in the Valley. There is an existing fiber infrastructure throughout the City of Gunnison interconnecting many city and county government buildings, and Gunnison County owns underground dark fiber between Crested Butte and Mt. Crested Butte. The Region 10 effort resulted in a DOLA grant which Gunnison County, the City of Gunnison, the Town of Crested Butte, and the Town of Mt. Crested Butte and other anchor institutions committed to matching funds totaling over $400,000 in cash and equipment contributions. Initial engineering work has begun for this project, however there are some considerable obstacles to procuring dark fiber to Montrose to make this successful.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this important project for our Valley.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paula Swenson, Chairperson | Phil Chamberland, Commissioner | Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

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