

**HIGH SPEED INTERNET ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING NOTES  
MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 1:00 PM**

**Attendance:** Chris Martin, DI Executive Director, and Committee Co-Chair; Jamie Carruthers-Soboleski, Iosco County Controller and Committee Co-Chair; Chris Scharrer, DCS Technology/Consultant; Fred Lewis, Plainfield Township Supervisor

- Fred Lewis was able to attend the webinar on the Bead challenge process and gave a high-level overview of what was covered.
- There will be a 30-day window to challenge unserved and underserved addresses.
- MIHI is requiring that evidence be presented in support of the unserved or underserved addresses by means of qualified individual, pictures, and speed tests.
- Chris Scharrer has been meeting with Merrit on a weekly basis.
- BEAD is a 100% coverage grant meaning that until every underserved and unserved address on the map is claimed by an ISP there will be no releasing of the grant monies.
- Iosco County needs to attract an ISP to take on the county so that we don't get forced to group in with another ISP's grant.
- Charter is unhappy with how the ROBIN grant was administrated and is not sure if they will pursue BEAD funding.
- Chris Scharrer has talked with Charter Communications, Point Broadband, and has called and not heard back from Bright Speed. He was able to create an account for the challenge process through BEAD and will be able to input the addresses that we will need to challenge.
- Chris Scharrer will be coming to Iosco County to verify the remaining addresses that are on the spreadsheet that he provided in February.