**Governor’s Task Force on Broadband**

**June 7, 2018**

**CNH Industrial**

**260 Hwy 12 SE**

**Conference Room**

**Benson, MN. 56215**

**10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Task Force Members present:** Kevin Hansen, Shannon Heim, Maureen Ideker, Mike Nguyen, Jody Reisch, Dan Richter and Don Niles

**Task Force Members Absent:** Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Hannah Buckland, Denise Dittrich, Bernadine Joselyn, Neela Mollgaard, Andy Schriner, Dick Sjoberg and Paul Weirtz

**Others in attendance:** Kevin Beyer, Kirk Bustrom, Brent Christensen, John Dukich, Jason Hausauer, Dawn Hegland, Tim Johnson, Danna MacKenzie, and Diane Wells

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Minutes, Public Comments**

Shannon Heim served as chair for the meeting. Jason Hausauer, plant manager for CNH Benson, welcomed the task force to the facility. Members of the Task Force and members of the public attending the meeting introduced themselves. The minutes of the May 10, 2018 Task Force meeting were approved. There were no public comments, however, a letter was received from the Minnesota Rural Broadband Caucus and a copy was distributed to task force members and is available here: [MN Rural Broadband Coalition](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/0518-rbc-letter-task-force_tcm1045-341933.docx)

1. **Update from the Office of Broadband Development**

Danna MacKenzie provided an update on activities of the OBD, the results of the 2018 legislative session and that Cathy Clucas has been hired as the new grants administrator.

1. **Overview of Swift and Big Stone Counties Grant Projects**

Kevin Beyer, general manager of Federated and Farmers Telephone Companies, discussed the Border to Border broadband grants awarded to Federated for Swift and Big Stone Counties as well as the grant awarded to Farmers for a portion of Lac qui Parle County and the City of Watson. He responded to questions from Task Force members.

1. **Broadband in the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission Region**

Dawn Hegland, Executive Director of the UMVRDC, and Kirk Bustrom, senior planner for UMVRDC, discussed the impact of broadband in their five state region. A copy of their presentation is available at [Broadband in the RDC](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/broadband-in-rdc_tcm1045-341939.pdf) They responded to questions from the Task Force.

1. **Discuss Annual Report Outline and Content**

The Task Force discussed the draft outline and writing assignments for the report.

1. **Wrap-up/July Meeting Plans**

The July 10th meeting will be in St. Paul in Conference Room 316 of the State Capitol.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m. Following adjournment, Task Force members toured the CNH Benson plant.