



TIM WILDER, SUPERINTENDENT

150 MIDDLE SCHOOL ROAD • PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456 • PHONE: (850) 229-8256 or (850) 639-2871 • FAX (850) 229-6089

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Gulf County School Board is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the County/City/Business/Entity Name with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Treasure Life,

Tim Wilder
Superintendent

Tomorrow's Future Begins In Today's Classrooms

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DISTRICT 2

LINDA ROBERTS WOOD
DISTRICT 3

BILLY C. QUINN, JR.
DISTRICT 4

JOHN W. WRIGHT
DISTRICT 5



HEARTLAND EDUCATIONAL CONSORTIUM

P.O. Box 1047 • Lake Placid, Florida 33862

(863) 531-0444

FAX (863) 531-0405

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**Dr. Pat Cooper
Okeechobee**

**Thomas Conner
Executive Director**

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant
Application for Broadband Funding

Heartland Educational Consortium (HEC) is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

These above mentioned counties in the South Central Region regions are served by HEC. Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will enable current and future family partnerships with educational providers to have access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure. The mandates for online and virtual instruction from pre-school to adult learners are being move to the forefront, and rural communities continue to lag behind their urban and suburban counterparts. The future of rural community economic development is tied directly to a workforce that is trained or can be readily trained in a timely fashion. Online and virtual education is growing and will enhance and expand training opportunities for rural communities



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- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Conner
Executive Director



Heartland Library Cooperative

319 W. CENTER AVE., SEBRING, FLORIDA 33870 (863) 402-6716 FAX (863) 402-6743 www.myhlc.org

The united
power of the four
independent
county library
systems of DeSoto,
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and Okeechobee
counties.

Avon Park Library
100 N. Museum Ave.
(863) 452-3803

DeSoto County
Library
125 N. Hillsborough
Ave., Arcadia
(863) 993-4851

Hardee County
Library
315 N. 6th Ave.,
Ste. 114,
Wauchula
(863) 773-6438

Lake Placid
Memorial Library
205 W. Interlake Blvd.
(863) 699-3705

Okeechobee County
Library
206 S.W. 16th St.
(863) 763-3536

Sebring Public
Library
319 W. Center Ave.
(863) 402-6716

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application
for Broadband Funding

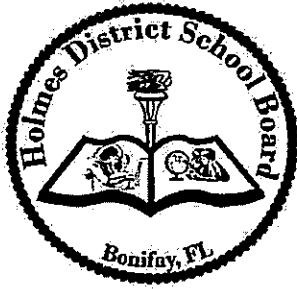
The Heartland Library Cooperative, a public library cooperative made up of the county libraries of DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Highlands and Okeechobee counties, supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Heartland Library Cooperative provides its member libraries with internet access for the public. Since its resources are limited, the Cooperative's broadband does not provide library patrons with more than a minimal speed for internet access. A community broadband system would greatly enhance the libraries' ability to provide access, especially to eGovernment and job seeking resources.

We believe that providing community broadband will not only assist libraries in providing for current needs but will also position our libraries to be better able to look to the future. We support FRBA's efforts to development a broadband community network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Mary Myers

Heartland Library Cooperative Coordinator



Holmes District School Board

701 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Bonifay, FL 32425

SUPERINTENDENT

Gary Galloway

TEL (850) 547-9341

FAX (850) 547-0381

BOARD MEMBERS

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Anthony Register

Jason Motley

Vernon Lewis

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC

c/o Robert E. Sheets

1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250

Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Holmes District School Board is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organizations representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Holmes District's Schools with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Gary Galloway, Superintendent of Schools



INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE Office of the President

March 16, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Indian River State College (IRSC) is pleased to partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). IRSC's Dixon-Hendry Campus is located in Okeechobee County which is a designated RACECs, Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. Three of the four counties within the College service district have the technological infrastructure necessary to support new learning environments; Okeechobee residents are unable to avail themselves of these opportunities due to the lack of technological infrastructure to support either high-speed fiber or wireless solutions.

Through FRBA, broadband advancement and economic development will create sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. FRBA will provide the IRSC Dixon-Hendry Campus with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, providing high-speed, affordable access to the information highway that will be made available throughout the region taking a large step towards closing the digital divide that exists in our rural communities in Florida.

IRSC is looking forward to collaborating with FRBA and believe that this opportunity will give the rural communities in Florida a much needed economic boost. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Edwin R. Massey'.

Edwin R. Massey, Ph.D.
President



The School Board of Highlands County

426 School Street • Sebring, FL 33870-4048

(863) 471-5555 • FAX (863) 471-5600 TDD (863) 382-3693

Wally Cox
Superintendent

Wally Randall
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Richard Norris
Vice Chairperson

Donna Howerton

Andy Tuck

J. Ned Hancock

March 16, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant
Application for Broadband Funding

The School Board of Highlands County is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Gladcs, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the Highlands County school district with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

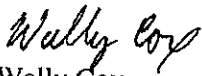
"A fully accredited school system"
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Equal Opportunity Employer

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Wally Cox
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent
Patricia G. Cooper,
Ed.D.



School District of Okeechobee County

863-462-5000

700 S.W. Second Avenue
Okeechobee, Florida 34974

Fax 863-462-5151

Chairperson
Kelly Owens
Vice Chairperson
India Riedel
Members
Joe Arnold
Gay Carlton
David Williams

March 15, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856 9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The School District of Okeechobee County, Florida, enthusiastically supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of critical Economic Concern and the South Central rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). The RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Homes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community and/or institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the School District of Okeechobee County with access to a robust advanced broadband and infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the board goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partner to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Patricia G. Cooper, Ed.D.
Superintendent

cc: Ken Kenworthy
Carla Crawford

Okeechobee County Schools: Achieving Excellence!



March 8, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, FL 32308

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for
Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets:

South Florida Community College is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that approval of the FRBA grant application will provide South Florida Community College and the students and area businesses we serve with critically needed access to a robust advanced broadband

infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy through several critical activities, applications, and services as follows:

- 1) *Significant increase in Online courses with media based instruction*
- 2) *Statewide, local and community based video conferencing*
- 3) *Access by our faculty to professional development activities and direct communications with secondary and university faculty*
- 4) *2-way (interactive) classes, linking remote class locations with primary classroom instruction*
- 5) *Cloud Computing*
- 6) *Computer based training (CBT) resources for faculty and staff*
- 7) *Use of video cameras and communications for safety and security staff, linking remote sites with key resources and providing direct communications during emergencies*
- 8) *Access for faculty and students to Allied Health simulations and similar complex resources*
- 9) *Access to our community partners (local businesses, local government, and other community based groups) to resources needed to enhance economic growth, improve communications, and develop employees with workforce skills needed in today's global market*

We are willing to provide access on our taller buildings for equipment, as well as facility space within our communications building for equipment and connectivity as in-kind support. We're also willing to consider the provision of land for construction of a tower if needed.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

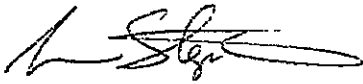
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Sincerely,



Norman L. Stephens, Jr., Ed.D.
President

c: Mr. Glenn Little
Dr. Linda Ward

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HARDEE COUNTY

P.O. BOX 1678
WAUCHULA, FLORIDA 33873

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
1009 NORTH 6TH AVENUE
WAUCHULA, FLORIDA 33873

BOARD MEMBERS

Mildred Smith
Wendell Cotton
Joe Jones
Janice Platt
Teresa Crawford

David D. Durastanti, Superintendent of Schools
Woody Caligan, Deputy Superintendent

(863) 773-9058
Fax (863) 773-0069

August 10, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Constitutional officer for Hardee County and as Superintendent of Schools, complete access to wireless broadband technology for our student population will greatly enhance our local educational system.

I concur with the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners and likewise, heartily endorse the Hardee County Broadband Project. It is increasingly imperative for rural areas to have complete, competitive, and efficient access to high speed broadband technology applications. Unfortunately, systems that rely solely on cable or wire dependent installations are either too expensive or years away from providing access.

The Hardee County Broadband Project will provide access to both un-served and underserved areas of our County and sister municipalities. It will provide opportunities for underprivileged children to advance academically by making available in addition to broadband access computer hardware and technology.

It is an answer to providing the "last mile" broadband service to 100% of residents and students in this rural county. This project more than meets all of the goals of the America Recovery Act. In addition to improving our education system and public safety efficiency it will, through the increase of access, stimulate the American Economy and create jobs now.

As a rural County in the State of Florida designated as a "Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern" we earnestly seek your consideration and approval of this application.

God Bless,



David Durastanti,
Superintendent of Schools



Liberty County
A Learning Community

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF LIBERTY COUNTY

Dr. Sue Summers

Superintendent of Schools

Post Office Box 429
Bristol, Florida 32321-0429

Phone (850) 643-2275
Fax (850) 643-2533

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

County/City/Business/Entity Name is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the County/City/Business/Entity Name with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

District I
Logan E. Kever

District II
Thomas W. Duggar

District III
Darrel L. Hayes

District IV
B. Kyle Peddie

District V
Roger W. Reddick

An Equal Opportunity Employer / Provider—Drug Free Workplace

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Sue Summers
Superintendent of Schools



The School District of DeSoto
Adrian H. Cline
Superintendent

March 5, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

The School District of DeSoto is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

We cannot build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.
Franklin D. Roosevelt

Post Office Drawer 2000 Arcadia, Florida 34265
Telephone: 863.494.4222 x 110 Facsimile: 1.866.370.2471

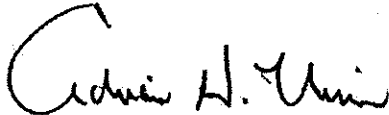
Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the School District of DeSoto with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the “walls” of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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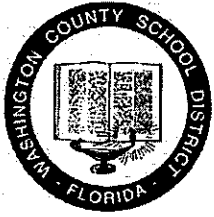
We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian H. Cline". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "C".

Adrian H. Cline
Superintendent

AHC:mrh



**Washington County
District School Board**
"An Equal Opportunity Agency"
652 Third Street
Chipley, Florida 32428

District 1
Vann Brock
1160 Whittington Road, Chipley
District 2
Wayne C. Saunders
847 Candy Lane, Chipley
District 3
Pamela Cates
2681 Traverse Drive, Vernon
District 4
Terry Ellis
1306 Pinebluff Court, Chipley
District 5
Susan G. Roberts
1456 State Park Road, Chipley

Dr. Sandra M. Cook
Superintendent of Schools
(850) 638-6222
Fax (850) 638-6226

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

County/City/Business/Entity Name is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country. Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the County/City/Business/Entity Name with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

"Quality Education Today For A Better Tomorrow"

Page 2
March 10, 2010

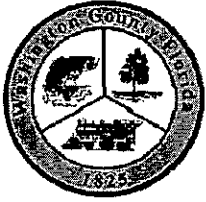
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



DR. SANDRA M. COOK, Superintendent
Washington County School District



Linda Norton
Director

Washington County Public Library
1444 Jackson Avenue
Chipley, FL 32428
Telephone: (850) 638-1314 Fax: (850) 638-9499

Susan Cook
Branch Manager

Dorothy Pichardo
Branch Manager

Barbara Russell
Cataloging Specialist

Robert Macartney
Book Discussion / Request

Zedra Hawkins
Children's Librarian

March 13, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
C/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Re: Florida Rural Broadband Alliance Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets:

I am writing this letter of support as the Library Director of the Washington County Public Library System. We have 4 facilities located in the very rural area of Northwest Florida. We have a total of 40 computers. The Chipley Library serves as our headquarters facility. Each of the 4 buildings has DSL lines to the buildings and a combination of hardwiring and wireless inside. The Chipley Public Library's connectivity is of particular concern as we have 30 work stations plus a laptop wireless lab with insufficient bandwidth to meet public and staff needs.

Washington, Calhoun, Jackson, and Holmes Counties are identified as Rural Counties of Critical Economic Concern; the public libraries in these four counties are struggling to provide sufficient broadband to support public service requirements. The increased demands of e-government, e-commerce, and e-books along with SIRSI, a very sophisticated circulation system, is requiring more bandwidth than we are able to obtain and/or afford.

The Washington County Public Library System received a \$15,000 cut in State Aid this year and we fear another \$20,000 next year. The Department of Children and Families as well as Federal agencies are sending clients to these public libraries to access their services. Large Federal and State Agencies are stressing our already inadequate connectivity in attempts to serve citizens of this county. If the rural public libraries are to be able to provide library services, circulate materials, provide e-mail, e-government, e-commerce and meet innovative challenges such as e-books and social networking we have got to have help. If Federal and State government expect to use the library to provide their e-services they have got to help libraries.

We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners in the development of an advanced broadband infrastructure. We need this network and we support its development.

Respectfully,
Linda Norton
Washington County Library Director



Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Serving Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty, Leon, and
Wakulla Counties and their municipalities

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Re: Letter of Support for the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA)
Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets:

The Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The ARPC agrees that the FRBA's, ARRA broadband grant application has the potential to advance the region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity, and vitality. The project when completed will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people, local governments, and existing businesses.

The ARPC stands firm in stating that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the nine-county Apalachee Region with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, and likewise help it meet the challenges of the new information economy. The Board and staff look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local, community-based, and private partners to develop this much needed advanced broadband infrastructure for the region.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Blume
Executive Director

20776 Central Avenue East, Suite #1 • Blountstown, Florida 32424
Telephone: (850) 674-4571 • Facsimile • (850) 674-4574
www.thearpc.com



Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce

122 Commerce St. • Apalachicola, FL 32320 • (850) 653-9419 • www.apalachicolabay.org

March 6, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anita Grove', written in a cursive style.

Anita Grove, Executive Director

atlanticblue

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Atlanticblue, Inc. supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okcechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide Florida's Heartland with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,


Susie Bishop
Business Development Manager

mail P.O. Box 1318 | Lake Wales, Florida 33859-1318
location 122 East Tillman Avenue | Lake Wales, Florida 33853
voice 863.679.9595 | fax 863.678.0934 | www.atlanticblue.us



Friday, March 12, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Kristy Terry
Executive Director



Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Carrabelle Area Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network

needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Carrabelle Area Chamber of Commerce with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g. smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and

PHONE: 850.697.2585 P O DRAWER DD, CARRABELLE, FL 32322

EMAIL: chamber@nettelly.com
WEB: www.carrabelle.org

- devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders - can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Zimmerman

Executive Director

Carabelle Area Chamber of Commerce



Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Central Florida Regional Planning Council is a planning and public policy agency which works with public and private leadership in the Central Florida Region, including the RACEC counties of De Soto, Hardee, Highlands, and Okeechobee. The CFRPC is an enthusiastic supporter of the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the underserved communities in the Heartland Region with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

The Region is diverse and is positioned to have the ability to grow in a sustainable manner in the future, given the appropriate tools and seizing upon the unique opportunities presented to it. Broadband network communication is essential to attract and retain employer groups to this area. In addition, our existing governments, businesses, educational institutions, and health and life science institutions would greatly benefit from this technology through linkages as well as other expanded opportunities.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Steed
Executive Director

Central Florida Regional Planning Council





4636 Highway 90, Suite K
Marianna, FL 32446

Phone 850-718-0456
Fax 850-482-3590

March 16, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

On behalf of the Chipola Regional Workforce Development Board it is my pleasure to write this letter providing our support and partnership for the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding.

As a rural workforce development board we have grown frustrated by the lack of proper broadband access within our region that has been declared a Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern by Florida. We have lost far too many jobs, too many companies and too many educational opportunities due to this lack of sufficient access and we are pleased to see FRBA plan to attack this very important issue.

Despite our best efforts we are unable to properly take advantage of training opportunities that are currently available using various broadband related technologies. In addition we find that our employers across the region are facing increasing difficulty in business operations to the point that we are losing employment opportunities. Having worked with our economic development partners and being fully involved in local efforts to address our broadband issues I am impressed with the response offered by the FRBA. Funding awarded to the FRBA will help create jobs in rural areas that were already hard hit prior to the most recent economic downturn, will improve the ability of local government and service organizations to serve the public good, will save public, private and non-profit entities money as well as promote cross agency and cross community collaboration and efficiency.

In short improved broadband access is greatly needed in rural Florida and this proposal provides the best opportunity I have seen to meet this critical demand. We look forward to participating with the FRBA and hope you and your agency finds tremendous merit in this valuable proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Williams", is written over a faint, circular watermark or seal.

Digitally signed by Richard Williams
DN: cn=Richard Williams, o=Chipola
Regional Workforce Development Board, ou,
email=richardw@onestopahead.com, c=US
Date: 2010.03.16 14:51:40 -04'00'

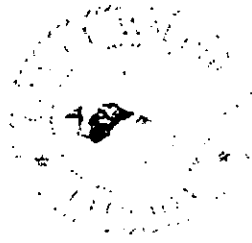
Richard Williams
Executive Director,
Chipola Regional Workforce Development Board

Serving Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson Liberty and Washington Counties

www.onestopahead.com

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EMPLOY FLORIDA



August 5, 2009

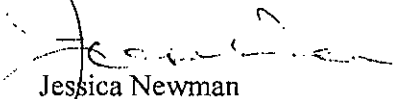
Economic Development Council
Board of Directors
107 E. Main Street
Wauchula, FL 33873

Dear EDC Directors,

On behalf of the City of Wauchula Community Redevelopment Agency, I would like express our support for the Hardee County Broadband Project. An effective CRA not only shows physical improvements but also economic improvements within its district. This project will enhance the economic efforts of the CRA to ensure its success. The businesses as well as the people of the county need superior internet service if we are to grow.

This project brings with it great potential for Hardee County and the CRA is excited to be a part of it in any way we can.

Sincerely,



Jessica Newman
CRA Coordinator
City of Wauchula

107 E. Main Street
Wauchula, FL 33873
P: (863) 767-0330 F: (863) 773-4915



"Where Worlds of Opportunity Begin"
1300 North 15th Street – Suite 2 - Immokalee, FL 34142-2011

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Greater Eastern Collier County Chamber of Commerce, Inc., is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the South Central and Southwest Florida areas with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

Phone: (239) 657-3237 FAX: (239) 657-5450
e-mail: ecoc@comcast.net
Web: www.easterncollierchamber.com

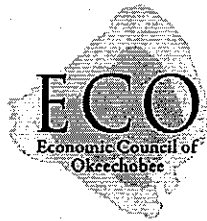
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Richard Rice, Executive Director
Greater Eastern Collier Chamber

Phone: (239) 657-3237 FAX: (239) 657-5450
e-mail: ecoc@comcast.net
Web: www.easterncollierchamber.com



Economic Council of Okeechobee
P.O. Box 718
Okeechobee, FL 34973
Phone: (863) 467-0200
Fax: (863) 467-0489

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC, Mr. Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250, Tallahassee, Florida 32308

March 15, 2010

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Okeechobee community is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the community of Okeechobee with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

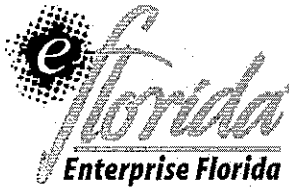
The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Tara M. Minton
Executive Director



March 11, 2010

Robert E. Sheets
Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application
for Broadband Funding

Enterprise Florida, Inc. is an enthusiastic supporter of the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the counties and communities listed above with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.



Governor Charlie Crist, Chairman • Allan G. Bense, Vice Chairman • John A. Adams, Jr., President & CEO

800 North Magnolia Avenue, Suite 1100 • Orlando, Florida 32803 • T 407.956.5600 • F 407.956.5599

March 11, 2010

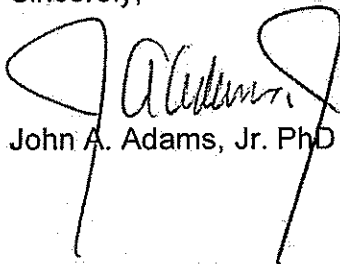
Robert E. Sheets

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give rural Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this broadband infrastructure network.

Sincerely,



John A. Adams, Jr. PhD

GADSDEN COUNTY
FLORIDA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

208 North Adams Street Quincy, FL 32351
T. 850.627.9231 F. 850.875.3299
www.gadsdenfla.com

March 10, 2010

Mr. Robert E. Sheets
Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets:

I am writing today to extend my recommendation for Opportunity Florida as they submit their application for the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA grant funds will provide fifteen rural disadvantaged Florida counties with the essential and advanced broadband network requirements of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). This economic stimulus is necessary to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Over the past few years, many new jobs and companies have come into the Opportunity Florida regions, some relocating from other states, but many are new businesses created by local entrepreneurs. They have been a staunch supporter of the small companies in rural Florida demonstrated by holding workshops to assist them implement different avenues on which to pursue new business. I am excited about some of the new programs they plan to implement, especially the broadband initiative currently under their scope. I feel that it is extremely important that Opportunity Florida continue their mission to promote rural Florida as a viable place to do business.

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce supports Opportunity Florida's ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing the region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Gadsden County with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

I ask that you consider these details as you review the grant application. The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce has been fortunate to work with Opportunity Florida. Our organization looks forward to many more prosperous years for all as we continue along the same path of supporting our region. Please feel free to contact me at davidgardner@tds.net or (850) 627-9231 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David Gardner
Executive Director

STAY & LIVE
COME & VISIT



Economic Development Council, Inc.

March 9, 2010

OFFICERS

TOMMY PERRY
PRESIDENT
JOHNSON-PREWITT ASSOCIATES,
INC.

MARK MORTON
VICE PRESIDENT
LYKES BROTHERS

ANDREW COUSE
TREASURER
FIRST BANK OF CLEWISTON

PAUL MCGEHEE
SECRETARY
GLADES ELECTRIC CO-OP

DIRECTORS

JOHN AHERN
MOORE HAVEN CITY COUNCIL

RUSSELL ECHOLS
GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION

SHANNON HALL
GLADES ELECTRIC CO-OP.

PATTY REGISTER
GATORAMA

JOSEPH T. CHARLES
RIVER FOREST YACHT CENTER

EARL BECK
BECK CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Glades County Economic Development Council is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide Glades County with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.

Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only at-

Glades County Economic Development Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 1003
Moore Haven, FL 33471
863-946-0300 863-946-0777 Fax

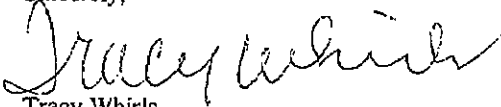
tract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.

Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Tracy Whirls
Executive Director

GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD, INC.

5230 West Highway 98 - Panama City, FL 32401 - Phone (850) 913-3285 - Fax (850) 913-3269 - www.workforcecenter.org

March 19, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Mr. Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for
Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

The Gulf Coast Workforce Board, Inc. is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). The RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

We support the FRBA's ARRA broadband grant application. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the FRBA will provide the Gulf Coast Workforce Board with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid) and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders.

Alisa Kinsaul
Chair

Gary Ross
Vice-Chair

Kimberly Bodine
Executive Director

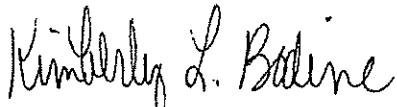
GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD, INC.

5230 West Highway 98 - Panama City, FL 32401 - Phone (850) 913-3285 - Fax (850) 913-3269 - www.workforcecenter.org

- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information, and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovation opportunity will give rural Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus, and start positioning both regions for the future. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

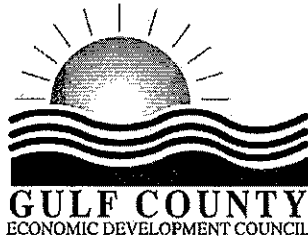


Kimberly L. Bodine
Executive Director

Alisa Kinsaul
Chair

Gary Ross
Vice-Chair

Kimberly Bodine
Executive Director



March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: Letter of Support: Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for
Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets:

The Gulf County Economic Development Council is a partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Through the FRBA, an alliance of 15 Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC) in Northwest Florida and South Central Florida, we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both the Northwest Florida RACEC region and the South Central RACEC region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will tremendously improve the interconnection of our community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses.

The ARRA grant funds will provide us, along with the 14 other FRBA regions, with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country. The funds will provide our area with a high-performance broadband network which will in turn produce local jobs, advance community efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, disaster preparedness and research, among others.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Alma L. Murphy

Assistant Executive Director

Gulf County EDC



Hardee County Chamber of Commerce

107 East Main Street

P.O. Box 683

Wauchula, Florida 33873

Phone (863) 773-6967

Fax (863) 773-4915

Website: www.hardeecc.com

Officers

August 10, 2009

Vanessa Hernandez
President

Mid Florida Federal Credit Union

Donnie Canary
Vice President

Wauchula State Bank

Sandy Larrison
Secretary

Joe L. Davis, Inc., Realtors

Candace Preston
Treasurer

Candace Sylvia Preston, P.A.

Terry Atchley
Immediate Past President
Clear Springs

Mr. William Lambert, Director

Hardee County Economic Development Council

P.O. Box 458

Wauchula, Florida 33873

Dear Mr. Lambert:

The Hardee County Chamber of Commerce heartily endorses the Hardee County Broadband Project. It is increasingly imperative for rural areas to have complete, competitive and efficient access to high speed broadband technology applications. Unfortunately, systems that rely solely on cable or wire dependent installations are either too expensive or years away from providing access.

Directors

Derren Bryan
Albritton Insurance

Lavon Cobb
L. Cobb Construction

Nellie Garcia
Seacoast National Bank

Steve Johnson
Johnson Harvesting, Inc.

Rick Justice
First National Bank

Mike Manley
Manley & Associates, CPA

Nell Withers McCauley
PRECO

Gina Neuhofer
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Suncoast

Steven Southwell
Morrell, Watson, Southwell, P.A.

Thomas Trevino
Merrill Lynch

The Hardee County Broadband Project will provide access to both un-served and underserved areas of our County and sister municipalities. It is an answer to providing the "last mile" broadband service to 100% of residents in this rural county.

This project more than meets all of the goals of the America Recovery Act. In addition to improving our public safety efficiency, it will, through the increase of access, stimulate the American Economy and create jobs now.

As a rural County in the State of Florida designated as a "Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern," we earnestly seek your consideration and approval of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Casey Dickson
Director

HEARTLAND WORKFORCE

Alicia "Lee" Dyce
Chairman of the Board

Roger A. Hood
President/CEO

March 8, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets:

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

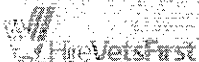
Heartland Workforce, regional workforce board 19, is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide Heartland Workforce with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data. (continued)

An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program



2776 US Hwy 27 North • Sebring, Florida 33870-1623
(863) 385-3672 • Fax (863) 382-9067
www.heartland-workforce.org

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC

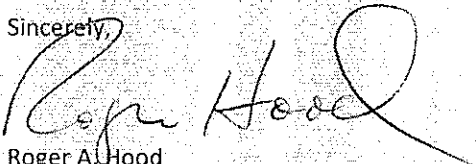
Page Two

March 8, 2010

- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Roger A. Hood
President/CEO



Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

As President and CEO of the Hendry County Economic Development Council, I am writing to offer my full support of the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) application for broadband initiatives funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. I am aware that FRBA seeks to provide the "middle mile" for high speed connectivity to remote, unserved and underserved areas of the region. We, in Hendry County, represent a vastly unserved and underserved population. Broadband infrastructure capacity, connectivity and services at rural health clinics, in ambulances, public computer centers, emergency facilities, libraries, rural workforce development offices, community centers and senior centers will be more accessible with the award of this grant. It goes without saying that these are all economic drivers for our economy.

The constituents represented in this application will gain faster and less expensive access to electronic news, weather, medical, and emergency services information. Having access to weather and traffic information during severe weather events will help safeguard lives. Ambulances with mobile data capability will do the same. Students will be better prepared for the job market with access to the internet. New markets will be opened up to our citizens for the exchange of goods and information. Therefore, businesses will be in better positions to compete for jobs globally. Local Governments and schools who decide to use this service will see reduced costs, significantly more network capacity and increased functionality.

Additionally, short and long term job growth will be stimulated. Fiber installation jobs in the short term and new economic development opportunities for long term growth can be realized when the regional fiber and wireless network is operational. Generally, the quality of life in East Texas' remote, unserved and underserved areas will be enhanced as a result of the improved services the infrastructure provided by this grant will make possible.

In closing, I can not understate how important this project is to the sustained economic vitality of our communities. I fully support the application for funding.

Sincerely,



Roger A. Harrison, MPA
President/CEO



HIGHLANDS COUNTY
Economic Development Commission
Industrial Development Authority

2113 U.S. Highway 27 South • Sebring, Florida 33870
 Phone: 863.385.1025 • Fax: 863.385.1379
 hcfedc@highlandsedc.com • www.highlandsedc.com

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
 c/o Robert E. Sheets
 1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
 Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Highlands County Economic Development Commission supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the citizens of Highlands County with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Dan Murphy, Executive Director
 Highlands County EDC

HOLMES COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.

...there's no place like Holmes.....



Anita Coates
Chamber Coordinator

106 East Byrd Avenue
Bonifay, FL 32425
850.547.4682

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Holmes County Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Holmes County Chamber of Commerce with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
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March 10, 2010

Page 2 of 2

- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

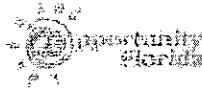
We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Regards,



Anita Coates
Chamber Coordinator

HOLMES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, INC.



Jim Brook
Executive Director
106 East Byrd Avenue
Bonifay, FL 32425
850.547.4682

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Holmes County Development Commission is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the County/City/Business/Entity Name with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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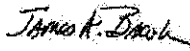
March 10, 2010

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information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Regards,



James A. Brook
Executive Director

Holmes County Development Commission, Inc.
Chamber of Commerce
106 E. Byrd Avenue
Bonifay, Florida 32425
850.547.4682



March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the **Jackson County Chamber of Commerce** with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Art Kimbrough', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Art Kimbrough
President & CEO



March 23, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Jackson County Development Council, Inc. is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide Jackson County with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

P.O. Box 920
Marianna, Florida 32447

Phone: (850) 526-4005
Fax: (850) 526-4008
E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Federal Rural Enterprise Community
and Florida Enterprise Zone

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



William R. Stanton, Jr.
Executive Director



Rhonda Beckman
Executive Director

March 17, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Ridge Area Arc is a partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will advance community efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research, all of which will benefit the people served by Ridge Area Arc and their families.

We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Beckman

120 West College Drive ♦ Avon Park, Florida 33825-9300
(863) 452-1295 ♦ Fax (863) 452-5244
www.ridgeareaarc.org



Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council

Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and Sarasota Counties

1926 Victoria Ave, Fort Myers, Florida 33901-3414 (238) 338-2550 FAX (238) 338-2560 www.swfrpc.org

March 12, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
 c/o Robert E. Sheets
 1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
 Tallahassee, Florida 32308
 Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the rural areas of Florida with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

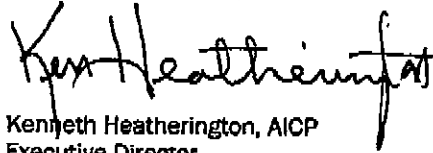
- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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TO: Mr. Robert E. Sheets
DATE: March 12, 2010
PAGE: 2
RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL



Kenneth Heatherington, AICP
Executive Director

/nlg



9530 Marketplace Road, Suite 104
Fort Myers, Florida 33912
Phone: 239-225-2500
Fax: 239-225-2559
Toll Free: 1-866-992-8463
Florida Relay 711

BRIAN SETTLE, *President*

JOE PATERNO, *Executive Director*

March 12, 2010

Lynn Topel, Executive Director
Florida's Heartland REDI (FHREDI)
1570 Lakeview Drive
Sebring, FL 33870

Dear Ms. Topel,

On behalf of the Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, Inc. and its Career and Service Centers, we are excited about the grant application for broadband funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community organizations from fifteen (15) rural counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network need.

The critical rural areas served by the Southwest Florida Workforce Development Board, Inc., Glades County, Hendry County and the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County, have suffered from a lack of access at sufficient speeds to be effective at a price that is affordable. ARRA grant funds will provide the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel these critical rural areas forward now and long into the future.

Through the efforts of the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects anchor institutions of our communities and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into rural areas through community area networks.

With the development of the community area networks, the rural communities of Southwest Florida will advance current and future local community initiative in areas such as public safety, education and healthcare information management. Each of these initiatives is an effort to create local employment opportunities and will be enhanced with the affordable access to the information highway. The local ownership of a high performance network will allow community partners continued long-term growth and efficiency of efforts.

Southwest Florida believes that FRBA will provide the necessary access to an advanced broadband infrastructure to meet the challenges of our new information economy. We hope for a successful outcome to the grant application and appreciate our partnership's efforts to improve rural Floridians' future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joe Paterno'. Below the signature, the name 'Joe Paterno' and title 'Executive Director' are printed in a standard font.

Joe Paterno
Executive Director

SERVING CHARLOTTE, COLLIER, GLADES, HENDRY AND LEE COUNTIES



P.O. Box 457 - 672 5th Street - Chipley, FL 32428
850.638.4157 - Fax 850.638.8770 . Email wchamber@wfeca.net

www.washcomall.com

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Washington County Chamber of Commerce with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
March 9, 2010
Page Two

- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Everett", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ted Everett
Executive Director

WORKFORCE *plus* Your Employment Solution

Officers

Timothy J. Meenan, Chairman
Barbara C. Edwards, Vice Chair
R. Martin Shipman, Secretary
Leanders "Lee" Harvey, Treasurer
William D. Colledge, Past Chairman
Kimberly A. Moore, CEO

Administrative Office

325 John Knox Road, Bldg. B100
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 414-6085
(888) WFP-JOB1
Fax (850) 410-2595
www.wfplus.org

Center for Business and Employer Services

2525 S. Monroe Street, 3A
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 413-0315

Executive Center

325 John Knox Road, Bldg. B100
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 414-6085

Gadsden County

1140 W. Clark St.
Quincy, FL 32351
(850) 875-4040

Leon County

2525 S. Monroe Street, 3-A
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 922-0023

Wakulla County

3278 Crawfordville Hwy., Unit G
Crawfordville, FL 32327
(850) 926-0980

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets:

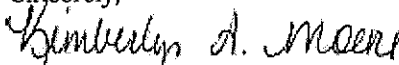
WORKFORCE *plus* is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

WORKFORCE *plus* strives to provide leadership and support for a workforce development system throughout Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla Counties. Together with numerous community stakeholders, world-class employees and proactive educational providers, we work to enhance the economic development of our community.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

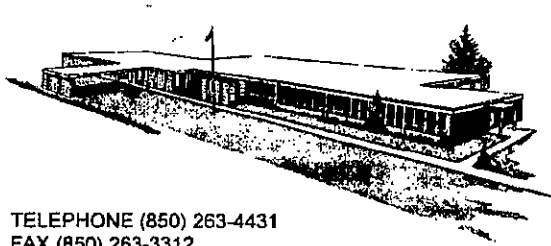
Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kimberly A. Moore, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
WORKFORCE *plus*





CAMPBELLTON-GRACEVILLE HOSPITAL

A Community Owned Hospital

5429 COLLEGE DRIVE
GRACEVILLE, FLORIDA 32440

TELEPHONE (850) 263-4431
FAX (850) 263-3312

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Campbellton-Graceville Hospital located in Graceville Florida is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

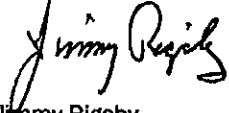
Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Rigsby". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jimmy Rigsby
Administrator
Campbellton-Graceville Hospital



Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Doctors Memorial Hospital, Holmes County, Bonifay, Florida is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the Doctors Memorial Hospital, Holmes County, Bonifay, Florida with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

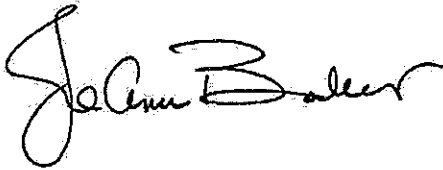
- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only

attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.

- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JoAnn Baker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

JoAnn Baker
Administrator

JB

The logo for Doctors' Memorial Hospital features the name in a bold, serif font. To the left of the text is a stylized graphic consisting of several horizontal bars of varying lengths, creating a sense of depth and movement.

**DOCTORS'
MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL**

March 11, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Doctors' Memorial Hospital is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

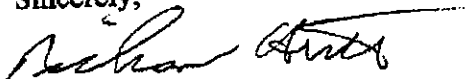
Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide the County/City/Business/Entity Name with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
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- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Richard Huth
Chief Executive Officer
Doctors' Memorial Hospital



FLORIDA HOSPITAL
Heartland Division

P. O. Box 9400, 4200 Sun 'n Lake Blvd.
Sebring, FL 33871-9400
883/314-4466
863/402-3110 FAX

March 11, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

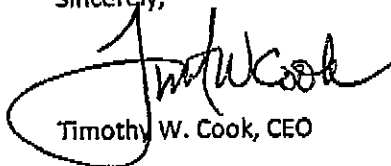
Re: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Florida Hospital Heartland Division is pleased to be a partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic concern (RACECs). ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Florida Hospital Heartland Division through the FRBA supports broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide Florida Hospital Heartland Division hospitals with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Timothy W. Cook, CEO



Heartland Rural Health Network, Inc.

March 5, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets

The Heartland Rural Health Network and its twenty-five (25) health care provider members in Highlands, Hardee and DeSoto Counties, wholeheartedly support the broadband access grant application that you are submitting for funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Our rural counties here in Central Florida have suffered from a lack of access at sufficient speeds to be effective, at a price that is affordable. We understand that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and others from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida Counties in Northwest and South Central Florida.

The intent of this grant project is to support broadband advancement and economic development by creating a sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that connects communities through regional area networks.

We are convinced that this grant proposal if funded, will provide the many health care providers that are members of the Heartland Rural Health Network access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure that will help us effectively implement electronic health records and meet the challenges of our new information technology.

The Heartland Rural Health Network pledges to become a partner in the effort of promoting a much higher level of service to our own customers who are our constituents in Highlands, Hardee and DeSoto Counties. We see the FRBA plan as a very large step towards closing the digital divide that exists in our rural communities.

There is a critical need for these resources in Florida's rural counties and therefore we urge those reviewing and evaluating your grant application to approve its funding

Sincerely,

J. Rudy Reinhardt
Executive Director

1200 West Avon Blvd., Suite 109 • Avon Park, Florida 33825
Phone: 863.452.6530 • Fax: 863.452.6882 • Website: hrhn.org



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

The Hendry and Glades County Health Departments are enthusiastic partners in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of *Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, and Okaloosa Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida.* ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the Hendry and Glades County Health Departments with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The Glades County Health Department (located in Moore Haven, Florida) is planning to move into our new building the end of this year and requires the use of high speed internet.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create local jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for cost savings through local ownership of high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community collaboration and efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face-to-face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better services to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Patricia K. Dobbins
Administrator

Hendry and Glades County Health Departments
Patricia K. Dobbins, R.N. M.S./H.S.A.
Administrator

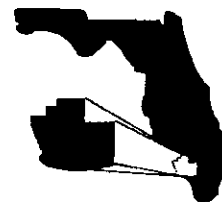
P.O. Box 489 (956 US 27 SW)
Moore Haven, Florida 33471
863-946-0707

PO Box 70 (1140 Pratt Blvd)
LaBelle, Florida 33975
863-674-4041

1100 S. Olympia
Clewiston, Florida 33440
863-983-1408



COLLIER COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
2005 Mainsail Drive Ste. 1
Naples, FL 34114-8955
(239) 642-7878
Fax (239) 394-3515



www.collieraviation.com

March 16, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for
Broadband Funding

The Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet essential broadband network needs of the South Central Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties, and the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region and of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and.

The Collier County Airport Authority and Immokalee Regional Airport/Florida Tradeport is an enthusiastic partner in the FRBA's grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA grant funds will help provide these regions with much needed infrastructure to support economic recovery and development and propel these RACECs into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating a sustainable regional and statewide broadband network. The FRBA will provide the Immokalee Regional Airport/Florida Tradeport with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping it meet the challenges of the new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

Marco Island Executive Airport
2005 Mainsail Drive Ste. 1
Naples, FL 34114-8955
(239) 394-3355
(239) 642-5427 Fax

Immokalee Regional Airport
165 Airpark Boulevard
Immokalee, FL 34142
(239) 657-9003
(239) 657-9191 Fax

Everglades Airpark
P.O. Box 889
630 E.C. Airpark Road
Everglades City, FL 34139
(239) 695-2778
(239) 695-3558 Fax

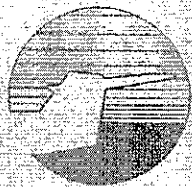
-
- Help stimulate economic growth by attracting businesses to the area and creating local jobs. High performance broadband capabilities will attract and enable modern, competitive businesses while supporting local small businesses and entrepreneurs that require high speed communications.
 - Enhance efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available in these RACECs.
 - Provide cost savings and increased efficiencies through cost and resource sharing, and local ownership of high performance networks where community shareholders can improve network performance and increase capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give South Central and Northwest Florida RACECs a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning these areas for the future. The Collier County Airport Authority supports the development of this network, and looks forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure that will help drive economic growth and recovery.

Sincerely,



Debra Brueggeman
Interim Director



SEBRING REGIONAL AIRPORT

Sebring Airport Authority
128 Authority Lane
Sebring, Florida 33870
(863) 655-6444
FAX (863) 655-6447
SUNCOM 742-6444

March 12, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

Sebring Airport Authority is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide Sebring Regional Airport with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

Sebring Regional Airport Business Park is the location of the Catalyst Project for the South Central RACEC. The Catalyst Project is a collaborative project among the counties and communities that are Florida's Heartland Rural Economic Development Initiative partners and the State of Florida. It is a visionary project intended to bring high-skill, high-wage jobs to an area that has historically had very high unemployment and low wages. The Catalyst Project is expected to create at least 500 jobs. It is unique in that the partners will share in ad valorem taxes created.

Sebring Airport Authority works closely with local, regional and state economic development professionals. Over the years, our lack of high speed and ultra-high speed broadband has hampered our efforts in this regard. Broadband is needed enable the catalyst project and other economic development projects throughout the region.

E-MAIL: admin@mail.sebring-airport.com • **WEBSITE:** <http://www.sebring-airport.com>



March 12, 2010

Page Two

It must be as ubiquitous as telephone and electric service if we are to grow and prosper, create thriving communities, new wealth for our citizens and sustainable economic development.

Where appropriate we are willing to provide access on our taller buildings for equipment, as well as facility space within our communications building for equipment and connectivity as in-kind support. We are also willing to consider the provision of land for construction of a tower if needed.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

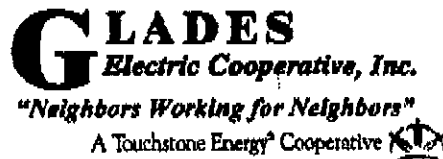
Sincerely,



Mike Willingham
Executive Director

MW/bkg

Cc:Lynn Topel, Executive Director FHREDI



March 15, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
 c/o Robert E. Sheets
 1500 Mehan Drive, Suite 250
 Tallahassee, Florida 32308
 Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the Southwest region with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Paul McGehee

Business Development Manager

Glades Electric Cooperative, Inc.

(888) 531-5003

██████████ cell



Gulf Coast
Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, FL 32308

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern, we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide GCEC with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:


- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract

722 W. Highway 22 ~ P.O. Box 220 Wewahitchka, Florida 32465 (850) 639-2216 Fax (850) 639-5061
9434 Highway 77 ~ P.O. Box 8370 Southport, Florida 32409 (850) 265-3631 Fax (850) 265-3634

www.gcec.com



Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.


- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high-performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Michael E. White
CEO/General Manager

**West Florida Electric
Cooperative Association, Inc.**

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

P.O. Box 127
Graceville, FL 32440-0127
(850) 263-3231
Florida Toll Free: 1-800-342-7400
Web Address: www.westflorida.coop

P.O. Box 37
Bonifay, FL 32425-0037
(850) 547-9325

P.O. Box 1100
Sneads, FL 32460-1100
(850) 593-6491

March 17, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, FL 32308

**RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for
Broadband Funding**

Dear Mr. Sheets:

West Florida Electric Cooperative (WFEC) is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern. These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern, we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide WFEC with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.

The power of human connections

Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.

Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high-performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Gary F. Clark, C.E.M., C.K.A.E.
Vice President, Member Services



Mitchell R. Englert
Executive Vice President and Community Banking Manager

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
C/O Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866)856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support: Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Capital City Bank is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide Capital City Bank access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.



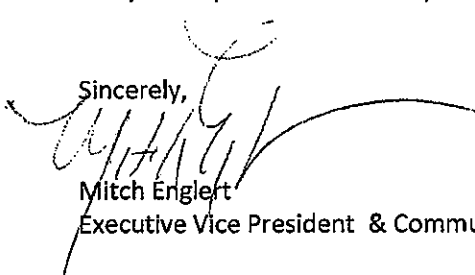
**Capital City
Bank**

Mitchell R. Englert
Executive Vice President and Community Banking Manager

- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive business that require broadband but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments, freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

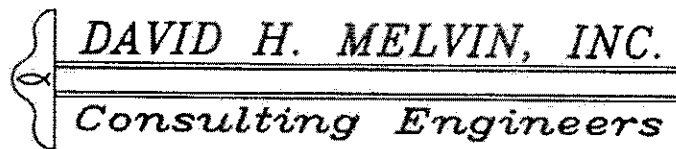
Sincerely,



Mitch Englert

Executive Vice President & Community Banking Manager

Pc: Wayland Fulford, President, Washington County
Walter McPherson, President, Gadsden County
Ray Thompson, President, Gulf County



March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets:

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

David H. Melvin, Inc., Consulting Engineers enthusiastically supports the grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA grant funds will provide our region with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small flourish.

David H. Melvin, P.E.
President

Reply To: 4428 Lafayette Street • P.O. Box 840 • Marianna, Florida 32447 • (850) 482-3045
 2931 Kerry Forest Parkway, Suite 103 • Tallahassee, Florida 32309 • (850) 671-7221
 3003 S. Highway 77, Suite B, Lynn Haven, Florida 32444 • (850) 248-5111

A CHARACTER FIRST!® Company



**First National Bank of
WAUCHULA**

August 7, 2009

Covering your banking needs.

Bill Lambert
Hardee County Economic Development Office
P.O. Box 458
Wauchula, FL 33873

Re: Hardee County Broadband Project

Dear Mr. Lambert:

Globalization has created enormous competition. Rural America must have state of the art communication technology available to its producers if it is to compete in this global economy. We cannot and must not take for granted that rural access will ever be completely served with communication systems dependent upon wire or cable technology.

For this reason the Hardee County Economic Development Council supports and endorses the Hardee County Broadband Project. We concur with the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners and likewise, heartily endorse the Hardee County Broadband Project application. Re-emphasizing, it is increasingly imperative for rural areas to have complete, competitive and efficient access to high speed broadband technology applications. Unfortunately, conventional systems are either too expensive or years away from providing access and it is unlikely the private sector will make investment without government assistance.

The Hardee County Broadband Project will provide access to both un-served and underserved areas of our County and sister municipalities. It will provide opportunities for underprivileged children to advance academically by making available in addition to broadband access computer hardware and technology. **It will greatly enhance and expand our local economy.**

It is an answer to providing the "last mile" broadband service to **100%** of residents and students in this rural county. This project more than meets all of the goals of the America Recovery Act. In addition to improving the our education system and public safety efficiency it will, through the increase of access, stimulate the American Economy and create jobs **now.**

As a rural County in the State of Florida designated as a "Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern" we earnestly seek your consideration and approval of this application.

Rick Justice



President / CEO
First National Bank of Wauchula

Covering Your Banking Needs.



FLORIDA'S
Great Northwest

March 10, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application
for Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Sheets,

On behalf of the board of directors of Florida's Great Northwest, it is a pleasure to submit this letter of recommendation supporting the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. Florida's Great Northwest is a 16-county, regional economic development organization serving Northwest Florida from Pensacola on the west through the Tallahassee MSA on the east. Eight of our counties are included in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance and are also represented by Opportunity Florida, a sister economic development organization to Florida's Great Northwest. Opportunity Florida has been a close partner with Florida's Great Northwest in improving the quality of life for residents of Northwest Florida. While Florida's Great Northwest focuses on the entire region, Opportunity Florida concentrates on the eight counties within the region that have been designated as the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC).

Northwest Florida's rural counties are dramatically underserved regarding telecommunication capacity, broadband services, and Internet accessibility. The funding provided through the ARRA grant funds would go a long way in alleviating the competitive disadvantage being experienced by the residents and businesses located in these counties.

Florida's Great Northwest believes that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a greatly needed foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus, allow the rural areas of the region to achieve a competitive position in today's environment and start positioning the rural regions for the future. We support the development of this network and we look forward to participating in collaborative efforts to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



L. Allan Wenstrand
President



Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Top line is we need broadband. Plain and simple!! Currently 50% of our retail meat business is done via our website. Broadband will help us immensely.

Gatorama is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide the Gatorama with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.


The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

Bottom line is we need to be on equal footing to compete and do business. We need broadband to do this. We wholeheartedly support this. FRBA and FHREDI are our allies in this effort.

Sincerely,

Patty Register


Post Office Box 248
Palmdale, FL 33944



JIM SEE REALTY, INC.

August 7, 2009

Bill Lambert
Hardee County Economic Development Office
P O Box 458
Wauchula, FL 33873

Re: Hardee County Broadband Project

Dear Mr. Lambert:

Globalization has created enormous competition. Rural America must have state of the art communication technology available to its producers if it is to compete in this global economy. We cannot and must not take for granted that rural access will ever be completely served with communication systems dependent upon wire or cable technology.

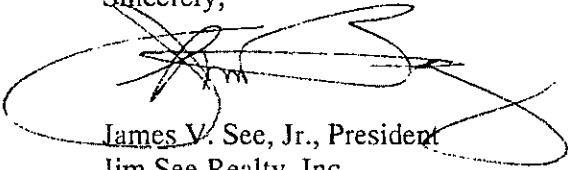
For this reason the Hardee County Economic Development Council supports and endorses the Hardee County Broadband Project. We concur with the Hardee County Board of County Commissioners and likewise, heartily endorse the Hardee County Broadband Project application. Re-emphasizing, it is increasingly imperative for rural areas to have complete, competitive and efficient access to high speed broadband technology applications. Unfortunately, conventional systems are either too expensive or years away from providing access and it is unlikely the private sector will make investment without government assistance.

The Hardee County Broadband Project will provide access to both un-served and underserved areas of our County and sister municipalities. It will provide opportunities for underprivileged children to advance academically by making available in addition to broadband access computer hardware and technology. **It will greatly enhance and expand our local economy.**

It is an answer to providing the "last mile" broadband service to 100% of residents and students in this rural county. This project more than meets all of the goals of the America Recovery Act. In addition to improving the education system and public safety efficiency, it will, through the increase of access, stimulate the American Economy and create jobs now.

As a rural County in the State of Florida designated as a "Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern" we earnestly seek your consideration and approval of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James V. See, Jr.", is written over a large, loopy scribble. The signature is positioned above the typed name and title.

James V. See, Jr., President
Jim See Realty, Inc.

LYKES LAND INVESTMENTS, INC.

3200 BAILEY LANE
SUITE 120

NAPLES, FLORIDA 34105

MARK B. MORTON
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

TEL: 239 / 434-8911
FAX: 239 / 434-8949
mark.morton@lykes.com

March 16, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

Lykes Land Investments, Inc. is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide our team with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.

- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Cour Curatolo

Director of Special Projects and Public Relations



107 E. Main Street
P.O. Box 1162
Wauchula, FL 33873
P: 863.767.0330
F: 863.773.4915

August 5, 2009

Economic Development Council
Board of Directors
107 E. Main Street
Wauchula, FL 33873

Dear EDC Directors,

On behalf of Main Street Wauchula, I would like express our support for the Hardee County Broadband Project. As Main Street strives to improve and enhance downtown Wauchula it is imperative that we are offering the best technology available in order to encourage business recruitment and growth.

Downtown Wauchula as well as Hardee County needs to keep pace with the rest of the world. Broadband is needed now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Newman". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Jessica Newman
Director, Main Street Wauchula



An employee-owned company

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
C/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

PBS&J is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide PBS&J with access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.
- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.

- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Gene Martin

Vice President

PBS&J





An employee-owned company

March 12, 2010

c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

PBS&J is an enthusiastic supporter in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local governments and economic development agencies from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward onto more even footing with the rest of the country.

Through the FRBA, (an alliance of two organization representing 14 rural counties designated by the State Legislature as areas of critical economic concern), we support their ARRA broadband grant application, thus advancing both region's capacity for economic growth, prosperity and vitality. This grant will better allow the interconnection of community anchor institutions, such as hospitals, schools, libraries, etc., as well as extend advanced broadband infrastructure to its people and existing businesses. We believe that the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance will provide access to a robust broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- **Advance Community Efforts** in healthcare, education, public safety, governmental services delivery, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.

March 12, 2010

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- **Create Local Jobs** by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- **Allow for Cost Savings** through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- **Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency** through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning both regions for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop an advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Rosemary E. Woods
Vice President
PBS&J



9150 SW Pennsylvania Ave.
Stuart, FL 34997
Tel: 772-287-4131
Fax: 772-287-4148



1992 Williams Road
Moore Haven, FL 33471
Tel: 863-612-0003
Fax: 863-612-9292

March 9, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert E. Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, Suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Facsimile: (866) 856-9519

Dear Mr. Sheets,

RE: Letter of Support Florida Rural Broadband Alliance (FRBA) Grant Application for Broadband Funding

River Forest Yachting Center is an enthusiastic partner in the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC (FRBA) grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The FRBA is a regional collaboration of local and tribal governments, economic development agencies and community activists from 15 rural disadvantaged Florida counties designed to meet the essential and advanced broadband network needs of the Northwest Florida Rural Areas of Critical Economic Concern and the South Central Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACECs). These RACECs consist of Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty and Washington Counties in the Northwest Florida region and De Soto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties as well as the unincorporated area of Immokalee in Collier County in the Southwest region of Florida. ARRA grant funds will provide these regions with the necessary and rapid economic stimulus to propel Northwest and South Central Florida forward now and long into the future.

Through the FRBA, we support broadband advancement and economic development by creating sustainable regional and statewide infrastructure that interconnects community anchor institutions and extends advanced broadband infrastructure into communities through community area networks. We believe that FRBA will provide River Forest Yachting Center with access to a robust advanced broadband infrastructure, helping us to meet the challenges of our new information economy.

The FRBA regional and community area networks will:

- Advance Community Efforts in healthcare, education, public safety, emergency management, disaster preparedness, alternative energy (e.g., smart grid), and research through high speed access to innovative experiences, resources and tools otherwise not available within the "walls" of a traditional community institution. The community will be better equipped to push research and information sharing beyond the community borders, not stranding research or critical, perhaps life-saving data.

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- Create Local Jobs by keeping support services within the community and generating jobs for designers and builders of broadband networks, manufacturers of broadband-enabled equipment and devices, developers of software and other applications and creators of content of all kinds. A high performance advanced broadband network will not only attract and enable modern, competitive businesses that require big broadband, but it will also support local small business entrepreneurs who require access to business on the web.
- Allow for Cost Savings through local ownership of a high performance network where community shareholders can freely improve network performance and capacity according to demand and foster continued growth and long-term cost efficiencies.
- Promote Community Collaboration and Efficiency through cost and resource sharing, improved face to face and virtual communication, redundant infrastructure that ensures exchange of essential information and integrated, innovative and accessible services across departments freeing staff to focus on providing better service to citizens.

We believe that this innovative opportunity will give Northwest and South Central Florida a great foundation for achieving the broad goals of the economic stimulus and start positioning Northwest and South Central Florida for the future. As the grant application process unfolds, we support the development of this network. We look forward to participating in collaborative efforts with state, regional, local and community-based, and private partners to develop a robust advanced broadband infrastructure.

Sincerely,


John L. Smith

TRAILS END FISHING RESORT
4232 Trails End Road
Lorida Florida 33857
March 6, 2010

Florida Rural Broadband Alliance, LLC
c/o Robert Sheets
1500 Mahan Drive, suite 250
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Mr. Sheets,

Trails End Fishing Resort supports the Florida Rural Broadband Alliance grant application for broadband stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. We are in south central Florida in Highlands County and need the technology advancements that the funding would provide. Many of our customers demand the services that would be provided and would help us expand our customer base.

Much of the technology would support better access to information but also contribute to better communication. Businesses need this support to survive by stretching our markets outside of the community.

Please recognize our support and the need for the technology growth.

Sincerely,



Gary Albin, owner
Trails End Fishing Resort



Wauchula State Bank

Established 1929

August 7, 2009

Bill Lambert
Hardee County Economic Development Office
P.O. Box 458
Wauchula, FL 33873

Re: Broadband Project

Dear Mr. Lambert:

As I am sure you are aware Hardee County's small businesses constantly battle intense competition from global competitors. We think it vital that our area be competitive in its ability to send and receive information needed by our global clients.

We are excited about the Hardee County Broadband Project and give it our full support. In the banking industry we fully understand the importance of high speed broadband technology. The internet has become a vehicle by which consumers expect certain services delivered to them. As a rural bank we have seen a tremendous increase in use and dependence of our online systems. We know that this dependence on the internet will only increase and in time be utilized by the majority of businesses in Hardee County. We feel it imperative to this community to give all local businesses every opportunity to compete in the larger economies of the world. Once we depended on rails, then highways, and now internet and the technologies associated.

We fully support the Hardee County Broadband Project and its application for approval.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Hanchey
President

www.wauchulastatebank.com

106 East Main Street • P. O. Box 248 • Wauchula, Florida 33873
Phone: (863) 773-4151 • Fax: (863) 773-0419