

RESOLUTION 20-24

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF JACKSON COUNTY FLORIDA TO SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO EXPAND BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE IN RURAL FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, JACKSON COUNTY, FL is concerned about the economic health and well-being of our residents; and

WHEREAS, we strongly believe in the need to be proactive and not reactive in order to maintain and create affordable access to reliable high-speed Internet across our community that will encourage employment opportunities benefitting our citizens while still supporting the quality of life in our community and region; and

WHEREAS, expanding broadband infrastructure will promote economic growth, enhance education, and improve quality of life amenities in our community and region; and

WHEREAS, our community and region has endured the devastation of Hurricane Michael and is in the midst of a recovery/rebuilding process following the hurricane;

WHEREAS, our community and region has encountered and is in the midst of the pandemic disease known as COVID-19, now in the phased recovery process of this disease; and

WHEREAS, we are in need of strong financial and political support programs that allow for advanced telecommunications capability to all of our citizens that will foster improvements in GPS-based agricultural production and agricultural marketing, communication abilities for law enforcement and Emergency Medical Services personnel, telecommuting, telemedicine, tourism, distance learning (including, in particular internet access for students attending elementary, and secondary schools and classrooms) and, home-based entrepreneurship and businesses, as well as quality of life amenities during stay-at-home and normal healthy times for our community and region; and

WHEREAS, we support legislative action in both the Florida House and Senate that would create a comprehensive plan to build out broadband infrastructure in the state's rural communities to enable the above-mentioned domestic activities; and

WHEREAS, we commit to honor our obligations that lie within our capabilities as leaders for economic development, training, and enhancement of quality of life features that will serve our rural community and region;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, FLORIDA AND THE SCHOOL BOARD OF JACKSON COUNTY FLORIDA:

Section 1. The foregoing "Whereas" paragraphs are hereby ratified and confirmed as true and are made an express part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Do hereby authorize our chair to execute this resolution and all other authorized agreements that pertain to this resolution

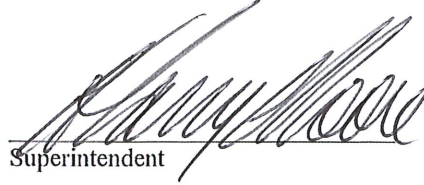
Section 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its adoption on the 23rd day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JACKSON COUNTY FLORIDA

SCHOOL BOARD
JACKSON COUNTY FLORIDA

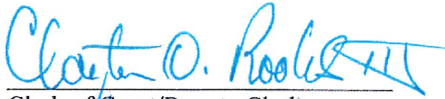


Clint Pate, Chairman



Superintendent

ATTEST:



Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

BOARD APPROVED

Date 9/15/2020 JCSB
