Lincoln County Broadband Commission
Organizational Guidelines

Last Updated: 09/24/2026

The Lincoln County Broadband Commission (LCBC) is a non-governmental entity designated to oversee activities related to broadband/internet service use & expansion efforts throughout Lincoln County, WI.

MISSION: To support efforts that efficiently and cost-effectively expand access to affordable, high-quality internet service and improve technology utilization throughout Lincoln County.

VISION: Every Lincoln County resident, business, and visitor can reliably access affordable quality internet service options that meet their unique needs.

GOALS:

1. **Support coordination and communication** among internet service providers, residents, businesses, and government partners to help complete planned internet service expansion projects and track progress toward countywide coverage.
2. **Advocate for residents and businesses** regarding internet service installation, access, reliability, and utilization, including long-term maintenance needs and alignment with evolving technology standards.
3. **Identify and share funding opportunities and other resources**, and support partners in pursuing those opportunities, to advance the implementation and effective utilization of accessible internet services and relevant technology tools.
4. **Identify and promote access to technology-related educational and self-help resources** that strengthen digital skills, confidence, and effective technology use, while encouraging partners to address identified resource gaps.
5. Identify and encourage opportunities for **community coordination and collaboration** to address current and emerging technology-related challenges.

HISTORY: The LCBC was formed in mid-2023 to replace the Lincoln County Broadband Ad Hoc Committee. It was based on recommendations from the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors as presented in Resolution 2023-07-47. The current LCBC was formed as a commission/subcommittee under the Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC) by a majority vote at the August 2023 LCEDC Board meeting.

MANAGEMENT: The LCBC is housed under the Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation (LCEDC) and is considered a non-governmental commission. LCBC meeting agendas/minutes are publicly available on the LCEDC website. Other LCBC documents are retained by the LCEDC Executive Director on behalf of the organization. Organizational Guidelines are publicly reviewed and updated by the Commission annually at the June meeting.

MEETINGS: Regular monthly meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Lincoln County Service Center in Merrill unless otherwise specified by the Chair or their designee. An option for virtual (online) meeting attendance will be provided and shared as part of the meeting agenda whenever reasonably possible. Meetings will be public and open to all interested parties. All attendees may participate in meeting discussions with Chair approval.

LEADERSHIP: The LCBC Action Team has primary responsibility for overseeing activities related to executing the LCBC's mission. Only approved members of the Action Team may vote on LCBC agenda action items. The Action Team consists of nine (9) members approved by a majority vote who serve 3-year staggered terms ending at the May meeting. At least five members (or their designated proxy) must be present for a quorum. An Executive Team consisting of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary must be elected out of Action Team members for 1-year terms that take effect at the May meeting. Action and/or Executive Team vacancies should be filled by a majority vote at the next scheduled LCBC meeting.

2026-27 Lincoln County Broadband Commission Action Team Members

Tom Backen (Vice Chair) Town of Skanawan (Broadband Rep.) *Term Exp: 2027*	**Sara Guild** (Secretary) Lincoln County Economic Dev. Corp. *Term Exp: 2027*	**Amber Lambrecht** CWAV LLC *Term Exp: 2028*
Tim McFadden Town of Harrison (Broadband Rep) *Term Exp: 2028*	**Donald Nelson** Lincoln County Board of Supervisors *Term Exp: 2027*	**Heidi O'Hare** Tomahawk Public Library *Term Exp: 2028*
Amanda Patterson Merrill Area Public Schools *Term Exp: 2029*	**Earl Welker** Town of Schley Planning Commission *Term Exp: 2029*	**Ken Wickham** (Chair) Town of Harrison (Resident) *Term Exp: 2029*