



Memorandum

To: Board of Directors

Date: 3-12-15

From: Rick Paulson

Memo: Workshop

Topic: Sand Prairie internet service

Issue:

John Asta is aware of the internet issues that we have at ACL and has been assisting me with working on an alternative to our current internet system. While we are in the process of looking for a software upgrade, we are somewhat limited by the current internet we are utilizing. If we can improve our internet capabilities, it is possible to go to a cloud based software for our proposed upgrade. Below is an email from John indicating a proposal with Sand Prairie Wireless.

I have received a proposal from Sand Prairie Wireless (Jo Carroll Energy) offering us a 90 day trial of Wireless Internet Service.

The service would connect from their substation radio tower, next to the new Fire Station and down from our Recycling Center, to our observation tower adjacent to the ACL clubhouse office.

The key points of this trial would be:

- No charge for the Internet Service during the trial period or going forward.
- No Equipment, Installation, or Configuration costs to ACL (including configuring our equipment).
- For the 90 day trial, the connection would have a bandwidth of 4 MB.
- Bandwidth would be expanded to 6 MB if all ACL facilities were to be included after the 90 day trial.
- If the trial system performs as advertised with speed of 4 MB and is Six Sigma reliable, we may continue the service at no charge. If after meeting the criteria, we elect not to continue, then we will be obligated to pay our share of the installation, \$1,000. There will be no equipment removal fee.
- No charge assistance in migrating our email accounts to a "cloud" based email service of our choice.

- After 90 days, the service would continue with 6 MB of bandwidth for \$149/month to service all ACL facilities (receptive to negotiating)

I strongly believe that Sand Prairie would be receptive to negotiating the monthly fee downward, possibly to zero (0), in exchange for some considerations after the trial period. It is a little too early to discuss these strategies until we determine that this is a good solution for our Internet issues and a resource we wish to employ for the future. Hopefully, this system will be solid and fast, allowing us to move to a Cloud based system to manage our Association's business. An additional advantage is that we could then move to a VOIP phone system, linking all ACL facilities together in a single, homogenous, feature rich system.

It would behoove us to move quickly as the weather is starting to break and we need time for the installation and trial checkout. This trial system phase, successfully completed, would put us in to the summer and not that far away from the demise of our current software. Let me know what else I can do for this project.

Respectfully,

John Asta

Along with John's research, I looked into the current agreement with JCWIFI and found that they do not have exclusive rights to the tower. Furthermore, I asked the University of Platteville to evaluate the tower from a structural perspective to see if it can hold an additional antenna. At this time I do not have the results of that evaluation.

Recommendation

Upon receipt of an approved structural evaluation, staff recommends moving forward with a 90 day trial of the Sand Prairie Wireless Internet Service. I also ask that the board give the authority to John Asta to assist me in the details of the agreement