John Galusha, Chairman Arica Andreatta, Commissioner Karl Sporleder, Commissioner

Board of County Commissioners

Colorado Broadband Office 601 E. 18th Ave, Suite 250 Denver, CO 80203

February 6, 2024

Dear Broadband Commission,

On behalf of the Huerfano County Commissioners, I am enthusiastically writing to support the Broadband Application for the Gardner Area Project.

This grant will provide much needed high speed internet service to a community in Huerfano County that is remote and is a largely underserved internet area. This will allow children to access library services, school services and many other community services. This will allow adults of all ages and equity to be able to access via the internet medical services, work at home, training and other services that are needed in a community. This community is 31 miles from the County Seat and is in need of improved services for the area. Some homes have been left idle or unused in part because of the inability to work remotely or access services. This grant will permit the community to grow into the future and provide opportunities in a County with the second highest unemployment rate in the State and with the need for digital equity and inclusion opportunities.

In conclusion, this application will allow improved internet access and economic development to a community that is in need of growth and viability.

Please give this request a high priority so that we can include this community in the digital future for its residents. This application will provide inclusion and equity for the 21st Century that without these funds will be impossible to achieve.

Thank you,

John Galusha Chairman, Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners

