

INDEPENDENCE TELECOM UTILITY
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 26, 2026

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Independence Telecommunications Utility was called to order at 9:38 a.m. on February 26, 2026, in the administrative office building. Chairman Lance Fricke presided. Present at the meeting via audio/video or in person were Trustees, Amber Hunt, Mike Lenius and Jerry Stelter. Absent; Michelle Burke. Also present were Kevin Sidles, Ryan Decker, Sara Wilson and Brian Eddy. Votes were unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

Consent Agenda: Inclusive of the minutes of the January 22, 2026 regular meeting, Bills #21981-22010; electronic payments #8806586-6629 and direct deposit advice #9903816-3839; Month end and operations reports were approved with a motion by Hunt, second by Lenius.

Business Conducted: 1) No public request or comment. 2) Wilson reported that Technicians participated in Lockout-Tagout, Personal Protective Equipment, HazCom, and Bloodborne Pathogens safety training on Friday, February 20, 2026. Scholarship applications were posted and submitted to the schools. Work Comp audit has been completed and we are awaiting results. 3) Decker reported on average utilization in Internet traffic. Technicians continue splicing and running drops to residential locations, with 985 fiber conversions to complete. 4) An outage occurred on February 12, 2026, at 3:41 p.m., affecting all customers for approximately 30 minutes due to network issues. An outage also occurred on February 24, 2026, at 3:09 p.m., affecting 24 customers for approximately 15 minutes due to a failed cable. 5) Old Business – None. 6) New Business – Secure IT discontinuation effective March 31, 2026. 7) Discussion on 2026 Health Insurance Renewal. 8) Motion by Hunt to approve the current policy renewal with no changes; seconded by Lenius. 9) The next regular Board meeting will be Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. 10) An upcoming meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. 11) Stelter moved to go into closed session at 9:48 a.m. to discuss competitive information, Iowa Code 22.7(6), seconded by Lenius. 12) ITU back into regular session at 9:56 a.m. 13) Moved for adjournment at 9:56 a.m. with a motion by Hunt.

Lance Fricke, Chairperson

Mike Lenius, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved