



Commissioners' Office: 215 S. 4th Street, Suite A, Hamilton, MT 59840 (406) 375-6500

September 07, 2021

Ravalli Electric Cooperative
Attention: Mark Grotbo
143 Bell Xing West
Victor, MT 59875

RE: Grizzly Broadband's Connect Montana project

To Whom It May Concern:


It is our pleasure to write a letter in support of Grizzly Broadband's project submitted for the Connect Montana act grant for southwest Montana.

Fiber to the home and businesses is vital to not only to maintain a thriving community, but also a growing one. Grizzly Broadband has always been dedicated to bringing fiber to our community, and because of the events of 2020 we need it now more than ever. Inadequate internet access has proven to be a major problem in the world in which we live today, especially in rural Montana.

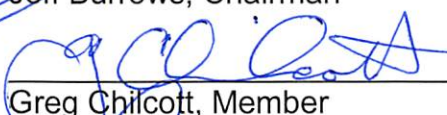
Grizzly Broadband, one of our local home-grown companies, is a proven leader with full-service communication capability and a track record of proven customer support. They were recently purchased by Ravalli Electric Cooperative, a stable electric utility provider in the Bitterroot Valley for over 80 years. Together, they are working to close the gaps and get reliable, high-speed internet to every home and business in the valley whether they are beside the highway, or halfway up the mountain. This project is a great undertaking, and will require many hours, much community support, and a great deal of funding.

The Board of Ravalli County Commissioners request that you to consider naming Grizzly Broadband as the recipient of the Connect Montana grant. Their expertise and commitment to community will help bring much needed fast and reliable communications to the Bitterroot Valley.

Sincerely,



Jeff Burrows, Chairman



Greg Chilcott, Member



Dan Huls, Member