## Nov 23,2020 9:10 AM lills County Board of Supervisors

November 23, 2020

State of Iowa Office of the Chief Information Officer 200 E. Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Re: Letter of Support for Grant Application

Dear Grant Program Review Committee,

We are writing to express our support for the Western Iowa Network's grant request for a broadband grant within Mills County, Iowa.

Mills County Board of Supervisors and citizens are united in seeing the need for and taking steps for better broadband in our County. Western lowa Networks has been a very good partner in helping this happen. The Mills County Board of Supervisors through the Mills County Economic Foundation completed a broadband study in October 2018. In the study, the County discovered there are serious broadband service limitations in the county that are not represented correctly on current broadband maps.

The County has taken important steps to make improvements for the citizens of Mills County. Economic Development efforts have been strong and focused on bringing significant investment and business partners to the County. Particularly with the struggles the County has had with flooding, this is an important time to look forward and make Mills County stronger. We see this access to broadband grants as a significant factor in making this happen.

We ask you to seriously consider Western Iowa Network's broadband infrastructure grant application and ask you to approve it. We look forward to Western Iowa Networks continuing to make broadband more accessible in Mills County.

Thank you.

Lonnie Mayberry-Mills County Board of Supervisors Chair