SANTA FE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - <u>02</u>3

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AWARD OF GRANT MATCH FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED TRUNET INTERNET SERVICES, LLC BROADBAND PROJECT TO SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF BROADBAND SERVICE TO COUNTY RESIDENTS AND GRANTING THE COUNTY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE AUTHORITY TO SIGN ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR THE GRANT AWARD.

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2024, Santa Fe County ("County") issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity No. 2024-SFC/BEAD/BB ("NOFO") requesting proposals for broadband expansion projects to provide County residents with new and/or improved broadband service; and

WHEREAS, the County's NOFO was issued in conjunction with the State of New Mexico's Office of Broadband Access and Expansion's ("OBAE") Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment ("BEAD") Program under BEAD Notice of Funding Opportunity: #2024.00; and

WHEREAS, The OBAE BEAD program focuses on subsidizing the capital expenditures for network deployment to provide high-speed Internet to residents, businesses, and community institutions currently unserved or underserved; and

WHEREAS, the County's NOFO is intended to leverage state funds from the OBAE BEAD program; and

WHEREAS, the County received five proposals which were evaluated by a review team with representatives of the County Manager's Office, the Public Works Department, the Information Technology Division and the Community Development Department, along with broadband technical consultants; and

WHEREAS, the review team deemed two proposals were complete, viable and beneficial to expanding broadband services to County residents; and

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by TruNet Internet Services, LLC. ("TruNet") is intended to serve the Northern sections of the County; and

WHEREAS, the review team recommends that the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") award up to \$500,000 in cash match funding to the project, contingent on the TruNet BEAD application receiving funding; and

WHEREAS, upon BCC approval, the awardee will be required to enter into one or more contracts or agreements with the County, to include any applicable security instruments and/or relevant public safeguards of the funding to be issued; and

WHEREAS, the awardee will be required to certify in an Award Agreement that the funds requested from the BEAD Program have not been and will not be reimbursed by any other state or federal funding programs and will align with the OBAE BEAD requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners hereby:

- 1. Authorizes the County Manager to negotiate final terms and conditions of a cash match agreement to support the project implementation based on the best interest of County residents, with the potential for changes in federal fundings regulations; and
- 2. Approves the award of grant match funds for the TruNet Internet Services, LLC broadband project to support the expansion of broadband service to county residents and authorizes the County Manager or designee to execute, on behalf of the County, any and all documents necessary for the grant award.

| PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS | DAY OF Jeknony, 2025. |
|---|-----------------------|
| By: Camilla Bustamante, Chair | OJ/X 3/4 July |
| ATTEST: Katharine E. Clark Santa Fe County Clerk | Date: O 14/25 |

Peter Valencia for

Walker Boyd Santa Fe County Attorney

Approved as to form:

BCC RESOLUTIONS
COUNTY OF SANTA FE) PAGES: 2
THATE OF NEW MEXICO) SS

: Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 14TH Day Of February, 2025 at 04:54:48 PM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2052840 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office Katharine E. Clark Deputy Clerk, Santa Fe, NM