



Philippi Communications System

A Broadband Case Study

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Topics

- 1. How we did it.
- 2. What we are.
- 3. What we could become.
- 4. Questions

How we did it.

- You want to know – if we can't get Frontier or ... to do it, how can the City or County do it. The good news -- I have the answer. Even better, money is NOT the most important part!
- But the bad news Let me explain how *I think* it happened in Philippi.
- I started teaching at A-B in 1978



How do we get from there to now and why is that important?

I use a problem solving tool that helps explain it.

A triangle with four parts:

1. Goals
2. Infrastructure
3. People
4. Process



No Ioto Grant but a whole series of processes over a long period of time that put the City in position to create a fiber-based communication system:

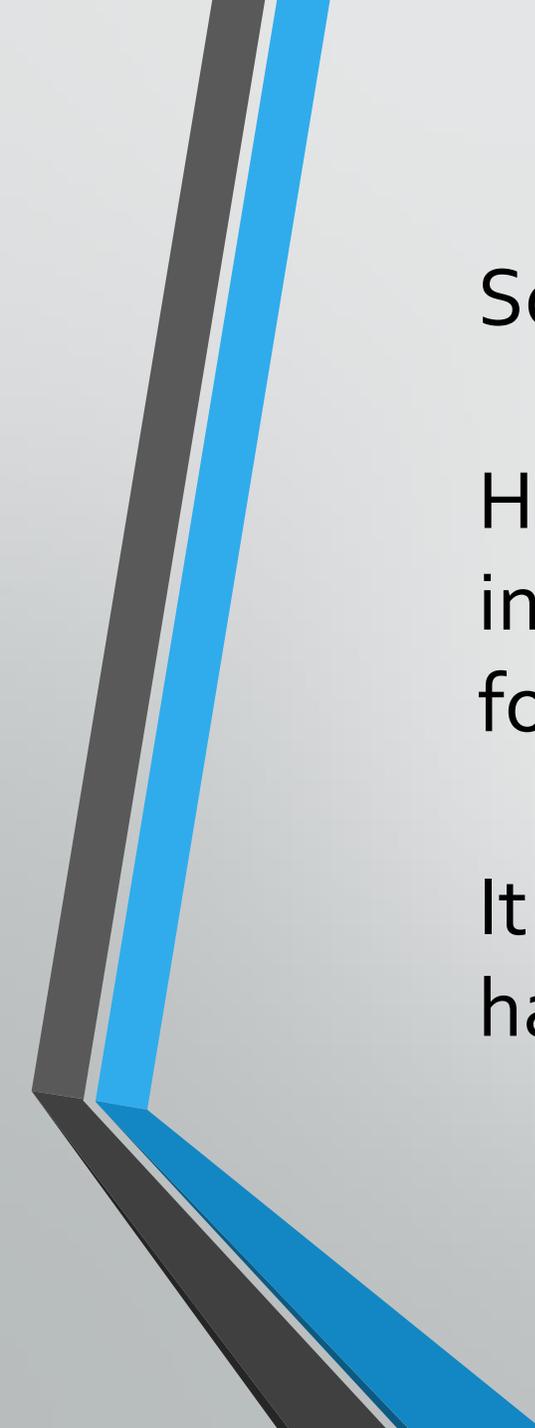
Local College with technology interests

North Central Chapter of Software Valley

BCNet – 501c3

City Cable and Dialup ISP

By 2005 the City was needing new technology and was in position to handle it.



So the answer to how to do it is to start now –

Have a goal, get something in place, get people involved, get a process going that inches forward.

It may take years , but I believe that is what you have to do.



What We Have

Philippi Communications System **S**

This is NOT your normal business, it is a part of City government.

Philippi Communications is:

1. A Political System – Owned by the Building Commission, Run by the City, Oversight by the City Council, Competing for resources by the Water, Sewer, Electric, Garbage, Street, Police Departments and the General Fund.
2. The original system delivered by the contractor – and like any technology system going out of date when delivered.
3. Therefore a constantly changing system to stay current.
4. A business with products, customers, equipment, and employees.
5. A flexible entity drawing resources from other departments.
6. A City service – will Frontier roll a truck to put an elderly person's TV on Channel 3

What Could We Become?

Software Valley term – Information Super Highway

Emphasize the *Highway*

Two other terms – Houses passed, penetration rates

Doesn't a highway serve everyone.

Community Fiberway

City – electric meters, water meters, billing,
communications



Questions