



**CHATHAM COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ABSTRACT**

ITEM NUMBER:
MEETING DATE: 3-3-08

PART A

Subject: Consideration of a request to approve leasing of enhanced ethernet services from Embarq

Action Requested: Motion to award 5-year lease for enhanced ethernet/high speed internet for County offices to Embarq for \$2082.95 per month

Attachments: A. none

Submitted By:

Mark Ellington, MIS Director

Date

County Manager Review:

Charlie Horne, County Manager

Date

This abstract requires review by:

County Attorney

Date Reviewed

Finance Officer

Date Reviewed

Budget Officer

Date Reviewed

PART B

Introduction & Background:

MIS has been facing the reality that our current T-1 internet connection for the County is reaching a saturation point. More and more applications in use require high speed internet connections and there has been a dramatic decrease in performance and functionality due to the growing number of workstations and their installed applications.

With the conclusion of our fiber optic network joining most of the County offices in Pittsboro, (Sheriff's Office, 911 center, EOC, DSS) the performance will continue to degrade. We propose the use of Embarq's fiber optic internet and enhanced ethernet to be the best possible solution. We will effectively be getting 10 times the connection speed and additional capability of connecting some remote locations via enhanced ethernet.



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Discussion & Analysis:

This project will greatly improve the IT infrastructure and allow greater productivity for end users. We will also be fulfilling the need for redundancy and disaster recovery by having two separate methods of connectivity. A combination of data intensive applications and remote locations (including future plans for Sheriff's Office substations) demand more and more bandwidth. The Enhanced Ethernet offering from Embarq allows us to connect directly to their fiber backbone...(a fiber optic link straight from the County gov't complex to the Embarq Pittsboro office). This combined with our own Pittsboro area fiber optic network, will allow much, much greater internet and data sharing speeds for all our offices.

Budgetary Impact:

This project will cost \$10,414.75 for the remainder of this fiscal year, \$24,993 for the 08-09 fiscal year, and \$124,977 total over the 5 year lease period.

Recommendation:

Motion to award 5-year contract for Enhanced Ethernet to Embarq for \$2082.95 per month

Suggested Motion:

Motion to award 5-year contract for Enhanced Ethernet to Embarq for \$2082.95 per month