# Jay County Broadband Expansion

A partnership between Watch Communications and Jay County

March 2019 to September 2021

### Background

- Watch Communications participated in the Connect America Fund Phase II to expand broadband internet.
- They were awarded portions of 96 counties across Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio.
- Jay County was one of those areas.

## Connect America Fund, Phase II eligible sections in Jay County



### Activities

- 2/28/2019 Initial planning meeting between Watch Communications and Jay County officials
- 3/5/2019 Watch/Jay officials seek vertical assets at Farm Bureau annual meeting

- 3/11 to 3/14/2019 Jay officials seek to inform the community and find potential vertical assets at annual Ag Week events
- 4/10/2019 Jay School Corporation announces partnership with Watch Communications
- 4/9/2020 Watch/Jay Schools announce 10 free wi-fi hotspots around the county to help students with e-learning
- 8/2020 to 1/2021 Watch adds/upgrades equipment in Jay County

### 3/5/2019 Jay County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

### Jay County and Watch Communications officials seek vertical assets for broadband expansion at the Jay County Farm Bureau 2019 Annual Meeting

#### L to R:

Travis Richards, Jay County Development Corp Chad Aker, Jay County Commissioners Tony McAhren, Watch Communications



### 4/10/2019 Jay School Corporation and Watch Communications announce partnership

Officials gather for a photo op advertising the partnership. Watch Communications presented the school corporation with a \$10,000 to be used for school security.

Per the partnership, a portion of monthly fees (5-7%) for Watch Communications customers will be donated to the school corporation to support school security.



### 4/9/2020 Free Wi-Fi hotspots announced in Jay County

This map shows the location of free wi-fi hotspots provided by Watch Communications that are available to the public.

The intent is to provide a reliable internet source for students and employees that do not have one at home.



## February 2021 Coverage map of additional equipment

Map showing theoretical coverage area of five new/upgraded equipment locations in Jay County.

