



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board – January 22, 2023 – 10:00am Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting

Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development

This meeting will be virtual only.

Online Meeting Details: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 279 373 889 26; **Passcode:** rv47J5

Call In: 907-202-7104; **Phone Conference ID:** 541 844 035#

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
- IV. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meetings
 - a. Rescheduled Regular Meeting of December 11, 2023
- V. Subcommittee Reports (None)
- VI. Staff Reports (None)
- VII. Requests to the Technical Working Group (None)
- VIII. Unfinished Business (None)
- IX. New Business
 - a. Discussion Item: Program Status Overview and Update
 - b. Discussion Item: Ongoing Board Meeting Cadence
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Board Member Business from the Floor
- XII. Adjournment



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board Agenda Statement

Meeting Date:	January 22, 2024
Item Number:	IV.a.
Item Title:	Approval of Minutes from the Rescheduled Regular Meeting of December 11, 2023
Submitted By:	Broadband Office Staff
Recommendation:	Approve Minutes from the Rescheduled Regular Meeting of December 11, 2023
Attachments:	1. December 11, 2023 Rescheduled Regular Meeting Minutes

Summary Statement:

The minutes of the Rescheduled Regular Meeting of December 11, 2023 are attached for review and approval by the Board.



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board

Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development

Minutes for Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting- December 11, 2023, at 11:00 AM AKDT.

These draft minutes were prepared by staff and have not yet been approved by the board.

Attendance

Present:

Members: Glenda Ledford (Chair); Michael Brase, Charles Carpenter; Ana Hoffman; Thomas Lochner; Travis Million; Kathleen Moran; Steve Noonkesser; Christine O'Connor (left at 11:44am); Laurel Shoop; Charlene Stern; and Mary Swain.

Staff Present: Lisa Von Bargen, Deputy Director; Melissa Kookesh, Tribal Liaison; and Kalynn Himes, Administrative Specialist.

Members Absent: Representative Bryce Edgmon, Senator Lyman Hoffman, and Tara Sweeney (Vice Chair).

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:07am.

Deputy Director Von Bargen called the roll, and twelve members of the board were present. Quorum was met.

II. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Charlie Carpenter to approve the draft agenda as presented. Seconded by Mary Swain. Approved by Unanimous Consent.

III. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

IV. Host Presentation: UAA Broadband Solutions for Alaska

Nolan Klouda, Executive Director for the UAA Center for Economic Development gave a presentation to the Board.

V. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meetings

Motion by Mary Swain to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of November 20, 2023. Seconded by Mike Brase and approved by Unanimous Consent.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

None.

VII. Staff Reports

None.

VIII. Referrals to the Technical Working Group

a. Approval of Non-Fiber Technology Prioritization Scope of Work Request to Technical Working Group

Motion by Thomas Lochner to approve the non-fiber technology scope of work request to the Technical Working Group. Seconded by Laurel Shoop. Thomas Lochner provided a summary description of the scope of work being recommended by staff and requested feedback from the Board. There were no changes made to the scope. **Motion was approved by unanimous consent.**

IX. Unfinished Business

None.

X. New Business

a. Presentation & Discussion Item: Comprehensive Broadband Overview

The staff of the Alaska Broadband Office provided an overview and fielded Board questions and comments on the following topics:

- i. Current Broadband Picture (Existing Service Levels and Funded Projects)
- ii. Upcoming non-BEAD Federal Funding Opportunities
- iii. Digital Equity General Overview
 1. Draft Digital Equity Plan Highlights/Timeline
 2. Introduction to Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program
- iv. Broadband, Equity, Access, & Deployment (BEAD) General Overview
 1. Challenge Program Overview/Timeline
 - a. Challenge Portal Demonstration
 2. State of Alaska Grant Program Overview/Timeline
 - a. Minimum Qualifications
 - b. Scoring Matrix
 - c. Application Structure
 - d. Application Review Process
 - e. Grant Management
 3. Streamlined Permitting Efforts
 - a. Mapping Portal Demonstration
 - b. OPMP Coordination & Pre-Project Questionnaire Overview
 4. Workforce Development Planning Update
 5. BEAD Budget (Deployment vs. Administration)
 6. Program Challenges
 - a. Deconfliction
 - b. Footnote 70
 7. Final Proposal

XI. Public Comment

Shawn Williams from PDI requested all minimum qualifications and scoring criteria within the Broadband Grant Program be the same for priority and non-priority projects.

Gary Newman stated the replacement of the Alaska Plan, now called the Alaska Connect Fund, is out for public comment and open for rulemaking. He further asked Thomas Lochner if he was aware of the new build-out plan requirement for Internet Service Providers established by the FCC. Mr. Lochner replied he was nominally aware.

XII. Board Member Business from the Floor

Charlene Stern stated we need to ensure grant applicants are talking to each other to ensure the greatest efficiency of deployment infrastructure and use of available funding.

Ana Hoffman asked Thomas Lochner to report on the status of a response to the Footnote 70 letter sent to NTIA. Mr. Lochner replied the Alaska Broadband Office is in discussions with NTIA, the Alaska Department of Law, and Department of Commerce Leadership.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion by Mary Swain to adjourn. Seconded by Thomas Lochner and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59pm on December 11, 2023. The next meeting is January 15, 2024.



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board Agenda Statement

Meeting Date:	January 22, 2024
Item Number:	IX.a.
Item Title:	Discussion Item: Program Status Overview and Update
Submitted By:	Broadband Office Staff
Recommendation:	None. Discussion Item only.
Attachments:	None.

Summary Statement:

The Alaska Broadband Office staff will provide a status overview and update of all programs including Digital Equity, BEAD, and related activities.



Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board Agenda Statement

Meeting Date:	January 22, 2024
Item Number:	IX.b.
Item Title:	Discussion Item: Ongoing Board Meeting Cadence
Submitted By:	Broadband Office Staff
Recommendation:	None. Discussion Item only.
Attachments:	None.

Summary Statement:

The Alaska Broadband Office staff would like to have a discussion with the board about the cadence of the future meeting schedule.