



# Alaska Statewide Broadband Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Alaska Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development, Alaska Broadband Office

Minutes for Regular Board Meeting – June 8, 2026, 11:00 AM.

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

## Attendance

Members Present: Michael Brase, Charles Carpenter, Thomas Lochner, Travis Million, Kathleen Moran, Christine O'Connor, Faye Tanner, and Matthew Purdue.

Staff Present: Sara Chambers, Acting Deputy Director; Laura Vaught, Project Coordinator; and Jan Cox, DCRA Grants Administrator III.

Members Absent: Senator Hoffman, Representative Edgmon, and Mary Swain. Four board positions are vacant.

### I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Travis Million called the meeting to order at 11:03 am and called the roll. Eight members of the board were present at the time the meeting was called to order. Quorum was met.

### II. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Charlie Carpenter to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Thomas Lochner. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

### III. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

### IV. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meetings

#### a. Regular Meeting of March 16, 2026

Motion by Kathleen Moran to approve the prior meeting minutes, seconded by Charlie Carpenter. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

### V. Public Comment

None.

### VI. Subcommittee Reports

None.

### VII. Staff Reports

- a. Alaska Broadband Grant Program (Director Lochner) – Director Lochner provided an update to the Board on the progress of the Alaska Broadband Grant Program. Awards were approved by the Assistant Secretary to the Department of Commerce on March 24, which initiated a six-month period for the ABO to finalize agreements with the 15 subgrantees across 29 projects. Director Lochner explained the status of these grant agreement negotiations and the signing process. The deadline for each subgrantee to submit all exhibits and attachments is August 21<sup>st</sup>. All agreements must be signed by September 24<sup>th</sup>, after which the ABO will facilitate national environmental permitting processes and state structural permitting. ABO has hired Michael Baker International to assist and is also working with the State Historical Preservation Office. Reciprocal Service Agreements are being developed to increase departmental capacity for State

permit processing. Subgrantees will have four years to complete their projects with the possibility of a fifth year if approved by the Assistant Secretary. Chair Travis Million asked about the funding allocated to the State and whether the project applications matched the available funds, to which Director Lochner clarified the distribution to Alaska of over one billion dollars, the current allocation for projects, and the pending guidance from the NTIA for remaining funds.

**VIII. Unfinished Business**

None.

**IX. New Business**

None.

**X. Board Member Remarks**

None.

**XI. Next Meeting Dates**

- i. September 14, 2026
- ii. December 14, 2026

**XII. Adjournment**

Charlie Carpenter motioned to adjourn; Faye Tanner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.