



WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND ENHANCEMENT COUNCIL

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES | APRIL 18, 2019

Meeting Title	WV Broadband Enhancement Council	Time	10:00 a.m.
Chairperson	Robert Hinton	Location	Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, First Floor
Conference	304.957.6999 / ID: 935-9172#	Attendance	P = Present; TC = Teleconference; VC = Videoconference; _ = Absent

	Council Member	Representing		Council Member	Representing
TC	Robert Hinton, Chairman	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 2	-	C. Edward Gauch	WV Dept. of Commerce, Cabinet Secretary
TC	Robert Morris, Vice Chairman	Urban Residential User	p	Jeff Proctor	Representing Secretary Gauch
TC	Michael J. Holstine Secretary-Treasurer	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 3	p	The Honorable Robert Plymale	WV Senate (D) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
-	Robert Cole	Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 1	-	The Honorable Craig Blair	WV Senate (R) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
p	R.A. "Pete" Hobbs	Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 3	p	The Honorable Daniel Linville	WV House (R) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
-	Dr. Steven L. Paine	Dept. of Education, State Superintendent	-	The Honorable Kenneth Hicks	WV House (D) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
TC	Brenda Morris	Representing Dr. Paine	-	Ric Cavender	Urban Business User
p	Joshua D. Spence	WV Office of Technology, Chief Technology Officer	-	John Reasbeck	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 1
-	James Dixon	Representing Joshua Spence	-	Vacancy: Business User Large Amounts of Broadband	
-	Matt Turner	Higher Education Policy Comm., Exec. Vice Chancellor	-	Vacancy: Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 2	
TC	Dr. Mary Stewart	Representing Matt Turner	-		
	Representative	Agency		Representative	Agency
-	Mitch Blake	Director, WVGES	p	Tony Simental	WV GES, Office of GIS Coordination
-	Peter Markham	Bowles Rice Legal Counsel	-	Kelli Talbott	WV Attorney General's Office Legal Counsel
p	Alexandra Shulz	Bowles Rice Legal Counsel	-	Wes White	WV Development Office Legal Counsel
p	Tony O'Leary	WV Development Office Project Manager	p	Kelly Workman	WV Development Office Development Manager

Agenda Item	Details/Minutes
1. Call to Order, Opening Remarks; Roll Call	Chairman Rob Hinton called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. Approval of 3/14/2019 Council Meeting Minutes and Financial Statement	Mr. Jeff Proctor motioned to approve minutes; Mr. Pete Hobbs second; motion passed unanimously. Chair Hinton recommended that Financial Statement be filed for audit.

<p>3. Broadband Mapping Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Map Layers • ARC Broadband Hub online • NTIA Project 	<p>State GIS coordinator Tony Simental and Glen Flanagan of Commerce Communications gave an update on the design makeover and mapping initiatives related to the Broadband Development Hub to be located on the Council website. Mr. Flanagan presented some mock ups of how the new pages and various features throughout the site will appear.</p> <p>Mr. Simental demonstrated the functionality of the static and interactive maps that will be part of the Council site and the features contained within the maps. Ms. Kelly Workman with the WVDO said a status report will be given every month and projected dates of when additional layers will be added to the map. The goal continues to be is to create a hub that will enable counties to look for opportunities to fully develop broadband as an economic activity.</p> <p>Ms. Workman gave an update on the NTIA-Council Agreement for a National Broadband Availability Map. As a result of recent conference call, the two partners are beginning to identify what data can be shared and are putting together a timeline and looking forward to working with NTIA and the other 7 participating states.</p>
<p>4. New Five-Year State Broadband Plan will update existing plan found here: https://broadband.wv.gov/resources/wv-broadband-plan</p>	<p>Ms. Workman and Chris Campbell of Tilson Technologies gave an update on the effort to update the state’s 2014 Broadband Plan. A draft outline was provided, highlighting the major topics and activities to be included and the number of hours Tilson estimates it needs to assist with the project. The Plan is projected to be completed in November. Ms. Workman asked Council members for their feedback.</p> <p>Sen. Robert Plymale offered that regional and national experts with ties to the state be considered as resources.</p> <p>Mr. Josh Spence urged that emerging technology be a component of the plan. Mr. Pete Hobbs asked that home-based technologies be a component of the plan.</p> <p>Regarding project budget, Mr. Campbell said the budget set by Tilson is \$84,000 with a possible additional cost for mapping up to \$15,000.</p> <p>Sen. Plymale remarked that the Council if entities such as WVU, Marshall and other state entities can be involved to offset some of the long-term costs. A task force was formed to discuss this matter further to present possible alternative options at the May Council meeting. Those members are Sen. Plymale, Delegate Daniel Linville, Dr. Mary Stewart, and Mr. Robert Morris.</p>
<p>5. Broadband Expansion in WV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Investments • CDBG 2018 Project Announcements • 2019 Applications Due September 30 	<p>Mr. Tony O’Leary gave a summary of the CDBG grants awarded for broadband developments. Mr. O’Leary said 11 grants were awarded by Governor Justice and that the Governor has publicly announced four of them (Lewis, McDowell, Mercer, and Nicholas county commissions). The remaining seven are still to be publicly announced. Deadline to submit applications for the next round of CDBG funding is September 30, 2019.</p>
<p>6. Pew Broadband Research Initiative Pew broadband-research-initiative.</p>	<p>Ms. Workman said the Pew Charitable Trust is undertaking a national research initiative to learn how states are addressing connectivity gaps and how they are addressing them. Ms. Workman said Pew representatives are interested in West Virginia’s best practices and will visit West Virginia on May 8-9 to meet with private and public stakeholders and attend the May 9th Council meeting.</p>
<p>7. USDA ReConnect: Application Portal to open April 23, 2019</p>	<p>Chair Hinton said there are a handful of applications being prepared around the state for the USDA ReConnect funding program and encouraged Council members to get more communities involved.</p>
<p>8. Public Comments</p>	<p>There were no public comments</p>
<p>9. Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>May 9, 2019; 10:00 a.m.; Building 3, First Floor Conf. Room 124</p>
<p>10. Adjournment</p>	<p>Chair Hinton adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.</p>

Action Items				
No.	Description	Assigned To	Month Identified	Target Completion Date
1.	Legal and Cooperative Toolkit and Training	Workman, O'Leary, Generation WV, WVU Law	June 2017	ARC grant funds pending; submitted for review.
2.	Broadband Hub-	Simental, Workman	November 2018	Follow up issued 2/2019; Meetings May-June
3.	Website Updates-Speed test survey updates, map updates	Commerce	December 2018	Portions Complete; Survey modifications pending