

WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND ENHANCEMENT COUNCIL



APPROVED MEETING MINUTES | April 12, 2018

Meeting Title	WV Broadband Enhancement Council Meeting		
Chairperson	Robert Hinton		
Date	4.12.2018	Location	WV Capitol Complex Bldg. 3, Suite 800 Conference Room
Time	10:00 am		
Audio Connection	304.957.6999 Conf. ID: 935-9172#	P = Present; TC = Teleconference; VC = Videoconference; _ = Absent	

	Council Member	Representing		Council Member	Representing
TC	Robert Hinton, Chairman	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 2	-	Woody Thrasher	Dept. of Commerce, Cabinet Secretary
P	Robert Morris, Vice Chairman	Urban Residential User	-	Jeff Proctor	Representing Woody Thrasher
-	Michael L. Holstine Secretary-Treasurer	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 3	-	Dr. Steven L. Paine	Dept. of Education, State Superintendent
-	Ric Cavender	Urban Business User	p	Brenda Morris	Representing Dr. Steven L. Paine
TC	Robert Cole	Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 1	P	The Honorable Robert Plymale	WV Senate (D) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
P	John Dunlap	Office of Technology, Chief Technology Officer	-	The Honorable Craig Blair	WV Senate (R) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
P	R.A. "Pete" Hobbs	Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 3	-	The Honorable Roger Hanshaw	WV House (R) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
-	John Reasbeck	Rural Business User Congressional Dist. 1	-	The Honorable Kenneth Hicks	WV House (D) (Ex-Officio/Advisory Member)
-	Matt Turner	Higher Education Policy Comm., Exec. Vice Chancellor	-	Vacant	Business User Large Amounts of Broadband
TC	Dr. Jack Smith	Representing Matt Turner	-	Vacant	Rural Residential User Congressional Dist. 2
	Representative	Agency		Representative	Agency
-	Mark Debruyn	WVOT Infrastructure Manager, CTO Proxy	-	Tony Simental	WV Geological and Economic Survey, Office of GIS Coordination
-	Mitch Blake	Director, WV Geological and Economic Survey	-	Kelli Talbott	WV Attorney General's Office Legal Counsel
-	Josh Jarrell	WV Dept. of Commerce, Deputy Sec., Legal Counsel	-	Wes White	WV Development Office Legal Counsel
-	Tony O'Leary	WV Development Office Project Manager	-	Kelly Workman	WV Development Office Development Manager

Agenda Item	Details/Minutes
1. Call to Order, Opening Remarks and Roll Call	Vice Chair Robert Morris opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. After roll call was taken, Vice Chair Morris welcomed newest member of the Council, Senator Robert Plymale who is replacing Sen. Glenn Jeffries as an ex-officio member of the council.
2. Approval of 3/8/2018 Council Meeting Minutes and Financial Statement	Pete Hobbs motioned to accept March 2018 meeting minutes; John Dunlap second. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Fiber Locator Subscription	State GIS Coordinator Tony Simental distributed documents detailing various subscription options for the Council to consider for purchase. Mr. Dunlap motioned to approve Mr. Simental's recommendation to purchase the Tier 1 tool option offered by Fiber Locator for \$12,000 annually. Brenda Morris second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Technical RFP	Kelly Workman of the West Virginia Development Office confirmed that the Council's RFP committee has completed its evaluations for a technical consultant and submitted its report to the state Purchasing Division. Ms. Workman said Purchasing would open the cost proposals in a few days.
5. Grant Funding Update	<p>Ms. Workman detailed several state and federal broadband funding initiatives currently ongoing in the state. The initiatives included:</p> <p>ARC WV Telecomm Initiative – The WVDO was host to a meeting April 3 with eligible applicants and two ARC project representatives to further discuss the program. Applications are due April 30</p> <p>ARC Power Funding – This is a second ARC funding program with two rounds of funding scheduled for May and July.</p> <p>USDA Community Connect – These funding grants will range from \$100,000 to \$3 million and Ms. Workman said she hopes there are more state applicants to this program than in recent years. Mr. Morris briefly described the Community Connect grant that Barbour, Randolph and Upshur counties received in 2017.</p> <p>USDA Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees – This is a second pool of funding that is accepting applications on rolling basis through September 30.</p> <p>CDBG Project Updates – Ms. Workman said the WVDO is meeting with each local project team offering resources and guidance to keep the projects moving forward in a timely manner.</p>
6. Committee Reports	<p>Infrastructure Committee: No new updates</p> <p>Education Committee: No new updates</p> <p>Adoption Committee: Chair Bob Cole answered a question from Sen. Plymale about a drafted letter by the committee earmarked to the state school superintendent which is explaining the importance of the Council's Speed Test and to promote students and teachers to take the Speed Test for Council data-gathering purposes.</p>
7. Public Comments	Mr. Ron Pearson spoke, first complimenting the Council on moving the broadband issue forward in the state and then gave his perspective on developments in a lawsuit CityNet filed against Frontier. Mr. Pearson provided handouts to detail 9 counts brought forward in the complaint by CityNet and what were recent rulings on several of those complaints. Mr. Pearson encouraged Council members to follow the litigation as it occurs in the court system.
8. Next Meeting Date	May 10, 2018
9. Adjournment	Vice Chair Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Action Items				
No.	Description	Assigned To	Month Identified	Target Completion Date
1.	Easement acquisition and donation	Committee	May	—
2.	Consultation with WV DOH	Council, WVDO, WVOT	May	Ongoing
3.	Website Redesign	Workman, O'Leary, Commerce Communications	May	Initial Launch Complete; Ongoing Edits
4.	Requirements of WV Code 31G	All Committees	June	
5.	RFP Process for ARC; Review of CDBG Apps	Workman, O'Leary		Complete
6.	Cooperative Toolkit and Training	Workman, O'Leary, Generation WV, WVU Law	June 2017	April 2018