



Utah Broadband Advisory Council

Thursday, December 3, 2015
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
GOED Offices

Attendees:

Val Hale, Governor's Office of Economic Development
Kelleigh Cole, Governor's Office of Economic Development
Jeff Van Hulten, Governor's Office of Economic Development
Bert Granberg, Automated Geographic Reference Center
Com. Jordan White, Utah Public Service Commission
Bill Duncan, Division of Public Utilities
Steve Proctor, Utah Communications Authority
Gordon Coles, Utah Communications Authority
Dennis Sampson, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Shirlee Silversmith, Utah Division of Indian Affairs
Rick Gaisford, Utah State Office of Education
Lynne Beecher, Skywire
Glenn Ricart, US Ignite
Aaron Hildreth, Intellipop Internet
Diane Bradshaw, Direct Communications
Donna Jones Morris, Utah State Library
Tara Thue, AT&T
Matt Hilburn, EDCUtah

Sharon Bertelsen, Ballard Spahr
Douglas Meredith, John Staurilakis, Inc.
Jack Walkenhorst, All West Communications
Charles Baldwin, Bitstream Communications
Ryan Marriott, Americom Technologies
Brock Johansen, Emery Telcom
Rick Raile, Emigration Canyon Community Council
Rolen Yoshinaga, Salt Lake County
Scotty John, Big Cottonwood Canyon
Chari Chambers, Zayo
Dave Ryan, Strata

Phone:

Joey Perry, US Forest Service
Georgeanne Weidenbach, CenturyLink
Senator Ralph Okerlund, Utah State Legislature
Sabrina Scott, Utah Education and Telehealth Network
Mike Herd, Americom Technologies

5 Minute Advisory Council Spotlight:

Jack Walkenhorst, with All West Communications gave a brief introduction about himself and the general operations of the company. All West is a rural telecommunications company that provides services in northeastern Utah.

Items of Business:

Kelleigh Cole gave the advisory council an update on pending federal legislation that could impact broadband policy which included the following items:

- The Spectrum Pipeline Act of 2015 (October 5, 2015), would direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to submit plans for the auction of certain bands of spectrum frequencies to Congress.
- The Broadband Conduit Deployment Act of 2015 (October 6, 2015), proposes to include broadband conduit installation in certain highway construction projects, and for other purposes.
- Historical Review of Broadband Facilities (October 23, 2015), proposes to provide for the streamlining of consideration by the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Defense of applications to locate or modify broadband facilities, and for other purposes.
- Inventory of Federal Assets (October 26, 2015), proposes to create an inventory of federal assets and provide for the tracking of applications to locate or modify broadband facilities Federal real property.
- Pole Attachments (October 23, 2015), will be to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to make certain changes with respect to the regulation of pole attachments.

She also gave the advisory council a brief overview of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) new Guide to Broadband Federal Funding, which provides a directory of funding sources, and the Broadband Opportunity Council (BOC) Report and Recommendations, which details efforts federal agencies are undertaking to encourage broadband infrastructure. She also attended a meeting at the White House to discuss the BOC and recommended that the federal government improve permitting processes on federal lands. She also announced that the FCC has released raw broadband data but has not released a federal map at this time. The Utah Broadband Outreach Center will continue to collect and map broadband data at a more refined level than the federal data.

Glenn Ricart announced that US Ignite is interested in participating in the Model Cities Program, which would select and target US Ignite communities for federal spectrum sharing test beds. He would like feedback from Utah stakeholders on ideas for Utah.

Bert Granberg announced that the Broadband Outreach Center will launch an update of the Utah Broadband Map. In conjunction with the 5th anniversary of the release of the broadband map, the center plans to launch a redesigned interactive map which will separate technologies (mobile wireless, fixed wireless and wireline service) into distinct colors and will list actual maximum advertised speeds (rather than speed tiers). It will also show the date when service was reported. The default base map will also show populated areas and areas with economic activity.

Douglas Meredith gave the council an overview of federal funding reforms for rate-of-return carriers. Through the Connect America Fund effort, the FCC is trying to determine the cost of providing broadband to all areas of the country. The FCC is using 477 data to determine where support should be given. The commission is also trying to determine which areas have competition and will not receive support. However, it is unclear how the commission will deal with areas where the competitor is subsidizing itself or where it is not providing service to an entire area because it does not have carrier of last resort obligations. Approximately \$2 billion is reserved for rate-of-return carriers and \$1.8 billion is reserved for price cap carriers in remote areas of the country. A rate-of-return order may be released in January 2016.

Sharon Bertelsen gave the council an overview of the FCC spectrum auction procedures. The auction is designed to repurpose spectrum and will take place in two phases. The first phase is a reverse auction in which broadcasters may elect to give up their spectrum rights. In the second phase, the spectrum that was relinquished in the first phase will be auctioned off to support broadband services. She also gave the advisory council an update on the FCC's Open Internet Rules that were adopted on Feb 26, 2015 and went into effect on June 12, 2015. They established three main rules including that providers cannot block specific content, cannot throttle data and cannot offer paid prioritization. They also classified broadband as Title II telecommunications services. Title II is the same classification as traditional telephone service, which is regulated. It also requires carriers to protect users' information.

Dennis Sampson gave the advisory council an update on the Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN). UETN is currently conducting an engineering study and a technology asset inventory. Preliminary findings show that school districts are using varied WiFi options and UETN and the school districts will need to decide if standardizing them makes sense. The State Office of Education recently completed the Digital Teaching and Learning Master Plan which is available on the [UETN website](#). UEN would also like to build fiber to San Juan and Daggett County School Districts and would like to work with partners on the advisory council.

Gordon Coles gave the advisory council an update on Utah's participation in the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). September 31, 2015 was the deadline for the state data submission and FirstNet has been following up with each of the submitting states. They will use this data to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) that is scheduled to be released at the end of December 2015 or beginning of January 2016. They anticipate having a question period through the end of February and having proposals due at the end of May 2016. The national FirstNet team anticipates doing another round of state consultations through the end of 2016 and will develop a state plan that will go to each governor by the second quarter of 2017. Each governor will decide whether the state should opt in or out of the plan. Steve Proctor also gave the advisory council an update of a Request for Information (RFI) that was issued by the Utah Communications Authority for an upgrade of the state public safety radio network and backhaul. Comments on the RFI will be taken until December 11, 2015 and the formal RFP is scheduled to be released on January 8, 2016. UCA anticipates that proposals will be due in May 2016.

Bert Granberg presented the October 2015 Map of the Month which showed Utah's FirstNet coverage goals for the NPSBN. Phase 1 of the proposed buildout extends the baseline coverage to include I-15 from Tremonton to St. George with a connection to Logan, as well as the Wasatch Front and Back metro and recreation areas. Phase 2 includes the remainder of the freeways and highest volume highways and communities along the way, as well as an area of I-70 currently unserved by mobile voice or broadband. Phase 3 encompasses every county seat and their respective routes to the nearest major metro area. Phase 4 and 5 include the remaining populated and industrial areas.

He also presented the September 2015 Map of the Month which is a map of communications towers throughout Utah that was created through an experimental 1 hour 'map-a-thon' event designed to verify and create communication site data across the state. He also presented the November 2015 Map of the Month, which shows the current commercial fiber-based broadband service availability reported to the Broadband Outreach Center for inclusion on the [locate.utah.gov](#) site.