

# *Statewide Broadband Task Force Minutes*

*Tuesday April 26, , 2011, 11:00 – 3:30 pm*

*K'enakatnu Executive Board Room  
Dena'ina Convention Center  
555 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage*

**In Attendance:** Michael Baker, Larry Bell, John Boucher, Chris Brown, Joseph Davis, Rob Earl [for Rep. Bob Herron], Rich Gazaway, Dave Goggins, Robbie Graham, Myron Naneng, Jim Kohler, Karl Kowalski, Maureen Moore, Stevi Morton, Bill Popp, Mike Robinson and Jeff Tucker.

**By Teleconference:** None

**Guests:** Dianne Kiesel/Office of the Governor, Heather Hudson/ISER and Bill Dann/Facilitator.

The meeting was called to order at 11 am by Chair Bill Popp who welcomed the group, extended greetings from Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development Commissioner Susan Bell who could not attend because of activities in Juneau during the special session. He called the roll and set forth his expectations for future meetings which included:

- The task force work shall be transparent and all issues, emails and correspondence to/from the public would be provided in meeting packets and that all meeting minutes would be posted on the task force website.
- Any item to be added to the agenda should be transmitted to the Chair five days prior to the meeting.
- Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person unless pre-arranged with the chair and/or a special presentation is requested by the task force.
- All further processes for task force operations would be emailed to the body.

Members were asked to review and approved the minutes from the March 10, 2011 meeting.

**Motion:** Jeff Tucker moved/Larry Bell seconded approval of the 3/10/11 minutes. Motion was passed unanimously.

Task force members then introduced themselves as did guests in the room.

Chairman Popp then called for any public comment, but there were no members of the public wishing to address the task force at that time.

The introductory meeting of March 10, 2011 was recapped, and Chairman Popp discussed the process that had taken place in the interim including the designation from DCCED Commissioner Susan Bell naming him as Chair. During several meetings and conversations with Commissioner Bell, a direction was established for moving task force business forward.

Chair Popp introduced Bill Dann of Professional Growth Systems, the facilitator for the day's meeting. He said Mr. Dann's job would be to assist the task force to establish its overall goal, purpose and vision.

**Public Comment:** Heather Hudson, representing UAA's Institute of Social and Economic Research asked if she could be recognized. Although the public comment period had closed, Chair Popp extended the floor to Ms. Hudson for two minutes. After introducing herself, Ms. Hudson expressed her pleasure at the formation of the task force. She announced a June 13, 2011 symposium is being planned on history of telecommunications in Alaska. The symposium will be held in Anchorage, but she had no other details and said she would provide them to the task force when arrangements had been made. Ms. Hudson also restated that ISER had been part of the original Connect Alaska grant and that she was hopeful that ISER would be working with the task force. Finally, Ms. Hudson mentioned the formation of the National Native Broadband Task Force established by the FCC.

The meeting was turned over to Bill Dann who began the facilitated portion of the exercise. He explained the process and the anticipated outcomes for the day.

Jim Kohler mentioned the many regulation changes propagated by the Federal Communications Commission and the impact that regulations and proposed reg changes could have on Alaska. He also reminded the task force of the National Broadband Plan [each member had a copy of that plan] and suggested a future briefing for the task force.

The discussion ensued regarding the task force goal, purpose and vision as the group worked its way through the process of establishing overall goals/vision [the discussion points are provided in these minutes as an addendum]. After lengthy discussion and debate, the task force agreed on the following:

- Draft Goal:** To extend the full benefits of broadband technology to every Alaskan
- Draft Purpose:** To make it possible for every Alaskan to participate and be competitive in the global community
- Draft Vision:** By 2020, every Alaskan has 100 mbps broadband connectivity

Chairman Popp then asked for any task force member comments, and each member expressed his/her appreciation for the process and the agreed upon outcome.

Dates for the next meeting were discussed, and the Chair said he would query the members via email regarding dates for the May meeting, and said the Minnesota Broadband Plan and other relevant plans would be distributed to task force members.

The chair also said the May meeting would be the completion of the facilitated session and would focus on developing the:

Draft Policy:

Draft Strategy:

Draft Execution (Programs):

- Deployment

The meeting adjourned at 3 pm.

## **ADDENDUM**

Notes from Bill Dann's facilitated session.

### **Draft Performance Measures:**

- download speed:
- upload speed:
- latency:
- user cost:
- build out cost:
- reach:
- economically sustainable/economically viable:
- usage:
- technologically sustainable:
- penetration:
- reliability:
- impact assessment (difference it has made in people's lives, e.g. healthcare, education, commerce):

Need baseline data

### **Draft Final Products:**

- A comprehensive plan and set of policy recommendations to achieve stated goal.
- A plan for a statewide summit on broadband adoption

**Input to Goal:** ~~To accelerate maximize the deployment and~~ make affordable, sustainable broadband technology available throughout the state/ to all residents of Alaska

- Extend the reach
- Adoption (3) vs. availability
- Quality (2)
- Ongoing improvement/ sustainable (5)?
- Facilitate vs. accelerate vs. complete
- Should we have specific measures goals in the statement, e.g. download speed
- Manage energy consumption
- Should we specify users in the statement: individuals, communities etc.?
- Enable the State of AK to achieve the goals of the National Broadband plan
- Add "expanded" to broadband
- Deployment and availability redundant
- Can we accelerate and deploy or simply plan/advocate for same?
- Maximize?
- Clarity on throughout will be key
- Reliable
- add services after technology

**Input to Purpose:** To develop greater opportunity through new technology, economic empowerment and all the opportunity/benefits that broadband technology brings

To insure that every Alaskan has the opportunity to take advantage of the benefits broadband offers, including improved healthcare, better education, access to a greater number of economic opportunities and greater civic participation

- Equal opportunity
- improve quality of life
- to solve the middle mile gap (3)
- make people centric (3)
- replace develop; bring, make available, provide, encourage
- promote information literacy

**Input to Vision:**

- 20 milliseconds from the world
- replace world with global community
- all Alaskans or every
- less than “all”
- replace 20 milliseconds with something understandable by consumer
- scale, get over it
- Molly Hooch approach, limit to communities exceeding a certain size
- make it You Tube, Skype, Drop Box, Facebook friendly
- replace 20 milliseconds with 100 megs
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