



**Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity**

JB Pritzker, Governor

**Broadband Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2019**

Event/Meeting:

Special Broadband Advisory Council Meeting

Date/Time:

October 1, 2019 at 11:00 am

Locations:

(Springfield)

Illinois Capital Development Board

401 S. Spring Street

Springfield, IL 62706

(Chicago, via video conference)

James R. Thompson Center

100 West Randolph Street, 16th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60601

Board Members Present:

In-Person: Deno Peridou, Melia Carter, Chris Nelson, Rick Holzmacher, Zak Horn, Josh Shallenberger, Deb Alfredson, Jeff Newell, David Antonacci, Bill Bodine, Nikki Budzinski, Lori Sorenson, Paula Basta, and Jim Zolnierik

By Phone: Anne Slaughter, Theresa Eagleson, Senator Bill Cunningham

Board Members Absent: Steven Hill, Karen Boswell, Mike Chamberlain, Ryan Gruenenfelder, Susan Satter, Senator Jill Tracy, Representative John Connor, Representative Keith Wheeler

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Staff Present: Erin Guthrie, Travis March, Margaret Croke, Jeanette Pesamoska, Matt Schmit, Jason Horwitz

Illinois Department of Human Services: Ryan Croke, Dulce Quintero

Illinois Department of Agriculture Staff Present: Director John Sullivan, Jeremy Flynn

Illinois Department of Technology Staff Present: Esssam El-Beik

Illinois State Board of Education Staff Present: Mary Reynolds

Governor's Staff Present: Rachel Corcoran, Chad Hoosier, Molly Dunn

Call to Order and Introductory Remarks from Chairman: The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Nikki Budzinski at approximately 11:00 am. Chairwoman Budzinski conducted the official roll call. After roll call, Chairwoman Budzinski reviewed the meeting's agenda and acknowledged the work of the Broadband Advisory Council ("BAC") working groups. Chairwoman Budzinski then asked members of the public to hold comment until such time that the floor was opened. Chairwoman Budzinski recognized that a quorum of members was present.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: Chairwoman Budzinski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21st meeting. A motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Lori Sorenson and seconded by Paula Basta. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

Introduction of Deputy Director of Broadband: Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Erin Guthrie introduced the council to Matt Schmit, Deputy Director of Broadband. Matt made brief comments thanking everyone for the opportunity and shared his excitement around the state's historic broadband investment.

Overview of the Broadband Advisory Council Working Group Recommendations: Chairwoman Budzinski reviewed the five working groups: Telehealth, Economic Development, Access, Technology & Infrastructure, and Education. Chairwoman Budzinski called on Chad Hoosier to present the recommendations for the telehealth working group.

Chad Hoosier presented the telehealth working group recommendations which can be found on the publicly available October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation. BAC member Chris Nelson made a comment concerning medical reimbursement for online doctors' visits. ILDHS Chief of Staff Ryan Croke provided an overview of DHS facilities which includes fourteen locations and correctional facilities. Ryan suggests that these locations serve as incubators and best practice examples for telehealth. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for feedback on the telehealth working group from BAC members. None is given.

Chairwoman Budzinski called on DCEO Deputy Director of Policy and Research Jason Horwitz to present the recommendations from the economic development working group. Jason presented the economic development working group recommendations which can be found on the publicly available October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for feedback on working group from BAC members. BAC member Deno Perdou commented that identifying metrics to measure the success of the broadband program is key to showing the impact of the investment. Deno also requested a list of industrial parks that do not have broadband connectivity. BAC member Chris Nelson commented that he anticipated that full symmetrical connections will be a challenge.

Chairwoman Budzinski called on Illinois State Board of Education Executive Director of Regulatory Services Mary Reynold to present the recommendations from the education working group. Mary presented the education working group recommendations which can be found on the publicly available

October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for feedback on education working group from BAC members. None is given.

Chairwoman Budzinski called on Director of Agriculture John Sullivan to present the recommendations from the access working group. Director Sullivan presented the access working group recommendations which can be found on the publicly available October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for feedback on the access working group from BAC members. BAC member Deno Perdou discussed superseding the procurement process which would require a legislative change. BAC member Bill Bodine commented on the constitutionally protected property rights of all Americans, in this instance farmers. BAC member Melia Carter commented that it is key for any provider to have easy access to the right of the way and affordable rates. She stated a streamlined process is needed.

Chairwoman Budzinski called on Vice Chairwoman Lori Sorenson to present the recommendations from the technology and infrastructure working group. Vice Chairwoman Sorenson presented the technology and infrastructure working group recommendations which can be found on the publicly available October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for feedback on the technology and infrastructure working group from BAC members. BAC member Deb Alfredson asked a question about the term “technology neutral” which Vice Chair Sorenson explained to mean that a preference will not be shown towards a specific technology (i.e. satellite, fiber, etc.). BAC member Deb Alfredson followed-up with a question about broadband mapping to which Vice Chair Sorenson responded that the state should invest and lead an effort to improve the current broadband maps.

Prior State Broadband Investment: Chairwoman Budzinski called on ILDHS Chief of Staff Ryan Croke to present on prior state broadband investment. Ryan gave an overview of the 2009 broadband investment under the Quinn administration. It was a \$50 million commitment in the “Jobs Now” program and leveraged \$250 million of federal stimulus capital investment. BAC member Deno Perdou commented that any type of future broadband initiative should be part of a government agency and not a private entity to maintain oversight. BAC member Rick Holzmacher commented that accountability and transparency are key components to the success of any statewide broadband program.

Best Practices in State Broadband: Chairwoman Budzinski called on Deputy Director of Broadband Matt Schmit to present on best practices of other states and what Illinois can learn. Matt presented slides from the publicly available October 1st, 2019 BAC PowerPoint presentation recommending Minnesota, California, and New York as example states.

Public Comment: Chairwoman Budzinski opened the floor for public comment. Greg Jarmin of Watch Communications and Peter Wagner of Wagner Consulting commented. Public comment closed.

Adjournment: Chairwoman Budzinski announced the next Broadband Advisory Council Special Meeting will be held on October 19th in Springfield and Chicago. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Vice Chair Sorenson and seconded by Chris Nelson. Motion passed by unanimous decision. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 pm.