



**Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity**

JB Pritzker, Governor

**Broadband Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2019**

Event/Meeting:

Broadband Advisory Council Regular Meeting

Date/Time:

November 18, 2019 at 11:00 am

Locations:

(Springfield)

Capital Development Board

401 S. Spring Street

Springfield, Illinois 62706

(Chicago, via video conference)

James R. Thompson Center

100 West Randolph Street, 16th Floor, Room 504

Chicago, Illinois 60601

Board Members Present:

In-Person: Rick Holzmacher, Steven Hill, Anne Slaughter, Bill Bodine, Ryan Gruenenfelder, Nikki Budzinski, Lori Sorenson, Paula Basta, Susan Satter

By Phone: Chris Nelson, Zak Horn, Mike Chamberlain, Deb Alfredson, David Antonacci,
Representative John Connor

Board Members Absent: Deno Perdiou, Melia Carter, Karen Boswell, Josh Shallenberger, Jeff Newell, Jim Zolnierik, Theresa Eagleson, Senator Bill Cunningham, Senator Jil Tracy, Representative Keith Wheeler

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Staff Present: Margaret Croke, Matt Schmit, Travis March

Illinois State Board of Education Staff Present: Mary Reynolds

Governor's Staff Present: Rachel Corcoran, 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 provided an overview of the agenda for the Broadband Advisory Council (“BAC”). She reviewed the agenda for meeting which focused on the Illinois Century Network and the Connect Illinois Strategy. 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.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Chairwoman Budzinski asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18th meeting. A motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Lori Sorenson and seconded Mike Chamberlain. Motion passed by unanimous decision.

Illinois Century Network: Vice Chair Lori Sorenson and Chief Technology Office at the Department of Innovation and Technology provided a presentation of the history of the Illinois Century Network (“ICN”). \$20 million will be invested in the ICN to refresh the state’s technology and infrastructure, increasing the ICN’s capacity by double.

The presentation is publicly available online at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/ConnectIllinois/Pages/BAC.aspx>

Connect Illinois Strategy: Matt Schmit, Deputy Director of the Office of Broadband, provided a presentation on the overall strategy for Connect Illinois. Key grant criteria for the Notice of Funding Opportunity (“NOFO”) were outlined. This included the applicant’s ability to obtain competitive matching grants, the alignment with the Governor’s 5-Year Economic Plan, and community involvement. Deputy Director Schmit stated that there will be multiple NOFOs and that unserved areas and an applicant’s ability to leverage federal dollars will be the highest priority. The Office of Broadband will be issuing \$50 million in its first round of investment. Deputy Director Schmit presented the projected timeline with key milestones of the broadband program starting from Summer 2019 to Spring 2020.

The presentation is publicly available online at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/ConnectIllinois/Pages/BAC.aspx>

Broadband for America’s Future: A Vision for the 2020s: Senior Fellow Jonathan Sallet of the Benton Institute for Broadband and Society presented the organization’s “Broadband for America’s Future” report. The Benton Institute’s mission is to bring open, affordable, high-capacity broadband to all people in the U.S. to ensure a thriving democracy.

The full report can be found at <https://www.benton.org/publications/broadband-policy2020s>

Public Comment: Chairwoman Budzinski opened the floor for public comment.

Adjournment: Chairwoman Budzinski announced the next Broadband Advisory Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18th in Springfield and Chicago. Chairwoman Budzinski asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Director Basta and seconded by Susan Satter. Motion passed by unanimous decision. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 pm.