



General Manager

Brian C. Wright

Executive Leadership Team

Joe Horvath, Electric Utility Director/ AGM

Shanna Kuhlemier, District Clerk

Steven Poncelet, PIO & Strategic Affairs Director

Michael Salmon, Chief Financial Officer

Board of Directors

Joseph Aguera

Jeff Bender

Christa Finn

Tony Laliotis

Kim Harris

**Regular Broadband Committee Meeting
Thursday December 16, 2021 at 3:30 pm
Minutes**

1. Call to order – Meeting was called to order by Regina Cooley at 3:30 p.m.
2. Roll Call – Mark Simon Featherstone, Penelope “Penny” Morris, Dan Dickerman, Michael J. Wolf, Serita K Cox, John Paul, & Judy Price.

EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Steven Poncelet, Regina Cooley

3. Public Comment – None.

Old Business

4. The Minutes of December 16, 2021 Broadband Committee Meeting were approved via consensus.

New Business

5. A motion was made by Committee Member Mark Simon Featherstone and seconded by Committee Member Serita Cox to:
 - a) Make certain findings, including but not limited to, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, as set forth in Resolution 2021-02 which defines the provisions of AB361 and authorizes remote teleconference meetings for the next thirty (30) days of the initial or subsequent resolution to continue to allow the Broadband Committee to meet remotely via teleconference, as allowed under AB361 and in compliance with the Brown Act Provisions for the period December 16, 2021 to January 15, 2022.
 - b) Adopt an updated meeting schedule

The motion passed via roll call vote:

Ayes: Mark Simon Featherstone, Penelope “Penny” Morris, Dan Dickerman, Michael J. Wolf, Serita K Cox, John Paul, & Judy Price

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Tim Chase and Bjorn Book-Larsson

6. Broadband Committee goals, Objectives, and timeline were re-confirmed via consensus.



American Public Power Association

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7. This time was used for each sub-group to provide an informational update to the committee:
 - A. Supply Side
 - a. The group has met once since the last meeting to discuss the supply side needs.
 - b. They expressed a desire for more information on the contract between TDPUD and Plumas Sierra Telecommunications (Plumas-Sierra) and are highly interested in a meeting with TDPUD's IT staff and Plumas-Sierra. (Action item: Steven Poncelet to schedule meeting – He is hoping to schedule the week of January 3-5, 2022)
 - c. The group expressed concern over the timing of the upcoming renewal of Plumas-Sierra's contract with TDPUD and the impacts this could have on bringing other ISP's into the area. Asked when the contract expires, Regina Cooley let them know the contract's expiration date is February 27, 2022.
 - B. Demand Side
 - a. The group is working together to create a presentation for the TDPUD Board of Directors and would like to present their presentation to the Broadband Committee at the next meeting.
 - i. At this time there was some group discussion and all sub-groups agreed to bring their draft presentation for the TDPUD Board of Directors to the next Broadband Committee meeting.
 - b. The group is focusing on forecasting demand needs based on where Truckee's needs will be in 5-10 years to ensure there is a forward thinking approach taken.
 - c. They are focusing on building a strong demand case.
 - C. Benchmarking/Funding
 - a. Expressed that they have a lot of questions they are trying to understand to help narrow their focus. These questions present a roadblock for the group. At this point there was general discussion between the group and District Staff leading to the Benchmarking group expressing the roadblock had been cleared and they could proceed.
 - b. The group feels strongly that the optimal operating and organizational structure needs to be analyzed both within and outside current organizational confines Focusing on business model recommendations
 - c. The group will likely bring a recommendation to the TDPUD Board of Directors that includes the hiring of a specialized consultant to assist with benchmarking and funding.
 - d. On the funding side there was a lot of discussion about the different types of funding that exists and is getting ready to enter the market.
 - e. Discussion arose around the ability to obtain grant funding (will Truckee qualify as a "disadvantaged community", historically with grants outside of Broadband it is a struggle to build the case for Truckee being disadvantaged), Broadband Committee members advised that these new grants are still fine tuning definitions and we should not count the community out as Truckee is likely to meet the new definitions, specifically within the Broadband space.
 - f. The group believes there may be money available for feasibility studies, more to come.
 - g. It is important that TDPUD look into other grant areas besides just Broadband. For example, job development grants may be able to be used towards this project.

8. At the end of the meeting there was a quick recap of action items and timelines:
 - a. Set up call with Plumas-Sierra, TDPUD IT, and the Supply Side sub-group.
 - b. Sib-groups will each bring a draft presentation to the next Broadband Committee Meeting (January 13, 2022)
 - c. At the January 13, 2022 meeting the group would like an agenda item for additional Broadband Meeting(s) to be discussed.
 - d. The Committee, via strong consensus, believes no action is not an option for TDPUD.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:30PM