



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, December 18, 2023
Idaho Capitol Building
Room WW53 and via Zoom

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Members	Idaho Commerce Staff
Chairman Rep. John Vander Woude, Idaho Legislator	Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez, State Broadband Program Manager
Vice-Chair Sen. Doug Ricks, Idaho Legislator (Z)	Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator
Sen. James Ruchti, Idaho Legislator (Z)	Ewa Szewczyk, Grants and Contracts Manager
Sen. Treg Bernt, Idaho Legislator	Kim Glineski State Broadband Project Manager
Rep. Megan Blanksma, Idaho Legislator	Krista Baker State Broadband Project Manager
Rep. Barbara Ehardt, Idaho Legislator (Z)	
Andrew Emerson, MH Solutions	
Mitch Watkins, Watkins Distribution	Mindy Peper, Meeting Support (Z)
Margie Watson, JC Watson & Company (Z)	
(Z) denotes via Zoom	
(A) denotes absent	

To view/hear entire meeting A/V, please click [LINK](#) .

Call to order:

Chairman Vander Woude called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM with a quorum present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes December 1, 2023.

Motion by: Sen. Ricks

To approve meeting minutes.

Seconded by: none.

All in favor: Motion passes

State Broadband Update

New Idaho Commerce staff is introduced to the advisory board.

All 18 capital project fund agreements have been sent out to awardees.

IIG/IRON project is moving forward. The subcommittee met last week and put together a plan for next steps.

Idaho BEAD Program Initial Proposal

Update on process that was followed for outreach, engagement, feedback and input from the public, the ISP community, formal tribal consultation, and other stakeholders throughout the state.

Volume 1: Challenge Process

Update on requirements on how to build the map that represents the state. Discussion on use of speed tests for the challenge process.

Motion by: Watson

To include speed test as part of the challenge process.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Volume 2: Sub-grantee Selection Process

Discussion on how to identify and define project areas via mapping or legal boundaries. State has 82,000 census blocks with about 4,500 having about 80% of the unserved and underserved population. In the end, the goal would be to have all of Idaho covered in one area or another with about 120-150 defined project areas.

Motion by: Ricks

To use the census block cluster process to help define project areas.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on the application review process to include board authority on who and how proposals will be scored, letter of intent for pre-application process, and changes of language to the application instructions.

Motion by: Blanksma

To change language on vol II page 45 under administrative and technical review from 5 calendar days to 5 business days and that clarification is added to the scoring committee review and that the scoring committees will be determined by IBAB and can include other entities.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on the scoring matrix and discussion on affordability and how to score in the application.

Motion by: Blanksma

To use option 2 for scoring affordability in the application.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on labor practices and the options for scoring in the application.

Motion by: Blanksma

To use option 1 for scoring fair labor practices in the application.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on speed of deployment of project and options for scoring in the application.

Motion by: Watkins

To use option 1 for scoring speed of deployment of the project in the application.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on open access network and options for scoring in the application.

Motion by: Emerson

To use option 1 for scoring open access of the project in the application.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

Discussion on equitable workforce development and job quality and Davis-Bacon wages.

Motion by: Sen. Rutchi

To replace current language with previous language to require Davis-Bacon wages on all grant proposals over \$5 million.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: motion fails

Substitute Motion by: Sen. Bernt

To keep and approve the existing language in equitable workforce and job quality section.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes with vote of "No" from Sen. Rutchi

Amended Substitute Motion by: Sen. Rutchi

To replace current language with previous language to require Davis-Bacon wages on all grant proposals over \$10 million.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion fails.

Motion by: Watkins

To submit package to NTIA.

Seconded by: none

All in favor: Motion passes

New Business:

The subcommittee will meet next Friday to hold discussion on IIG-IRON contract.

Next IBAB Meeting: Tentatively will be held in February 2024 to review BEAD planning grant money.

Adjournment: 3:15 PM MST