



Brad Little, Governor
Tom Kealey, Director

Idaho Broadband Advisory Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2025
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 | | Jake Reynolds, Business Development & Operations Administrator | |
| Margie Watson, JC Watson & Company | | Kim Glineski, State Broadband Project Manager | |
| Sen. James Ruchti, Idaho Legislator (A) | | Krista Baker, State Broadband Project Manager | |
| Sen. Treg Bernt, Idaho Legislator (Z) | | Alexis Malcomb, Grants Specialist (A) | |
| Rep. James Holtzclaw, Idaho Legislator (A) | | Sarah Lawrence, Bespoke GIS Solutions (Z) | |
| Rep. Brandon Mitchell, Idaho Legislator (Z) | | Jackie Reader, Bespoke GIS Solutions (Z) | |
| Andrew Emerson, MH Solutions | | Jeremy Collier, Idaho Department of Commerce | |
| Rick Belluzzo | | Jamie Hayward, Idaho Department of Commerce | |
| (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 9:34 a.m. MDT with a quorum present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes December 18, 2024

Motion by: Margie Watson
To approve meeting minutes.
All in favor: Motion passes

Board Chair & Vice Chair Selections

Chairman Vander Woude opened nominations for Board Chair.

- Senator Ricks nominated himself
- Margie Watson nominated Rick Belluzzo

Rick Belluzzo and Senator Ricks spoke about their qualifications for the Board Chair position.

Chairman Ricks was elected as Chairman.

Chairman Ricks opened Vice Chair nominations.

- Rep. Vander Woude nominated himself.

- There being no other candidates, Rep. Vander Woude was elected by unanimous consent.

Idaho Broadband Fund Update

Krista Baker, Idaho Office of Broadband Project Manager, presented an update on the Idaho State Broadband Fund. She updated the board on two major middle mile projects using Idaho Broadband Funds, the Port of Lewiston Project, from Moscow to Lewiston and Lewiston to Grangeville, and the IIG/IRON Project from Grangeville to Star.

Idaho CPF Update

Alexis Malcomb, Idaho Commerce Grants and Contracts Specialist, and, Idaho Office of Broadband Project Managers Krista Baker and Kim Glineski updated the Board on the Capitol Project Fund.

Alexis Malcomb advised members of the Capitol Projects Fund, of \$120million, with 18 projects funded across Idaho, connecting 35,000 BSLs. She explained the current commitments and commissions of the Capitol Project Fund. She noted this information included pending requests, and those with pending review. Pending requests total 28.5% of the funds. Projects require a match.

Krista Baker provided specific project details on the MiFiber (Priest River & Oldtown) CPF project; the Kaniksu Internet (Sagle & Surrounding Area) project; the Intermax Highway 54, north of Rathdrum, project; the Latah County Dark Fiber Network; the two Ziply projects; and the Idaho County project.

Kim Glineski, Idaho Office of Broadband, provided specific project details on the Jermone County project; Lincoln County project; Salmon Highway 93 project; Preston & Franklin County project; Camas County project; Gooding project; Madison County project; Owyhee County project; and the Taylor Basalt Project.

Idaho BEAD Planning Grant Update

Krista Baker, Kim Glineski, and Alexis Malcomb updated the Board on the Idaho BEAD Planning Grant. Alexis Malcomb gave an overview of the planning grant and advised members on the status of requested funds and submitted match.

Ms. Baker gave additional program updates for Clearwater County, Idaho County and Benewah County. Ms. Glineski gave additional program updates for Madison County, the City of Greenleaf, City of Ammon & Camas, Elmore County, Jerome County, Gooding County & Lincoln County project.

Idaho BEAD Program Update

Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez presented an update on the Idaho BEAD Program. He noted the finalization of the BEAD area project maps and the prequalification application phase. He advised no formal guidance had been received from NTIA as it related to potential federal changes. In response to questions from Committee Members, RHS advised that the program is designed with a fiber focus and the scoring matrix reflects this.

BEAD Application Project Areas

Jackie Reader, Bespoke GIS Solutions, updated the Board on the BEAD Eligibility Map, explaining the user interface and development process to the board. Sarah Lawrence, Bespoke GIS Solutions, updated the Board on the project areas building block methodology.

BEAD Prequalification Phase

Beth Crow, Michael Baker International, presented to the Board regarding the BEAD Prequalification Phase. She explained the federally mandated components of the BEAD prequalification & application

process. She reviewed the three core components of the prequalification process: operational capability, managerial experience, and financial strength.

BEAD Initial Proposal Vol. II Updates

Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez presented the updates to the BEAD Initial Proposals Volume II. He reviewed the purpose of the updates, and summarized their content.

Motion by: Rick Belluzzo

To approve updates as presented.

All in favor: Motion passes.

BEAD Funding Application Guidelines

Ramón Hobdey-Sánchez presented the application guidelines to the Board. He explained the changes that had been made to the guidelines and how these aided effective implementation of the BEAD program.

Motion by: Margie Watson

To approve guidelines with changes subject to potential changes from NTIA

All in favor: Motion Passes.

New Business: None.

Next IBAB Meeting: Subject to the Call of the Chair.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM.