

Illinois Broadband Deployment Council  
Infrastructure and Access Committee Meeting Minutes  
July 6, 2012

In Attendance: Clayton Black, Amy McDaniels, Drew Clark, Kurt Mulvaney, Joe Mambretti, Zach Mottl, Joel Mulder, Chris Meister, Ryan Croke, Ed Vargas, Aaron Weatherholt, William Brandt

The committee meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

The committee discussed having three sub-committees. The first of which is titled "Major Mechanisms and Processes to Advance Key Policies, Important Goals, and Recommendations Related to Foundation Communications Infrastructure." This sub-committee will be led by Chris Meister & Lori Sorenson. Mr. Croke commented that there are central concepts that we may have an opportunity to replicate and mirror in Illinois. President Obama issued an executive order with a goal of reducing the network cost and accelerate networks across America. Mr. Mambretti commented that US Ignite is another policy that is driving advanced applications. It is important to have the "interstate" first through fiber backbone. There are many fiber "islands" in Illinois that can be connected and there is a huge opportunity to make that happen. Other comments included committee members seeking funding for broadband projects, pole rights, approval processes and rights of ways.

The second committee is called "Backbone Optical Fiber and Conduit Preparedness," and is led by Herb Kuryliw and Ed Vargas. Discussion centered around railroad rights of way and the high-speed rail being installed from St. Louis to Chicago. Mr. Croke stated that 40 applications were received for the Gigabit Challenge, which centers on fiber builds.

The final committee is called "Access to Rights of Way" and is led by Aaron Weatherholt and Zach Mottl.

Mr. Mambretti asked that each co-chair develop a two-page summary with definitions and recommendations for the larger group. Mr. Croke suggested that a role of the sub-committees could be to put the stamp of approval on a small number of issues with clear policy recommendation that could be implemented in the state.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

The committee meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.