ILLINOIS BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL
Public/Private Partnerships Workgroup
Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 8th, 2014 – 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Chicago: James R. Thompson Center – Room 9-036 (9th Floor)
Springfield: CMS – 130 W. Mason, Room 104
https://attendee .gotowebinar.com/register/6102340472568960770

Attendees:
BDC Members: Harold Dameron, Bruce Cooper, Bruce Montgomery, Julie Oost;
Other Workgroup Members: Drew Clark, Joe Galvin, Bernard Key, John Lewis, Jeff Newell, Karen Poncin, Ryan Plunkett, Brett Rothfuss;
Staff: Heidi Bruce, Laura Lane, Jay Roberts

1.   Call to Order and Introductions
The meeting was called to order at 12:01. Convenor Bruce Montgomery reviewed the history of the Broadband Deployment Council and its growth over the years. All present in Chicago, Springfield and on the phone were introduced.

2.   Review of Charge and Ground Rules
Both Bruce Montgomery and John Lewis attended the BDC meeting where the new working groups were established. The public/private workgroup can 1) further extend awareness of the federal funds and private investment made into the broadband infrastructure in Illinois; 2) further drive the visibility of success stories; 3) Partnership for a Connected Illinois staff was recently able to attend the WISPA (wireless internet service provider) conference-the public/private workgroup can show-off these organizations.

3. Discussion of the Charge

- Documentation of current and past public/private partnerships in the broadband space
- Identify potential for public/private partnerships in the future and requisite policies
- Develop policy recommendations and findings for the consideration of the Broadband Deployment Council

John Lewis discussed the iFiber project at NIU and how they utilize public/private partnerships to make that network viable. Bruce Montgomery suggested that PCI do a blog to stay connected and report on projects such as iFiber and potential funding sources. Agreed that the workgroup needed to document existing public/private partnerships and also be aware of future funding options to develop more such partnerships.

Joe Galvin identified that without public/private partnerships, the current public safety opportunity with IEMA and FirstNet would not be possible.Bruce Cooper asked how far will this documentation extend? Interagency relationships can inhibit public/private partnerships (ex. Right of way). It was noted that the BDC Illinois' Projects Workgroup is also working on the issue of identifying and cataloging projects.

Discussion about if workgroup recommendations could flow to the larger BDC and then to legislation or policy. Agreed that this could happen with recommendations coming from the BDC to the governor's office or heads of agencies. Ryan Plunkett was asked to assist in how best to formulate recommendations for the governor's office.

An important role will be to coordinate with the BTOP projects to eliminate red tape in utilizing those networks for future public private collaboration.

4. Timeline

The workgroup will convene one to two times in between quarterly BDC meetings with activity being reported to the full BDC. Galvin asked if BDC goals and objectives are published to help form public/private goals. The BDC website needs to add additional info about the BDC and workgroups and an e-mail list for the public/private partnership group needs to be established. The site should feature the most current info and how workgroup members can make a contribution towards ideas.

5. Chair and Co-Chair

Bruce Montgomery agreed to chair and John Lewis agreed to co-chair the Public/Private Workgroup. The information on the next meeting should be included in the e-mail to the full workgroup membership.

Further discussion led by Ryan Plunkett on how agencies can work together. Collaboration around right of way would be most useful. The Governor's office could assist with convening agencies around right of way .

6. Next Meeting

Need to encourage new members of the workgroup. List of participants needs to go out.

Meeting Handouts

Public/Private Workgroup Charge

Agenda