



North Central eTeam Meeting  
Illinois Broadband Innovation Tour- Peoria Stop  
August 29, 2012, 2-4 pm, Heartland Partnership  
100 SW Water St, Peoria, IL 61602

### **Illinois Broadband Innovation Tour:**

1. Introductions- Clayton Black introduced Anne Madonia Hubbard of PCI
2. Broadband Innovation Fund
  - Will PCI reach out and offer lower amounts than the request if applicable?
    - Yes.
  - What is the timeline for the project?
    - It's a "school year" timeline at 8 months with funding needing spent by May 30, 2013.
  - Explain the chart on page three.
    - Your own money is cash in hand. Leverage means "in kind".
  - So this is not about the network, but would expanding a network to schools that are currently using T1s or wireless fall into the grant?
    - If it's just delivering data, probably not, but if there is a long distance learning opportunity or program expansion its possible.
  - Who does the evaluation?
    - A team made up of broadband experts, outside and inside PCI.
  - Is there a reporting requirement?
    - We will make names of applicants and amounts available, disclose what they request above \$50K, award is made by PCI, but additional disclosures are not required.
  - What about reporting requirements for the program itself?
    - In application it asks for metrics and reporting measurements, need measurable results.
  - Any percentages/evaluation based upon the matching?
    - We left it just at "leverage" to keep it open for everyone.

Drew Clark (PCI) spoke of the broader mission of the Broadband Innovation Fund. Using eTeams as vehicle for collaboration. Very aggressive approach to usage and adoption, but we now know there is a synergy between networks.

Matt Johnson (ITA) spoke of the excitement of the ITA incumbent carriers in this program, it is exactly where the eTeams should be focusing their efforts. The group is hoping for a lot of interest and publicizing the effort.

**eTeam Meeting Agenda:**

3. Updates from Providers

- Cyber Broadcasting (Cesare Bratta)
  - Wireless ISP Headquartered in Grundy. Also doing low-income housing projects along with 23 Connected Living communities. Expanding the low-income initiative into other areas. Northern IL company that probably wouldn't go further south than this region. Special project to help low-income, BTOP grant, ends Friday, continuing it with low-income housing authority independent. Looking to expand model to provide Internet, TV, digital phone, sharing with housing authority, helping residents have lower cost services. Works closely with Signa (working from home). Wants to learn more about connecting to middle mile
- Cass Communications (Mike Reynolds)
  - Cass covers three eTeam regions. Provides DSL, cable, wireless 3.65, and fiber. Reached agreement with Havana hospital who does a lot of work through Springfield e-ray. Subpoenas, copyright issues, FBI issues- Subscription rates are skewed because wireless routers are so powerful, and neighbors are using wireless signals. Provides free service to campgrounds, public square, libraries.
- ICN (Tim Sheets)
  - Middle mile provider, don't venture into last mile, was awarded BTOP grant for center part of state, hooking up a few end users like schools, etc. Main thrust is middle mile and letting CAIs connect. ICN is bringing fiber services to pop-sites and all points in between. Multiple regeneration sites. Utilizing CIRBIN as a partner in Bloomington area.
- Illinois Telecommunications Association (Matt Johnson)
  - ITA members have a concern over ICN pricing. The grant requires them to be open network, but pricing for network needs to be more reasonable to be open. ITA members have a lot of challenge and competition from federal government is a big one, lot of smaller providers concerned about future of how they're regulated and treated by federal government. Want to continue to work with PCI eTeam groups to push efforts.

4. Healthcare Meeting Follow-Up

- Access Issues (Brad Housewright)
  - Three of the major regional hospitals were present. Nursing home disconnect was identified. They have a need for EMR.
  - Mapping HIE areas to identify incumbent providers.

- Utilizing portal system for education group so doctors can access immunization records, physicals, etc.
  - Adoption Issues
    - John Whalen (DCEO) mentioned another takeaway was job creation in hospitals, lots of people working outside of location, part time record keeping, billing, transcribing. In rural counties there isn't bandwidth for consistent, reliable communication.
    - Matt Johnson (ITA) asked if there was anything that would preclude a hospital or clinic from partnering with a provider to connect people to do input of medical records at remote locations.
    - Clayton Black (PCI): Yes, PCI is hoping that we will get someone to submit an application like that to the Broadband Innovation Fund.
    - Clayton Black spoke of Blue Cross Blue Shields grant that also utilizes telecommuting. Requires two public & one nonprofit. Perfect example of "doubling down" on iBif grant opportunity.
5. How does the eTeam best serve the region?
- Are there access issues in the region?
    - Red areas are where data has not been reported, but not necessarily where there is no service. Cesare Bratta (Cyber) surprised at amount of red areas across the State.
  - How do we help promote entrepreneurship and innovation?
    - Sally Hanley (Heartland Partnership): Peoria NEXT Tech commercialization efforts in Peoria, Peoria Innovation Center on main street provides virtual connection between start up & entrepreneurial companies in East Peoria, Galesburg and other cities. Peoria is also looking to re-engage effort to draw more tech commercialization. Working with Bob Sheets with workforce department of DCEO to put together website.
    - Nick Hayward (Tri-County): Tri-County has received grant to do regional planning, going to apply for funds to do broadband planning work that will be tied with economic development.
  - How do we help address adoption issues (knowledge of what access is available, training needed, relevance, cost)?
    - Matt Johnson: Need someone to help businesses develop readiness plans for then they're locating developing business plan. Make sure broadband is on the list along with power, utilities, etc. Sally Hanley mentioned that it has been added to the list in this region.
  - Who needs invited that is not here?
    - Need to identify one provider who can be regularly relied on.
6. Take-aways - identifying deliverables

- Timothy Hoffman (City of Peoria): The city is looking to create conduit for fiber use. Has anywhere else in Illinois developed dig-once policies? Where has it worked/not worked? The City of Peoria is not interested in becoming a provider like in the case of Highland, Rochelle, etc.
  - Brad Housewright: Springfield CWLP has something similar, open-access. Maybe Princeton/Highland.
  - State/Chicago toll ways have put in conduit, city beautification and cost savings.
  - Sally Hanley: Peoria in need of infrastructure/utility upgrades, renovating water and electric. City beautification policy.
  - Kathy Brown: Urbana/Champaign may also be examples.

7. Scheduling the next meeting: November 2012

8. Adjourn