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# ATIC Board Agenda for Wednesday, January 12, 2022

#### 1. Administrative

- 1.1. Self-Introductions
- 1.2. Modifications to and Acceptance of Agenda Draft
- 1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from November 10, 2021 Board Meeting
- 1.4. Treasurer's Report (Ron Schott)
- 1.5. ATIC Board Membership Considerations
  - 1.5.1. ATIC Strategic Assessment and Forward Pathways
- 1.6. Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in November 10, 2021 Minutes

#### 2. Informational Presentations

2.1. None Scheduled

#### 3. Activity Reports

- 3.1. Arizona Broadband Strategic Plan (Jeff Sobotka)
  - 3.1.1. Rural Community Outreach
  - 3.1.2. ACA Broadband Strategy & ATIC Role/Support
- 3.2. Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (Steve Peters)
  - 3.2.1. AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force Updates
  - 3.2.2. New Initiatives to Carry Out the Report's Recommendations
  - 3.2.3. Return to Outreach Activities with Newsletters & Webinars
- 3.3. Greater Arizona Educational Leadership (Steve Peters, Nan Williams)
  - 3.3.1. Arizona Technology in Education Association (AzTEA)
  - 3.3.2. GAZEL Innovative Learning Collaborative Initiatives
- 3.4. Arizona State Library (Holly Henley, Mala Muralidharan)
- 3.5. Telehealth (Janet Major)
- 3.6. Government Affairs (Mike Keeling, Mark Goldstein)

#### 4. Information and Action Plans

- 4.1. ATIC Website & Teleconferencing (All)
  - 4.1.1. AZBSN Communications & Newsletter
- 4.2. ATIC Mailing List & CRM (All)
- 4.3. New Business and Motion Considerations (All)

#### 5. Events Attended and Upcoming Meetings

- 6. Announcements
- 7. Adjourn





# ATIC Board Meeting Minutes January 12, 2022

#### Attendees:

#### **ATIC Board Members:**

Andrew Bevington, Kirk Busch, Michael Cohen, Jerry Crow, Oris Friesen, Ian Hathcock, Holly Henley, Henry Goldberg, Mark Goldstein, Janet Major, Derek Masseth, Andy Phelan, Ron Schott, and Nan Williams.

#### **ATIC Associates & Guests:**

Doc Wininger (ALLO Communications), Amy Purdy (Kajeet), Heather Floyd (Valley TeleCom), Manny Villa (Sahuarita Unified School District). Mike Edmonds (Resident Tucson House, Ward Three), Brian Daly (AT&T), Mala Muralidharan (Arizona State Library E-rate), Tracy Rexroat (ADE), Kelly Krusee (ADE-ODTL), Steve Peters (AZBSN Coordinator) and Al Crawford (Individual Party).

# **Quorum Met with 14 ATIC Board Members Present (Quorum = 8)**

Many thanks to Nan Williams and the Arizona Technology in Education Association (AzTEA, <a href="http://aztea.org/">http://aztea.org/</a>) for the use of their Zoom Video account for video conferencing and dial-in capabilities and to the Arizona State Library for providing additional support.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9, 2022, and will be held fully virtually, as will all our meetings until further notice. The schedule of remaining ATIC Board Meetings for 2022 can be found towards the end of these minutes.

#### 1. Administrative

#### 1.1. Self-Introductions

See the list of attendees above.

#### 1.2. Modifications to and Acceptance of Agenda Draft

Mark Goldstein noted that he added Section 1.5.1 ATIC Strategic Assessment and Forward Pathways.

MOTION: To accept the Agenda as modified

MOVE: Oris Friesen SECOND: Nan Williams Passed Unanimously

#### 1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from November 10, 2021, Board M

**MOTION: To accept the Minutes as submitted** 

MOVE: Mark Goldstein SECOND: lan Hathcock

Passed (Nan Williams abstained due to being absent at the meeting)

#### 1.4. Treasurer's Report

Ron Schott, Treasurer, circulated via email the Desert Financial Credit Union statement with account and transaction details for Board reference, which are included at the back of these Minutes. Ron reported that current funds on hand total \$11,827.62 with no major recent expenses other than the autopay to CenturyLink. Mark closed the Tempe Post Office Box.

Steve reported that the current balance in the AZBSN Task Force account is approximately \$30,000. The expenses in 2021 have primarily been payments of \$2,000 per month to Steve for coordination of the Task Force, and reimbursement of the \$8,000 loan to ATIC for payments to Steve for coordination of the Task Force prior to the receipt of sponsorship funding. Steve plans to launch a sponsorship drive soon.

Mark has said previously that ATIC needs to pursue its own funding, which would include sponsorships. ATIC needs to initiate a financial campaign for sponsors and other sources of funding to support and undertake new projects.

#### 1.5. ATIC Board Membership Considerations

Mark noted that we have an ongoing interest in acquiring more representation from rural communities and other groups. However there is nothing new to report on this front.

We have twenty-three Board members. We can have up to thirty-five according to our bylaws.

Steve Peters and Mark met with ATIC Board Member Jeff Mirasola, Director of Government Affairs for Lumen Technologies (formerly known as CenturyLink), who introduced Senior Account Manager Henry Hahn. Henry Hahn may participate in AZBSN and act as a proxy for Mirasola at ATIC meetings.

Mark intends to talk to Toni Broberg of AT&T and Gene Carl of Cox about sponsoring ATIC or AZBSN.

#### 1.5.1. ATIC Strategic Assessment and Forward Pathways

Mark called for a discussion on the future of ATIC. He noted that ATIC is a 501(c)(6) and as such has greater latitude in the activities in which it chooses to engage than, for example, GAZEL, which is a 501(c)(3) that gives it more flexibility in soliciting funding. This means that ATIC is allowed to lobby at the state legislature, executive branch agencies, and the ACC.

He asked, "What should ATIC do?" He briefly reviewed the history of ATIC highlighting its involvement in education and telemedicine in Arizona. He noted that ATIC was very active when the Governor had his Digital Arizona Council, and in 2018 helped Karen Ziegler with the ADOA Broadband Strategic Plan. ATIC has seeded in partnership with GAZEL the creation and success of the Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (AZBSN), but he wondered if there might be other avenues to pursue such as performing projects building on what is happening with the AZBSN.

Ron suggested that we should ask the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) for suggestions on how best to help them. Steve commented that AZBSN representatives are planning to meet with Lea Márquez Peterson, Chair of the ACC to discuss collaboration on reforming the Arizona Universal Service Fund (AUSF). Ron said he would like to go deeper than that by asking the broader question of what we can do to best help ACC since they are involved with a lot of things. Mala noted that at the national level the participants in the USF program will be changing, requiring ISPs to contribute in addition to landline phone service providers.

Mark asked if ATIC should hold a summit or webinar or workshop as we have done in the past. For example, we have had special sessions on

telemedicine and education, hosted four regional broadband workshops for the ACA and we have conducted recorded debates for ACC candidates during election years. Janet said we could revive our telehealth series of workshops.

Steve suggested that ATIC could become proactive in advocacy and lobbying at the state and national level. Janet endorsed this idea since state agencies are prevented from lobbying. ATIC could represent the interests of telehealth and the need for broadband. Mark stated that ATIC lobbied for state matching funds for the E-rate modernization program, and Mike Keeling could be re-activated to do such lobbying as he has done for telehealth in the past.

Mark mentioned the possibility of hosting some rural workshops as a way of assisting Jeff Sobotka and the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) since ACA will be managing hundreds of millions of dollars in broadband/digital equity grant funding.

Another possibility is to create a provider subgroup whose function would be similar to a trade association since there is no telecom service provider trade association in Arizona. For example, ATIC could advocate for simplifying right-of-way management and access to vertical assets for service providers. Ron has advocated for something like this in the past but could never generate a high level of interest from the providers. Mark asked the four providers in attendance about their interest.

Ian Hathcock said a broadband service providers group would be very valuable, and this could help drive policies on how service providers could work together to create a statewide education or telemedicine network. He also said that rural healthcare needs more visibility and outreach and perhaps that is something ATIC could address.

Kirk Busch suggested that perhaps he could help to host a breakout session to discuss this sort of provider association activity in conjunction with the Annual National DataCenter & SmartCity IoT Infrastructure Summit on April 6th, 2022. It will be held at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix. Numerous breakout sessions are scheduled and this could be one of them – to involve the providers. ATIC could listen at this session to learn how it might assist the service provider community. Players such as Jeff Sobotka and others may want to promote the use of broadband with multiple industries. Kirk noted that the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED) and ACA have held a number of breakout sessions in the Desert Willow Conference Center as a part of BigData SW.

Steve stated that the AZBSN Task Force plans for 2022 may include creating an Arizona broadband service providers directory. This will be

important as more federal/state broadband funding comes to the state.

Jeff Sobotka is hiring an Assistant Broadband Director and is building out a state broadband office, but this office cannot do lobbying.

On a related topic it was noted that Ben Blink, the technology adviser to the Governor has left but has not been replaced. Derek Masseth said that Zach Harris is filling in for him for this legislative session. Mark said he worked closely with Ben Blink on recommendations for the Arizona Technology Council Public Policy Guide.

# 1.6. Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in September 8, 2021, Minutes

Nothing to report.

#### 2. Informational Presentations

2.1. None were scheduled.

#### 3. Activity Reports

#### 3.1. Arizona Broadband Strategic Plan (Jeff Sobotka)

#### 3.1.1. Rural Community Outreach

No report.

#### 3.1.2. ACA Broadband Strategy & ATIC Role/Support

Jeff Sobotka, State Broadband Director at the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA), was unable to attend and Mark provided a summary update of activities based on points Jeff sent him.

In previous meetings Mark reviewed the historical process that led up to KPMG being selected by the ACA to update the 2018 state broadband strategic plan to focus on middle-mile fiber strategies as well as to identify rural communities' needs for broadband which can be addressed by upcoming federal and state broadband grant funding. The release of KPMG's draft report is being held back for some final refinements and ACA wants to hold its release until after the Governor's State of the State address. Steve said that AZBSN plans to present the contents of the report over one or two sessions.

Mark reported at our previous meeting that the new ACA Arizona Broadband Development Grant Program (ABDG), funded with federal ARPA money, will provide \$100 million to expand high-speed broadband infrastructure to underserved areas of the state. Of that amount \$75 million is to be designated for rural counties and \$25 million for urban counties (i.e., Maricopa and Pima counties). According to Jeff Sobotka the filing deadline of January 31, 2022, remains firm. Jeff stated that the ABDG is likely to be very oversubscribed.

Mark reported at an earlier meeting that grant funding for states and tribes totaling \$10 billion is available from the U.S. Treasury Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. The Arizona allocation is \$192 million. This may be used to fund some middle-mile projects coming out of the KPMG report and funding for the middle-mile fiber on the eastern section of I-40 from Flagstaff to New Mexico.

The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) includes \$65 billion in funding for broadband and digital equity. This includes \$42.5 billion for state broadband block grants under the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program, which is significant. Mark expects that Arizona's share of this BEAD program will be between \$300 - \$800 million. The FCC broadband map and State Land Department Broadband Map will have to be used to determine underserved areas for grant applications. Mala and Mark noted that the NTIA, which administers the BEAD program, will also need to first prepare the rules for this grant program before state block grants are ready to roll out. The BEAD program funding will not likely be available until 2023 after the NTIA rules for the program and the new FCC broadband maps are completed.

#### 3.2. Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (Steve Peters)

#### 3.2.1. ASBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force Updates

Steve Peters reported on the activities of the AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force meetings.

The Task Force meets every Monday morning and is now attended by approximately 50 representatives from broadband service providers, technology companies, state and local government agencies, educational organizations, non-profits and consultants. Updates are provided at the weekly meetings from Jeff Sobotka, the State Broadband Director at the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA); Sophia Mayberry and Milan Eaton from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE); Mala Muralidharan of the Arizona State Library; Janet Major, representing Telehealth; Derek Masseth of the Sun Corridor Network (SCN); and Lea Márquez Peterson, Chair of the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). There are also valuable presentations from telecommunications/technology companies, government agencies, and non-profit organizations given at Task Force meetings.

Steve overviewed the draft Task Force plan for 2022 developed by the Task Force design team and commented on the possibility of a change of names for the Task Force to drop the term "COVID-19" and include the term "digital inclusion," which is currently popular and in vogue. ACA is expected to be the lead entity for a statewide digital inclusion plan funded by the IIJA, which transcends the boundaries of broadband. Steve stated that the AZBSN Task Force will provide substantial input into this state digital inclusion plan.

The draft 2022 Task Force plan suggests trying other formats for the Monday morning meetings, including more sharing of information about participants to encourage collaboration and partnerships. There will likely be establishment of some task-oriented working teams to focus on specific topics, such as a digital inclusion team, and he is working on recruiting more sponsors to fund that sort of additional work. It may be necessary to hire some support people or look to the Arizona Recovery Center for help who, among other tasks would be charged with increasing the use of social media to gain wider visibility for the Task Team's successes.

He reported that GAZEL is being rejuvenated with actions that include David Stong being elected to serve as the new chair, seven board members being re-elected and an increase in Steve's fees for his continuing work as the AZBSN coordinator. GAZEL is the fiscal manager for AZBSN. The AZBSN Task Force has been the main focus of GAZEL in the past year. GAZEL is a 501(c)(3) and so can more easily attract funding from sponsors.

Steve reported that he has been working with Tom Tardy and Kirk Busch on how best to manage the Task Force's e-mail and communications platform.

Mark congratulated Steve on his leadership of the Task Force and its accomplishments. Kirk stated he appreciated the great deal of work put in by Steve, Henry, and Oris to make the Task Force successful. Steve noted that as more funding comes in, ATIC and the AZBSN Task Force need to develop new roles.

#### 3.2.2. New Initiatives to Carry Out the Report's Recommendations

Steve had no specific report on new initiatives, but here is a summary of some potential topics to pursue, which were presented at our last meeting.

- Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity with 3 possible priorities:
  - 1) Statewide Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity online directory of all Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity resources in the state.
  - 2) Networking, collaboration and information sharing and
  - 3) state Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity plan;

- Telemedicine in schools, libraries and communities;
- Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity for seniors;
- Cyber security maybe focusing on Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity end users;
- Youth engagement as a resource to provide technical support and training support for Digital Access/Digital Inclusion/Digital Equity adoption;
- Coordinating all of the broadband initiatives in the state; and
- Facilitating Task Force networking, coordination and information sharing.

#### 3.2.3. Return to Outreach Activities with Newsletters & Webinars

Mark mentioned at previous meetings a desire to initiate a newsletter with a broad focus on webinars and customers.

#### 3.3. Greater Arizona Educational Leadership (Steve Peters, Nan Williams)

#### 3.3.1. Arizona Technology in Education Association (AzTEA)

Nan Williams serves on the EDTech Committee for the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) which is rewriting the Educational Technology standards this year. She is also participating in the ADE Technology Task Force on the Digital Learning Subcommittee and she is part of the ISTE policy group on digital equity access. She has also been working with the Arizona Rural Schools Association and their Final Mile Project (<a href="https://www.finalmileproject.com/">https://www.finalmileproject.com/</a>).

The Digital Teaching and Learning Guide can be seen at https://www.azed.gov/technology/digital-teaching-learning

Nan submitted a list of upcoming events:

AzTEA 11<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Unconference, January 29, 2022. <a href="http://bit.ly/azstemsite">http://bit.ly/azstemsite</a>

The "Arizona Educational Technology Standards by Grade Level" has been submitted for approval in January 2022.

The April/May Spring Symposium has yet to be scheduled.

#### 3.3.2. GAZEL Innovative Learning Collaborative Initiatives

The GAZEL Board needs to purchase D&O insurance.

Work is still going on to produce a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GAZEL and ATIC on the AZBSN.

#### 3.4. Arizona State Library (Holly Henley, Mala Muralidharan)

Holly Henley announced the annual Smart Region Summit, convened by ASU and a diverse set of partners, which focuses on the application of new human and technological innovation strategies, will be held on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Nicole Umayam will be on one of the panels.

Mala Muralidharan reported that the E-rate application filing window for next fiscal year funding will be open for sixty-nine days starting today, Wednesday, January 12, 2022. It will close on Tuesday, March 22, 2022. It is important to note that the gift rule has been waived because of the pandemic.

She noted that the new FCC bidding portal proposal has led to considerable opposition. SECA, SHLB and ALA have said this will be a huge burden for applicants.

Arizona has been successful in enrolling low-income households in the FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program. The new Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act transitioned it to a long-term program renaming it the Affordable Connectivity Program with a budget of \$14.2 billion. The \$50 monthly subsidy has been reduced to \$30 dollars per household and remains at \$75 per month for tribal households. Mala and her team are working with households to apply for this. There have been 212,000 Arizona households signed up to date for the EBB program, at the rate of 4000-5000 enrollees per week. This includes significant numbers of tribal households.

Mala also reported that the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) has had seven waves of funding with \$217 million asked for and \$140 million committed so far.

Mala reported that the Arizona State Library is using funding from the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) to establish pilot "telehealth in libraries" projects in two libraries in Pima County (Ajo and Arivaca libraries near the Mexican border). These projects were described in some detail in the report for the November 2021 board meeting.

She is working with the state land department to secure more accurate broadband maps for Arizona which will be rolled into the FCC broadband maps. Mark noted that the commercial fiber maps are good for urban centers but not for middle-mile purposes or rural locations. Steve asked if the FCC is providing funding for states to do their own broadband mapping, and Mark replied they are not

See the detailed State Library Report, submitted by Mala after the meeting, on

#### ATIC Jan 12, 2021 State Library Report

**E-RATE: Application Window for 2022-3**: USAC announced that the Funding Year 2022 Erate Form 471 filing window opens January 12, 2022 at 12:00 PM EST and close March 22, 2022 at 11:59 PM EDT. The application window will be open for 69 days.

**New Bidding Portal**: This Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would seek comment on a proposal to implement a central document repository, or bidding portal, through which service providers would be required to submit their bids to the E-Rate program administrator, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), instead of directly to applicants.

#### What the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Would Do:

Propose to establish a bidding portal for E-Rate competitive bidding documentation and require service providers to submit bids to USAC through the bidding portal rather than directly to applicants. Seek comment on any potential benefits and burdens the adoption and implementation of this bidding portal and these associated changes would have on E-Rate participants and the public and any E-Rate rule modifications necessary to effectuate these changes.

This implies that all bids should be submitted through this newly designed portal, including evaluation matrices, questions from bidders answers provided in addition to the already required contract documents.

SECA (State E-rate Coordinators Alliance) and SHLB (Schools, Health, Libraries, Broadband Coalition) expressed concern that this would mean more scrutiny, more delays, challenges and conflicts with local procurement rules, more questions on bids that may be just random bots promotions and a lot more. This will burden the smaller applicants even more as they have a hard time trying to login to one portal for E-rate with multiple authentication steps each time, and will put a lot more burden on the e-rate coordinators assisting these applicants. SHLB's e-rate group is hoping to get these questions in front of FCC to shape the NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rule Making).

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**Emergency Broadband Benefit:** Total available 3.1 B. Arizona is still holding it's place 12<sup>th</sup>. **212,283 Households in Arizona have signed up for EBB**. California, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennslyvania, Puerto Rico and Texas.

Remaining appropriations available for disbursement approx. \$2B.

It is now the Affordable Connectivity Program with a budget. of \$14.2 B will build upon and extend the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program created in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of the Infra-structure Legislation of 2021. Emergency Broadband Benefit recipients fully enrolled as of December 31, 2021 will automatically continue to receive their current monthly benefit until March 1, 2022. You can learn more the program transition and steps you may need to take to stay enrolled after March 1st, by visiting <a href="fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit">fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit</a>.

#### **About the Affordable Connectivity Program**

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

The Affordable Connectivity Program is limited to one monthly service discount and one device discount per household. Eligible households must both apply for the program and contact a participating provider to select a service plan.

#### What's Changing?

- The maximum monthly benefit will change from \$50 per month to \$30 per month for households not located
  on qualifying Tribal lands. The monthly benefit will remain at \$75 per month for households on qualifying
  Tribal lands.
- Households have new ways to qualify for the Affordable Connectivity Program such as: receiving WIC benefits
  or having an income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- Households that qualified for the Emergency Broadband Benefit due to a substantial loss of income due to job
  loss or furlough since February 29, 2020 or by meeting the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's
  COVID-19 program will need to requalify for the Affordable Connectivity Program.

#### **Affordable Connectivity Program - Rules**

FCC's Public Notice DA 21-1453 is seeking comments on the implementation of the Affordable Connectivity Program ("ACP") established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("Infrastructure Act").

E-rate Central and SHLB commented:

- 1. ACP rules should explicitly include **homeless centers** as eligible for support under the multiple dwelling unit provisions. Minor rule changes on family eligibility may be required to account for the transient nature of homeless center residents.
- 2. Allow Schools and school districts to auto enroll every household in a school where every child is eligible for free school lunch or breakfast. Schools and libraries, which are currently permitted to engage in bulk purchasing under the ECF program, should also be permitted to participate in the ACP program so that they can continue providing services to low-income families after the ECF program sunsets.
- 3. **The FCC seems interested in minimum service standards for the devices**. SHLB requested that the minimum service standards for connected devices under the program like a qwerty keyboard, adequate screen size to do research and video conferencing, to include: adequate memory, adequate battery life to get through a school day, capable of video conferencing and video editing, and not a device that can only be used on one provider's system. Also FCC rejects smart phones as the device again (which a good idea overall).

#### **Emergency Connectivity Fund: Arizona First Window**



**ECF: Wave 7 funded** 

More details about which schools and libraries will receive funding can be found at https://www.fcc.gov/ecf-current-funding-commitments.

State	Wave 1 Total Committed Funding	Wave 2 Total Committed Funding		Wave 4 Total Committed Funding	Committed	Committed Funding	Wave 6 Total Committed Funding Window 2	Committed Funding	Wave 7 Total Committed Funding Window 2	Cumulative Total Committed Funding
Arizona	\$38,742,438.05	\$35,405,728.11	\$8,590,123.45	\$14,127,582.95	\$7,214,239.57	\$8,572,085.67	\$1,951,371.98	\$7,244,789.53	\$1,768,793.08	\$ 123,617,152.39

**Telehealth in Libraries:** Working with Pima County to pilot the project both in library and on the road. Janet and the telehealth team at NAU.

#### **Funding for Broadband.**

With all the funds coming in for Broadband build out, we need to have a **comprehensive strategic plan** of how to utilize it. Mark Goldstein put together all the current known grants. We need to get a team together to do this and do it soon. The governor's office KPMG plan, our State broadband office, our AZ State Depts are very important players as we work through mapping, rights of way, poles responsibilities, environment issues highway digging issues as well as the best technologies for serving the unserved and underserved. This is our one big opportunity to get real broadband to all Arizonans and we must not let it slip.

The Map is important as the 42 Billion for BB expansion 100 M to States plus a proportion based on unserved and underserved ACA is working on this for AZ

#### **End of State Library Report**

#### 3.5. Telehealth (Janet Major)

Janet Major, Associate Director for Innovation and Digital Health, Arizona Telemedicine Program and Southwest Telehealth Resource Center (<a href="https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/">https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/</a>), is the lead for the Arizona Telehealth Broadband Action Team (BAT).

The Telehealth BAT, chaired by Janet and Jeff Sobotka, meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month. There are 75 invitees and roughly half participate regularly. The BAT is looking to identify counties that need assistance.

Janet commented that the Telehealth in Library project is very exciting but there are a lot of challenges.

Janet also announced the Celebration of Life for Dr. Weinstein to be held this Sunday. She is assembling material for the program.

She noted that the 101st quarterly meeting of the Arizona Telemedicine Council will be co-chaired by Bob Burns and Janet. The program will include Jeff

Sobotka and Jami Snyder, the Director of AHCCS.

For information on the grant writing program, go to the American Telemedicine Association website which contains a listing of programs. Steve said he would like to talk with Janet on how the AZBSN Task Force can promote telehealth events, such as linking to a page where all telehealth events are listed.

#### 3.6. Government Affairs (Mike Keeling, Mark Goldstein)

Mark cited eight different federal and state broadband infrastructure funding sources, summarized in the following chart and described in more detail in a one-pager that he distributed to the AZBSN Task Force.

#### **Federal** ARPA, CARES & FFRA Funds Used for State & Local Broadband Projects **Stimulus USDA** CC Refresh Community **Recent CC** CC Refresh **CC Refresh** Connect **USDA** ReConnect 2 R3 \$1.15B **R4 Refresh R5 Refresh** ReConnect NTIA General Middle General General & \$288M Mile \$1B Refresh Middle Mile NTIA \$988M \$2B Refresh Tribal U.S. \$10B State & Tribal Block Grants Treasury Infrastructure **Act BEAD State** \$42.45B State Block Grants **Block Grants** 2021 2020 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

U.S. Federal & State Broadband Infrastructure Funding Opportunities

He observed that ARPA and CARES federal funds could possibly be used for state funding of broadband mapping and leftover funds could potentially be applied as matching funds for future broadband grants.

#### 4. Information and Action Plans

#### 4.1. ATIC Website & Teleconferencing (All)

As noted previously by Mark and Steve, the ATIC website is aging a bit. For

example, the resources page is out of date. The website needs to be leveraged to publicize the COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force Report recommendations as well as using it for communications and public engagement, such as newsletters.

#### 4.1.1. AZBSN Communications & Newsletter

Mark at a previous meeting suggested that we should think about how to leverage some of the information sessions from the Monday morning AZBSN-COVID Digital Access Task Force meetings.

There remains a continuing need for volunteers to work

- (1) on regular maintenance of the Weebly ATIC website and
- (2) on providing a regular newsletter about all that's going on in the broadband world.

#### 4.2. ATIC Mailing List & CRM (All)

Steve is discussing with Mark and Kirk Busch subscribing to a CRM/E-mail management service to meet the needs of the AZBSN Task Force.

#### 4.3. New Business and Motion Considerations (All)

Ron noted that the Arizona Technology Council website shows upcoming events. Mala stated that an RFP will be released this week for fiber buildout in the Ajo/Arivaca areas in Pima County using E-rate matching funds remaining from the past, and Derek commented that this complements the middle-mile fiber deployment along I-19.

#### 5. Events Attended and Upcoming Meetings

- 6. Announcements
- 7. Adjourn

# **Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings**

Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings for 2022 are scheduled for the second Wednesdays of the month (except August and December) from 12:00-2:00 p.m. and will be held fully virtually until further notice. Board Meetings are open for all to participate. Please plan to join us.

- February 9, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- March 9, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- April 13, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- May 11, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- June 8, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- July 13, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- No Board Meeting in August (Summer Break)
- September 14, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- October 12, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- November 9, 2022 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- No Board Meeting in December (Happy Holidays!)

## **ATIC Special and Public Meetings**

AZBSN COVID-19 Digital Access Task Force continues to hold meetings every Monday morning at 7:30 a.m. See the Planning page at <a href="https://www.arizonatele.org/covid19-planning.html">https://www.arizonatele.org/covid19-planning.html</a> for details.

Also see Task Force information and related resources at <a href="https://www.arizonatele.org/covid19-about.html">https://www.arizonatele.org/covid19-about.html</a>.

Future AZBSN newsletter, webinars, and roundtables are under development.









### MEMBER GIVEBACK BONUS IS COMING SOON!

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#### Dashboard

Accounts		
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Checking \$773.10

ATIC 434041 A \$773.10 04081-0400 \$773.10

Savings \$11,054.52

ATTC 073206 A \$11,054.52 04081-0000 \$11,079.52

A Available Balance

#### Important Information

#### Member Giveback Bonus Is Coming Soon!

Our annual cashback bonus is just one of the ways we thank members who build a strong relationship with us.

January 03, 2022

#### How to Get Out of Holiday Debt Quickly

If you've spent more than your wallet can handle, get tips on how to get out of debt quickly after the holidays! December 20, 2021

#### Quick Links

Credit Card Login

Investments (Raymond James)

Mortgage Loans (MLOS)

Identity Secure

Mobile App 101

#### Link External Accounts



Get Started

Last 15 days

O 1 transfer

\$500.00

#### **Desert Financial Credit Union**

Arizona Telecommunications And Information ATIC 434041 04081-0400

Statement Period: All Dates Date of Statement: 01/12/2022

# Posted Transactions (100)

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
01/12/22	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$500.00	\$773.10
01/11/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.81	\$273.10
12/13/21	DEPOSIT CHECK	\$20.00	\$298.91
12/13/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.18	\$278.91
11/17/21	DRAFT #2220 TRACER 40989212	-\$20.00	\$305.09
11/10/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.04	\$325.09
10/12/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.42	\$351.13
09/10/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.93	\$377.55
08/11/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.81	\$403.48
08/05/21	DRAFT #2219 TRACER 38891771	-\$909.00	\$430.29
07/23/21	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$1,000.00	\$1,339.29
7/16/21	DRAFT #2218 TRACER 38498478	-\$400.00	\$339.29
7/13/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.81	\$739.29
7/07/21	DRAFT #2217 TRACER 38271329	-\$10.00	\$766.10
6/10/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.56	\$776.10
5/11/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.56	\$802.66
4/12/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.81	\$828.22
3/15/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$27.66	\$854.03
2/10/21	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$27.17	\$881.69