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# ATIC Board Agenda for Wednesday, February 8, 2023

#### 1. Administrative

- 1.1. Self-Introductions
- 1.2. Modifications to and Acceptance of Agenda Draft
- 1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from January 11, 2023, Board Meeting
- 1.4. Treasurer's Report (Ron Schott)
- 1.5. ATIC Board Membership Considerations
  - 1.5.1. ATIC Broadband Providers Working Group Meeting & Next Steps
  - 1.5.2. ATIC Board Elections scheduled for April 12, 2023
- Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in January 11, 2023, Minutes

#### 2. Informational Presentations

2.1. None Scheduled

### 3. Activity Reports

- 3.1. Arizona Broadband Office Report (Sandip Bhowmick)
  - 3.1.1. Broadband Grants, Rural Community Outreach & Projects
  - 3.1.2. ACA Broadband Strategy & ATIC Role/Support
- 3.2. Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (Steve Peters)
  - 3.2.1. AZBSN Digital Access Task Force Updates
    - 3.2.1.1. Updates to AZBSN Task Force Report (11/20)
  - 3.2.2. AZBSN Leadership Group, Committees & Initiatives
  - 3.2.3. Outreach Activities with Newsletters & Webinars
- 3.3. Technology in Education/eLearning
  - 3.3.1. Arizona Technology in Education Association (AzTEA) (Nan Williams)
  - 3.3.2. Greater Arizona Educational Leadership (GAZEL) (Steve Peters)
  - 3.3.3. Sun Corridor Network (SCN) (Laura Etter)
- 3.4. Arizona State Library (Holly Henley, Mala Muralidharan)
- 3.5. Telehealth (Janet Major)
- 3.6. Government Affairs
  - 3.6.1. Arizona Broadband Policy Update (Mike Keeling, Mark Goldstein)
  - 3.6.2. Federal Broadband Policy Update (Nicole Umayam/NTIA, 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



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# **ATIC Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 8, 2023** 

## **Attendees:**

## **ATIC Board Members:**

Mark Goldstein, Henry Goldberg, Oris Friesen, Kirk Busch, Michael Cohen, Jerry Crow, Holly Henley, Andy Phelan, Manny Villa and Nan Williams.

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

Mala Muralidharan (E-rate Administrator, Arizona State Library), Erin Lorandos (Digital Inclusion Librarian, Arizona State Library), Jim Soudriette (Certified Management Consultant – formerly Galaxy Group), Tracy Rexroat (Career & Technical Education Program Specialist, Arizona Department of Education), Brad Feder (Co-Founder & Partner of Simply Bits,) Joy Thompson (Executive Director, Alliance for Navajo Broadband,) Tom Tardy (CEO Ginger Sec), Tobias Löfstrand (Director of Nordic Relations, Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce for Arizona), and Will Anslow (Senior Project Manager OSP, TelCyte Infrastructure Services).

**Quorum Met with 10 ATIC Board Members Present (Quorum = 9)** 

A replay of the meeting is available at <a href="https://youtu.be/s19dtNZc7Rl">https://youtu.be/s19dtNZc7Rl</a>

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, March 8, 2023, virtually. The schedule of ATIC Board Meetings for the rest of 2023 can be found towards the end of these minutes.

#### 1. Administrative

#### 1.1. Self-Introductions

See the list of attendees above.

#### 1.2. Acceptance of Agenda Draft

**MOTION: To accept the Agenda** 

MOVE: Henry Goldberg SECOND: Jerry Crow Passed Unanimously

### 1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from January 11, 2023, Board Meeting

Oris Friesen writes the draft minutes, after which they are reviewed carefully by Henry Goldberg, and Mark Goldstein takes a final look at the draft minutes before issuing them to the Board for approval.

**MOTION: To accept the Minutes** 

MOVE: Kirk Busch SECOND: Andy Phelan Passed Unanimously

## 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. Oris Friesen reported in Ron's absence that current funds on hand total \$10,183.73.

Steve Peters was absent and will report on the balance in the GAZEL AZBSN Task Force account at the next ATIC Board Meeting. Gazel is used to manage the finances for AZBSN. GAZEL recently received a \$5000 sponsorship contribution from Karen Ziegler's consulting firm. Steve has launched a sponsorship drive to raise further funding (<a href="https://www.arizonatele.org/funding-request-2020.html">https://www.arizonatele.org/funding-request-2020.html</a>) and needs to become more active in securing some sponsorship renewals and new sponsorships.

Mark has commented 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. Mark noted that in the past ATIC has been paid to host rural broadband workshops, and has

pursued various projects when it had more funds.

#### 1.5. ATIC Board Membership Considerations

Mark previously asked Nicole Umayam of NTIA and Sandip Bhowmick of the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) State Broadband Office to consider becoming ATIC Board Members. He reported that Sandip has asked for some clarification of commitments involved, Mark sent him a copy of ATIC duties and procedures, the conflict-of-interest policy and other background information. Mark is hopeful that Sandip will join the Board after Brian Sherman of ACA approves this. Nicole has not yet replied to Mark's request.

At the November meeting Mark said he would welcome Supervisor Lena Fowler or Helen Costello of Coconino County getting more engaged and potentially joining the ATIC Board if they are interested. ATIC is interested in getting more tribal, rural and vendor representatives on our Board.

## 1.5.1. ATIC Broadband Provider Working Group Meeting and Next Steps

As reported previously, an outcome of the January 2022 ATIC Board meeting was to create an ATIC Broadband Provider Working Group whose function would be to provide a platform for providers to share information, meet & network, and engage on policy issues since there is no telecom service provider trade association in Arizona. The goal of this working group is to focus on addressing common issues and opportunities for the broadband service providers in Arizona. The group was launched on April 6, 2022, with a hybrid gathering hosted at Big Data Southwest's DataCenter & SmartCity IoT Infrastructure Summit

Mark has started a Slack channel populated with a list of about 160 provider representatives from his spreadsheet.

Mark convened a second meeting of the ATIC Broadband Provider Working Group, as a part of the Big Data Southwest's DataCenter & SmartCity IoT Infrastructure Summit (#USDC23, <a href="https://www.bigdatasw.org/">https://www.bigdatasw.org/</a>) on January 26, 2023, at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix (see the photo below). There were about a dozen people in attendance on site and another fifteen on the remote connection. Sandip and Nicole gave brief updates on state and federal activities and Mala reported on library happenings. Several participants mentioned difficulty working with ADOT regarding getting permits for various types of Rights-of-Way such as working with ADOT on gaining access to middle-mile fiber deployed and permits for tower siting and pole attachments. Mark said that may be an issue that ATIC will consider addressing. He has activated the Slack channel and about fifteen people have joined it, but it is not very active yet.





## Arizona Broadband Provider Roundtable



The Arizona Telecommunications & Information Council (ATIC) is hosting an Arizona Broadband Provider Roundtable Chaired by our Chairman Mark Goldstein.

As an Arizona broadband provider, we invite you to engage and participate in this forum to keep informed, share, network and help set policy direction for our great state.



At the previous ATIC board meeting Mark suggest we might create parallel Slack channels for two working groups: The Broadband Providers Working Group (mentioned above) will focus on concerns of the communications providers, as initially planned. The second group would deal with topics and issues of economic development that include localized concerns as well as those that transcend county boundaries.

#### 1.5.2. ATIC Board Elections scheduled for April 12, 2023

Mark noted that ATIC will hold its annual election of officers at the April 12 meeting. Michael Keeling is leaving the post of Lobbyist, so members are encouraged to run for that position or any other officer position in which they may be interested. Please contact any Executive Committee member with questions or potential nominations.

# 1.6. Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in July 13, 2022, Minutes

**ACTION ITEM -** Mark had an Action Item to contact Robert Gallegos, the IT/Security Director for the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) and Joy Whiting, Apache County Schools Superintendent who participates in the AZBSN task force to sound them out about joining the board.

This Action Item remains open.

#### 2. Informational Presentations

**2.1.** None were scheduled.

#### 3. Activity Reports

## 3.1. Arizona Broadband Office Report (Sandip Bhowmick)

## 3.1.1. Broadband Grants, Rural Community Outreach & Projects

No report.

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

Sandip Bhowmick, the new State Broadband Director for Arizona, was unable to attend. Mark summarized some key points of his recent activity. He specifically mentioned an organization called America's Communications Association – ACA Connects (<a href="https://acaconnects.org">https://acaconnects.org</a>) which has issued a report estimating the dollar amount of Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program funding that each state can expect to receive. The BEAD money is part of the \$65 billion in broadband and digital equity funding allocation that is included in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds. Mark feels this is one of the best estimates he has seen. According to this report, the Arizona share is estimated to be \$773 million based on the FCC Broadband Map of unserved and underserved households in each state. This is in addition to the \$192 million U.S. Treasury Capital Projects Fund money expected to be allocated to Arizona. The BEAD allocations are scheduled to be announced by NTIA by June 30, 2023.

The Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in December to Identify consultants to ACA for leading (1) the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program planning, (2) Digital Equity planning and (3) broadband mapping activity, as well as state procurement strategy and applications for the new digital infrastructure. NTIA has allocated Arizona \$5 million to develop its BEAD program plan and \$1.116 million to develop its Digital Equity plan. The vendors to lead the BEAD and Digital Equity plans will be selected shortly. Sandip with the help of a vendor provided a challenge to the Arizona addresses that were not included in the FCC Broadband Map (due by January 13<sup>th</sup>.) Mark commented that it will likely take one or more years to get every address of homes, businesses and institutions included in the FCC Broadband Map.

The State Broadband Office is hiring staff for broadband grants

management, digital equity program management and GIS.

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

## **3.2.1.** ASBSN Digital Access Task Force Updates

Steve Peters, AZBSN Coordinator, was also unable to attend. Mark gave a brief report on his behalf. The weekly meetings are now being held at 3 pm every Monday afternoon to accommodate people with conflicts

## 3.2.1.1. Updates to AZBSN Task Force Report (11/20)

Mark reported that the update of the existing AZBSN Comprehensive Statewide 2020 Digital Access Strategy Report has begun. It will describe what has and has not been accomplished since that report was published, how much new funding has been allocated and what are the recommendations for the future. John Kelly, Karen Ziegler and Jan Schiller are working with Steve to lead this effort. The aim is to keep it to 5-10 pages in length.

The FCC chair Jessica Rosenworcel planned to visit Arizona sometime in the near future. Lyle Ishida, Chief of the Consumer Affairs and Outreach Division at the FCC plans to come to Arizona in April. His visit will focus on signing up households and "training the trainers" for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Mala commented that in a meeting with Lyle yesterday, he said Rosenworcel's visit has been postponed indefinitely even though the Mayors of Phoenix and Tucson have expressed interest in discussing with her broadband issues and ACP.

## 3.2.2. AZBSN Leadership Group & New Initiatives

Steve said he will report on these topics after the updated plan has been issued.

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

#### 3.3. Technology in Education/eLearning

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

Nan Williams serves as Executive Director of AzTEA (<a href="https://aztea.org/">https://aztea.org/</a>) and sits 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 (https://www.finalmileproject.com/).

Nan said that AzTEA (which has been an educational technology and professional development organization for the past 20 years) is planning to become a Consortium for School Networks (CoSN) chapter. Mala noted that CoSN has been active in the cybersecurity field.

Nan reported that the CI & IT Symposium will be held on April 28.

#### 3.3.2. GAZEL Innovative Learning Collaborative Initiatives (Steve Peters)

The GAZEL Board hasn't met since late early 2022 and needs reactivation and refreshing to further operationalize GAZEL. The Board still needs to acquire Directors & Officers (D&O) insurance for good governance and proper protections. Steve was not present to discuss his plans to re-activate the GAZEL Board.

Work to produce a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GAZEL and ATIC on the AZBSN has been on hold and a determination should be made about whether this is still necessary and if so, how to accomplish.

## 3.3.3. Sun Corridor Network (SCN) (Laura Etter)

Laura Etter, Deputy Director of the Sun Corridor Network, was absent.

Mark gave a brief statement on the role of the Sun Corridor Network as a research and education network for the three state universities connected to the national Internet2 network and as a provider/wholesaler of broadband services to certain educational users. There are interesting opportunities for SCN to play a bigger role in overall Arizona broadband in the future.

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

Mala Muralidharan, E-rate Administrator for Public Libraries at the Arizona State Library, reported on E-rate and Arizona State Library activities.

Mala reported that the Arizona schools and libraries, which are increasingly applying together as consortia, had applied for about \$120 million in E-rate funding for the 2022-23 fiscal year. To date about \$73 million has been approved. The current filing window for E-rate applications is from January 18 to March 28, 2023, for the next E-rate year beginning July 1, 2023. Mala is also working on state master contracts for carriers in 2023 and 2024, which are available until June 30, 2025.

She also reported that the nomination of Gigi Sohn as FCC Commissioner is still in limbo. Her appointment as the fifth commissioner is needed to break the tie vote on several issues, such as Wi-Fi on school busses, cybersecurity and the E-rate bidding portal. The deadline for comments on cybersecurity and firewalls is February 13. Many commentors have advocated for the inclusion of advanced firewalls in the list of eligible E-rate services. They are advocating for advanced firewalls to be included in the Category 2 E-rate eligible services, where there is funding not being used since schools/libraries don't update their local area networks often.

Manny Villa spoke about the importance of cybersecurity for school districts and noted the recent ransomware attack on the Tucson Unified School District and other schools nationally as a reason for urgency.

Mala noted that fiber work on the Navajo Nation is continuing.

Joy Thompson, Executive Director of the Alliance for Navajo Broadband, commented that the \$120 million awarded for broadband projects on the Navajo Nation is moving along very slowly. The procurement process is very long and this is worrisome to many providers, as there have been no RFPs issued yet. This is exacerbated by the ongoing changes in tribal leadership. She also doesn't know how successful the Broadband Office challenges to the FCC map fabric have been. Consequently, no ARPA funded projects have been started yet. However, many projects that access the \$55 million NTIA award are in process (e.g., the Frontier middle-mile project). On March 2 there will be another in a series of meetings of the Navajo Broadband Initiative that was initiated by Lena Fowler, a Coconino County Supervisor. Mark asked for some details about that meeting as it approaches.

Mala observed that the ACP program has been quite successful and is being widely promoted locally and nationally by the FCC with flyers and training programs. The number of sign-ups in Arizona increased by 15,000 last month for a current total of 357,500 households. The Department of Economic Security, Chicanos Por La Causa, and various AZBSN partners have been actively enrolling households in Arizona.

Mala reported on the second Telehealth in Libraries event held in Ajo on January 28. It was similar to the successful Arivaca event. The Telehealth in Libraries team participated as a part of the annual Ajo Wellness Fair. There was a display of telehealth equipment that has been purchased for Pima County. The Lions Club participated with their eye clinic equipment and tested twenty-five people. The State Library also had a desk to promote the Talking Book Library.

Erin Lorandos reported on the City of Pittsburgh Housing Authority which is sponsoring a mobile digital literacy learning experience called a Wow Cyber-bus to be part of the Superbowl experience in Phoenix. They were at the Pascua

Yaqui Tribal Administration Building and the Guadalupe Library to promote ACP and give out devices.

For more details, see the State Library Report below, submitted by Mala

## ATIC Board February 8, 2023, Mala's State Library Report

#### 1. E-RATE

- For 2022 -AZ Schools and Libraries applied for S120 M and so far in the first 42 waves about \$72.8
  - Million has been committed
- The window to file FCC form 470 or the RFPs are open and will stay open till approximately March 2023.
- Funding Year (FY) 2023 FCC Form 471 application filing window will open on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 12:00 noon ET and will close on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- State Master Contracts for E-rate telecom has been extended till June 30, 2025.
- Gigi Sohn, who had initially been nominated as the fifth FCC Commissioner, but whose confirmation languished in an evenly divided Senate, has been renominated for that position by President Biden. With a slight Democratic majority now in the Senate, prospects for confirmation have improved. But needs to be brought for a new hearing and voting. The addition of a fifth FCC Commissioner should break an apparent tie on several FCC issues including, from an E-rate perspective, the approval of a Declaratory Ruling on the eligibility of WiFi on school buses / Cybersecurity/ bidding portal etc.as early as FY 2024.
- Cyber attacks Firewall and Network Security Comments Sought by FCC On December 14, 2022, the Federal Communications Commission issued a Public Notice seeking comments on the use of E-rate funding to support next-generation firewalls and other network security services. In its Public Notice the FCC poses a number of questions, including how "advanced or next-generation firewalls" should be defined, what types of equipment, services, and functions should be eligible, whether firewalls should be funded as Category One or Category Two services, and how to ensure applicants make cost-effective purchases.
- Comments are due to the FCC by February 13, 2023, with reply comments due March 30, 2023.
- Funds for learning's recent survey of 2,085 E-rate applicants from schools and libraries, an overwhelming 98% said they want network security included in the FCC program
- Suggestions so far include a cap of \$60 M, 5 companies, including Microsoft and Cisco, urged the FCC to add advanced firewalls to its E-rate program the Commission "received several petitions and requests...asking that they permit the use of E-Rate

program funds" to support advanced security in **Category 2**. (For the FY2021-FY2025 cycle:

- The school multiplier is \$167.00 per student.
- The library multiplier is \$4.50 per square foot for all libraries.
- The funding floor is \$25,000.00.

Safeguarding From Cybersecurity Threats: On January 24, 2023, the *Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)* of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security released a report and toolkit titled "*Protecting Our Future: Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations From Cybersecurity Threats.*" In the report, CISA's key findings include:

- With finite resources, K–12 institutions can take a small number of steps to significantly reduce cybersecurity risk.
- Many school districts struggle with insufficient IT resources and cybersecurity capacity.
- No K–12 entity can singlehandedly identify and prioritize emerging threats, vulnerabilities, and risks.
- In its recommendation to address insufficient IT resources and cybersecurity
  capacity, CISA encourages applicants to consider cybersecurity grants, utilize free
  or low-cost services, expect third-party technology services to include strong
  security controls, and take steps to minimize the burden of security. The report
  also notes the FCC's public comment period requesting input from stakeholders
  on the use of E-rate funding to support additional cybersecurity resources.
- CISA's report may be viewed at <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/protecting-our-future-partnering-safeguard-k-12-organizations-cybersecurity-threats">https://www.cisa.gov/protecting-our-future-partnering-safeguard-k-12-organizations-cybersecurity-threats</a>.
- 2. Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is an FCC benefit program that provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month discount 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. ACP 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.

  As of Feb 1<sup>st</sup> week 357,489 (Jan 7<sup>th</sup> 342,392) households signed up. We are adding steadily about 15000 households this past month thanks to promotion done by several AZBSN partners like the State Library, Public Libraries, CommonSense Media, DES, Chicanos por la causa (Robert Alvarado), are all driving folks to sign up. The updated ACP Enrollment and Claims Tracker is located at https://www.usac.org/about/affordable-

ACP Media and Resource Tool Kit: Connect-Arizona.com <a href="https://connect-arizona.com/acp">https://connect-arizona.com/acp</a> . CommonSense media has also created a training kit.

connectivity-program/acp-enrollment-and-claims-tracker/

#### The FCC released its Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Outreach Toolkit to help raise



awareness of the internet support program including infographics, fact sheets, flyers, consumer handouts, audio PSA's, overview videos, newsletter blurbs, press releases & social media posts to help spread the word. Access at https://www.fcc.gov/acp-consumer-outreachtoolkit & see the program overview & becoming an outreach partner at https://www.fcc.gov/acp FYI.

AHEAD AZ

**Telehealth:** The inauguration of the Pilot Telehealth Project held at Ajo Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 10am-1 pm at the Desert Senita Community Health Center Health, Resource & Wellness Fair. <a href="https://www.desertsenita.org">www.desertsenita.org</a> Information was provided by several partners:

A display of the Telehealth equipment provided through the LSTA grant was available at the Ajo and Arivaca Libraries and AZ Telehealth

- The Talking Book Library serving those that have low or no vision, veterans who can't hold a book and children with learning difficulties
- Eye screening were done by The Lions Club. They also provided Reading Glasses that the Library could distributed to those who needed them and couldn't afford them.
- Mammograms were done on site.
- Yoga demos were done; The EMT and the Fire Dept was there. A Raffle for attendees.
- Chicanos por la cause worked on promoting ACP and Connect-Arizona navigators provided flyers and

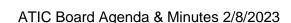
Digital Inclusion Librarian - Erin Lorandos.

Guadalupe Library – W.O.W. CyberBus Visit, February 8, 2023

On Wednesday afternoon, the W.O.W. CyberBus visited the Guadalupe Branch of the Maricopa County Library District. The W.O.W. CyberBus is the product of a partnership between former Pittsburgh Steeler Jerome Bettis's The Bus Stops Here Foundation and the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, and first hit the road in November, 2022. This week, the CyberBus is visiting Arizona as part of the lead up to the Super Bowl. This mobile classroom offers computers and internet



access, and provides remote instruction in STEM education, computer science, financial literacy, and business development for students and parents in HACP communities. On this trip



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DESERT DIAMOND CASINOS

to Arizona, the HACP team worked especially with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Housing Department to promote digital literacy, which of course, is a goal of the libraries as well! For this event, Guadalupe Library Manager, Andrea Castañeda, worked with library staff to provide a carnival atmosphere complete with an obstacle course, ring toss games, and a QR



Code Scavenger Hunt that led participants to myriad library programs to further their engagement and took their experience into "over time!"

The Arizona State Library shared information with the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Housing Department, the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, and with community members in attendance about Digital Equity and Inclusion work in Arizona, and the resources Connect Arizona's Digital Navigator program offers.

For more information about the W.O.W. CyberBus' visit to Arizona, please visit: <a href="https://hacp.org/hacp-cyberbus-az/">https://hacp.org/hacp-cyberbus-az/</a>
For information about the Guadalupe Library, please visit: <a href="https://mcldaz.org/en-US/locations/guadalupe/">https://mcldaz.org/en-US/locations/guadalupe/</a>

#### **End of 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).

Janet was absent and there was no report.

#### 3.6. Government Affairs

#### 3.6.1. Arizona Broadband Policy Update (Mike Keeling, Mark Goldstein)

Mark noted that Governor Hobbs' budget included the following three broadband elements:

- 1. \$5 million in E-rate matching funds as an E-rate enabler for financially struggling schools.
- 2. \$50 million one-time allocation to establish a matching fund for federal BEAD grants projects, called the Rural Broadband Accelerated Match Fund. There is a 25% match requirement for BEAD broadband infrastructure grants, and some rural communities/broadband providers will be able to use this for matching funds.
- 3. \$16 million one-time allocation to enhance broadband capabilities at state

facilities in rural Arizona.

Mark also reported that there is a bill, HB 2357, to place broadband under the authority of the Arizona Corporation Commission. Mark commented that this would be an enormous extension of the ACC role, and John Kelly has indicated it would be unlikely to pass. Mark added the ACC continues to have a docket open on the Arizona Universal Service Fund (AUSF).

# 3.6.2. Federal Broadband Policy Update (Nicole Umayam/NTIA, Mark Goldstein)

Nicole Umayam is the Arizona Broadband Liaison Federal Program Officer (FPO), for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). As such she serves as the interface for the state of Arizona to the NTIA at the national level, supporting the State Broadband Office on the BEAD and Digital Equity Programs. Nicole has shared with NTIA key activities in Arizona such as those of the Arizona State Library and the ADE Final Mile Project.

Nicole was absent. Mark gave a brief update of activities, saying that the Consolidated Appropriations Act (passed in December 2022) includes the following three broadband related items that are now in place:

- 1. Leftover ARPA funds can be used to meet BEAD matching funds requirements. This would be in addition to Governor Hobbs' proposal above.
- 2. The USDA Community Connect Program was refreshed with \$35 million in funding.
- 3. The USDA Reconnect Program was refreshed with \$363.5 million.

#### 4. Information and Action Plans

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

The ATIC website was recently infected with a virus but has now been fixed.

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)

#### ATIC vs. AZBSN Roles and AZBSN Governance.

At a previous meeting Mark reminded everyone of the issue raised by Janet recently concerning AZBSN governance and oversight. Since Janet is not present today this will be moved to the October meeting agenda. Henry mentioned that Janet was concerned about the definition of roles for ATIC as opposed to AZBSN. For ease of reference, below is a copy (in blue text) of Janet's concerns as documented at the June 2022 meeting:

Janet would like to discuss the future role of ATIC. Janet feels AZBSN is subordinate to ATIC but that ATIC "has been 'lost' in the shuffle - and that all expertise is not 'owned' by AZBSN. Does ATIC still want to be an authority and resource for the general public? Does AZBSN want to be an affiliate of ATIC? Or continue the outreach work of ATIC as telecom experts under the name of AZBSN?" Cybersecurity is one of the five pillars of digital equity on which AZBSN is focusing. Should ATIC also deal with cybersecurity? Kirk suggested that maybe we need to define the roles more specifically but it is important to build on the established AZBSN brand to avoid confusion. Mark agreed with Janet and Kirk that we should consider better defining the ATIC roles, and ATIC is creating a new broadband provider working group. Mark noted that AZBSN is a partnership of ATIC and GAZEL, but GAZEL no longer has an active Board. Steve noted that digital equity, including cybersecurity, will be a key mission for AZBSN. Mark commented that ATIC may partner with ACA on rural outreach and with the Arizona Telemedicine Program on telehealth events in the future.

Also at a previous meeting Mark added that we did start to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2020 and the Executive Committee held several meetings on this topic. One of the decisions that was made was to let the finances of AZBSN operate under the management of GAZEL. However, the GAZEL Board has not met for some time and is not effectively acting in an operational capacity. Kirk Busch asked about the state of the draft MOU and

Mark said he would send him a copy.

#### 5. Events Attended and Upcoming Meetings

Mark said there is an upcoming MedTech event hosted by the Arizona Technology Council (AZTC). For details see <a href="https://www.aztechcouncil.org/phoenix-tech-events/">https://www.aztechcouncil.org/phoenix-tech-events/</a>. AZTC is also holding upcoming cybersecurity events.

Jerry Crow mentioned an item of interest published by the Cloud Security Alliance on how to deal with telesurgery during an attack. It is called "Telesurgery Tabletop Guide Book."

#### 6. Announcements

## 7. Adjourn

## **Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings**

Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings for 2023 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.

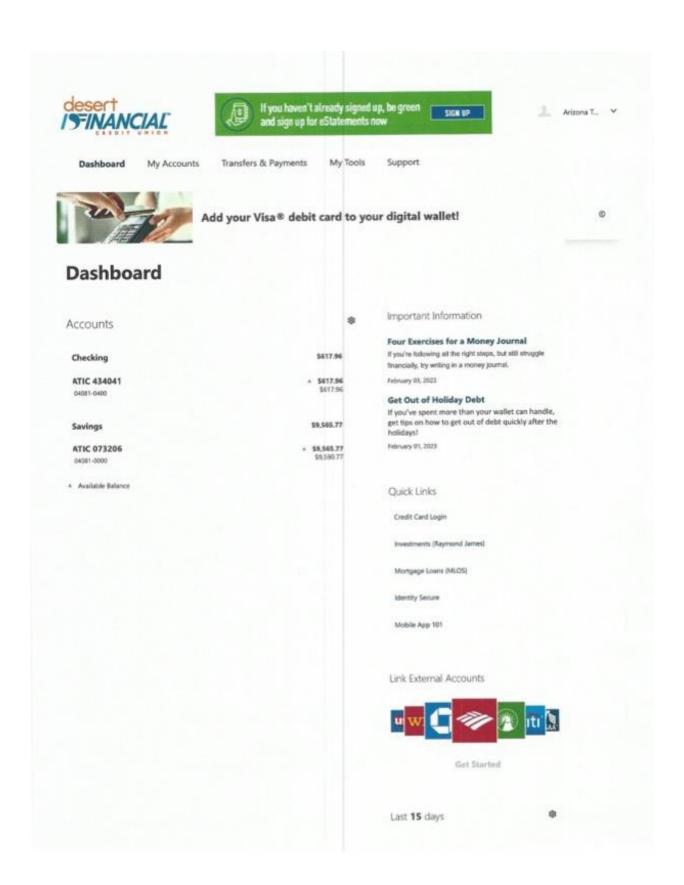
- March 8, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- April 12, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- May 10, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- June 14, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- July 12, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- No Board Meeting in August (Summer Break)
- September 13, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- October 11, 2023 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- November 8, 2023 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 afternoon (except holidays) at 3:00 p.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.



## **Desert Financial Credit Union**

Arizona Telecommunications And Information ATIC 434041 04081-0400 Transaction History

		Statement Period: All Dates	Date of Statement: 02/07/2023
Posted 1	Transactions (60)		
DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCI
01/10/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.25	\$617.9
12/13/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.75	\$643.2
11/10/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.13	\$668.9
10/11/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26,61	\$695.0
09/12/22	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$500.00	\$721.7
09/12/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.51	\$221.7
08/10/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.40	\$247.2
07/22/22	DRAFT #2223 TRACER 46098424	-\$400.00	\$272.6
07/14/22	DRAFT #2222 TRACER 45948991	-\$21.60	\$672.6
07/12/22	DRAFT #2221 TRACER 45886391	-\$924.00	\$694.2
07/12/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.63	\$1,618.2
06/30/22	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$1,000.00	\$1,643.8
06/10/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.15	\$643.84
05/11/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.40	\$669.95
04/12/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.63	\$695,36
03/15/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26,04	\$721.02
02/10/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.04	\$747.06
01/12/22	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$500.00	\$773.10