



Phone:602.254.5887
aticarizona@gmail.com
<http://www.arizonatele.org/>

ATIC Board Agenda for Wednesday, November 8, 2023

1. Administrative

- 1.1. Self-Introductions
- 1.2. Modifications to and Acceptance of Agenda Draft
- 1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from October 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
- 1.6. Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in October 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. Digital Equity Initiatives & Opportunities
 - 3.1.3. ACA Broadband Strategy & ATIC Role/Support
- 3.2. Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (Steve Peters)
 - 3.2.1. AZBSN Digital Access Task Force Updates
 - 3.2.2. 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, Erin Lorandos)
- 3.5. Telehealth (Janet Major)
- 3.6. Government Affairs
 - 3.6.1. Arizona Broadband Policy Update (John Kelly, 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

November 8, 2023

Attendees:

ATIC Board Members:

Mark Goldstein, Henry Goldberg, Oris Friesen, Ron Schott, John Kelly, Kirk Busch, Corey Christians, Michael Cohen, Jerry Crow, Rob Gallegos, Mala Muralidharan (proxy for Holly Henley), PJ Way and Nan Williams.

ATIC Associates & Guests:

Steve Peters (Coordinator, Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network), Erin Lorandos (Digital Inclusion Library Consultant, Arizona State Library), Glenn Ricart (Founder & CTO, US Ignite), Megan Hammond (Library Development Administrator, Arizona State Library), EJ John (Research Analyst, ASU American Indian Policy Institute), Tamara Rosenberg (State Broadband Coordinator, Resound Networks), Sergio Salcido (Outside Sales Representative, Graybar Electric) and Edd Thiele (Consultant on Telehealth for Dementia Patients).

Quorum Met with 13 ATIC Board Members Present (Quorum = 10)

A replay of the meeting is available at <https://youtu.be/MvvGCzWrUpU>

Many thanks to Nan Williams and the Arizona Technology in Education Association (AzTEA, <http://aztea.org/>) 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, January 10, 2024, virtually. The schedule of ATIC Board Meetings for 2024 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

MOTION: To accept the Agenda

MOVE: Kirk Busch
SECOND: Henry Goldberg
Passed Unanimously

1.3. Acceptance of Minutes from October 11, 2023, Board Meeting

Oris Friesen writes the draft minutes, after which they are reviewed carefully by Henry Goldberg, and Mark Goldstein does a final edit of the draft minutes before issuing them to the Board as a draft for review, comment, and approval. For this month, due to personal constraints, Henry drafted the minutes and Oris reviewed them before sending them to Mark.

MOTION: To accept the Minutes

MOVE: Kirk Busch
SECOND: Nan Williams
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. Ron reported that current funds on hand total \$8,110.15. Ron noted the annual Directors & Officers Insurance was paid previously and the ATIC annual membership in the Arizona Technology Council had also been paid previously, and there were no large expenses in the past month. Mark noted that he has recently paid renewal bills for the ATIC Weebly website and domain names and will forward those bill to Ron for reimbursement. John Kelly had commented at the October Board meeting that ATIC could consider dropping the Directors & Officers insurance since it may not be necessary for our type of organization. John and Mark Goldstein will seek advice from others with expertise on this type of issue. Mark noted that ATIC has carried this Directors & Officers insurance for many years.

Steve Peters did not report on the funds in the AZBSN GAZEL account at this meeting. Mark noted that Karen Ziegler recently made a second \$5000

sponsorship contribution to AZBSN, and Steve has reported that Valley TeleCom Group is a new sponsor of AZBSN.. Steve has launched a sponsorship drive to raise further funding (<https://www.arizonatele.org/funding-request-2020.html>) and needs to become more active in securing some sponsorship renewals and new sponsorships. He is speaking with Sandip Bhowmick (State Broadband Office Director) and others about obtaining funding.

Mark has noted at previous meetings that the ATIC bank balance has been drifting down, but with remote ATIC Board meetings we no longer have to pay for lunches for attendees. Mark has commented in the past 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

The most recent new member of the ATIC Board is Paul Ross (CIO of Phoenix College). At the September 13th ATIC Board Meeting, Mark stated he has reached out and is waiting to hear from Brent Nelson of the Navajo Nation Department of Diné Education and Joy Whiting, the Apache County Superintendent of Schools about joining the ATIC Board. ATIC is looking to have additional tribal representation on our Board especially from rural and tribal areas of the state. Ian Hathcock stated he would contact Sonia Nez, the Navajo Nation Broadband Manager, to have her consider attending ATIC Board meetings, and Mark agreed that would be a good idea. Mark has not heard from Ian about this, so he will send Sonia Nez an e-mail (Mala Muralidharan provided Sonia's e-mail address).

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 across about 80 companies from his spreadsheet. Mark circulated this spreadsheet to Sandip Bhowmick and Nicole Umayam for their reference and any additions/changes.

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, <https://www.bigdatasw.org/>) on January 26, 2023, at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix. He has activated the Slack channel and about fifteen people have joined it, but it is not very active yet.

At a previous ATIC board meeting Mark suggested 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.

Mark noted that the Slack Channel has not taken off as he had hoped and is open to taking comments on this.

1.6. Review of Outstanding Action Items as Documented in October 11, 2023, Minutes

Nothing to report

2. Informational Presentations

2.1. None were scheduled.

3. Activity Reports

3.1. Arizona Broadband Office Report (Sandip Bhowmick)

Sandip Bhowmick, State Broadband Director at the Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) State Broadband Office, gave a thorough account of the State Broadband Office current and past activities at the June 14 ATIC Board meeting. Sandip provided an update on the State Broadband Office BEAD Planning and Digital Equity Planning processes at the September 13th ATIC Board Meeting. Henry Goldberg wrote up detailed summaries of both of these presentations by Sandip, which were including in the respective Board Meeting Minutes.

In the absence of Sandip at today's ATIC Board Meeting, Mark reported on recent key State Broadband Office activities. Volume I of the BEAD Program Initial Proposal has been open for public comment. Volume II of the BEAD Program Initial Proposal was posted on November 6th on the ACA Broadband webpage at <https://www.azcommerce.com/broadband/arizona-broadband-equity-access-deployment-program/> for public comment for one month. Volume II covers 15 of the 19 NTIA requirements for the Initial Proposal. The State

Broadband Office must deliver the overall BEAD Initial Proposal (Volume I and Volume II) to NTIA by December 27, 2023.

Steve Peters stated that Sandip and Nicole Umayam will give an overview of the BEAD Initial Proposal at the AZBSN Digital Access Task Force meeting on November 9th. Steve has invited Sandip and others from the State Broadband Office to do a presentation/study session on Volume II of the Initial Proposal to the AZBSN Task Force on November 27th to get feedback on it and may also do other follow-up sessions on it if needed. The deadline for the State Broadband Office to receive comments on Volume II is December 6th.

Volume I was published on October 2nd on the ACA Broadband webpage. It includes a spreadsheet of unserved and underserved locations for new BEAD broadband infrastructure in the state. It also includes a spreadsheet of Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs), as defined by NTIA, that have been identified so far. Steve noted that people can submit CAIs to be added. Mark commented that the BEAD program specifies that CAIs have lower priority than the unserved/underserved locations in receiving BEAD grants for new broadband infrastructure, though there may be fiber available on street laterals in such areas for CAIs when these other locations are built out. Mark added that when ATIC had a list of CAIs in 2014 there were 10,400 CAIs in the state, so he guesses with wider categories now of what constitutes a CAI there may be about 15,000 CAIs now.

Mark reported that NTIA has issued another waiver for the BEAD program regarding the bank letters of credit requirement because it would be difficult for some small ISPs or local governments to obtain a bank letter of credit for 25% of the BEAD grant amount. The waiver will allow a credit union letter of credit or a performance bond (which is less capital-intensive) to substitute for a bank letter of credit and allow phasedowns of these obligations as projects reach scheduled milestones.

Steve Peters stated that the State Broadband Office is hiring staff for three new positions: Broadband Grants Manager, Senior Broadband Program Manager, and Community Engagement Outreach Specialist.

3.1.1. Broadband Grants, Rural Community Outreach & Projects

The content for this section is included above in Section 3.1.

3.1.2. Digital Equity Initiatives & Opportunities

There was no report on Digital Equity at this meeting.

3.1.3. ACA Broadband Strategy & ATIC Role/Support

The content for this section is included above in Section 3.1.

3.2. Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network (Steve Peters)

3.2.1. AZBSN Digital Access Task Force Updates

Steve Peters, Coordinator of the AZBSN Digital Access Task Force, reported that the State Broadband Office staff have been providing regular updates on State Broadband Office activities at AZBSN Task Force meetings. Sandip Bhowmik has told Steve he would like AZBSN to help with their outreach. For the next couple of months, the AZBSN focus will be on the BEAD and Digital Equity Plans. Steve is beginning to develop an AZBSN plan for 2024 to support State Broadband Office plans and initiatives.

Steve is working on organizing an AZBSN Cybersecurity and Cyber Safety team to provide recommendations for the state planning on this important topic. This team will be led by JT LaGrand, Jon Haass (Embry Riddle University), and Mala Muralidharan, and there are about a dozen participants on the team. Steve expects this team will have meetings soon.

Several broadband providers have approached Steve about becoming an AZBSN sponsor. Steve will be looking at how broadband providers support digital inclusion and cyber safety.

John Kelly commented that the AZBN Task Force and State Broadband Office success with BEAD and Digital Equity will depend on effective engagement/coordination with local entities such as the League of Cities & Towns and the County Supervisors Association, who often lack information on relevant broadband/digital inclusion activities. Steve replied that these organizations are participating in the Governor's Interagency and Community Broadband Advisory Council. Steve stated that there should be simple clear summaries (e.g., executive summaries) of State Broadband Office plans and Governor's Broadband Advisory Council outputs for such organizations and will discuss this with the Governor's Office and AZBSN.

PJ Way commented that there is not a steady stream of communication out of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council, and this must be addressed. For example, PJ has been asked about permitting, which is a complex process that involves various entities (e.g., cities, counties, tribes, forest service, railroads), and he also mentioned he will be submitting locations that are not served (where service is planned but not committed) to the State BEAD Challenge Process. PJ suggested ATIC/AZBSN could help with improving the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council communications. Steve added that he thinks there are recordings of the meetings of the Governor's Broadband Advisory Council and its six working groups (infrastructure and permitting; mapping; digital inclusion; affordability;

workforce; outreach). Mark stated there is a broad audience that needs to be informed with simple, distilled, action-oriented communications.

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

Steve said that though several individuals had been recruited to author a brief update and addendum, there has been no progress on working on an update to the November 2020 AZBSN Digital Access Strategy Report.

3.2.2. AZBSN Leadership Group & New Initiatives

Mark urged Steve to initiate some action on re-constituting the AZBSN Leadership Team and involve some additional people to assist in making this happen so the full load is not carried only by Steve. Steve agreed.

3.2.3. Return to Outreach Activities with Newsletters & Webinars

No new action to report in this area.

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 (<https://aztea.org/>) and sits on the EDTechCommittee 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/>).

Since AzTEA is now a CoSN affiliate, AzTEA is holding monthly chats with CIOs and CTOs of school districts to assist them in becoming certified educational technology leaders.

3.3.2. Greater Arizona Educational Leadership (GAZEL) (Steve Peters)

The GAZEL Board hasn't met since 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.

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 it.

Mark stated that GAZEL needs to be reinvigorated including its interaction with ATIC on the AZBSN Digital Access Task Force.

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

Laura Etter, Deputy Director of the Sun Corridor Network (SCN), was not in attendance and thus there was no report.

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

Holly Henley, the State Librarian for Arizona, Mala Muralidharan, E-rate Administrator for Public Libraries at the Arizona State Library, and Erin Lorandos, Digital Inclusion Library Consultant, report on E-rate and Arizona State Library activities.

Mala reported on E-rate activities. The SHLB AnchorNets Conference, held October 10 -12th, had speakers discussing accessibility and affordability of broadband in the US. SHLB sent comments to the FCC on streamlining of the administration of the E-rate program such as: service providers should comply with E-rate program rules about how they are reimbursed from E-rate grants rather than requiring to get paid upfront from schools and libraries who would later have to get reimbursed from USAC; approved methodology for increasing bandwidth on multi-year contracts; and clearer language on forms. SHLB is continuing discussions with the FCC on Category 2 internal networks funding so that these E-rate applications can be done at any time with set-aside funds rather than by March.

Mala discussed the FCC “Learn Without Limits” program, which has three components: 1) Wi-Fi on School Buses (which has been approved for E-rate funding in 2024-25); 2) Hotspot lending from schools and libraries through the E-rate program (which was previously done under the ECF program); and 3) Cybersecurity (pilot program has been proposed but the details are not yet clear). Once reply comments for components 2) and 3) are received, the rulemaking will happen.

At the Tribal telehealth broadband conference on November 2nd at the We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort (Ft. McDowell, AZ), Candace Hamana (State Broadband Office Tribal Liaison) spoke about the broadband funding programs, Cindy Hogan (Chair of the Arizona Digital Inclusion Network) spoke about ACP adoption in Arizona, and Mala spoke about Arizona public libraries telehealth services.

Erin Lorandos reported on other Arizona State Library activities. Mala, Janet Major, and Erin presented to the American Library Association conference on their telehealth in libraries pilot projects. The conference included a panel on the state of digital equity in Arizona consisting of Erin Carr-Jordan (CEO of the

Digital Equity Institute), Cindy Hogan, Ilana Lowery (Common Sense Media), Erin Lorandos, Nicole Umayam, and others. Erin spoke about the Connect-Arizona program and its digital navigators at the recent Telehealth Policy Summit. The State Library is wrapping up its LSTA-funded projects with libraries across the state reporting to IMLS as well as planning for next year. The State Library has also provided the State Broadband Office comments on their Initial Proposal Volume I and Volume II.

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

ATIC Board Meeting November 8, 2023, State Library Report

E-RATE :

SHLB AnchoNets 2023:

SHLB hosted the **11th annual AnchorNets conference** in Crystal City, VA, where we learned from **diverse speakers** about making broadband accessible and affordable throughout the US.

SHLB Oct Newsletter mentioned:

“We also enjoyed **reconnecting with old friends** like Mala Muralidharan, who has attended every SHLB Conference, and **meeting new ones** who share our passion for bridging the digital divide one anchor institution at a time.”

SHLB sent reply comments on streamlining the administration of the E-rate program

- Invoicing deadline extension/waiver
- Insist that service providers should comply with program rules Preventing SP from insisting on BEAR payments (AT&T made it impossible for applicants to do a SPI billing)
- the types of documents that would satisfy the Commission’s evidence of its legally binding agreement
- t changes or improvements to E-rate forms, SHLB agrees with commenters that the Commission should eliminate Form 486 and finish its proceeding to modify and clarify the terms used in the Form 470
- SHLB will continue conversations with the FCC about program changes to help applicants participate in E-rate, including Tribal, small, and rural anchor institutions.

FCC PRIORITIES

Learn Without Limits :

1. Wi-Fi on school buses
2. Cybersecurity
3. Hot Spot lending from schools and Libraries through e-rate

SUMMARY: Clarifying that the Use of Wi-Fi on School Buses is Eligible for E-Rate Funding Declaratory Ruling – WC Docket No. 13-184

Consistent with the Commission’s past determinations regarding other eligible off-campus use of E-Rate-supported services, this Declaratory Ruling, if adopted, clarifies that the use of Wi-Fi, or other similar access point technologies, on school buses is an educational purpose and the provision of such service is therefore eligible for E-Rate funding. Accordingly, the item directs the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) to fund the provision of these services, as well as any E-Rate-eligible equipment needed to enable them, as part of the **funding year 2024 eligible services** list proceeding and to seek comment on the specific services and equipment that should be funded for this purpose.

What the Declaratory Ruling Would Do:

- Clarifies that use the use of Wi-Fi, or other similar **access point technologies**, on school buses is an educational purpose and the provision of such service is therefore **eligible for E-Rate funding**.
- Directs the Bureau to fund the provision of these services, as well as any **E-Rate-eligible equipment** needed to enable them, as part of **the funding year 2024 eligible services list** proceeding.
- Directs the Bureau to issue a supplemental funding year 2024 Eligible Services List Public Notice **seeking comment on the specific services and equipment that should be funded for this purpose**, and on the costs associated with funding these services through the E-Rate program.
- Enhances the benefits and the reach of the E-Rate program to ensure that the millions of students caught in the Homework Gap can more fully engage in their learning.

E-rate for Bus Wi-Fi: Opportunities and Challenges for K-12 Schools – SHLB Webinar

Nov 15, 2023 11:00 AM

Description : The FCC ruled on October 19, 2023, that Wi-Fi on school buses is eligible for E-rate funding. This will benefit millions of students who lack broadband access at home. This webinar will feature experts who have championed and implemented school bus Wi-Fi. Jeff Lopez from Senator Lujan’s office will describe the importance of this policy change. In addition, the Farmington (NM) School District will describe how it partnered with tech provider Kajeet to provide this valuable service to schoolchildren in New Mexico. The webinar will also explore some of the pending questions for schools looking to apply for E-rate funding in the coming year.

To register https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WsdgpPCXQPO1q_Ro-FQJmg#/registration

HotSpot Lending from Libraries and Schools through E-rate Emergency Connectivity Fund. This \$7.17 billion fund was designed to make sure that libraries and schools could connect patrons and students at home, with funding for devices and connectivity. To date, the program has helped over 17 million students get connected to their schools and teachers.

Cybersecurity : No updates yet.

BEAD AND LETTER OF CREDIT:

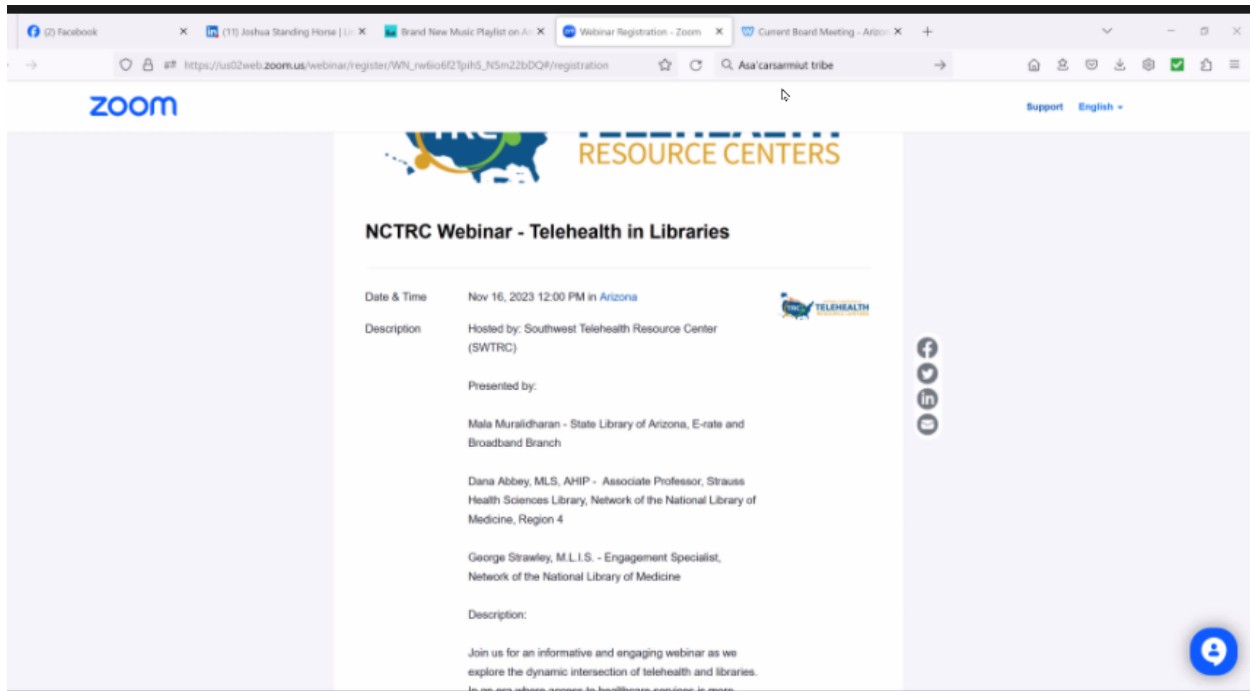
The NTIA on Nov 1st issued a new “**programmatic waiver**” of the letter of credit requirement in the BEAD program. The SHLB Coalition as well as several organizations requested NTIA to “eliminate or waive” the letter of credit requirement in comments it filed along with 47 of its members in August, 2023. SHLB also joined with almost 300 stakeholders in a broader coalition letter issued on September 6, 2023 asking NTIA to consider alternatives to the letter of credit. The original letter of credit obligation disadvantaged smaller, non-profit, municipal, and community-based organizations that could not afford to stash away 25% of the project’s costs upfront in addition to providing 25% match funding. The waiver provides states the flexibility to reduce or waive the letter of credit obligations based on meeting certain build-out milestones, which is fiscally prudent while also encouraging a variety of Internet Service Providers to participate in the program. More competition will reduce prices for anchor institutions and will lead to more effective use of the BEAD funds.

TELEHEALTH AND TRIBAL BROADBAND:

On Nov 2nd at the Wai-ke-po Casino they focused on **Tribal Broadband and Resources to Help Get Your Community Connected after COVID**. Candace Hamana, ACA, spoke about all the Broadband Connectivity funding, Cindy Hogan spoke about ACP adoption in Arizona and I spoke about - AZ Public Libraries Telehealth Services Pre and Post COVID. There was a lot of interest among the attendees for telehealth services in their communities especially after they get connectivity.

Arizona Telehealth Program will hold a Telehealth in Libraries Webinar on 11/16/23 at 12 noon (AZ TIME). See <https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/event/webinar/2023-11-16-telehealth-libraries> for details/registration.

I will be presenting at the NCTRC Webinar



NAVIGATOR POSITIONS:

AZ State Library is seeking candidates for the part-time positions of Digital Navigators.

<https://azlibrary.gov/jobline/job/7173>

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 (<https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/>), is the lead for the Arizona Telehealth Broadband Action Team (BAT). Janet was not present at today's meeting, and provided Mark with a description of upcoming telehealth events below.

The Arizona Telemedicine Program's Telehealth in Libraries Webinar will be held on November 16th at 1:00 pm:
<https://telemedicine.arizona.edu/event/webinar/2023-11-16-telehealth-libraries>. Mala Muralidharan will be presenting there.

Mark attended virtually a University of Arizona ceremony where there was an unveiling of a statue sculpted by former House Speaker Rusty Bowers of Dr. Ronald Weinstein, founder of the Arizona Telemedicine Program at the University of Arizona, which has been a phenomenally successful program for over 25 years.

3.6. Government Affairs

3.6.1. Arizona Broadband Policy Update (John Kelly, Mark Goldstein)

Responding to a question from Mark on a past bill on right-of-way “shot clock” (which did not pass) relevant to the Governor’s Broadband Advisory Council Infrastructure & Permitting Working Group, John Kelly commented on some permitting work going on in the state. He said there is a “shot clock” rule related to 5G small-cell permitting. Broadband providers are strongly focused on getting streamlined permitting processes for broadband infrastructure, and cities do not want streets to be cut up all the time for new infrastructure.

The City of Buckeye brought broadband infrastructure providers together to discuss more efficient permitting. There are 85 different localities in the state not including tribal areas. Permitting is a highly complex topic area, and John will talk to the Governor’s Office about best practices for permitting in different jurisdictions. PJ Way commented that best practices should start with jurisdictions that have done it successfully before, and Mark noted there are representatives from industry and local governments in the Governor’s Broadband Advisory Council “Infrastructure and Permitting” working group.

John noted that the State Budget is in worse condition than in previous years with the surpluses gone and a current fiscal year deficit of \$400 million. So for fiscal year 2025, state funding will be limited for new projects, but there is obviously substantial federal funding coming in.

Following up on last month’s ATIC Board Meeting, John stated ATIC could present a “Broadband 101” session to the rural caucus of the State Legislature. He suggested this could be done in December or January at the Legislature with remote participation possibly. John mentioned that a State legislator had commented that fiber deployments will cost a lot and fixed wireless may be sufficient, so there is a need to educate legislators about broadband infrastructure technologies/networks, their capabilities, benefits, and roles for deployment. Mark asked if this session could be recorded, but John replied that legislators would probably not want it recorded. Erin Lorandos mentioned some excellent broadband education modules that are available from ASU and the Marconi Society (for the Digital Inclusion Leadership Certificate), so ASU could provide suggestions for speakers for the “Broadband 101” session ATIC is considering. Erin added the Arizona State Library will be participating in all the working groups of the Governor’s Broadband Advisory Council.

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 not present at today's meeting and there was no federal broadband policy update provided. See Section 3.1 for Mark's reporting that NTIA has issued another waiver for the BEAD program regarding the bank letters of credit requirement.

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 so this is an opportunity to clean it up and restructure it. The website is shared with AZBSN. Steve Peters had commented that there could be transcripts of ATIC Board meetings (as they do for AZBSN task force meetings) in combination with the recordings of the meetings and will discuss this with Oris and Mark. Responding to Henry Goldberg's request to update the ATIC website at the October 11th Board Meeting, Kirk Busch reported that he updated the website to show John Kelly as the ATIC Lobbyist, moved Mike Keeling to the ATIC Board members section, and added PJ Way to the Board members section. Kirk stated that he still has to add the bios that were previously on the website for many ATIC Board members as attached pdfs by now using links to an external webpage for improved security. Kirk will send an e-mail to these ATIC Board members to send him updated bios as either a pdf or a link to their LinkedIn profile.

The website needs to be leveraged to publicize the 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

Kirk Busch reported on his BigData Southwest upcoming 4th annual National Data Center, AI, High-Performance Computing, and Cloud Summit on December 12th-13th, which will include a broadband provider roundtable hosted by Mark. The golf tournament will be held on December 12th, and the summit will be held on December 13th at the Goodyear Civic Center. ATIC and AZBSN participants will be provided a code for a 50% discount to attend.

6. Announcements

7. Adjourn

At 1:45 pm

Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings

Upcoming ATIC Board Meetings for 2024 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.

- January 10, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- February 14, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- March 13, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- April 10, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- May 8, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- June 12, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- July 10, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- No Board Meeting in August (Summer Break)
- September 11, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- October 9, 2024 from 12:00-2:00 pm
- November 13, 2024 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 Thursday morning (except holidays) at 8:00 a.m. See the Planning page at <https://www.arizonatele.org/covid19-planning.html> for details.

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

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



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Dashboard

Accounts

Checking

\$538.03

ATIC 434041

****04081-0400

▲ **\$538.03**
\$538.03

Savings

\$7,572.12

ATIC 073206

****04081-0000

▲ **\$7,572.12**
\$7,597.12

▲ Available Balance

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Whether you're eager to boost your savings, earn attractive interest rates or add a touch of flexibility to your financial strategy, short-term CDs and savings certificates are popular options in 2023.

June 27, 2023

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There are many ways financial scammers can trick you into revealing your sensitive information. Safeguard your financial well-being with fraud prevention tips and resources.

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ATIC 434041 *****04081-0400

Transaction History

Statement Period: **All Dates** | Date of Statement: **11/06/2023**

Posted Transactions (75)

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
10/11/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.61	\$538.03
09/12/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.85	\$564.64
08/10/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.49	\$591.49
07/11/23	DRAFT #2226 TRACER 53197395	-\$933.00	\$617.98
07/11/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.37	\$1,550.98
06/27/23	ARIZONA TECHNOLOGY 8699 WWW.AZTECHCOU AZ IGOQJ9JX	-\$400.00	\$1,577.35
06/20/23	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$1,000.00	\$1,977.35
06/12/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.75	\$977.35
06/05/23	DRAFT #2225 TRACER 52470921	-\$10.00	\$1,004.10
05/19/23	DRAFT #2224 TRACER 52175931	-\$500.00	\$1,014.10
05/12/23	ONLINE BANKING TRANSFER FROM 0000	\$1,000.00	\$1,514.10
05/12/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.37	\$514.10
04/11/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.75	\$540.47
03/14/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.13	\$566.22
02/10/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.61	\$592.35
01/10/23	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.25	\$617.96
12/13/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$25.75	\$643.21
11/10/22	CENTURYLINK AUTO PAY AZ TELCOM INFO COUNCIL	-\$26.13	\$668.96