Asotin County Broadband Action Team March 16, 2022, 2pm Meeting Agenda

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87604918466?pwd=WVJ3Zi94QzUydzZ1L1RXUjNGSkEyUT09 Meeting ID: 876 0491 8466 Passcode: 425187

2:00 Introductions

Brian Shinn, Gail Long, Scott Thompson, Wanda Keefer, Chelsea Bagwell, Al Andy, Joe Savoy, Joe Higgins, Sarah Reeves, Debbie Baker. Dovie Willey ?, Chad Miltenberger

2:05 Broadband Office update/Questions

Chelsea and Al are stepping in from infrastructure side of state broadband office. Would like speed test to be shared. Infrastructure grants recently funded. Second meeting of Digital Equity Forum will be April 7 probably. Hotlines expected to go live Feb. 2. Gave dollar figures for grants? Gail: do we have any insight into when next round of grants will be opened up? Al: Infrastructure Acceleration Grants – mid May but application process will be extended. Jennifer: Will there be a new round of Digital Navigator grants at beginning of July? Al: not exactly sure, ask Mark

2:20 BAT Web Page

First Step will sponsor development and hosting of webpage. Thank you! Jennifer: this is a huge help to the team, thank you to First Step for their work! Joe: Outline we discussed can be sent out now to BAT. If there are suggestions for change, Joe will work those in.

Mary will send outline to team.

2:35 Port Projects Update

Three fiber to the home projects in various stages. One is in design stages, fiber optic cable arrived this week. West Clarkston Heights going out to bid this week. Census Tract 9604 (Highland Elem.) and Grantham Elem. School are at design team, which was chosen this week, Outside Plant? Working with Avista because fiber attached to poles. There is a third school with high free and reduced lunches which could use service. Would like to propose project around Parkway. Asking BAT what info they would like in this grant proposal, what info they would like to know.

2:40 Digital Navigator grant update

County Commissioners approved \$13, 310 grant for billboard, newspaper and radio ads. Thank you to the commissioners! Our navigators are at work, will be going to WWCC next week to work with people on NorthStar and Affordable Connectivity Program. We are working with Stone Bridge Re-Entry Services.

Chad: this is a great example of a partnership that both sides benefit from.

2:45 Questions/Discussion

Al: putting in a lot of effort to make future funding rounds easier to apply for. Equity is putting together a suite of resources for applicants. Learning, Design, Apply will help grant writers. Will help communities determine need and what to ask for. Thinks BAT meetings are a great head start.

Jennifer: Emphasized need for speed tests. Speed tests over time are necessary, not just one-time tests.