

**Asotin County Broadband Action Team
February 10th Meeting Agenda**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86570332898?pwd=c3U0Q05oa29GeUJnQnY4WmhWlC4Zz09>

2:00pm Introductions

Brian Shinn
Scott Thompson
Chris Jasper
Chris Walker
Ruth Johnson
Jennifer Ashby
Mary Neuman
Wanda Keefer
Shannon Grow
Noel Hardin
Mark Heistuman
Mark Havens
Chad Miltenberger
Tim Simpson
Todd Brandenburg
Zach Wilson
Aaron Westgate
Gail Long
Dave Namura
Autumn Yoke
Joe Savoy
Kristin Kemak
Yvonne Wilcox
Russ Elliott

Jennifer: put questions in chat; will redo calendar invitation; asks presenters to send slide decks

2:05 – 2:35 Overviews of current broadband and planned improvements

2:05	NoaNet
2:20	Pocket iNet
2:35	Fat Beam

NoaNet Chris Walker

PowerPoint: history of NoaNet; is a non-profit municipal corporation; created under Public Utility Districts Broadband wholesale telecommunications; provides service to private enterprises; formed by a dozen or so PUDs to connect networks together throughout state; middle mile networks, long haul networks, local loop networks, mostly middle mile to bring internet connections from community to

community; list of PUDs on slides; mission statements on slides; intent is to tie communities together to bring internet and allow ISPs to kick start their work; in existence 20 years; point to point ethernet for direct data locations; offer co-location facilities, voice over ip; primary product: bringing high capacity internet to local communities; network coordinated services started with call center in Spokane; includes retail service providers, local government; call center allows you to call one phone number no matter who you work with for service; have added staff to include all aspects of telecommunication networks; helps up and coming organizations get off the ground; have helped communities build out fiber networks; PUDs have invested 800 million dollars, but still have a large gap between unserved and underserved and those who are served; investment needed throughout state; www.noanet.net to see network map; map with networks on slides; good map but still a lot more to do; more and more infrastructure needed; what's next? Recipient of state's 911 telecommunications system; are continuing to improve networks; continue to walk down the road to broadband; lots of emphasis on state and federal funding so wants to coordinate with other agencies and BATs in state; wants the power of muscle to get access to funding

Pocket iNet - Todd Brandenburg

A partner of NoaNet; mission statement is about bringing advanced broadband services to rural communities; vision is to be preferred provider to individuals, businesses; serves southeastern Washington and northeastern Oregon; do fiber to home, little bit of DSL, fixed fiber, voice services; serve about 17 communities; do it based on providing great customer experience; determine level of service by how customer is treated; put up towers throughout communities and try to get fiber to towers; new tech are micro and macro cells; fiber optics-green field and brown field (existing subdivisions that don't have service): have 5G fixed but uses much less power; fixed wireless focuses on customer service by providing managed wifi and manage router service at no extra cost; 50 mg; about 30 towers; cover 4500 square miles; went through latest FCC auction for spectrum called CCRS, successful and got some frequencies in order to provide faster service; have solar sites; fiber to home started about 5 years ago, speeds up to 1gb, uses GPON?; slides show some of their towers and projects; strives to put sites back to condition it was when started when doing fiber to home; full service to homes; 5G fixed has gotten some good and bad news. Reality-is slow coming to rural areas; we put in high frequency something(?) and have co-location of access points on utility poles; Pomeroy is one of first CERB funded fiber to home projects that we are working with; open access network-we went in there along with Inland Cellular and First Step;

What is meant by open access: one of the most important policy issues that needs to be answered; Is it dark fiber or lit fiber? Can it be used for GPON, who owns the drop to customer? Are rates different for businesses and individuals? Many other questions need to be answered. Most PUD have lit Ethernet services and putting their own internet across it which is then wholesaled to providers; Port of Clarkson, Whitman, Garfield have open dark fiber; municipal networks that can retail to consumers is subject of House Bill 1336; challenge is that publicly funded networks compete with private companies-is that fair?; Senate Bill 5511 encourages public-private partnerships and what is meant by that? How can public-private partnerships fit within this? Single provider for area contracted by cities has grown out of cable tv environment;

Fat Beam couldn't come

Questions

In chat

2:50 Broadband Office updates - Russ

Q & A

Not having response to speed test surveys; PUD will include in bills on 2/12 and at end of month; next steps for this county is to develop plan to meet demand; providers need to look at map and see where they should work together; if infrastructure missing, it's a big investment from provider so need to be creative on how to work together; statewide project could be most economically effective if BATs work together;

Todd: just did ARDOF process; lot of out of state companies going for funds; would like to see funds come to local operators in order to protect investments already made;

Russ: ARDOF should not have been rolled out without better information; money being handed out before it was determined if project would be viable; working on NTIA and at federal level to work out problems; NTIA will allow states that are organized about broadband might see funds coming where decisions can be made at local level

Chris: stressed that coordinating efforts needs to happen; small communities are not profitable for RSP so partnerships should be utilized; historically we've all competed, but we need to be working together;

Russ: there is no strictly private or strictly public solution

Chris: publics play important part in building infrastructure;

Russ: what are next steps to achieve speed goals? What are the actionable items that we need to do? Community mapping if vital. What are our goals and what do we need to get there?

Wanda: what's happening in WA legislature that we should watch?

Russ: Bill 5340; Bill 1460 to set up digital equity fund for state; Bill 5357 around allocating state funds to federal matching programs is important;

Russ: introduced Autumn, who is amazing and will be a fantastic asset

Next meeting: February 27, 2021 – Same Zoom Link

Contents of Chat

From Jennifer Ashby to Everyone: 02:23 PM

4 way test:

In all that we think say or do: Is it the truth, is it fair to all concerned, will it build goodwill and better friendships, will it be beneficial to all.

From Wanda Keefer, Port of Clarkston to Everyone: 02:42 PM

Todd, please repeat what an RSP is and compare it to what an ISP is?

From Todd Brandenburg to Everyone: 02:48 PM

Retail Service Provider is usually a retailer for another fiber broadband network.
thanks Wanda

From Wanda Keefer, Port of Clarkston to Everyone: 02:50 PM
Thank you for your presentations, Chris and Todd!

From Kristin Kemak to Everyone: 03:00 PM
YES!

From Chad Miltenberger to Everyone: 03:00 PM
Yes Thank you. I need to run.

From Johnson, Ruth to Everyone: 03:03 PM
Thank you for the presentations.

From Joe Savoy to Everyone: 03:06 PM
Thank you.

From Aaron/Inland Cellular to Everyone: 03:06 PM
Thanks everyone