

Asotin County Broadband Action Team
June 15, 2022, 2pm Meeting Agenda

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87604918466?pwd=WVJ3Zi94QzUydzZ1L1RXUjNGSkEyUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 0491 8466

Passcode: 425187

2:00 Introductions

Jennifer Ashby, Devin Gombosky, Brian Shinn, Mary Neuman, Sarah Reaves, Wanda Keefer, Joe Savoy, Debbie Baker, Dovie Willey

2:05 Broadband Office update/Questions

Devin talked about importance of speed test. Mentioned Digital Equity Forum. There have been three at-large meetings and they are now preparing for workshops in smaller settings to gather ideas on promoting digital equity.

2:20 BAT Web Page

Showed progress on website. He will be adding more pictures and images. First Step is dealing with staff shortage so Joe has been doing double duty with other projects. Asked if Asotin County has picture that shows entire county. Is working on making site easy to navigate and on prioritizing info. Would like to have map that shows overall coverage of all the providers. Jennifer asked Devin if the State has anything. He will check to see if they have anything to share. Joe suggests sending it out before next meeting when

2:35 Port Update

Construction bids of first fiber to the home contract came in (northwest corner of the Heights). Two bids came in that were over budget but contingency plan was written into bid, which made one bid within budget. Wanda has been sending letters to property owners to see if they have buried capability or overhead. Has put FAQs on Port website. She is getting new questions and info every day. Wanda is grateful to the BAT for list of providers and their services and to the library for the digital navigator program. She is planning a meeting for interested parties and property owners and would like library to be there as well as internet providers, specifically First Step and Inland Cellular. Date to be scheduled. Wanda will still be at the Port through December; her successor starts next week. Her focus will probably be on grant administration and on the accounting for the federal grants. She is finding that the federal grant regulations

Aerial construction has begun. The burial team will be available in the fall. Hoping to have it wrapped up and fiber turned on by end of December, but are telling residents that spring is the target date, which allow for supply chain delays.

Grantham Elementary School Service Area grant is in final design and almost ready to be submitted to Avista for approval of aerial components.

2:40 Digital Navigator grant update

Activity has ramped up. Jennifer reminded everyone that an important focus is connecting people with affordable plans. Debbie asked how many Digital navigators we have. Jennifer responded that we have Georgia Jordan for 8 hours in the library and Gregory Raye for 15-16 hours outside of the library. Debbie asked if Georgia and Gregory can go to people's homes. Jennifer answered that yes, and the library will send two people for liability.

2:45 Questions/Discussion

Meeting ended at 2:38pm.