**Meeting Minutes**

**OKANOGAN COUNTY & CCT**

**BROADBAND ACTION TEAM MEETING**

**July 26, 2021**

**2-3:30 pm**

**Meeting started: 2:05 pm.**

**Introductions: Attendees by Zoom/call in:**

Roni Holder-Diefenbach (Executor Director Economic Alliance), Kayla Wells (WSU OK CO Ext.), Brandi Schwerdtferger (ACRS, CAD Manager), Hanna Kliegman (retired Tech Director Tonasket School District), Mike Worden (OK CO), Kellie Conn (WSU OK CO Ext.), Susan Nielsen (DOC), Scott Graham (CEO 3-Rivers Hospital), James Lightfoot (ACRS), Mike Worden (OKCO), David Grooms (USEI).

Meeting Minutes were approved for last month’s meeting.

Presentation: Trevor Lane- Precision AG - presentation postponed for another meeting.

New Business: James Lightfoot (ACRS) gave his update. NTIA proposal for Pine Creek was submitted to the State of Washington for the south Pine Creek service area and Mt. Lemansky. Russ Elliott, director for WA State Broad Band office, will know the projects the state has selected, then will submit our entire application.

Roni Holder-Diefenbach asked about the supply chain for building the broadband infrastructure. After speaking with KGP and receiving a letter of commitment, James feels there should be no issues finding supplies.

We received $40,000 from the USDA grant which will allows us to expand to 21 service areas. Brandi Schwerdtferger pulled up a map and showed us where these 21 service areas are located. Hanna Kliegman asked how we decided on these service areas? Roni explained the process of how these 21 service areas were identified, with the goal to have fiber to the premise.

Last week Roni spoke with Don Leonard, facilitator for the Methow Valley BAT, who reported that they have no additional funding to continue. Don is retiring in October, so he approached Roni about incorporating the Methow Valley BAT into the Okanogan County and CCT BAT. Roni has no problem having that discussion, she wanted to run it by us before she does so. Roni went on to explain their situation and the challenges facing the Methow Valley BAT. This discussion tabled until our next meeting and Don will be invited to attend so we can ask him questions.

Roni will make sure to remind Trevor of his precision AG presentation next month and asked Kayla Wells if she has heard anything regarding a replacement for Monica Babine. Kayla told us that WSU is still in a hiring freeze and it may be ‘filled by committee’ by people from the Extension CED unit. Kayla has not received responses to the emails she sent inquiring about WSU support for local BATs.

Next meeting will be August 23rd at 2:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned.