**SC BAT Meeting Notes DRAFT**

**May 11, 2017; 1-3 PM**

**Stevens County IT Conference Room**

**NOTE: All future meetings will be held at TEDD, 986 S. Main St, Colville, WA 99114 (Remote access is described at the end of this document.)**

Participants:

Debra Hansen Mayor Dorothy Knauss

Bert Klimas Dave Klimas

Amanda Six Kinsey Larsen

Dave Klimas Andrew Engel\*

*\*via phone*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

* TEDD is updating their Comprehensive Development Strategy and has a survey available. [See item a.]
* Fiber has arrived in Chewelah and is being installed. [See item b.]
* Coding classes are underway in Stevens County libraries! [See item c.]
* Will Saunders sent information on legislative action underway that addresses eight issues relative to broadband. [See item d.]
* The NTIA/CCI project needs an in-house pet name. The project kicks off on May 18th. [See item e.]
* An FAQ for the Stevens County speed test was created and is now online. [See item f.]
* Speed test results are raising questions as to the accuracy of the data and the geolocating. [See item g and the attached document, Speed Test Questions.docx.]
* The BAT roster/mail list is being updated. Let Debra know your preferences. [See item h.]
* BAT Fun Fact
* **Next Meeting**: BAT Meetings are the second Thursday of each month. Our next scheduled meeting is June 8th, 2017. Remote access is described at the end of this document.

**Meeting Notes:**

1. **Kinsey Larsen:** The Tri-County Economic District will be updating the five year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). A survey will help them gather community input. A CEDS committee is being formed and will probably meet a couple of times. Our shared commitment to broadband is a key part of economic development.

<https://goo.gl/forms/fYdcBnwQaQy57aog1>

1. **Mayor Knauss**: Huge rolls of fiber are in Chewelah and fiber is being installed right now. The goal is to be in place “by fall.”

Debra wondered if the fiber headed to Addy would help the virtual log jam at the Hunter’s library once some of the internet traffic is relieved. Amanda concurred that it is what she’s heard previously.

1. **Amanda:** Coding classes have been happening in Chewelah and Colville. The first two groups have graduated!
2. **Will Saunders:** Will sent information on legislative action underway that may reestablish a state broadband office.

Bill info: [http://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=5935&Year=2017](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__app.leg.wa.gov_billsummary-3FBillNumber-3D5935-26Year-3D2017&d=DwMFAg&c=C3yme8gMkxg_ihJNXS06ZyWk4EJm8LdrrvxQb-Je7sw&r=VA2QUwcXs2sTol3LZXVfX4TYBSqiHQ69ddpxDPzaNk0&m=S4J5fxUib7m8jBMMtXnajigsXO17OUAL_YOO84F2cZY&s=fd4rugLepDqvBIg4JWpdTCVclku2HnhkH9q9m753gtE&e=)

Bill digest: [http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Digests/Senate/5935.DIG.pdf](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov_biennium_2017-2D18_Pdf_Digests_Senate_5935.DIG.pdf&d=DwMFAg&c=C3yme8gMkxg_ihJNXS06ZyWk4EJm8LdrrvxQb-Je7sw&r=VA2QUwcXs2sTol3LZXVfX4TYBSqiHQ69ddpxDPzaNk0&m=S4J5fxUib7m8jBMMtXnajigsXO17OUAL_YOO84F2cZY&s=8U0n5sqnYRkBXd0CX_nI1QtwRshj0b8aKrGOAuePksU&e=)

It looks like the bill addresses:

1 Small cell facilities (“5G” antennas). Cities over 5K must adopt an ordinance making it easy to deploy small antennas

2 Adopts the Obama-era FCC broadband plan target of 25Mbps down/3Mbps up for residential, and 1Gbps for anchor institutions

3 Creates a Governor’s Office on Broadband Access

4 Grant program for public sector entities in underserved areas. Supports planning, partnerships, analysis.

5 Task force, including:

* Telecom industry, tribes, cities, counties, ports, PUD’s, IT industry, higher ed, digital literacy, emergency, eco-devo, State CIO, UTC
* Staffing from Commerce and CIO
* Progress report April 2018. Final report by November 2018

6 Funding:

* Estimated taxes on federally-funded broadband projects for underserved areas all go to state broadband office
* $1 Million from state universal service fund immediately

7 Ports’ authority:

* Ports in counties under 700K can offer fiber services within or without their district
* Ports MAY but are not required to hire a telco to run their network

8 Cleanup: repeals all the old broadband office statutes in Commerce

NOTE: Many of us are — by the nature of our jobs — allowed to educate and share information, but not advocate for or against issues/public policies.

Amanda pointed out that (a) almost everyone can advocate as a private citizen, but not in the course of their job, and (b) there are times that she — as a library director — can get involved. The association she belongs to has a lobbyist so there are times when Amanda can pass information to him as she becomes aware of it.

1. **Bert/Debra**: The NTIA/Broadband USA (Department of Commerce) Community Connectivity Initiative (CCI) will be kicking off the launch of its Community Assessment Tool (CAT) with an online meeting on May 18th. Debra, Monica, and Bert will be at that meeting and contact participants soon after.
* The first order of business will be to come up with our own BAT name for the project! Everyone should give it some thought and we’ll choose a name at the next BAT meeting. It will be hard to beat Mayor Knauss’s suggestion of BAT CAT but Amanda’s thoughts on metaphors like health Checkup or a Dipstick.
* A quick recap of the project: On online tool has been created (by the NTIA, an agency under the Department of Commerce) to help communities assess their own strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities in regard to broadband. Stevens County has been chosen as one of 15 beta test sites in the nation. (Lincoln County will be part of the beta test, too; Margie Hall will be the team leader there. We’ll share information with them since we are a bit more resource rich and got a running start.)

Our participants represent a good cross-section of interests: local government, a school district, WSU Extension, libraries, economic development, hospital/anchor institution, City of Chewelah, Spokane Tribe, etc.

The tool presents various modules. Not all modules will be of interest to all participants. The broad categories are Infrastructure and Availability, Digital Inclusion and Workforce Skills, and Community Leadership and Context. Specifics covered range from identifying local users and device ownership; quantifying digital literacy and training; discussing public safety; and more.

Included as part of the tool are relevant data sets in the form of maps, and other information gleaned from the FCC and US Census. The data is specific to our area, and will give us a point of comparison as well as provide us the documented view of what is reported as available in our area.

Once the project is underway, Debra and Bert will work with each of the participants. Some participants will have informed opinions on many aspects while others may only answer for specific topics.

The project will run through August. The resulting report should be available in the fall.

An important aspect of being a beta site is that questions/issues/suggestions that are generated can be fed back to Karen Perry.

1. **Bert/Trevor** Speed Test FAQ:

Bert and Trevor worked on creating an FAQ for the speed test site. The starting point was the FAQ created for the Seattle speed test. The primary goals were to be user-friendly and give the end user a way to communicate questions or issues.

* The FAQ is now online at <http://www.stevenscountywa.gov/speedtest/speedtest_faq.html>
* Trevor set up an email address for reporting issues/question/errors/timeouts. broadband.map@stevenscountywa.gov Bert volunteered to have it redirect to her for the time being.
1. **Bert/Trevor** Speed Test Project:

Bert shared a document that she created (attachment: Speed test questions.docx) that reflected the map and speed test data from April 2017. There are concerns that using an IP address to translate to census blocks does not give an accurate picture of where the tests were run. No data points appear to be from within the city limits of Colville or Chewelah where the tests were likely to have happened. This was probably caused by how census districts are mapped but it will be very misleading for the information we are trying to document.

Another oddity was that sample sizes were different between uploads and downloads. This may be indicative of tests that had timed out or generated errors. The test does not capture why this happens, just the numbers of samples.

The final anomaly was that sometimes the value of zero is reported as a median speed. This is probably an actual software bug and Chris at OTI is looking into it.

Trevor called up the Seattle speed test site and it appears that some of the same issues show up there.

Discussion: The team all agreed that being able to accurately correlate speed with location is critical to what we are trying to accomplish.

* Information about failed tests is almost more important than speed data itself. Trevor will see about putting a message on the page the user sees during the test to “Please send us an email if the test does not complete or generates an error.” with a hot link to the email.
* Change the “Learn More” link to “FAQ” on the speed test main page and the test results page. broadband.map@stevenscountywa.gov
* Let’s look at other speed test sites to see if some exist that already provide accurate locations. We may re publicize the effort once we have a better solution; current users are probably tired of it timing out.
* Consider making our own with optional addresses. Amanda pointed out that “You can’t raise your hand if you’re not there.” How can we reach those who can’t connect to the internet? How can we collect real information?
* Bert has seen a website of a group similar to BAT team and thinks she remembers it having a speed test with locations. She’ll look for the link.
1. **Debra:** We are updating the BAT roster. We’ll be updating and splitting the mail list. Let Debra know if you still want to get full info on all BAT activities, just highlights, or drop off altogether.

**BAT Fun Fact for the Month**: The technology behind the Internet began back in the 1960’s at MIT. The first message ever to be transmitted was LOG.. Why LOG? The user had attempted to type LOGIN, but the network crashed after the enormous load of data of the letter G.

**Next Meeting**: BAT Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from 1-3 pm. There is no meeting in June. Our next scheduled meeting is July 13th, 2017. **New location:** The TEDD office at 986 S. Main St, Colville, WA 99114.

You can join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. A link and access code will be sent out prior to the meeting; note that it will be a different link every month.

You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

First GoToMeeting? Try a test session: <https://care.citrixonline.com/g2m/getready>