

CONNECT NEW MEXICO COUNCIL MEETING
1120 Cerillos Road, Santa Fe, NM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023, 2:00 PM

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Video recording time: 00:00:02

The meeting of the Connect New Mexico Council was called to order by Chair Kimball Sekaquaptewa, at 2:00 pm, on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

MEMBERS PRESENT-8

Kimball Sekaquaptewa, Chair
Luis Reyes, Co-Chair
Eli Guinnee
Secretary Peter Mantos
Ovidiu Viorica
Jim Ruybal
Godfrey Enjady
Leonard Manzanares

MEMBERS ABSENT-6

Tico Charlee
Launa Waller
Katherine Crociata
Steve Grey
Bogi Malecki
Alex Greenberg (stand-in not in attendance)

OTHERS PRESENT

Kelly Schlegel, Broadband Director
Renee Narvaiz, IT, Public Information Manager
Natalie Runyan, GIS
Paul Donovan, Mateka Santillanes, Catherine Nicolaou, Mitch Hibbard, Joaquin Alvarado, T. Fremin, Gail Long, John Conley, Scott Lopez, Johnny Montoya, Melanie Goodman, Sandeep Taxali, Erin Thompson, Jerry Smith, Joanne Hovis, Elaine Harlan, Lee Reynolds, Ziggy Fish, CTC Technology, Dianne Lindstrom, Jerrold, Anthony Ballo, Gavin, Martha Marthell

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

Video recording time: 0.01.07

MOTION A motion was made by Luis Reyes and seconded by Godfrey Enjady to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.
The minutes were not available for a vote.

3. CHAIR UPDATES/COMMENTS

Video recording time:0.01.46

Kimball Sekaquaptewa-

Welcomed the group to the meeting. And offered insights on current work being done.

4. **CTC Update**

Video recording time: 0:05:50

Joanne Hovis-

- President of CTC technology, contractor for OBAE, here to help with developing analytics data and developing the multiple critical plans that are required of the state to submit to NTIA in order to access funds.
- We have a number of years of experience with working with communities and stakeholders throughout New Mexico and really excited to continue with these relationships.
- Introduction of the Senior CTC team.
- The engagement process is a multi-phase process. Initial engagement->ongoing monthly touchpoints->Public comment & formal stakeholder feedback process.
- Three critical plans are due between now and the end of the year. The 5-year action plan, Digital equity plan and the initial proposal.
- Godfrey/Kimball: comments about Tribal working group working with Tribes now and making sure there isn't duplicative work. The tribal working group can help CTC.

5. **Agenda adjacent topic: Working group updates:**

Video Recording time 44:55

Kimball: requests update from working groups:

Godfrey: **Tribal Working Group update:** working hard to engage.

-Had opportunities to visit many pueblos in Arizona.

-Discussed the grant itself on the TCBP.

-Looking at issues for sustainability, start up funding. USDA released information about new funding in a grant.

-Vendors talk about equipment available today. But when funding is out, there will be fewer parts. A requirement to get the funding buying American, and not much is made here. Can we get relief on that, by asking congress?

-Mapping is moving great. However, it will be cumbersome for FCC to make changes. There are examples of connectivity going into a shack where there is no connectivity.

Eli Guinee: **Co-chair digital equity with Catherine Nicolaou,**

-Meets every other week. There are schedule conflicts, until May 18th.

-Team presenting at UNM tech days.

-In the coming months they will get more of the work down on paper. Starting with digital equities priorities, and a matrix that ties to the NOFO.

-State libraries is leading a digital equities task force which just released a survey to libraries. It will be open until May 15.

- Catherine **Co-chair digital equity:** CTC will be able to tap into a wealth of knowledge from the working group.
 - There is an opportunity for CTC to guide NM on how to track some of the

information in terms of the organizations/the knowledge. What has worked, what hasn't.

Jerry Smith: **Regional projects group.**

- Two of the regional meetings done.
- We need more help/volunteers at the registration tables. OABE's Jennifer Nevarez will be happy to take you on as a volunteer and put you to work
- Meet every couple of weeks consistently.
- requests notes from the past regional meetings to share feedback to improve the next meetings coming up.

6. OBAE updates:

Video Recording time 1:06:36

OBAE Director Kelly Schlegel:

New website: <https://connect.nm.gov/>

- Regional Meetings, on the new website under "Spring Sprint."
So far Regions 3 & 6 have been held. But more meetings will be planned.
There is an easy way to register, and information about time, and place for the meetings online.
- Statewide Summit: May 24 in conjunction with the with the NTIA, Alan Davidson, Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, and Sen. Martin Heinrich. Requesting visits from the Governor, and tribal leaders. At Buffalo Thunder
- May 4th is the Network Operators conference at the EXPO NM
- June 2023, Community Broadband Bootcamps
- Need comments from the CNMC for the 3-year plan. Send the comments to Renee Narvaiz and she will get them to Kelly
- Building the 5-year plan that is due August 28. Gonna try to accelerate to July 28.
- CNMC Grants: In the middle of Wave 2B, and starting Wave 3. Nine grants for \$54 million have been awarded. Tribes and Pueblos will be in the coming waves.
- Looking to increase community and tribal engagement.
- Expand rural health care connectivity. Federal grant available.
<https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/healthcare-connect-fund-program/>
- OBAE openings: 3 PM positions for technical assistance, Financial Coordinator, contracts Biz ops person, Tribal liaison, and digital equity manager.
- Sandeep: Feedback on Wave 3: 28 applications Funding request of \$128 million, with matching funds. There are 40K units... mostly households and some businesses. Widely distributed throughout the state. As Technology goes, all but 5(fixed wireless), are wireline. 650 miles of deployment for these projects. Hoping to get the reviews done by May and to get the announcements done by July/August.

7. Mapping and Data Group update:

Video recording time 1:26:18

Peter Mantos:

-The meetings have not been well attended recently. Looking at revisiting the mission.

Natalie:

-Sending out emails to as many people as possible, with a focus on making agendas specific in advance.

- Challenge methodology, standardize it, for location and service availability.

- A request this week from non-governmental institutions. "We need to be added to the list". That spurred the conversation of what is the definition of community anchor institution in our data sets.

8. Public comment:

Video recording time 1:34:19

No public comments.

9. Adjournment:

Video recording time 1:34:25

Motion for adjournment: Eli Guinnee

2nd: Secretary Peter Mantos

No opposition, meeting adjourne