

Governor's Task Force on Broadband
Bloomington City Hall, 1800 West Shakopee Road
November 29, 2011
10 AM – 2 PM

Task force members present: Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Bob Bass, Gary Evans, Matt Grose, Maureen Ideker, Bernadine Joselyn, Steve Lewsader, Danna McKenzie, Keith Modglin, Steve Peterson, Daniel Richter, Duane Ring, Dick Sjoberg, Shirley Walz

Members absent: Bao Vang (excused)

Others in attendance: Bill Hoffman, Diane Wells, Will Seuffert, Heather Rand, Ann Treacy, Mike Martin, Tony Mendoza, Dave Meinke, Ann Higgins, Andy Schriener

I. Greetings and Introductions

Chair Anderson Kelliher called the meeting to order shortly after 10:00. Members of the task force introduced themselves and indicated why they were interested in serving on the task force. Staff to the task force, Diane Wells (Commerce) and Bill Hoffman (ConnectMN) introduced themselves. Members of the public in attendance also identified themselves.

II. Review of Task Force Requirements

Task force members reviewed with staff the Governor's Executive Order and the information the task force is to submit by December 31, 2011 and January 31, 2012, the state's broadband goals, and the open meeting law requirements. It was noted that information on the task force will be posted to the ConnectMN website at www.connectmn.org and also on the Minnesota Department of Commerce website which is in the process of revising its broadband content. Task force members were informed that part of the work that ConnectMN is to perform under its federal ARRA grant is to assist with the task force. There was a suggestion that the task force also make use of social media tools.

III. Recommendations on How Best to Proceed

Given the short timeframe for meeting the deadlines in the Executive Order, a proposal was circulated for the task force to consider. That proposal included the following deadlines: December 7, 2011—any task force member wanting to submit content for the December 30 report should submit to Diane and Bill; December 13, 2011—Bill and Diane will take content submitted and draft content where necessary and distribute a first draft; December 16, 2011—task force members should submit any edits/comments to Diane and Bill on the first draft; December 19, 2011—task force members review revised first draft and make final edits and begin work on report due January 31, 2012. December 30, 2011—report submitted. Meetings on January 10 and 24, 2012 held to discuss and finalize January 31, 2012 submission. Regular monthly meeting schedule begins in February 2012.

The task force agreed that providing high level reports on December 30, 2011 and January 31, 2012 was a better option than requesting an extension. The task force agreed that it would set a deadline for itself to submit a more detailed report, especially where existing data is weak or more collaboration is needed to obtain data. Issue areas that weren't specifically included in the Executive Order were called out, such as adoption, and use of broadband in the areas of agriculture, arts and cultural resources, and financial and business and professional services.

IV. Future Meeting Dates: Through January and Beyond

The group discussed possible meeting dates for February through December 2012 and members were asked to identify any conflicts with the proposed dates. Staff will take back and see which dates have the least conflicts. There was also discussion of holding meetings around the state. It was suggested that a community engagement work group be established to set up outstate meetings and tours. Task force members should think about what other task teams should be established.

V. Discussion on Information and Resources for Task Force

Task force members identified areas where they had done presentations and could do so at future task force meetings. The task force agreed that when acronyms are used, they should be defined. There was a brief discussion of a YouTube video by Corning called "A Day Made of Glass" and the bandwidth that would be required for this to work. There was also a question about information available on tribal access to and use of broadband; follow-up work will be done to determine what is available.

VI. Other Business

There was agreement that meeting between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. was convenient for those traveling from out of town. Information will be distributed on the December 19 meeting location as soon as possible, with Bloomington City Hall the first choice and the TIES facility in Roseville a second option. There was a question about minutes being available from the meeting and a response that minutes from meetings like this are typically an overview with action items documented, and not a complete description.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.