

**GOVERNOR'S BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**Minutes of March 3, 2022 Meeting**

Videoconference Meeting

8:00 AM

**VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

**GOVERNOR'S BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

William "Bill" Sproull (Chair), Bill Hetherington, Akbar Kara, Jerome "Jack" Kelanic, Judge Marty Lucke, Kirk Petty, Greg Pittman, Sheriff James "Ray" Scifres Jr., Edward "Kenny" Scudder, Edward "Eddy" Smith, Hatch Smith Jr., Gregory Conte; and Juli Blanda was present for a portion of the meeting.

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Lindsey Aston, Sonia Gaillard, Fauye Bennett, Philip Rocha, Stephen Davis

*The Governor's Broadband Development Council ("Council") proceeded on posted agenda items in the order as follows:*

**Agenda Item I. CALL TO ORDER**

Bill Sproull, Chairman of the Council, called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M. as a quorum was present online.

**Agenda Item II. CHAIR WELCOME, REMARKS, AND ROLL CALL**

Recognized the new members, roll was called and members present are listed.

**Agenda Item III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 (DRAFT AVAILABLE AT [HTTPS://GOV.TEXAS.GOV/BUSINESS/PAGE/GOVERNORS-BROADBAND-DEVELOPMENT-COUNCIL](https://gov.texas.gov/business/page/governors-broadband-development-council))**

Action: Council Member Judge Lucke moved to approve the minutes from the Council meeting on September 16, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Kirk Petty.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Agenda Item IV. COMMENTS BY ERIK ANDERSEN, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY, PROVIDING INFORMATION RELATING TO AN OVERVIEW OF LCRA’S BROADBAND INITIATIVES, AND COUNCIL REVIEW, DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SAME (SLIDES AVAILABLE: [HTTPS://GOV.TEXAS.GOV/UPLOADS/FILES/BUSINESS/GBDC\\_MEETING\\_MATERIALS\\_3.3.22.PDF](https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/business/gbdc_meeting_materials_3.3.22.pdf))**

The Council engaged in a discussion with Erik Andersen regarding his presentation entitled, “LCRA’s Expanded Mission of Connecting Central Texas to Reliable Broadband.”

**Agenda Item V. COMMENTS BY GREG CONTE, DIRECTOR OF THE TEXAS BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, TEXAS COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS. PROVIDE AN UPDATE OF THIS OFFICE’S NEWEST DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING ITEMS SUCH AS STATUS OF MAJOR PROJECTS, FORMATION OF NEW BOARD, AND NEW STAFF, AND COUNCIL REVIEW, DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SAME**

The Council engaged in a discussion with Greg Conte regarding updates of his office’s newest developments.

**Agenda Item VI. DISCUSSION OF THE 2022 ELECTRONIC REPORT DUE TO THE GOVERNOR, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE FROM THE COUNCIL UNDER SECTION 490H.007 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**

Council Member Eddy Smith discussed the potential report in the context of serving the Texas Broadband Development Office (TBO). Chairman Sproull shared that the Council is a broad group serving as a forum for a vast array of stakeholders identified by legislation, which will focus on providing recommendation and policy input. The TBO will focus on direct, actionable deliverables as “boots on the ground.” These two groups coexist.

The Council discussed logistics of putting the report together, including subcommittee membership and the sharing of Council contact information. The Council also discussed that the Texas Open Meetings Act (Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code) does not necessarily apply to the Council.

**Agenda Item VII. REVIEW, DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND OR POSSIBLE ACTION ON COUNCIL NEXT STEPS FOR FOLLOWING MEETING(S) – CHAIRMAN SPROULL**

Chairman Sproull mentioned that it would be best for the upcoming new Chairman to coordinate the remaining meetings of the year and appoint new subcommittee chairs. OOG staff will assist with scheduling.

**Agenda Item VIII. COMMENT WITHOUT DELIBERATION**

Public comment may be received on any matter under the Council's jurisdiction without regard to whether the item was posted on the agenda.

Jennifer Harris provided greetings to the Council.

David Brown, Managing Director of Telecommunications at Makefield and Barkley Engineering, asked a question regarding funding for their telecommunications clients.

**Agenda Item IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Sproull called the meeting to a close at 9:16 AM.

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Bill Sproull, Chair

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Date