

**Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority**  
**Technical Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda**  
**December 12, 2024**  
**3:00pm**  
**Virtual Meeting**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the September 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes
- III. Authority Updates
  - a. CPF Update - Greg Alliger
  - b. Broadband Ready Communities Update – Kalie Snyder
  - c. BEAD Update – Chuck Napier
- IV. Approval of 2025 Technical Subcommittee Meeting Dates
- V. Subcommittee Member Updates
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Adjournment

**Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority**  
**Technical Sub-Committee Meeting**  
**December 12, 2024**  
**3:00-4:00PM**  
Virtual Meeting

**Committee Members**

Todd Eachus, Subcommittee Chair – President, Broadband Communications Association of PA.  
Steve Samara, Executive Director, PA Telephone Association  
DJ Ryan, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Policy, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission  
Bill Wiedenheft, Assistant Director of Educational Technology, PA Intermediate Units  
Jim Gardler, President, Communications Workers of America

**DCED Staff Present**

Greg Alliger, PBDA Infrastructure Project Manager and subcommittee liaison  
Pam Frontino, PBDA Grants Manager  
Mary Markle, PBDA Executive Assistant  
Felicia Duger, Deputy Digital Director

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Eachus called the meeting to order, and Mary Markle provided housekeeping, conducted roll call, and confirmed quorum.

**II. Approval of September 12, 2024, Minutes**

Chair Eachus asked for a motion to approve the September 12, 2024, meeting minutes as presented to the committee. Bill Wiedenheft motioned, and Steve Samara seconded. Minutes are approved.

**III. Authority Updates**

**a. CPF**

Greg Alliger provided an update noting that all but three sub-awardees are under contract. He stated that permitting and make ready have begun and the PBDA is working with the Office of Transformation & Opportunity on permitting issues and the Public Utility Commission on pole attachment issues, as they arise. First construction is expected to begin by the end of Q1.

Chair Eachus will offer an update on prevailing wage later in the meeting. Mr. Alliger mentioned that on the PBDA website is a Prev Wage FAQ from L&I.

**b. Broadband Ready Communities (BBRC)**

Mr. Alliger reminded the committee that BBRC allows an opportunity for municipalities to demonstrate readiness for project deployment. He stated that the program was revamped due to an initial low response. The application was streamlined and simplified with a significant reduction in the number of questions. Mr. Alliger noted that there has been uptick in responses.

*\*This meeting will be recorded, and your participation is your consent to being recorded.*

**c. BEAD**

Chuck Napier presented a BEAD update, in which he offered a map of eligible project locations, as well as the BEAD timeline noting dates that included application period one, application review period, application period two, final proposal and notice of award.

At this time, Greg Alliger noted that he placed the link to the PBDA prevailing wage page in the chat.

**IV. Approval of 2025 Technical Subcommittee Meeting Dates**

- March 13, 2025 (correction form agenda)
- June 12, 2025
- September 11, 2025
- December 11, 2025

Chair Eachus asked for a motion to approve the 2025 dates. Bill Wiedenheft made a motion which was seconded by Dj Ryan. Motion passed.

**V. Subcommittee Members Updates**

Jim Gardler asked if someone could speak to concerns with the upcoming change in the administration.

Chuck Napier stated that the program was designed to go through multiple administrations and the PBDA is moving forward.

Chair Eachus mentioned several items, including the imminent changes to administrators at the federal level and the speculation that a pause to BEAD may be coming as well as changes to the program related to affordability, wages, fiber, etc.

Mr. Eachus also shared that a grievance was filed by Verizon and hearings will be throughout February and expressed concern about funds being tied up. He went on to share that providers have shared with him, concerns that the outcome of the hearings will change rules and conditions in the second round.

He also mentioned that pole attachment issues remain at the forefront, citing a report that Met-Ed is going to assess a new fee related to pole attachment.

Lastly, he asked the committee to give thought to what happens to BSLs not served due to project failure.

Mr. Alliger asked that Mr. Eachus direct anyone with pole attachment issues to reach out to the PBDA infrastructure team.

**VI. Public Comment**

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Chair Eachus asked Mary Markle to offer time for public comment. Ms. Markle reminded that the meeting is being recorded and asked for comment. Hearing none, Chair Eachus moved onto adjournment.

**VII. Adjournment**

Chair Eachus thanked the committee and the PBDA staff and noted that the next Technical subcommittee meeting will be March 13, 2025, and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Bill Wiedenheft.