

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2008

10:30 a.m. ~ 12:30 p.m.

Vern Riffe Center, Columbus, Ohio

Attendees

Steve Burigana, Chair
Harry Andrist
Bruce Hotte
Robert Luikart
Brian Phillips
John Wanchick

Guests

Katrina Flory
Sarah Saccany
Lou Gentile
Ed Yeager
Jonathon McGee

Chair Steve Burigana called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. The meeting began with roll call. Steve welcomed all those in attendance and thanked Lou Gentile, Assistant Director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia, for being present to help coordinate the activities of the two subcommittees.

Alternates

Chair Burigana stated that the first item the subcommittee should address is the issue of alternates. He said members should feel free to send representatives when they are unable to attend, but the question to be addressed is what requirements should be established for alternates sent to Policy Subcommittee meetings with official standing and voting rights. It was proposed that the Policy Subcommittee should make a recommendation to the Ohio Broadband Council (OBC) around this issue. After much discussion, Robert Luikart offered that predesignated alternates should be allowed to attend meetings and vote as a quorum. John Wanchick moved that the Subcommittee make a recommendation to that effect to the OBC. All agreed and the motion was passed.

Market Identification and Segmentation

The Chair suggested to subcommittee members that appropriate business segments should be established, and that policy recommendations should be formulated for that purpose. Bruce Hotte added that whatever segments are established, the OBC should promote broadband to all underserved areas so businesses will want to locate and operate there. Sarah Saccany cautioned that the three projects approved at the last OBC meeting were for local governments, and stated that the OBC is not focused on providing to individuals and businesses. Chair Burigana said perhaps a better starting point is to establish a definition of broadband, and perhaps it is simply high-capacity connection at whatever level is available at the time. He added that it makes sense for this Subcommittee to consider establishing a floor, as this will keep us from less productive

discussions. Brian Phillips suggested that Subcommittee members review a 2006 Ohio Supercomputer Center Broadband study, and Chair Burigana directed Beth Arledge to ensure that the link to the report <http://www.osc.edu/networking/broadband/index.shtml> is sent to all members. He also suggested that a representative from Connect Ohio be invited to the May meeting to help this team know how to target resources. Beth Arledge and Katrina Flory will arrange for that to happen.

Workflow

Chair Burigana asked the group to consider how to best deliberate and move forward with items requiring votes. Options would be to review and vote on items in the same meeting, or to have issues raised at one meeting and not vote on them until the next. The first option causes faster movement on issues, but the second lends itself to more thorough discussion. The second option also allows those who have constituents with whom they need to consult the opportunity to do so. John Wanchick pointed out that we need to take into consideration the OBC meeting schedule, as some items cannot wait two or three months for the larger group to convene. Chair Burigana agreed, saying the Policy Subcommittee will follow a two-phase process as a rule, with the recognition that sometimes items will need to be moved forward in one sitting.

Other

Robert Luikart voiced concern over projects which were voted on without sufficient information at the last OBC meeting. Sarah Saccany explained that that situation was an oversight and Katrina has dealt with it via e-mail. Chair Burigana acknowledged that there should be a clear expectation of how items are brought forward to the OBC.

Harry Andrist motioned to adjourn. John Wanchick seconded the motion. All were in agreement, and Chair Steve Burigana adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Action Items

- Beth Arledge will send the link to the 2006 Ohio Supercomputer Center Broadband study to all members, as suggested by Brian Phillips.
- Beth Arledge and Katrina Flory will work together to arrange for a representative from Connect Ohio to attend the May Policy Subcommittee meeting.
- Before the next Policy Subcommittee meeting, Katrina Flory will seek input from Fred Deel as to what definitions the Outreach Committee is looking for.

Next meeting

Monday, May 5th, 2008

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, Room 1924