

LA PLATA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Broadband Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 12, 2021
<https://lpea.coop/broadband-committee>

CALL TO ORDER

The Broadband Committee Meeting of the La Plata Electric Association Board of Directors was held Tuesday, January 12, 2021 via Zoom Webinar. Committee Chair, Kirsten Skeehan called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. The following committee members were in attendance:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Director Skeehan, Committee Chair
Director Metzler
Director Wheeler
Jessica Matlock, CEO
Ryne Waggoner, Staff Engineer

SUPPORT STAFF

Dan Harms, VP of Grid Solutions
Janelle Thunstrom, Executive Assistant
Drew Timmerman, VP of Information Technology

EXCUSED ABSENCE

None

GUESTS

Dr. Timothy Schoechle, International Consultant
Natambu Obleton, Director of Network Engineering and Operations, FastTrack

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Committee Chair Skeehan addressed the January 12, 2021 Broadband Committee Meeting agenda.

Motion: Committee Member Metzler moved to approve the January 12, 2021 Broadband Committee Meeting agenda. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Committee Chair Skeehan addressed the December 10, 2020 Broadband Committee Meeting minutes.

Motion: Committee Member Waggoner moved to approve the December 10, 2020 Broadband Committee minutes. Motion seconded and carried without dissent.

BROADBAND PRESENTATIONS:

Strategic Goals: Fiber Broadband for the LPEA Community: Dr. Timothy Schoechle

Basic Infrastructure for Gigabit Fiber to the Home & Premises

Guest speaker, Dr. Timothy Schoechle presented to the Broadband Committee his ideas on strategic goals for fiber broadband within the LPEA community. Dr. Schoechle discussed his basis for economic growth for the community, revenue streams for LPEA, grid management, sustainable energy, community resilience, policy strategy for telecom infrastructure, and the Longmont exemplar. Dr. Schoechle took committee members questions and concerns.

FCC AUCTION RESULTS:

Natambu Obleton, FastTrack Engineer, gave an update on the FCC Auction 904. The FCC Auction 904 ended on December 7, 2020. One provider won the majority share of LPEA's service territory: Rural Electric Cooperative Consortium (RECC). RECC will need to complete the 683 Long-Form by the January 29, 2021 deadline. On the 683 Long-Form, RECC must provide additional information about qualifications, funding, and the network they intend to use to meet their obligations.

RECC was awarded 33% of the rural area maps in Colorado. RECC will have 4 years to cover 40% of the awarded area with service of at least 25 Mbps. RECC is not based in Colorado and has won other auctions around the country. RECC must commercially offer at least one voice and one broadband service to meet the relevant service requirements to all locations within the awarded area and within the allotted timeframe. Mr. Obleton took committee members questions and concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AS NEEDED:

Discuss Matter Subject to Non-Disclosure Agreement

Committee Chair Skeehan requested a motion to enter the executive session at 3:30pm.

Motion: Committee Member Matlock moved to enter the executive session. Motion second and carried without dissent.

The committee remained in executive session from 3:30 p.m. to 5:03 p.m.

No action was taken as a result of the discussions in executive session.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, the Broadband Committee Meeting of the La Plata Electric Association, Board of Directors adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Recorded by J. P. Thunstrom, and approved by:



Kirsten Skeehan, Committee Chair