**Governor’s Task Force on Broadband**

**May 24, 2021**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Webex/Conference Call Virtual Meeting via Teams**

**Task Force Members Present:** Teddy Bekele, Yvonne Cariveau, Nolan Cauthen, Steve Fenske, Steve Giorgi, Jason Hollinday, Marc Johnson, Bernadine Joselyn, Brian Krambeer, Micah Myers, Theresa Sunde, Jim Weikum, Paul Weirtz, and Dave Wolf.

**Task Force Members Absent:** Dale Cook

**Others in Attendance:** Jason Atwater, Sonya Borgeson-Bethke, Deven Bowdry, Susan Brower, Joe Buttweiler, Zachary Cairns, Kirk Crowshoe, Angie Dickison, Greg Doyle, Amanda Duerr, Brian Frederick, Jenn Frost, Luke Johnson, Tim Johnson, Mary Lodin, Cassie Lovelle, Bree Maki, Jay Mankie, Connie Martin, Terry Nelson, Jessica Schatz, Ann Treacy, Diane Wells, Kristi Westbrock, Melissa Wolf, Nathan Zacharias, and an unidentified caller.

1. **Welcome, Task Force Introductions, Attendee Introductions and Approval of Minutes from April 5, 2021 Meeting**

Chair Bekele called the meeting to order and roll call was taken. The minutes of the April 5, 2021 meeting were approved, and Chair Bekele reviewed the agenda for the current meeting. Members of the public attending the virtual meeting were given the opportunity to introduce themselves.

1. **Update on 2021 State Legislation**

Deven Bowdry, DEED’s Government Relations Coordinator, provided an update on broadband legislation still pending, as the legislative session ended on May 17, 2021 without finalization of the omnibus agriculture and broadband finance bill. The special session is tentatively scheduled to begin on June 14, 2021.

1. **Fixed Wireless Panel**

A panel of fixed wireless providers presented overviews of their respective fixed wireless services; panelists included:

* Tim Johnson, Operations Manager, MVTV Wireless
* Luke Johnson, Broadband Operations Manager, Meeker Cooperative Light & Power – VIBRANT Broadband
* Terry Nelson, GM/VP, Woodstock Communications
* Jay Mankie, CTO/Partner, Genesis Wireless

The slides from the presentation are available at <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/fixed-wireless-panel-presentation_tcm1045-483641.pdf>. The panelists responded to questions from the Task Force members.

1. **Minnesota State Demographer Susan Brower**

Susan Brower, Minnesota State Demographer, presented 2020 census data, including:

* high-level data demonstrating state’s growth during past decade
* American Community Survey data on Minnesotan’s computer and internet use
* Household Pulse Survey data indicating that the state has one of the highest proportions of residents who switched to telework during pandemic

The slides from the presentation are available at <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/population-trends-presentation_tcm1045-483638.pdf>. Dr. Brower responded to questions from the Task Force members and shared link to access data directly: <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>.

1. **Public Comment, Other Business, June Meeting Plans, Wrap-up**

Task Force members discussed prospect of future in-person meeting, possibly in July (need venue); concerns regarding RDOF’s impact on Border-to-Border grants were raised by a Task Force member. There were no public comments. Chair Bekele provided preview of June 14 meeting and wrapped up the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.