**Governor’s Task Force on Broadband**

**March 16, 2021**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

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

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

**Task Force Members Absent:** None

**Others in Attendance:** Sonya Borgeson-Bethke, Katherine Blauvelt, Deven Bowdry, Joe Buttweiler, Zach Cairns, Kirk Crowshoe, Cristina Diaz, Angie Dickison, Amanda Duerr, Brian Frederick, Jen Frost, Patrick Haggerty, Steve Howard, Chris Koneche, Natasha Kukowski, Cassie Lovelle, Bree Maki, Jessica Schatz, Becky Tangren, Ann Treacy, Meredith Udoibok, Mark Walker, Diane Wells, Melissa Wolf and Nathan Zacharias.

1. **Welcome, Task Force Introductions, Attendee Introductions and Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2021 Meeting**

Chair Bekele went over the agenda for the meeting. Roll call was taken. Members of the public attending the virtual meeting were able to introduce themselves. The minutes of the February 22, 2021 meeting were approved.

1. **Update on 2021 Legislation and Federal Funding**

Deven Bowdry, DEED’s Government Relations Coordinator, provided an update on broadband legislation pending in the 2021 state legislative session. Diane Wells, Office of Broadband Development, gave an update on the federal funding for broadband in the Consolidated Appropriations Act and funding for broadband that may be in the recently approved American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Chair Bekele also provided an update on the FCC’s broadband mapping effort as explained to the FCC’s Precision Ag task force which he chairs.

1. **Subgroup Reports**

Paul Weirtz, on behalf of the Unserved/Underserved and Mapping subgroup; Nolan Cauthen on behalf of the Mapping and Speed Goal subgroup; and Yvonne Cariveau on behalf of the Accessibility, Affordability and Education subgroup; provided updates on the work being started by each subgroup.

1. **DEED Small Cities HUD CARES Act Funding for Broadband**

Meredith Udoibok and Natasha Kukowski with DEED’s Small Cities program provided an overview of the grant program they will be launching to use HUD CARES Act funding for broadband grants. They responded to questions from Task Force members.

1. **CableLabs: Current and Future Cable Broadband Technologies**

Mark Walker, VP, Technology Policy for CableLabs, provided an overview of broadband technologies for the cable industry. A copy of his presentation is available here: [Cable Labs Presentation (mn.gov)](https://mn.gov/deed/assets/cablelabs-ppt_tcm1045-472648.pdf) He responded to questions from Task Force members.

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

There were no public comments. There was no additional business. Chair Bekele wrapped up the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.