



SAN BENITO COUNTY Information Technology Committee

***Committee:
Board of Supervisor Bob Tiffany, District 4 and
Board of Supervisor Betsy Dirks, District 1***

SPECIAL AGENDA MINUTES Monday, June 20, 2022 2:00 PM.

San Benito County Administration Building
Board of Supervisors Chambers
481 Fourth Street, Hollister, California

2:00 PM CALL TO ORDER

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*The pledge of Allegiance was led by **Supervisor Tiffany, District #4***

2. ROLL CALL

Supervisor Tiffany X
Supervisor Dirks X

3. ACKNOWLEDGE CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Motion to acknowledge certificate of posting:
Made by Supervisor Dirks
Seconded by Supervisor Tiffany

2-0 Vote

For (2)	Against: (0)
Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany	Noes: -

4. PUBLIC COMMENT: *Opportunity to address the Committee on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Section 54954.2.*

Public Comment Opened – Closed

5. *Approve Minutes:*

Motion to approve Information Technology's March 17, 2022, Committee minutes.

2-0 Vote

For (2)

Against: (0)

Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany

Noes: -

REGULAR AGENDA

6. **PROPOSED RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO AB 361-** Adopt proposed resolution authorizing teleconferencing options for meetings of the Committee for the period of June 20, 2022, through July 19, 2022, pursuant to AB 361.

MOTION

Motion to approve the proposed resolution as presented.

Made by **Supervisor Dirks** and seconded by **Supervisor Tiffany**.

2-0 Vote

For (2)

Against: (0)

Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany

Noes: -

7. **Appoint committee chair**

MOTION

Motion to appoint Supervisor Dirks as Information Technology Committee Chair.

Made by **Supervisor Tiffany** and seconded by **Supervisor Dirks**.

2-0 Vote

For (2)

Against: (0)

Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany

Noes: -

8. **Set regular standing meetings date and times.**

There was a brief discussion of potential days and times. The recommendation was to meet on the third Monday of the month at 2:00 PM.

MOTION

Motion to make information technology committee meeting dates every other month on the third Monday of the month at 2:00 PM.

Made by Supervisor Tiffany and seconded by Supervisor Dirks.

2-0 Vote

For (2)

Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany

Against: (0)

Noes: -

9. Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Update Broadband Strategic Plan grant update, presented by Barbara Hayes

Barbara Hayes, Chief Economic Development Officer at RCRC provided a brief background of the Broadband Strategic Plan grant, which was submitted to the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) back in December of 2021. RCRC did receive conditional approval of the grant in March of 2022. The grant included a request for Broadband funds for 27 counties, one of which is the County of San Benito. Further information was provided, including a tentative timetable to start the process for a strategic broadband plan.

Supervisor Tiffany asked for clarification on moving forward with other potential projects while the county awaits the Strategic Broadband Plan to be completed.

Barbara provided some clarifications and explained that there is some flexibility in meeting the needs of other potential projects the County may wish to explore and pursue.

Public comment opened.

Kristina Wyatt, San Benito County Business Council, inquired about consultants working with local organizations.

Barbara provided an overview of how the county may move forward in collaboration with a consultant if desired by the organizations involved.

Wayne Norton provided a comment.

The public comment period closed.

Presentation only, no action taken.

10. California Consulting update of Broadband grants applied for, presented by David Marquez.

David Marquez, the Senior Project Planner for California Consulting, provided a brief overview of California Consulting. Expressed that they will be an additional asset to seeking grants concerning broadband and look

forward to collaborating on the current grants that have been sought out by other parties. Will be working with County staff as well to pursue other avenues of funds as well.

David will follow up with Barbara Hayes, from RCRC, to further discuss broadband grants.

*Public comment opened.
Public comment closed.*

Presentation only, no action taken.

11. Hankins Technology, update on CLEC status, Auction 904, and any additional funding Broadband related projects within San Benito County, presented by James Hankins.

James provided an update. Did receive the Competitive Local Exchange Carrier funding from CPC, now working on permits and drawings to get into the county. Working in collaboration with RMA for obtaining permits. Working to get fiber to homes and businesses and offer services to the areas covered such as San Juan Bautista and locating a location northeast of Hollister.

Public comment opened.

*Elise, resident of San Juan Bautista.
Wayne Norton
Roy Sims*

Public comment closed.

James Hankins provided further clarifications and comments in response to public comments.

Supervisor Dirks inquired about the average usage an average home typically takes.

James expressed that the average home is typically satisfied with 25 megabits per second, however, one gigabyte will be available for businesses if they desire.

No further discussion.

Presentation only, no action taken.

12. Etheric Networks, update, presented by Andrew Brickweg.

Supervisor Tiffany opened the item.

Andrew Brickweg provided an update on the San Juan Bautista Project including a new data center, the water tank installation in the final stages of construction, information on a public hotspot, and the services Etheric networks provide. Etheric is still awaiting California Public Utilities Commission approval on ETC/CPCN application. Once the application for ETC/CPCN is approved, Regional Digital Opportunity Funding (RDOF) is expected to be approved by Federal Communications Commission (FCC) soon after. California Advance Service Funds is also expected to be approved following the RDOF.

Supervisor Tiffany had a few questions consisting of how someone can apply for some of the programs offered. Will south county be covered and how it is being planned?

Andrew provided resources and information on how someone can apply for the programs offered and the anticipated course of action.

Public comment opened.

*Roy sims.
Christina C Wyatt
Wayne Norton
Phil Esparza*

Public comment closed

Further dialogue and clarifications on the topics brought up during public comment period.

13. Ideate California, presentation on Truconnect, presentation by Jose Atilio Hernandez.

A presentation on Truconnect was provided for the committee. The presentation gave an overview of the following: lifeline program, FCC affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), program qualifications, devices available through the programs, and potential next steps.

Public comment opened.

*Roy sims
Wayne Norton*

Further dialogue discussing the promotion of ACP and the services presented, what potential next steps can be taken, and what the county can

do to get the word out about the program. 72% of community members are not aware of ACP.

Brian Gordon, San Benito County IT, provided more information on the matter.

Supervisor Tiffany would like to see the county take steps to promote ACP to raise awareness.

Public comment closed.

Presentation only, no action taken.

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS., No discussion of these items shall occur, but the Committee may direct any of the reports to be agendaized for a future meeting.

Item is opened by Supervisor Tiffany.

Supervisor Dirks would like to see an organizational chart of all the broadband entities and where they connect and where they are disconnected in preparation for the broadband strategic plan.

Supervisor Tiffany agrees.

Phil Esparza provided comments and asked the committee to consider how other entities can get involved with the committee.

No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Made by **Supervisor Betsy Dirks** and seconded by **Supervisor Bob Tiffany.**

2-0 Vote

For (2)	Against: (0)
Ayes: Dirks, Tiffany	Noes: -

As required by Gov. Code Section 54957.5 any public record distributed to the San Benito Economic Development Committee less than 72 hours prior to this meeting in connection with any agenda item shall be made available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk of the Board, San Benito County Administration Building, 481 Fourth Street,

Hollister, CA 95023. Public records distributed during the meeting will be available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by the County. If the public record is prepared by some other person and distributed at the meeting it will be made available for public inspection following the meeting at the office of the Clerk of the Board.

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