

**Broadband Task Force**  
(Established by Act 2, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2007)  
State of Hawai'i  
[www.state.hi.us/auditor](http://www.state.hi.us/auditor)

**Minutes of Meeting**

The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by Section 92-7(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

Date: Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Conference Room 309  
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Present: Chair David Lassner, University of Hawai'i  
Vice Chair Nam Vu, ShakaNet, Inc.  
Gordon Bruce, City & County of Honolulu  
Gary Caulfield, First Hawaiian Bank  
Senator Will Espero, The Senate  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, The Senate  
Jennifer Goto Sabas, Office of Senator Daniel K. Inouye  
Senator David Ige, The Senate  
Joel Matsunaga, Hawaiian Telcom  
Nate Smith, Oceanic Time Warner  
Clyde Sonobe, Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs

Marion M. Higa, State Auditor, Office of the Auditor  
Jayna Oshiro, Special Projects Coordinator, Office of the Auditor  
Pat Mukai, Secretary, Office of the Auditor

Robert Doeringer, RHD Consultants, LLC  
Burt Lum, Hawaiian Telcom  
Karian Flyer, Capital Consultants  
Yuka Nagashima, HTDC  
Marion Wedemeyer, HENC  
Jerry Cerny, University of Hawai'i

Excused/  
Absent: Representative Marcus Oshiro, House of Representatives  
Henk Rogers, BluePlanet Wireless  
Representative Gene Ward, House of Representatives  
Representative Kyle Yamashita, House of Representatives

Call to Order: Chair Lassner called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. at which time quorum was established.

Chair's Report: Announcements, introductions, correspondence, and additional distribution  
Chair Lassner announced that the Broadband Task Force website is completed and running. The website's address is: [www.hbtf.org](http://www.hbtf.org). The website provides background information on the task force and broadband articles in general, most of which relates to

where the U.S. is lagging. He also noted that the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Broadband Portal provides access to a range of broadband related statistics in other countries gathered by OECD. Chair Lassner will create a section on the website for the working groups to post their working papers. This will allow the working groups to share their working papers with other task force members and the public to give everyone an idea of what the task force is doing.

#### Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the November 1, 2007 meeting were not available and will be taken up at the next meeting.

Auditor's  
Report:

#### Consultant

State Auditor Higa stated that after the November 1, 2007 task force meeting, we were informed that we did not need to do a Request for Qualifications for a consultant because the amount is under \$50,000. Instead the Small Purchase Written Quotations process was used. She stated that the Auditor's office has posted the specifications to the Auditor's website and the Hawai'i Broadband Task Force website on Thursday, November 8, 2007. The deadline for submittal is Wednesday, November 21, 2007 at 12:00 p.m. To date, the Auditor's office has not received any quotations.

Chair Lassner requested to move to agenda item V. Working Groups.

Working  
Groups:

Chair Lassner prepared a revised working group summary. The working groups provided a report of the work they have done so far.

#### Why Broadband Matters

The members of this working group are: Senator Fukunaga (Chair), Senator Ige, Member Smith, Yuka Nagashima of HTDC, Burt Lum of Hawaiian Telcom, Stan Saiki, and a representative from Member Henk Rogers' company.

Senator Fukunaga stated that their working group had a preliminary discussion to identify possible applications that would be beneficial. The working group identified five areas where broadband matters: 1) economic development; 2) social services; 3) education; 4) health care; and 5) public safety.

#### Data Collection

The members of this working group are: Member Matsunaga (Chair), Member Caulfield, Representative Ward, Pete Jaeger of Sprint/Nextel, Chuck Wall, and a representative from Oceanic Time Warner, to be determined.

Member Matsunaga distributed a summary of their data collection working group meeting held on November 6, 2007.

The purpose of their meeting was to discuss and develop an initial work plan to identify their objective and initial assessment of what information should be targeted. Member Matsunaga stated that their group discussed the following areas:

- Definition of Broadband – many definitions of broadband exist.
- Broadband Providers (facilities based) – existing facilities such as telephone carriers, wireless, satellite, cable, etc.
- Broadband Technologies – existing DSL, cable modem, satellite, wireless, etc.
- Availability (now & planned in next three years) – areas/coverage, speeds, prices/plans, technologies, and maps.
- Broadband Use/Adoption – Hawaii data that includes penetration relating to general computer ownership and Internet use and broadband access. Also, population/demographic data, market segmentation (urban/rural, income, and

disabled) and comparable U.S. and/or international benchmarks.

After discussing the above areas, the working group realized they may be gathering more data that may create additional work than the task force has time and/or the budget allows. Member Matsunaga also stated that the working group discussed the current perceived inhibitors to deployment of broadband and the current perceived inhibitors to adoption of broadband.

Chair Lassner stated that the task is to get enough data to fulfill the task force's obligations to provide policy guidance to the State. Also, federal legislation from both the U.S. House and U.S. Senate have passed or have been approved by committees that also pertain to some form of broadband data collection. Chair Lassner further stated that the task force may consider recommending that data collection become a permanent activity of an entity of the State.

Member Matsunaga stated that the Hawai'i data will be useful and that we need some benchmarks. Chair Lassner suggested it would be useful to consider having a way for the State of Hawai'i to know how it is doing compared to the rest of the world. Also, there are areas where service is not good in terms of equitable access throughout the state.

Member Matsunaga also stated that they will be working to compile the data, looking at where the difficult areas are, what data is publicly available, and develop some recommendations going forward.

#### Expectations at the Federal Level

The members of this working group are: Member Goto Sabas (Chair), Member Sonobe, and other members to be determined.

Member Goto Sabas noted that there are no members from the neighbor islands among the members of the working groups. Her concern is that the thoughts may be skewed in terms of rural needs when the membership is only Oahu based. Member Goto Sabas stated that she would like to ask that Ms. Margaret Cummisky, who is their staff director and Mr. James Assey who is on the Telecom Council of the Telecom Committee to be members on her committee. Member Goto Sabas also stated that they will be scheduling a video conference for the week after Thanksgiving to put their thoughts together to get a sense of what is left on the table as to federal legislation and what the game plan is going forward and report back to the task force.

Senator Fukunaga stated that their working group discussed identifying safer health care needs to bring health care services to remote and rural areas. They also discussed the need to work closely with economic boards or entities on the neighbor islands.

#### What Other States are Doing

The members of this working group are: Chair Lassner, Member Sonobe, Member Bruce, and other members to be determined.

Chair Lassner stated that Senator Fukunaga shared some data from the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). Senator Fukunaga has enlisted their assistance should the task force need it. NCSL has provided a list of legislation passed by the 50 states relating to broadband. However, by looking at the list, it is difficult to determine the trends or if any of the legislation is working or not. Chair Lassner recommended that the task force consider NCSL's assistance in reviewing the legislation passed by the 50 states.

What Other Countries are Doing

The members of this working group are: Vice Chair Vu, Representative Ward, Henk Rodger (to be confirmed), and other members to be determined.

Vice Chair Vu shared with the task force his first hand experience regarding access to broadband in India. There, the access is fairly cheap in dollar amounts, \$29.00/month but when you factor in wages, it is extremely high. Vice Chair Vu also enlisted a couple of consultants from the mainland to do some industry research.

- Report to the 2008 Legislature: Chair Lassner prepared a revised draft outline for the report to the 2008 Legislature. Discussion on the revised draft outline was deferred until more information is received from the working groups.
- Informational Briefing: Chair Lassner stated that Member Goto Sabas is in the process of having someone from Public Safety do an informational briefing for the task force. He also asked the task force members for ideas for future informational briefings.
- Future Meeting Schedule: The next task force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. at the State Capitol, Conference Room 423.
- Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Reviewed and approved by:

Sterling Yee  
Assistant Auditor

November 19, 2007

Approved as circulated.

Approved with corrections; see minutes of \_\_\_\_\_ meeting.

Broadband11/14/07