



# Northern Tier Network Consortium

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## **NTNC General Membership and Planning Committee meeting**

**Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 2 p.m. Central time**

**Via Zoom**

**Participants:** Michael Adelaine, Al Anderson, Rick Anderson, Joshua Arce, Robert Aylward, Aaron Bergstrom, Kevin Brandt, Andrew Buker, Patrick Christian, Steve Corbato, Bruce Curtis, Pierrette Dagg, James Deaton, Dave Farmer, Scott Francis, Greg Gray, Kyle Gruhn, Bernie Gulachek, Louis Hammond, Dave Hansen, Kevin Hayes, Paul Kern, Pete Lambertz, Mike Levoir, Dave Lois, Jeffrey Mahlum, Madhavi Marasinghe, Matthew McCowan, Marla Meehl, Zachary Montville, Colin Murphy, Kim Owen, Amy Phillipson, Matt Riley, Linda Roos, Joe Schmitt, Dane Skow, Jeanne Skul, Steve Sobiech, Bob Stovall, Cheryl Tiahrt, Brad Traver, Rob Vietzke, Marc Wallman, Stuart Young, Melissa Xiong, CeCe Rohwedder

### **Meeting notes**

1. Marc welcomed everyone, and introductions were conducted.
2. Budget report: Matt Riley discussed annual memberships, with U of IL-Chicago and Montana State new NTNC members. As of 6/30/21, we have a balance of \$238,600.
3. Cyberchallenge Planning for 2022: Bob Stovall and Merit colleagues provided a presentation (attached). There are NSF grants available to sponsor finalists to the in-person competition. The Steering and Programming Committees will prepare a proposal for conducting a Cyberchallenge event, perhaps in conjunction with a face-to-face meeting of the general NTNC membership.
4. eduroam for TCUs: Marc Wallman provided a background report on the use of eduroam for TCUs. Marc proposed that the NTNC reimburse any dues-paying member institution up to \$3,000 in labor, travel and such expenses associated, in a specific time frame, with helping a tribal college in their state join eduroam. There are federal funds available through grants that could be used for assistance with maintenance and upkeep. The Steering Committee will develop specific language for the NTNC funding.
5. FCC Rural Broadband Committee:
  - A. Mike Adelaine provided an update (attachments).
  - B. Task Force July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting <https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2021/07/precision-ag-connectivity-task-force-meeting-july-2021>
  - C. Recharting <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-rechartering-precision-ag-task-force>
  - D. A presentation from Land O' Lakes on the America Connection Corps, <https://www.lead4america.org/american-connection-corps>
  - E. An update from the Broadband DATA Task Force. In addition, Kirk Burgee is going to briefly talk about the FCC/USDA/NTIA inter-agency agreement, <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-ntia-usda-interagency-agreement-broadband-funding-deployment>

- F. A presentation from USDA on a few programs relevant to precision ag.
  - o Rural Innovation Stronger Economy (RISE) Grants, <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-innovation-stronger-economy-rise-grants>
  - o Agriculture Innovation Center Program, <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/agriculture-innovation-center-program>
  - o Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR), <https://nifa.usda.gov/program/small-business-innovation-research-program-sbir>
  
- 6. State/Institution Updates:
  - A. U of MN: Bernie Gulachek and Dave Farmer provided an update:
    - o [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1i5A-Va-tBW-ykt1qp-C3m\\_LDw70H91ygso0PFsRIshM/edit#slide=id.p](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1i5A-Va-tBW-ykt1qp-C3m_LDw70H91ygso0PFsRIshM/edit#slide=id.p)
    - o <https://www.bbcmag.com/broadband-applications/the-power-of-partnerships-scott-county-minnesota>
    - o [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1i5A-Va-tBW-ykt1qp-C3m\\_LDw70H91ygso0PFsRIshM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1i5A-Va-tBW-ykt1qp-C3m_LDw70H91ygso0PFsRIshM/edit?usp=sharing)
  - B. SD: Paul Kern provided an update (attached).
  - C. MI: Robert Stovall reported on network upgrades in process. Pierrette Dagg reported on educational and training programs being developed and Data Collection Review, <https://www.dropbox.com/s/5u3s54mfq7ta9jv/NTNC-PPT-July-2021%20copy.pptx?dl=0>
  - D. I2: Rob Vietzke presented on Next Generation Infrastructure and “The Minds We Need” (<https://mindsweneed.org/>), and Marla Meehl provided an update on WICHE.
  - E. ND: no additional update from what U of MN provided. Dane Skow would welcome interest in creating a shared data facility in North Dakota.
  - F. WI: Patrick Christian provided a presentation (attached).
  - G. NE: Greg Gray provided a presentation (attached requested).
  - H. IL: Matt Riley provided an update on IT in U of IL-Chicago.
  
- 7. When to resume face-to-face meetings:
  - A. Early in 2022 will be considered for a general meeting. The Executive Committee will meet with Kim Owen, Dave Lois and Bob Stovall in early October to firm up the plans.
  - B. We’ll try to align this meeting with an AIHEC gathering.
  - C. A history of the NT will be presented at the next face-to-face meeting.
  
- 8. Adjournment.