



Northern Tier Network Consortium

**NTNC Steering Committee and Programming Committee meeting
2020 06/10
Via Zoom**

DRAFT

Participants: Marc Wallman, Al Anderson, Joshua Arce, Robert Aylward, Kevin Brandt, Andrew Buker, Alex Grandin (at 3 p.m., for item 5), Greg Gray, Bernie Gulachek, Jonah Keough, Kim Owen, Amy Philipson, Sasi Pillay, Matt Riley, Linda Roos, Jeannie Skul, Dale Smith (at 3 p.m., for item 5); Danyelle Marthaler, CeCe Rohwedder

Agenda

1. Budget Report: Matt presented the NTNC Fund Balance and Revenue History. Balance as of the end of 2019 was \$186,531.00; it is currently over \$200,000.00, with all our billing activities for this year complete.
2. Officer positions (president, vice president secretary): Sasi recommended that elections be deferred until NTNC can meet face-to-face; this was agreed upon by those present and voting. There is no firm ruling that officers must be CIOs of their institutions.
3. Planning Committee:
 - A. An update was provided by Kim in terms of what has been discussed and what might be included in the upcoming general membership meeting.
 - B. After today's meeting, the Planning Committee will reconvene and develop a finalized proposal (taking into account the COVID-19 impact).
4. Options for General Meeting:
 - A. We may have two meetings in 2021, with the first discussed and solidified via a Zoom call in October or November, to take place in March or April.
 - B. We can budget to spend up to \$40,000 at the first meeting in 2021.
5. Broadband Mapping:
 - A. I2 has multiple advisory groups, with representatives meeting periodically. A simple way of sharing geolocation data of the members of the NTNC institutions and the Tribal Colleges, to see broadband availability, would be helpful to have available, produce aggregate maps (with addresses identified by zip code, longitude/latitude and/or other demographic boundaries),

review them, identify broadband needs, and strive to meet them through sharing with policy makers who are managing/awarding COVID-19 relief funds.

- B. We'll need agreement by the various institutions on what type of data is to be aggregated and shared.
 - C. We could use the current FCC maps (at <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov> and <https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov> .
 - D. Joshua Arce noted that Tribal Colleges and Tribal presidents could be brought on board to this project if it means it will result in better broadband for their communities. There is federal money available for improvements to food deserts and digital deserts, which often include reservations.
 - E. Students can be asked directly about their broadband access.
 - F. If this effort is successful and value is found, it could be repeated/refreshed annually, as student populations vary from one year to the next.
 - G. The entire NTNC group will meet in a couple of weeks via Zoom, will be scheduled for additional discussion and to identify a time frame for providing the data. At that meeting, Marc will provide specifics re what types of data each institution would be able to share without a lot of overhead.
6. Adjournment.