

**BROADBAND ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING (BAAC)  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DCCA)  
STATE OF HAWAII**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Date: Monday, November 12, 2014, 10:05 a.m. - 11:37 a.m.  
Time: Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 423  
Place: 415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

BAAC Members Present: Everett Kaneshige; Senator Rosalyn Baker; Gini Kapali for Rep. Kawakami; Rep. Kyle Yamashita; Mark Wong; Lester Chu for Eric Yeaman; Ian Kitajima; Chris Zane for David Lassner; Sharene Urakami-Oyama; and Kiman Wong for Gregg Fujimoto

Participants/Others: Keone Kali, OIMT; Stacie Kanno, Hawaii State Public Library System; Arnold Kishi, OIMT; Robbie Melton, HTDC; Ken Hiraki, Hawaiian Telcom; Steve Nagata, HECO; Tracy Nishibun, HECO; Burt Lum, HOD/HPR; and Wayne Hirasa, Sandwich Isle Communications

DCCA: Keali'i Lopez, Director, DCCA; Jo Ann Uchida Takeuchi, Deputy Director; Catherine Awakuni Colón, Administrator, DCCA-CATV; Todd Ogasawara; Debby Shin; and Cathy Takase

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Everett Kaneshige called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**II. Report of the BAAC Permitting Workgroup**

Chair Kaneshige, acting chair of the Permitting Workgroup, provided a report on the activities of the workgroup. A written report was provided to DCCA and the BAAC and is filed with these minutes.

### **III. Report of the BAAC Adoption Workgroup**

Ian Kitajima, chair of the Adoption Workgroup, provided the BAAC Adoption workgroup report. A written report was provided to DCCA and the BAAC and is filed with these minutes.

### **IV. DCCA Broadband Activities**

#### **A. Broadband Adoption Survey of Individuals and Small Businesses**

DCCA CATV Administrator Catherine Awakuni Colón noted that the final report prepared by SMS will be made available on the DCCA website. DCCA Director Keali'i Lopez asked Mr. Kitajima for his sense of the outcome of the discussion about the reports by the Adoption Workgroup. He responded that the Design Thinking group process and the survey data indicate the importance of the overall "broadband experience" and less on the technical specifics of a service. Mr. Chu noted that the workgroup spent considerable time discussing how to encourage broadband adoption. He noted that the industry does not lack product options. The question is how to price and market services.

#### **B. Hawaii Island Fiber Gap and Wireless Broadband Pilot Projects**

Chair Kaneshige noted that more detail on these projects was included in the Permitting Workgroup Report. He highlighted the initial wireless broadband technologies review conducted by DCCA in collaboration with a consulting engineer. Based on this review, DCCA is working with Hawaii County to create coverage models and conduct field tests of TV White Space and other wireless broadband technologies in the near future. The purpose of this work is to provide initial research on application of these technologies in rural areas that may be used by commercial broadband service providers to extend service in these areas.

#### **C. Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) Mobile Netbook Loan Program**

CATV Administrator Awakuni Colón noted that HSPLS Director Stacie Kanno had provided a summary sheet of the project which was nearing its one-year anniversary. DCCA's contribution to the HSPLS project was to provide resources to assist in the development of training materials for HSPLS staff to train patrons about the netbook's use and other computer basics in order to increase broadband adoption.

Senator Baker asked if it would be possible to include Moloka`i in this program. Ms. Kanno noted that library branches on Molokai and Lanai are participating in the program.

#### **D. Communities for a Lifetime Program – University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service**

A short PowerPoint slidedeck presenting key web pages from the program’s website, developed with the assistance of DCCA to introduce a digital literacy component, was shown to the Council. The program’s goal is to assist communities in improving resources for its aging community. DCCA participated in a project involving the Wahiawa community. Part of the program involved documenting aspects of their community using photographs, which were put on the website.

#### **E. Capacity Building Plan**

Chair Kaneshige provided an overview of the plan, and noted that the BAAC Permitting Workgroup would be looking at activities under the plan in 2015.

#### **F. Technical Assistance Plan**

CATV Administrator Awakuni Colón provided an overview of the Technical Assistance Plan, which was a work plan that had been provided to Council members.

#### **G. Measuring Broadband Hawaii with FCC/SamKnows**

CATV Administrator Awakuni Colón provided an overview of this collaborative project that DCCA was undertaking with the FCC and SamKnows (contracted by the FCC) to measure various characteristics of broadband service on a daily basis for selected project volunteers.

#### **H. Digital Learning Website**

Chair Kaneshige noted that DCCA was working on creation of a digital learning webpage and showed samples of the website at its current stage of development. Cable Administrator Awakuni Colón noted that the site would be available in the near future.

#### **I. Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA)**

Chair Kaneshige provided an overview of a project being worked on with the HPCA to assist the State’s community health centers in getting patients to utilize online services through their respective patient web

portals. The community health centers provide health services to everyone with a focus on vulnerable populations in the State.

## **V. Role Changes in 2015**

### **A. BAAC Adoption Workgroup Chair**

Mr. Kitajima was thanked for his service as Chair of the Adoption Workgroup over the past few years. It was announced that Ms. Sharene Urakami-Oyama has agreed to serve as chair of the Adoption Workgroup in 2015.

### **B. BAAC Member Terms Expire in July 2015**

It was noted that all Council members' four year terms expire in July 2015. DCCA will recommend to the House Speaker and Senate President that all current members willing to serve another term be reappointed.

### **C. Proposal to Disband BAAC Economic Workgroup**

Director Lopez proposed disbandment of the Economic Workgroup noting issues expressed in discussing sensitive company information in a group meeting. The Council members concurred with the proposal.

## **VI. Closing Remarks**

Senator Baker thanked everyone for their participation in the BAAC. Director Lopez thanked the members of the Council, participants in the Council's workgroups, the DCCA staff for their work in various programs, and Chair Kaneshige. She also noted the impact on Hawaii's broadband planning if the FCC reclassifies broadband services to fall under Title II of the Communications Act and Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

## **VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.