



MARCH 8-26 www.NACo.org/Leg2021

# Telecommunications & Technology Steering Committee Business Meeting

Friday, March 12, 2:00 P.M.— 4:15 P.M. ET

### **Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee Leadership**

Chair: Hon. J.D. Clark, County Judge, Wise County, Texas
Vice Chair: Hon. Joe Atkins, Commissioner, Dakota County, Minn.
Vice Chair: Hon. Joe Briggs, Commissioner, Cascade County, Mont.

Vice Chair: Mr. Terry Buchanan, Chief Information Officer, Robeson County, N.C. Vice Chair: Hon. David E. Godfrey, County Legislator, Niagara County, N.Y.

Vice Chair: Mr. Nate Greenberg, Information Technology, Director, Mono County, Calif.

Vice Chair: Hon. Daniel Mahoney, Commissioner, Jackson County, Mich.

Vice Chair: Hon. Nancy Thrash, Commissioner, Lamar County, Ga. Vice Chair: Hon. Ed Valenzuela, Supervisor, Siskiyou County, Calif.

### **Meeting Agenda**

2:00 P.M. – 2:10 P.M. ET

#### **Call to Order and Welcome**

• Hon. J.D. Clark, County Judge, Wise County, Texas

2:10 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. ET

## National Broadband Plan for the Future Act: An Updated Roadmap to Universal Connectivity

Former local elected official, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA18) has reintroduced the National Broadband Plan for the Future Act which instructs the FCC to update their National Broadband Plan for achieving universal connectivity. The bill would require that the FCC incorporate lessons learned from the impacts of the digital divide on our nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this session, members will hear from Congresswoman Eshoo about the proposed package and it's impacts on bridging the digital divide.

[DO NOT POST] Hon. Anna Eshoo (D-CA18), Representative, U.S. House of Representatives

2:30 P.M. - 2:50 P.M. ET

# **Breaking Down Barriers to Broadband: The Community Broadband Act**

Almost half of our nation's 50 states impose limitations or outright bans preventing local governments from making much-needed investments in local broadband networks. At a time when every tool in the toolbox is needed, counties are often sidelined in the fight to bridge our nation's digital divide. This session will discuss efforts to better leverage local governments in the deployment of affordable high-speed internet.

• [DO NOT POST] Hon. Cory Booker (D-NJ), Senator, U.S. Senate

2:50 P.M. - 3:10 PM FT

#### A New Era: An Outlook on FCC Under Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel

On January 21, 2021, President Joe Biden appointed Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel to serve as Acting Chairwoman for the Federal Communications Commissioner. Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel was first appointed to serve as a Commissioner to the FCC by then-President Obama in May of 2012. Throughout her time with the FCC, Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel has been a long-time champion for many key county priorities within the FCC including improvements to national broadband data collection and closing the homework gap through effective broadband deployment. During this session, FCC staff will provide an outlook on what to expect from the FCC under Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel's leadership.

• [FCC-TBD]

3:10 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. ET

# <u>Federal Communications Commission – Office of Intergovernmental Affairs</u>

Description.

• Gregory M. Cooke, Chief, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Federal Communications Commission

3:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. ET

#### Federal Legislative Proposals from House Energy and Commerce Committee (Minority)

On February 16, 2021, Republican members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee unveiled a 28-bill plan to expedite broadband deployment. Unfortunately, many of these bills take direct aim at the role of local governments and their ability to serve as stewards of public property, safety, and welfare. During this session, staff will provide and overview of the proposed packages and discuss options for addressing these bills.

• Arthur Scott, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties

4:00 P.M. - 4:15 P.M. ET

#### **Closing Statements**

• Hon. J.D. Clark, County Judge, Wise County, Texas

4:15 P.M. ET

**Meeting Concludes**