Press Release

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Governor announces appointments to new Broadband Advisory Council

(Salem) – Governor Ted Kulongoski today announced appointments to the newly-created Oregon Broadband Advisory Council. The Council's mission is to develop and ensure the implementation of a statewide broadband network with a focus on extending broadband access to unserved and underserved communities across Oregon.

"This new Council will be charged with ensuring that citizens in every corner of our state can take full advantage of the commerce, education, and health and safety benefits that broadband Internet access provides," Governor Kulongoski said. "The group also will encourage public-private partnerships to promote the deployment of broadband technology."

The legislature created the council during the 2009 legislatives session under HB 3158. It is charged with reporting to the legislature on the affordability and accessibility of broadband technology in all areas of the state and on the extent of broadband technology use across sectors, including healthcare, energy, education and government.

The Council members represent leaders from Oregon's cities, counties, telecommunications service providers, Tribes, educators, economic development organizations, public safety agencies, healthcare providers, e-government, the Public Utility Commission, and the Oregon Legislature.

The members of the Council are:

Rich Bader – EasyStreet Online Services
Ray Baum – Public Utility Commission
Jonathan Dolan – Oregon State University
Miles Ellenby – Oregon Health and Science University
Joe Franell – Eastern Oregon Telecom
Kathy George – Yamhill County Commission
Adam Gryzbicki – AT&T
Mary Beth Henry – City of Portland
Jeff Johnson – Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue
Lonny Macy – Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Dugan Petty – State of Oregon, Chief Information Officer
Dave Sabala – Douglas Electric Cooperative

Other council members are Senator Ted Ferrioli appointed by the President of the Senate and Representative Tobias Read appointed by the Speaker of the House.

Council meetings will commence in January and will be open to the public. For more information, contact Chris Tamarin, telecommunications liaison for the state of Oregon at christopher.tamarin@state.or.us or 503-508-0178.

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