

## TechConnect 2022

### Solutions-focused Breakouts - Broadband Summit

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

10 – 11 a.m.	<p><b>Teresa Ferguson</b> <i>Sr. Director, Broadband &amp; Infrastructure Funding</i></p>	<p><b>Embracing the Funding Wave</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the 2023-2025 Funding Landscape</li> <li>• Hear from members on what it takes to be ready for grant application windows</li> <li>• What made their application stand out i.e., letters of support, digital equity programs, etc.</li> <li>• How they navigated post-award compliance and state/federal regulatory reporting</li> </ul>	<p><b>Member Panelists</b></p> <p>Bob Hance, <i>Midwest</i> Beau Jackson, <i>WRVEC</i> Brian O'Hara, <i>NRECA</i> Christopher Proctor, <i>USDA</i></p>
11 – 12 p.m.	<p><b>Chris Lysaght</b> <i>CEO NRTC's / AXIN Global</i></p> <p><b>Nick Mills</b> <i>EGM Technology &amp; Finance NRTC's / AXIN Global</i></p> <p><b>Shayne Bird</b> <i>EGM Operations &amp; Delivery NRTC's / AXIN Global</i></p>	<p><b>Integrated approach to Design and Engineering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance of an integrated approach to OSP fiber design and how this approach enables members to successfully build their broadband networks and boost their smart grid infrastructure at the same time</li> </ul>	
12 – 1 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>		
1 – 2 p.m.	<p><b>Alana Pilkington</b> <i>VP, Broadband &amp; Internet Services</i></p> <p><b>Bailey White</b> <i>VP, NRTC CrowdFiber</i></p>	<p><b>Who Does What and When</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members share their blueprints to getting into the broadband business i.e., how and when to augment existing staff vs. partnering with an existing operator, marketing and generating interest and more tips on their journey</li> </ul>	<p><b>Member Panelists</b></p> <p>Tim Mergen, <i>Meeker</i> Cameron Smallwood, <i>UCS</i> James Tanneberger, <i>SCI REMC</i></p>
2 – 3 p.m.	<p><b>Aaron Bennett</b> <i>VP, Broadband Development</i></p> <p>Roundtable Discussion</p>	<p><b>Things to Consider Along the Way</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let's talk about expected and unexpected things members had to deal with as they were getting started with construction and throughout daily operations such as tax and liability decisions, supply chain impacts, timing of grant awards and effect on schedule, etc.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Member Panelists</b></p> <p>Tim McGaha, <i>Choptank</i> Jeff Geistkemper, <i>MVEC</i></p>



3 – 3:30 p.m.

**Break**

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**Chris Beatson**  
*CTO*

**Curtis Knobloch**  
*President, Mobile Solutions*

**More Than Residential Broadband Service**

- How are members operating their broadband network for the best residential internet service experience by leveraging network management tools and what they have learned i.e., consumer usage varies by user
- How to compete with cable/existing operators i.e., mobile wireless and ACP

**Member Panelists**

Marcellus Nixon, *UCS*

4:30 – 5 p.m.

**Ted Solomon**  
*VP, Strategy & Corporate Development*

**Brian O'Hara**  
*Sr. Director Regulatory Issues – Telecom & Broadband*

**Broadband Benchmarking Study Highlights**

- Highlights of our refreshed *Rural Electric Cooperative Broadband Benchmarking Report* updated and expanded in conjunction with NRECA

